

# CSI Country Wide Case Study Safety Strategy Discussion

## Construction Safety Investigator



### Instructions

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The objective of this tool is to provide field supervisors with information to proactively engage workers and discuss safety related concerns that they may encounter. Safety discussions should not be limited to the subject above and should pertain to the activities that workers will be involved in that may have the potential for safety related exposures.

### Case Day:

February 27, 2002

### Accident Type:

Work Zone Accident – Struck By

### Relevant laws, rules and codes may include:

29 CFR 1926.21 (b) (2), California Code of Regulations, Vol. 9, Title 8, Sections 1509 & 1598 [Heading Here](#)

### Case:

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A 31-year-old construction worker was struck and killed by an oncoming vehicle that traveling at an estimated speed of 62-80 mph.

### Accident Detail:

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The worker was performing a task with a coworker to remove a concrete drain cover. They planned to break it into small pieces with sledgehammers. The drain cover was located at the beginning of a transition road but behind the protective concrete barrier.

The two workers drove to the work area. While attempting to break the drain cover with the sledgehammers, the victim made a comment that they had the wrong tools to do the job. The victim wanted to use a jackhammer instead of a sledgehammer. The coworker told the victim he would finish the job himself.

The victim dropped his sledgehammer into the dirt, picked up a shovel and walked away. The coworker, not aware of where the victim was going, went back to work and finished the job.

Witnesses to the incident stated they saw the victim, wearing an orange reflective vest and hard hat, jump over the protective concrete barrier and onto the transition ramp and run right in front of the vehicle that struck him.

### Reconstructive Safety Evaluation:

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- What are some of the possible causes of the accident being discussed?
- What actions could have been taken that might have prevented this accident from occurring?

**Accident Scene Conclusion:**

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The investigation revealed that the worker unsafely maneuvered within the work zone and did not remain within the designated protective barriers, which were found to be set up in accordance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

**Preventive Safety Measures Include:**

- All operations are pre-planned using a Job Safety Task Analysis (JSTA) to ensure that potential safety hazards associated with an operation are identified, that appropriate steps are taken to eliminate or control them, that proper tools are obtained for the tasks at hand and that workers are aware of the safe work procedures to perform the job safely.
- Ensure an orientation and training program is in place to instruct workers on specific hazards of the work zone and of the operation they are performing.
- Workers found non-compliant in adhering to safe work procedures should be retrained and/or removed from the work zone.

**Attendance Roster**

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Reference: This case was reported in the NIOSH Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) Program, New York Case Report 07NY080.

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