Your notification to OSHA may lead to the elimination of a hazard that endangers a population of workers. Medical Examiners may alert the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 24/7 when you suspect that working conditions may have caused or contributed to a death in the workplace.

For OSHA purposes, a work-related death:
- Occurs when work or the work environment is a proximate or remote cause of death
- Does not depend upon “intent” or “volition” of a third party (e.g., the employer)

Examples of deaths that can be reported to OSHA:
- Traumatic death – worker fell from a height or was struck by mechanical equipment
- Heat stress – hot working environment caused or contributed to death
- Electrical exposure – worker found lying down near electrical panel
- Hydrogen sulfide exposure – sewage or oil and gas worker with a high blood thiosulfate level
- Confined space exposure – worker death in an area that has restricted entrance or exit by way of location, size or means; suffocation in grain bins
- Death at work without apparent cause

What’s the purpose of OSHA?
With the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, Congress created the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to assure safe and healthful working conditions for working men and women by setting and enforcing standards and by providing training, outreach, education and assistance.