

ILA-USMX JOINT SAFETY COMMITTEE

OSH Circular 2022-09 (05 September 2022)

Pedestrians At Marine Terminals



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In the general direction pointed to by the red arrow, above, was the body of an over-the-road truck driver who was run over and killed by another over-the-road truck driver recently at a U.S. container terminal.

The deceased drayman had exited his tractor's cab and was scouting around one set of the terminals two empty container stack areas. The other truck driver (whose chassis is present in the foreground, above) suddenly changed direction and headed towards the 2nd empty container stack area. In his haste to get there, he struck and killed the truck driver who chose to be a pedestrian. This was the third fatal accident occurring to over-the road truck drivers acting as pedestrians at U.S. marine terminals in CY 2022. Every year, a minimum of 1 such over-the-road driver is killed in a similar manner.

There were lots of questions being asked in the aftermath of this particular accident, but it's understood that most operators of container terminals require truck drivers to remain in their tractors unless within a designated (safe) area. Simply wandering around a marine terminal, for whatever reason, is a very bad idea and runs against generally established policies and OSHA regulations. Those policies should be enforced; without exception.

Got an OSH-related question? Write to the JSC at: blueoceana@optonline.net

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