

## *What is FACE?*

**F**ACE is one of many public health programs being conducted by the California Department of Health Services (DHS) with funding from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). FACE stands for "Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation." The purpose of FACE is to identify conditions that increase the possibility of work-related fatal injury. Identification of these conditions will enable more effective fatality prevention measures to be developed and implemented by employers and employees.

### *What FACE is not...*

**F**ACE does not evaluate compliance with occupational safety and health standards or determine fault. Many factors contribute to an event in which a worker dies. FACE investigations consider all factors and do not focus on "who was to blame." The California Department of Health Services does not enforce Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations.

**FACE**

**To report a  
work-related fatality, call  
800/851-2138**

*Your cooperation in  
the California FACE  
Program is greatly  
appreciated.*

California Department of Health Services  
Occupational Health Branch  
FACE Program  
850 Marina Bay Parkway, Bldg P, 3rd Floor  
Richmond, CA 94804

*Commonly Asked  
Questions About  
California*

# **FATALITY ASSESSMENT & CONTROL EVALUATION**

### **FACE**

**A Program  
of the California  
Department of Health Services  
Occupational Health Branch  
and the National Institute for  
Occupational Safety and Health**

**FACE Program  
California Dept of Health Services  
850 Marina Bay Pkwy, Bldg P, 3rd Floor  
Richmond, CA 94804**

**510-620-5757**

## ***How does the employer benefit from a FACE investigation?***

The employer benefits from an impartial assessment of the workplace to help identify the reasons for occupational injuries and fatalities.

## ***What is an employer's role in the FACE investigation?***

Employers are asked to answer questions on the organization of their safety program and the event resulting in a worker's death. California Department of Health Services personnel visit the incident site, photograph the area, and discuss the incident with witnesses.

## ***Do the answers given remain confidential?***

Definitely Yes. The data collection procedure does not require personal identifiers. All answers remain anonymous and completely confidential, and no one other than FACE investigators know how individuals responded to any questions.

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work-related fatality, call  
800/851-2138**

## ***What is the reason for a site visit?***

A site visit is essential for observing and photographing the site where the fatality occurred. It enables investigators to recreate a complex sequence of events. There are many factors that must be considered to understand how the fatality occurred.

## ***Why is photographic documentation of the incident site required?***

Photographic documentation helps the investigator evaluate the equipment, tools, and working environment at the site and will help to clarify the report.

## ***How is the information collected in the FACE investigation used?***

The information that is collected is analyzed to identify potential causes of occupational fatalities. A report summarizing the onsite investigation is distributed to employers, health and safety professionals, safety organizations and concerned individuals. The report does not name the employer or any employees.

***Your cooperation in the California FACE Program is appreciated.***

## ***How do you report a fatality?***

You must report a workplace fatality to Cal/OSHA according to legal reporting requirements. Check your local phone book under the State of California.

If a fatality occurs in your workplace, you may also report it to the FACE investigator 24 hours a day. If the investigator is not there, leave a detailed message. **800-851-2138**

**FACE**

## ***Who can you contact for additional information?***

California Department of Health Services  
Occupational Health Branch  
FACE Program  
850 Marina Bay Parkway, Building P, 3rd Floor  
Richmond, CA 94804.

Phone: 510-620-5757

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or

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Los Angeles, CA 90013

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