



Workplace Accidents in Condos

By Denise Lash on December 03, 2010

You've Had A Workplace Accident! Managing the Risks

Heenan Blaikie's national OHS & Workers' Compensation practice group regularly advises business owners and management when they have had a workplace accident. According to Cheryl A. Edwards and Jeremy Warning, both former OH&S Prosecutors with the Ontario Ministry of Labour, few workplace events create more potential for disruption of work, emotional turmoil, damage to reputation, government enforcement and significant liability than a serious or fatal workplace accident. They have provided an electronic checklist which we believe will be useful to corporations and property managers should they ever experience such an accident at the workplace.

Jeremy and Cheryl advise that it is essential for organizations to respond to a serious workplace accident by ensuring that they comply with minimum statutory accident reporting requirements and other basic regulatory requirements. Corporations, property managers, and any general contractor or contractor involved in an accident, will wish to take steps to minimize legal risk to their organization and to any individuals. Investigations of workplace accidents should be conducted. These might be jointly carried out by the corporation and property manager, or where their interests could diverge, separate investigations may be called for. In all cases, accident response strategies should focus on preserving and proving due diligence steps taken, inquiring into the cause of the accident, minimizing the risk of prosecution, and preparing for potential litigation.

We are pleased to provide access to Cheryl and Jeremy's checklist of risk management for corporations and property managers responding to a workplace accident. A hard copy laminated version of this electronic checklist is available and can be requested by emailing Cheryl Edwards (cedwards@heenan.ca) or Jeremy Warning (jwarning@heenan.ca).

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