Verdict of Coroner’s Jury
Office of the Chief Coroner

The Coroners Act – Province of Ontario

Surname: Zoidis
Given names: Christopher Maxwell
Aged: 41

Held at: 99 Ridout Street, London
From the: 3rd of November 2014
To the: 6th of November 2014
By: Dr. G. Rick Mann, Coroner for Ontario
having been duly sworn/affirmed, have inquired into and determined the following:

Name of Deceased: Christopher Maxwell Zoidis
Date and Time of Death: August 23, 2011, 23:35 hours
Place of Death: London Health Sciences Centre – Victoria Hospital, Critical Care
Trauma Centre
Cause of Death: Crush trauma to pelvis and extremities.
By what means: Accident

(original signed by Foreman and Jurors)

This verdict was received on the 6th of November, 2014
Coroner’s Name: Dr. G. Rick Mann
(original signed by Coroner)

We, the jury, wish to make the following recommendations:

Inquest into the death of:
Christopher Maxwell Zoidis
Jury Recommendations

1. The Ministry of Labour work with stakeholders, namely the Construction Safety Association of Ontario, employers and manufacturers to study the feasibility of improved rear view mirrors for bobcat/skid-steer machines.

2. The Ministry of Labour in conjunction with labour and construction partners, continue to explore new technologies to warn workers, both construction equipment operators and workers on foot, of dangers behind construction equipment at a worksite. Technological aids (new or existing e.g., radios) should be used in conjunction with signallers to enhance safety.

3. The Ministry of Labour require all skid-steer/bobcat operators to obtain a certificate of training and periodic recertification from an appropriate safety association. Training and recertification should include components of safe operation but also of general emergency procedures.

4. The Ministry of Labour study the feasibility of having governors on construction equipment to limit their speed of travel in reverse gear.

5. Section 104(3) O.Reg. 213/91 of the Occupational Health and Safety Act should be amended to exclude existing conditions for when a signaller is required. For example, operators of vehicles, machines and equipment shall be assisted by signallers.

6. Section 14(1) O.Reg. 213/91 be reviewed by the Ministry of Labour, in conjunction with labour and construction partners, to consider mandatory assignment of a supervisor, by the contractor, for a project where machinery is to be used.

7. The Ministry of Labour review any timelines associated with conducting investigations surrounding critical injuries to ensure that key witness statements and evidence are obtained in a timely manner. For example, key witness statements should be obtained within 48 hours of incident.