

This report is a summary of 45 fatalities in USW workplaces between April 2010 and April 25, 2011 as reported to the USW Health, Safety and Environment Department.

The report does not necessarily include all fatalities at USW workplaces, only those reported to the department. Some employers are required to report by the union contract; in other cases, the information was sent voluntarily by the employer, the USW staff representative, or the local union. The reporting is probably better for members than for supervisors, contractors and other non-members.

USW fatality reports rarely contain information on deaths from occupational disease. These deaths often occur after retirement; many are not recognized as being caused by a condition at work. However, research has shown that for every worker who dies in an industrial accident, eight to ten die from long-term occupational disease.

Accident reports are very important. Other local unions can use them to prevent similar accidents. If a USW member, supervisor, contractor, member of another union, or non-union worker is killed at your facility, or dies of an occupational disease, please notify us as soon as possible. In the United States, that should be done through the USW's 24-hr Emergency Response Hotline, at **1-866-526-3480**.

Some of these accidents are still under investigation, so this report should be considered preliminary.

1-7. April 2, **Matthew C. Bowen**, 31, **Darrin J. Hoines**, 43, and **Daniel J. Aldridge**, 50, were killed in an explosion and fire at the **Tesoro Refinery** in **Anacortes, Washington**. **Kathryn "K.D." Powell**, 29, and **Donna Van Dreumel**, 36, died of their burns later that day at the hospital. **Lew Janz**, 41, died 4/13 of his burns and **Matt Gumbel**, 34, died 4/24. All except Lew Janz were members of **Local Union 12-591** in **District 12**; Janz was a former member.

8. April 2, **John Paget**, 57, an employee of **Wheat City Metals** located in **Regina, Saskatchewan**, was fatally injured when a piece of the sledge hammer that was being used broke off and penetrated him just below his sternum. He was a member of **Local Union 5917** in **District 3**.

9. April 12, **Bridgette Geist**, 37, an employee of **Victaulic** located in **Alburtis, Pennsylvania**, was seriously injured in a furnace explosion which burned 80% of her body. She died from her injuries 3 days later 4/15/10. She was a member of **Local Union 2599** in **District 10**.

10. May 11, **Ed Artic**, 59, an employee of **Agrium Incorporated** located in **Saskatoon, Saskatchewan**, was fatally injured after being struck in the head by a metal object. He was a member of **Local Union 7552** in **District 3**.

11. May 18, **Mark Ferguson**, 42, a contractor employed by **BIS Frucon Industrial Services**, was fatally injured while working at **Buckeye Tech** located in **Perry, Florida**, when he was ran over by a forklift. Bargaining unit employees are represented by **Local Union 1192** in **District 9**.

12. May 23, **Steve Mangona**, 61, an employee of **Unilever** located in **Hammond, Indiana**, was fatally injured when he was struck when removing an agitator from a railcar. He was a member of **Local Union 7-336** in **District 7**.
13. June 12, **Andrew Robinson**, 31, an employee of **Newman Paper** located in **Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**, was fatally injured when he was crushed. He was a member of **Local Union 10-286** in **District 10**.
14. June 15, **Lakeya Stallings**, 30, an employee of **Temple Inland, Inc.** located in **Rome, Georgia**, was fatally injured at the planer mill when she was caught in-between the two inward running stick rollers of a lumber unloading machine. She was a member of **Local Union 9-00518** in **District 9**.
15. June 18, **Timothy A. Bush**, 29, a contractor working for **United Mine Services** at the **U.S. Silver Corporation Galena Mine** in **Wallace, Idaho**, was fatally injured while scaling loose material underground. Bargaining unit employees are represented by **Local Union 5114** in **District 12**.
16. June 20, **Thomas E. Benavidez**, 52, a heavy duty truck mechanic at the **Grupo Mexico Asarco Ray Mine** in **Gila County, Arizona**, was killed when his ½ ton maintenance truck was run over by a 240 ton haul truck. He was a member of **Local Union 915** in **District 12**. A second worker was critically injured.
17. June 27, **Jonathan Wager**, 32, an employee of **Clearwater Paper** in **Lewiston, Idaho**, was killed driving home from work after working several 12-hour shifts. Fatigue is a likely contributing factor, so his death is considered occupational. He was a member of **Local Union 608** in **District 12**.
18. June 30, **John Bergen III**, 35, an employee of **Clearwater Paper** in **Lewiston, Idaho**, was killed when he fell through #2 paper machine's tail chute floor opening onto a moving conveyor and was then engulfed inside the hydropulper tank. He was a member of **Local Union 608** in **District 12**.
- 19-20. July 22, **James Taylor**, 53 and **Corey Keller**, 41, employees of **Horsehead Corporation** in **Monaca, Pennsylvania** were killed in a zinc refinery column explosion. They were members of **Local Union 8183** in **District 10**.
21. July 29, **Jackie Williams**, 40, an employee of **Monarch Tile** in **Florence, Alabama**, suffered a fatal heart attack while at work. Temperatures were hot this day and the work was strenuous, so her death is considered occupational. She was a member of **Local Union 200** in **District 9**.

22. August 8, **Denton Haske**, 61, an employee of **Interlake Steamship** in **Richfield, Ohio**, was fatally injured while doing repairs on an ore boat when he became caught in a conveyor belt and was crushed between it and a roller. He was a member of **Local Union 5000** in **District 1**.
23. August 10, **Phillip Porter**, 51, an employee of **Gerdau Steel** located in **Calvert City, Kentucky** suffered a fatal heart attack while at work. His death is still under investigation, but tentatively it is not considered occupational. He was a member of **Local Union 9447** in **District 8**.
24. August 11, **Glenn Kowis**, 50, an employee of **Shell** in **Deer Park, Texas**, apparently suffered a fatal heat stroke while at work. His death is still under investigation, but since it was a hot area on a very hot day, it is tentatively considered occupational. He was a member of **Local Union 13-1** in **District 13**.
25. August 31, **Nikolas Kochaniuk**, 51, a contractor was fatally injured while working at **Boise Cascade Corp** located in **International Falls, Minnesota**. He was found unresponsive; details of accidents are unknown at this time. Bargaining unit employees are represented by **Local Union 11-00049** in **District 11**.
26. September 29, **Kelly Caudal**, 56, an employee of **Pilkington** located in **Shelbyville, Indiana** was fatally injured when he was crushed by a piece of equipment. He was a member of **Local Union 7703** in **District 7**.
27. October 6, **Gregory Starkey**, 33, employed by **Team Incorporated** was fatally injured while working at **Exxon Mobil** located in **Chalmette, Louisiana**. Bargaining unit employees are represented by **Local Union 13-522** in **District 13**.
28. October 17, **Dale Lentz**, 63, employed by **BAE Systems** located in **York, Pennsylvania**, was seriously injured when he was crushed between the JLG lift basket controls and the top of the overhead door. He later died from his injuries 10/17/10. He was a member of **Local Union 7687** in **District 10**.
29. October 18, **Apolonio Arras**, 57, an employee of **ArcelorMittal** formerly **Border Steel** located in **Vinton, Texas** was fatally injured when a draw furnace exploded. He was in the bargaining unit but not a member of **Local Union 9424** in **District 13**.
30. October 19, **John Mays**, 49, an employee of **Bush Burchett Corporation** located in **Ashland, Kentucky** was fatally injured when he fell to his death from a bridge. He was a member of **Local Union 14614** in **District 8**.
31. October 20, **Jason Ham**, 33, an employee of **ArcelorMittal** located in **Indiana Harbor, Indiana** was fatally injured when he was crushed by a piece of equipment. He was a member of **Local Union 1010** in **District 7**.

32. November 9, **Rich Folaron**, 57, an employee of **Mollenberg-Betz** was fatally injured while working at **DuPont Company** located in **Tonawanda, New York**, when a process vessel exploded during a maintenance procedure. Bargaining unit employees are represented by **Local Union 6992** in **District 4**.
33. December 3, **Ashley Weikle**, 44, an employee of **King Carriers Incorporated** located in **Covington, Virginia**, was fatally injured when his bobtail tractor trailer collided with a tractor trailer that ran off the side of the road, went into the median and veered into his lane of traffic from the opposite direction. He was a member of **Local Union 8-496** in **District 8**.
34. December 5, **Marvin Krueger**, 56, an employee of **Cypress Technologies** located in **Louisville, Kentucky** was fatally injured while at work, details are unknown at this time. He was a member of **Local Union 1693** in **District 8**.
35. February 1, **Samuel Moyers**, 33, an employee of **ArcelorMittal Bayou Steel Plant** located in **Laplace, Louisiana**, was fatally injured resultant from burns over 90% of his body. He was a member of **Local Union 9121** in **District 13**.
36. February 10, **Angel Linares**, 51, an employee of **Franklin Empire Company** located in **Montreal, Quebec**, was fatally injured after becoming wedged between a vehicle and the unloading platform while attempting to unload a truck. He was a member of **Local Union 7625** in **District 5**.
37. February 12, **Paul Benes**, 39, an employee of **Erie Coke Corporation** located in **Erie, Pennsylvania**, was fatally injured when he was struck by a pay loader. He was a member of **Local Union 3199-03** in **District 10**.
38. February 16, **Arthur Smith**, 57, a contractor employed by **SES Inc.**, was fatally injured while working at **Republic Steel** located in **Canton, Ohio**, when he was crushed between a door on a vacuum truck. Bargaining unit employees are represented by **Local Union 1200** in **District 1**.
39. March 8, **Charles Landers**, 43, a contractor employed by **Crane One Services**, was fatally injured while working at **Allegheny Ludlum** located in **New Castle, Indiana** when his elevated scissor lift was pulled over sideways by an unexpected movement of the bridge crane. Bargaining unit employees are represented by **Local Union 8535** in **District 7**.
40. March 27, **Joseph White**, 48, an employee of **ABC Coke** located in **Tarrant, Alabama**, was fatally injured when he was crushed by a piece of equipment. He was a member of **Local Union 12136** in **District 9**.
41. March 31, **Forrest Brent Finley**, 61, a contractor employed by **Dixon Electrical Systems & Contracting** was fatally injured while working at **AK Steel Coke Plant** located in **Ashland, Kentucky**, when he opened an electrical panel creating an arc flash which caused an explosion. Bargaining unit employees are represented by **Local Union 523** in **District 8**.

42-43. April 14, **David Roy**, 47, an employee of **Dow Chemical** located in **Midland, Michigan**, was fatally injured when he fell from a fixed ladder. Later that day, **Dannie Garver**, 42, became the second fatality when he was involved in an automobile accident following work. Brother Garver had spent time since Brother Roy's fall leading the local union's accident investigation team. On his way home from work he stopped to meet with a co-worker who had witnessed the earlier fall, the automobile accident occurred as he left his co-worker's home. Both victims were members of **Local Union 12075** in **District 2**.

44. April 15, **Larry Marek**, 53, a miner at **Hecla Mining Company** in **Mullan, Idaho**, was fatally injured in a fall of ground incident at the **Lucky Friday** silver mine. Search and rescue responders located and recovered his body from the mine on April 24, 2011. He was a member of **Local Union 5114** in **District 12**.

45. April 22, **Shawn Dixon**, 31, an employee of **Canton Drop Forge** in **Perry Township, Ohio**, was fatally injured when the machine he was operating malfunctioned. He was either pinned by or thrown into the equipment. He was a member of **Local Union 3446** in **District 1**.

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