

Will the entire process fall upon YOU to manage?



Contact "ALL" of your Insurance Carriers that have relevant coverage that may become involved with the incident!

- Gen Liability
- Work Comp
- Professional Liability Employers
- Liability Pollution Coverage
- Auto Coverage
- Directors and Officers
- Property
- Umbrella
- Builders Risk

Some types of incidents and events that may require investigation:



- ✓ Injuries or Illnesses
- ✓ Property Damage
- ✓ Near Misses
- ✓ Fraud



- ✓ Violation of Established Company/Customer Policy
- ✓ Charges of Sexual Harassment



- ✓ Charges of Racial Discrimination
- ✓ Theft



Your investigative report is the place:

To illustrate the thorough investigation that was conducted

Present the factors to stake holders in a way that makes the conclusion(s) clear

Should reduce the need for follow up

Investigate the incident as soon as possible after it occurs. This allows you to observe the conditions as they were at the time of the incident and prevents the disturbance of evidence.

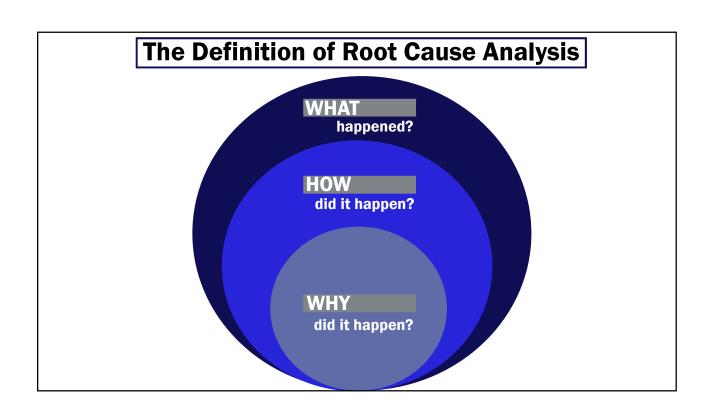
Key Steps in an Effective Investigation

Identify the root causes and/or contributing factors of the incident.

Report your findings in a written report. In preparing the report, it is very helpful to prepare a step-by-step account or timeline working back from the moment the incident occurred. Listing all probable causes and/or relevant factors at each step. This is very helpful in clearly explaining the evidence for any final conclusions. Maintain and protect data.

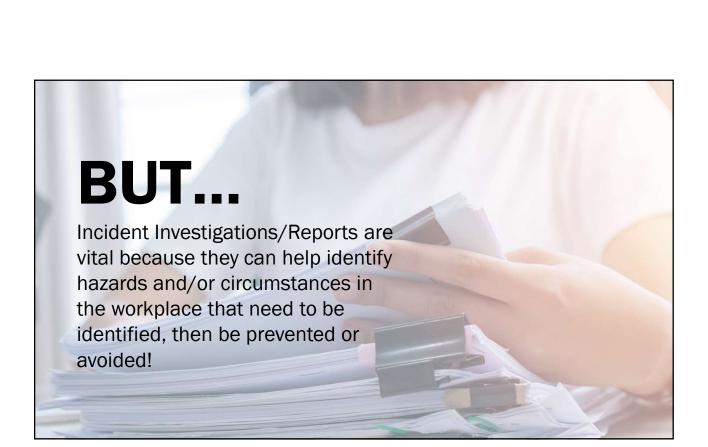
If applicable, develop a plan for corrective action to prevent the incident from happening again. Be specific, constructive and address root causes. Document, maintain and protect data.

If applicable, Implement your corrective action plan. Set a deadline for implementation of corrective actions and ensure monitoring is in place to ensure they are completed. Document, maintain and protect data.





Reality is that sometimes the info that is included can and will be used against you in a court of law!







Ensure that ALL available written reports, material and information is

OBTAINED! RETAINED! PROTECTED!

Your Report Statements

EMS, Fire and Police Reports

Reports/Summaries made by others.

Pictures and Videos

Drawings and Diagrams

Relevant Information from OSHA website

Personnel Records

Medical Records and Information

EEOC Charges and Responses

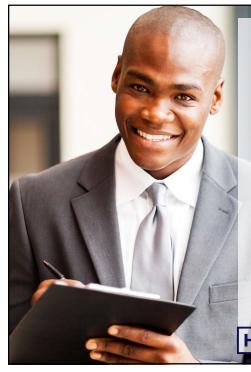
Project/Job Specifications

Contracts

Insurance Certificates

Emails

Phone Records



Good Written Statements

- Instruct the witness to tell the story in chronological order, give them a starting point.
- Communicate that only the facts are pertinent, ask them please do not include any opinions.
- Communicate to the witness that their account must be true and remind them that they may be called upon later in litigation to revisit the contents of their statement.
 - It is ok to ask and document questions in the body of the statement.
 - Q. Did you see John Doe climb on top of the bailing machine wearing no fall protection?
 - A. Yes
 - Q. Did you see John Doe on top of the bailing machine working?
 - A. Yes
 - Q. Was John Doe utilizing fall protection and was he properly tied off while he was working?
 - A. No
 - Q. Did you see John Doe fall off of the bailing machine?
 - A. Yes
 - Q. Did John Doe say anything to you while he was lying on the floor injured?
 - A. Yes, he said I wished I had tied off. That was stupid of me. I knew better.

Have the witness initial each and every answer.





Not all incidents and accidents lead to litigation. BUT......the advice of counsel may be very valuable in helping to determine the level of potential risk an incident may bring to the organization.

Talk to an Attorney about:

- Prospective litigation issues in advance, <u>especially in</u> <u>serious injury and death</u> cases
- Preserving and protecting evidence
- Guidance on having third party investigators and accident reconstructionist involved in the investigation

