

# **WORKER ALERT**SAFE FAÇADE WORK

# REMINDER: Perform Façade Work Safely to Avoid Death or Serious Injury

Façade work performed on scaffolding can be extremely dangerous and proper care must be taken at all times to prevent death or serious injury. Since 2015 there have been four (4) fatalities and 61 injuries resulting from façade work not being performed safely – all of which were entirely preventable.

Follow the guidance below to help ensure you return to your family safely following your shift:



## Get trained before you step on a scaffold.

Do not work on or from a scaffold unless you have taken scaffold safety training. Working on supported scaffolding requires a minimum of four hours of training, while work on suspended scaffolding require a minimum of sixteen hours of training. This training must be refreshed every four years. Find a course provider.



#### Wear fall protection.

Your employer is required to provide you with fall protection when working on a supported scaffold with no guardrails, or anytime when you are working on an adjustable suspended scaffold. **Wearing a harness is not enough!** You must **be tied-off to a secured lifeline** for it to work.

Your employer is required to issue you the appropriate Personal Protection Equipment for the task you are preforming, that includes a harness and a way to tie off. Call **311** to notify DOB if your employer does not provide you with a safe working environment.



#### Use extreme care when removing coping stones.

Do not remove the coping stone or any stones used to cap free-standing walls unless directed by your supervisor.

Coping Stone

Bricks/Wythes

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#### Safe sequencing of work saves lives.

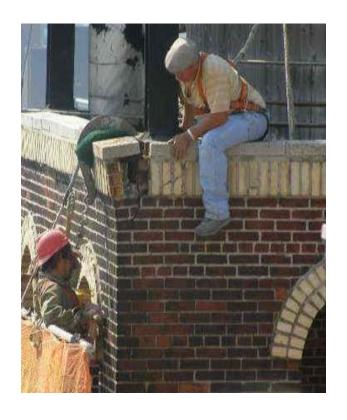
Parapet walls should be demolished from the coping down. Do not demo individual bricks or masonry blocks, as there is danger that remaining wythes may become unstable. Ensure that remaining parapet walls adjacent to demolition will not become unstable.

### Look for any loose material.

Alert your supervisor immediately if you notice a parapet, cornice, chimney, or other brickwork that is loose or seems like it could fall off the building. Be sure tiebacks are properly anchored.

#### Secure tarps the right way.

Make sure you do not lean any items such as debris bags or construction materials against the parapet wall. Tarps and other temporary weather protection must be secured at the end of the work shift so they cannot be accidentally dislodged or come loose.



#### Stand-off brackets are dangerous and prohibited.

Do not work on a suspended scaffold that has a stand-off bracket. See **BB 2019-006** for more information about stand-off brackets.

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