

U.S. Department of Labor

Mine Safety and Health Administration
201 12th Street South
Arlington, Virginia 22202-5452



AUG 07 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR: EMILY K. HARGROVE

Acting Administrator for Metal and Nonmetal
Mine Safety and Health

FROM:

JEFFREY A. DUNCAN
Committee Chair
Director for Educational Policy and Development

SUBJECT: Chargeability Review Decision

Case No.: 2017-M-18- [REDACTED]

Deceased: [REDACTED]

Date of Incident: May 15, 2017

Date of Death: May 16, 2017

Operator: Unimin Corporation

Mine: Schoolhouse Quartz Plant
MSHA ID 31-00375

Contractor: N/A

Autopsy Conducted: No

Death Certificate Filed: June 2, 2017

Autopsy Report Issued: N/A

**Death Certificate Received by
MSHA:** June 21, 2017

Decision: Not Chargeable

I reviewed the investigative report in the death of [REDACTED] and determined it should not be charged to the mining industry. Co-workers reported that Mr. [REDACTED], a 58-year-old security guard, appeared to be ill and was complaining of difficulty breathing. Although Mr. [REDACTED] asked that an ambulance not be called, the mine foreman called an ambulance after Mr. [REDACTED] began vomiting. He was taken by ambulance to a medical treatment center, and immediately transferred to a hospital where he died the following morning.

The death certificate states that the manner of death was natural, and that the immediate cause of death was respiratory arrest. Shock, lactic acidosis, and erythrolysis were listed as the underlying causes of death. The MSHA investigation did not reveal any environmental or physical conditions that contributed to the death.

Based on the death certificate and MSHA's investigation, I determined that the death of Mr. [REDACTED] was not due to mine related work activities and should not be charged to the mining industry.

cc: Patricia W. Silvey
Kevin G. Stricklin
Sheila A. McConnell
Lawrence Trainor