

KHASHAN LAW FIRM, APC

CONSTRUCTION ACCIDENTS AND INJURIES

What Construction Workers and Their Families Need to Know About Job Site Accidents, Workers' Compensation, and Legal Options

INSIDE:

- How Construction Accidents Happen
- Injury & Fatality Statistics Every Worker Should Know
- What to Do If You're Hurt in a Construction Accident
- How an Attorney Can Help With Your Claim

A construction site is one of the busiest workplaces in America —
and one of the most dangerous when safety takes a back seat.



CONSTRUCTION INJURY GUIDE - 2026

Khashan Law Firm, APC • Workers' Compensation & Personal Injury Attorneys • Inland Empire, CA

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How Construction Accidents Happen

Construction sites move fast, involve heavy equipment, and often stack multiple trades on top of one another. When fall protection is skipped, equipment isn't maintained, or safety procedures are rushed to meet a deadline, the results can be catastrophic.

Common Ways Construction Accidents Occur

- **Falls from heights.** Workers on scaffolding, ladders, roofs, or unprotected floor openings can suffer life-changing injuries when fall protection is missing or fails.
- **Struck-by accidents.** Falling tools, debris, swinging crane loads, or moving vehicles and heavy equipment on site can strike and seriously injure workers.
- **Caught-in/between incidents.** Trench and excavation collapses, or workers caught between equipment and a fixed object, are among the deadliest hazards on a job site.
- **Electrocutions.** Contact with power lines, exposed wiring, or improperly grounded tools can cause severe burns or death.
- **Scaffolding and ladder failures.** Improperly built, overloaded, or poorly maintained scaffolding and ladders can collapse or give way beneath a worker.
- **Crane and rigging accidents.** Overloaded cranes, rigging failures, and improperly signaled lifts can drop loads or tip equipment onto workers below.
- **Equipment and machinery injuries.** Forklifts, excavators, nail guns, saws, and other power tools cause serious injuries when guards are removed or training is inadequate.

Contributing Factors Employers and Contractors Are Responsible For

- Missing or inadequate fall protection, guardrails, and harnesses
- Lack of proper training and certification for equipment operators
- Unshored trenches and excavations
- Poorly maintained tools, scaffolding, and heavy equipment
- Rushed schedules and production pressure that cut safety corners
- Failure to coordinate safely among multiple contractors and trades
- Violations of Cal/OSHA construction safety standards

Injury & Fatality Facts Every Construction Worker Should Know

- Falls, struck-by incidents, electrocutions, and caught-in/between hazards — often called the "Fatal Four" — cause the majority of construction worker deaths nationally.
- Construction consistently has one of the highest workplace fatality rates of any major industry.
- Many serious construction injuries involve multiple employers on the same site, which can complicate who is responsible.
- Regulators have long identified proper fall protection, trench safety, and equipment training as among the most effective ways to prevent construction accidents.

What to Do If You're Hurt in a Construction Accident

Immediate Steps

- **Get medical help right away.** Construction accidents can cause internal injuries, fractures, and head or spinal trauma that are not always obvious right away.
- **Report the accident.** California law requires you to notify your employer within 30 days, but reporting immediately protects your claim.
- **Preserve the scene.** If you are able, take photos of the equipment, scaffolding, work area, and any visible injuries before the site is cleaned up or altered.
- **Get witness information.** Coworkers or other trades on site who saw what happened can be critical if your claim is disputed later.
- **Request the incident report.** Ask for a copy of any internal accident report your employer or the general contractor completes.
- **Be cautious with the insurance company.** You are not required to give a recorded statement before speaking with an attorney.

Your Rights Under California Workers' Compensation Law

If you're injured on a construction site, you may be entitled to benefits regardless of fault, including:

- Medical care reasonably required to treat the injury
- Temporary disability payments while you're unable to work
- Permanent disability benefits if you don't fully recover
- Supplemental job displacement (retraining) benefits if you can't return to your prior job
- Death benefits for dependents in the event of a fatal accident

You May Have Options Beyond Workers' Compensation

Workers' compensation generally prevents you from suing your own employer, but construction sites often involve multiple companies who may bear legal responsibility, including:

- A general contractor or another subcontractor working on the same site
- The manufacturer of defective equipment, tools, or safety gear
- A crane, scaffolding, or equipment rental and maintenance company
- A property owner or developer responsible for unsafe site conditions

These third-party claims can allow for compensation beyond what workers' compensation provides, including for pain and suffering.

How Khashan Law Firm Can Help

Construction accidents are among the most serious injuries workers face on the job. Fractures, crush injuries, spinal cord damage, and traumatic brain injuries are common — and so is the pressure to accept a quick, low settlement while you're still recovering. Here is how having an experienced attorney on your side can make a difference:

- **Investigating how the accident happened.** We look into site safety records, training logs, and equipment maintenance to understand the full picture — not just what the incident report says.
- **Identifying every responsible party.** Beyond your employer, that can include the general contractor, other subcontractors, equipment manufacturers, or property owners.
- **Managing your workers' compensation claim.** We handle deadlines, paperwork, and communication with the insurance company so you can focus on recovering.
- **Connecting you with qualified medical care.** A thorough evaluation is essential, especially for injuries like head trauma or spinal injuries that can worsen if downplayed.
- **Pushing back on lowball settlement offers.** We negotiate directly with insurers and, when necessary, take disputes before the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board or pursue a third-party claim in court.
- **Protecting you from retaliation.** If you're disciplined or terminated for reporting a job site accident, you may have additional legal claims against your employer.
- **Supporting families after a fatal accident.** We help surviving family members pursue the death benefits and, where applicable, wrongful death claims they are entitled to.
- **No upfront cost.** Construction injury cases are typically handled on a contingency basis — you pay nothing unless we recover compensation for you.



**A serious construction accident can change your life in an instant.
You don't have to navigate the claims process alone.**

Talk to Khashan Law Firm About Your Case

If you or a family member has been hurt — or worse — in a construction accident at a job site, building project, or worksite anywhere in California, Khashan Law Firm offers free, confidential consultations to help you understand your options.

- **Call: (951) 461-2387**
- **Toll-Free: (866) 34-INJURED**
- **Office:** 746 N. Mountain Ave. Ontario, CA 91762 / 26636 Margarita Rd, Suite 101, Murrieta, CA 92563
- **Serving:** The Inland Empire, Ontario, and clients throughout California
- ***Hablamos Español.***

Additional Resources

- **California Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC):** www.dir.ca.gov/dwc — information on filing claims and your rights as an injured worker.
- **Cal/OSHA:** enforces construction safety standards and investigates workplace complaints; complaints are confidential.
- **Federal OSHA Construction Standards (29 CFR 1926):** www.osha.gov — training and safety requirements for construction work.
- **NIOSH:** www.cdc.gov/niosh — research and prevention resources on construction site safety.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **Can I still file a claim if I work for a subcontractor, not the general contractor?** Yes. You can file a workers' compensation claim with your own employer, and in some cases pursue a separate claim against the general contractor or another party on the site.
- **What if my employer says I wasn't following procedure?** California workers' compensation generally covers injuries regardless of fault. An attorney can help address disputes over how an accident happened.
- **Can I pursue a claim if another company's crew caused the accident?** Yes. Multi-employer job sites often create third-party claims when a different contractor's negligence contributed to your injury.
- **How much does it cost to hire an attorney?** Consultations are free, and fees are typically paid only out of benefits or compensation recovered, subject to applicable approval.

Call Khashan Law Firm as soon as possible. The clock is ticking on your claim and we are here to help!

Estamos aqui para ayudarle con su reclamación de Workers' Comp en su trabajo. Llámenos hoy!

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