875—3.20(88) Policy regarding employee rescue activities.

3.20(1) No citation may be issued to an employer because of a rescue activity undertaken by an employee of that employer with respect to an individual in imminent danger unless:

a. The employee is designated or assigned by the employer to have responsibility to perform or assist in rescue operations, and the employer fails to provide protection of the safety and health of the employee, including failing to provide appropriate training and rescue equipment; or

b. The employee is directed by the employer to perform rescue activities in the course of carrying out the employee's job duties, and the employer fails to provide protection of the safety and health of such employee, including failing to provide appropriate training and rescue equipment; or

c. The employee is employed in a workplace that requires the employee to carry out duties that are directly related to a workplace operation where the likelihood of life-threatening accidents is foreseeable, such as a workplace operation where employees are located in confined spaces or trenches, handle hazardous waste, respond to emergency situations, perform excavations, or perform construction over water; and such employee has not been designated or assigned to perform or assist in rescue operations and voluntarily elects to rescue such an individual. Additionally, the employer has failed to instruct employees not designated or assigned to perform or assist in rescue operations of the arrangements for rescue, not to attempt rescue, and of the hazards of attempting rescue without adequate training or equipment.

3.20(2) For purposes of this policy, the term "imminent danger" means the existence of any condition or practice that could reasonably be expected to cause death or serious physical harm before such condition or practice can be abated.

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