North Carolina Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Division

Inspection Number: 318257417
Inspection Date(s): 1/2/2023 -
Issuance Date: 6/28/2023

Citation and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Friends Masonry Construction L.L.C
Inspection Site: 711 East Morehead Street, Charlotte, NC 28202

Citation 01 Item 001 Type of Violation: **Serious**

29 CFR 1926.451(a)(1): Each scaffold and/or scaffold component was not capable of supporting, without failure, its own weight and at least 4 times the maximum intended load applied or transmitted to it:

a) Jobsite, Hydro Mobile mast climbing scaffold – where the bearing bridge section between mast climbing work platforms (MCWP) #14 and #15 was not capable of supporting its own weight and four times the maximum intended load.

On or about January 2, 2023, the bridge section was used by the employer and loaded with approximately 1765 lbs. of employees, materials, and equipment without knowing the safe loading capacity of the scaffold. Three employees were fatally injured when the bridge section collapsed, and they fell approximately 70 feet to the ground. Two other employees suffered non-life-threatening injuries.

Date By Which Violation Must Be Abated: **Corrected During Inspection**
Proposed Penalty: **$14,502.00**

Citation and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Friends Masonry Construction L.L.C
Inspection Site: 711 East Morehead Street, Charlotte, NC 28202

Citation 01 Item 002 Type of Violation: **Serious**

29 CFR 1926.451(f)(3): Scaffolds and scaffold components were not inspected for visible defects by a competent person before each work shift, and after any occurrence which could affect a scaffold's structural integrity:

a) Jobsite, Hydro Mobile mast climbing scaffold – where employees were walking and working, and the scaffold was not inspected before each shift.

Date By Which Violation Must Be Abated: **Corrected During Inspection**
Proposed Penalty: **$14,502.00**

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Citation 01 Item 003 Type of Violation: **Serious**

29 CFR 1926.451(f)(4): Part(s) of a scaffold that were damaged or weakened, such that the scaffold's strength was less than that required by paragraph (a) of this section, were not immediately repaired, replaced, braced to meet those provisions, nor removed from service until repaired.

a) Jobsite, Hydro Mobile mast climbing scaffold – where employees were walking and working on the bearing bridge, which was constructed with Multi-Purpose Insert (MPI) sections with serial numbers EXT02-0110, EXT02-0032, and EXT02-0128, and the steel members were heavily rusted and deteriorated, affecting both the structural integrity and strength of the scaffold.

On or about January 2, 2023, three employees were fatally injured after falling approximately 70 feet to the ground when the bridge section of the Hydro Mobile mast climbing scaffold collapsed after a failure between parallel MPI section EXT02-0032 and perpendicular section EXT02-0128. Two other employees suffered non-life-threatening injuries.

Date By Which Violation Must Be Abated: **Corrected During Inspection**
Proposed Penalty: **$14,502.00**

District Supervisor
for the Director