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Steelworker Dies After Fall at Winthrop Construction Site

Winthrop University

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Steelworker Dies After Fall at Winthrop Construction Site

Quick Facts

- Foreman Wade Dowling, 51, died after a fall from the top of Winthrop's new health, physical education and wellness center.
- This is the only construction site fatality in nearly 20 years at Winthrop.

ROCK HILL, S.C. - A foreman for a welding subcontractor died today of injuries suffered in a fall of approximately 25 feet from the top of a building under construction on the Winthrop campus.

Wade Henry Dowling, 51, 1664 Pinewood Ave., Lancaster, S.C., was injured after apparently losing his balance and falling while working on a project atop a new health, physical education and wellness center, according to police reports. The site is near the intersection of Alumni Drive and Columbia Avenue. He was transported to **Piedmont Medical Center**, where he was later pronounced dead.

Associate Vice President for Facilities Management **Walter Hardin** said he was told by subcontractor representatives that Dowling worked for Capital City Erectors, a South Carolina subcontractor to Macuch Steel, a Georgia subcontractor of Devere Construction Company, Alpina, Michigan. He added that Winthrop has secured the accident site and is working with the contractor to ensure notification to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration officials, who were expected to arrive on site by the end of the day Thursday. **Hardin** said he believes this to be the only construction site fatality to occur at Winthrop in at least the two decades that he has worked for the university.

Hardin said the project superintendent has reported that safety meetings are held on site weekly; only one other on-the-job injury – a minor one – has been reported since the project began in April 2005.

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