

NEWSFRONT

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LEGAL OPINION

Labour accident – Death

A worker in a shiprepair facility died as a result of a labour accident while carrying out repair works. His heirs sued the shiprepair contractor on the grounds of non-observance of safety regulations and claimed full compensation.

It was found the shiprepairer had not placed a protective rail for the safe movement of workers. Neither had they provided lighting in the place of work. Accordingly, the shiprepairer was found in breach of safety regulations and liable to the heirs of the late worker for the full compensation as a result of his death.

Piraeus One membered Court of Appeal Judgment no 115/2016, Judge: I. Apostolopoulos, Attorneys at law: K. Foundea, M. Dara, Maritime Law Review vol. 44, p. 192.

NOTE: Violation of specific safety regulations leads to full compensation, and not to the limited remuneration afforded by law 551/1915, regardless of the existence of fault on the part of the employer.

A further interesting point, was that the deceased worker had himself not taken personal safety measure, however, this was not put in the court and no contributory negligence was adjudicated.

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