



Investigation Report  
Worker Fatally Injured During a Robbery at the Workplace  
December 18, 2015

## Final Report

### **The contents of this report**

This document reports Occupational Health & Safety's investigation of a fatal incident in December 2015. The rest of the report covers this same information in greater detail.

### **Incident summary**

A store clerk, working alone on the overnight shift at a convenience store on the south side of Edmonton, was robbed by three masked individuals. The clerk was shot by one of the masked individuals as they were leaving the store. The store clerk later died as a result of the clerk's injuries.

### **Background information**

Sukhraj Enterprises Ltd. (Mac's Convenience Store # 22544) was an independently owned and operated company that had been registered with the province of Alberta since June 2008. Sukhraj Enterprises Ltd. entered into a franchise contract with Mac's Convenience Stores Inc. on February 24, 2015, to use their trade name and abide by their systems.

Mac's Convenience Stores was an incorporated business that was established in 1962. It became a subsidiary of Alimentation Couche-Tart Inc. in 1999. Mac's had 850 convenience stores across Canada.

ADT was a security company that operated throughout North America and was founded in 1874. It offered surveillance, intrusion, fire and access control services to both residential and business customers. ADT provided alarm monitoring services at the Mac's Convenience Store where the incident took place.

The Store Clerk was a recent immigrant to Canada, arriving in August 2015, from India. The store clerk was hired by Sukhraj Enterprises Ltd. to start work on November 16, 2015, after completing the required employee training.

### **Equipment and materials**

A Personal Emergency Transmitter (PET) was a device that was worn by the store employees around their necks. If an employee required police assistance, they could push the button on the transmitter and a signal would be sent to the monitoring company (Protectron, a division of ADT). The monitoring company would respond by first calling the store, then the police.

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*Figure 1. An example of a pendant style personal emergency transmitter similar to the one the store clerk was wearing on the day of the incident. Picture taken from the internet.*

### **Sequence of events**

On Thursday, December 17, 2015, at approximately 10:00 p.m., the store clerk started work at a convenience store located in South Edmonton. The shift the store clerk was scheduled to work was from 10:00 p.m. until 7:00 a.m. on December 18, 2015. The store clerk would be required to work alone in the store between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.

At approximately 3:22 a.m., the store clerk was confronted by three armed masked individuals who entered the store. The individuals demanded money from the till and escorted the store clerk behind the counter to open the cash register. When the register was opened, the money was taken. During the robbery, the store clerk was struck on the left side of the clerk's head but did not offer any resistance to the masked individuals. The masked individuals took a large amount of cigarettes as part of the robbery and proceeded towards the front of the store to leave when one of the masked individuals shot the store clerk in the abdomen before exiting the store.

The store clerk was able to push the button on the clerk's PET pendant to summon assistance. The alarm company made several attempts to contact the store and, being unable to reach the store clerk, they called the Edmonton Police Service (EPS) who responded and found the injured store clerk at the worksite.

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Emergency Medical Services (EMS) responded to the worksite, performed cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) on the store clerk and transported the clerk to the University of Alberta Hospital where the store clerk later succumbed to the clerk's injuries.

A review for enforcement action was completed on May 18, 2016, and it was determined that prosecution or an administrative penalty were not appropriate based on the circumstances surrounding this incident.

This file was closed on October 25, 2016.

Signatures

ORIGINAL REPORT SIGNED

October 26, 2016

Lead Investigator

Date

ORIGINAL REPORT SIGNED

October 26, 2016

Manager

Date

ORIGINAL REPORT SIGNED

January 23, 2017

Director

Date