



The City of New York  
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**September 30, 2003**

**JOINT STATEMENT FROM DOI and DOB COMMISSIONERS REGARDING THE GUILTY PLEAS  
ENTERED BY PHILLIP MINUCCI AND TRI STATE SCAFFOLD & EQUIPMENT SUPPLIES**

From DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn and DOB Commissioner Patricia A. Lancaster, AIA

Today, Phillip Minucci and Tri State Scaffold & Equipment Supplies pleaded guilty in Manhattan Supreme Court to Manslaughter in the second degree, a Class "C" felony. These charges arose from a multi-agency investigation of a scaffolding collapse in which five people died and four others were seriously injured. Today's plea is significant because it marks the first, or one of the first, instances that a contractor doing business in the City has pleaded guilty to manslaughter. Today's plea should send a message that contractors are responsible and will be held accountable for the safety of the workers on their jobsites.

We would like to thank Manhattan District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau and his staff, as well as the U.S. Department of Labor, the Office of Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York for their work on this case. Additionally, we would like to thank the DOI and DOB staff who participated in this investigation.