



SHARP START



April 24 — No Line Drawn

Chipping down a wall and there wasn't barricade tape up.	Stopped employees and put tape up.
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Wall demolition was underway.

Material was being broken loose. Pieces were coming down.

But there was no barricade in place. No tape. No boundary. From the outside, it just looked like work being done.

But demolition creates uncontrolled hazards falling debris, shifting material, and pieces that don't always land where you expect. Without a clear boundary, anyone can walk into that space without realizing what's happening around them.

No one had walked through at the wrong time. But the exposure was already there.

Because without a barricade, there's nothing separating the work from the people around it.

The job was stopped. The area was secured. Then the work continued.

This wasn't about someone crossing a line. It was about the line never being set.

Hazards

- Struck-by from falling or flying debris
- Uncontrolled access to active work area
- Flying or shifting material
- Trip hazard from broken debris
- Line of fire exposure to gravity and mechanical energy

Stats

- Struck-by incidents are a leading cause of workplace injuries and fatalities
- Demolition work increases the risk of falling material and uncontrolled hazards
- Barricades are a primary control used to prevent unintended exposure
- Many incidents occur when work zones are not clearly defined

Words of Wisdom

- If there's no boundary, there's no protection
- Don't assume others know the hazard show them
- Set the line before work begins

Pause and Think

When work is moving, it's easy to focus on the task itself breaking, cutting, and removing. Setting up controls can feel like a delay. But that's where the risk builds.

People move through job sites constantly. What's obvious to the crew doing the work isn't always obvious to everyone else.

Without a clear boundary, you're relying on awareness instead of control.

And awareness isn't always there.

- Have I clearly marked my work area before starting?
- Could someone unknowingly walk into my work zone?
- Am I relying on others to "just stay clear"?
- Did I set the boundary or skip it?