



# Near Miss Report

## Unsafe Ladder Use & Unprotected Work at Heights

**Potential Outcome:** Personnel injury

**Activity:** A civilian and two military shops employees were responding to an urgent trouble call that required roof access to complete. The workers used a portable ladder to access the roof and proceeded to commence the roof work without adequate fall protection. A passing shop supervisor saw the employees on the roof working without adequate fall protection and noticed the ladder did not extend above the roof, thereby making the roof access unsafe. The employees were directed to descend from the roof and return to the shop to obtain the proper height ladder and the necessary fall protection equipment in order to perform the work safely.

**Possible Cause:**

- Failure to adequately plan for correct height of ladder and proper fall protection

**Behaviors to be Learned:**

- Thoroughly plan the work prior to execution to ensure hazards that will exist during the evolution have been mitigated through compliant measures
- Portable ladders should extend 3ft above a work platform to ensure safe access
- Always inspect ladder prior to use. If the ladder is damaged, it must be removed from service and tagged until repaired or taken out of service.
- When in doubt, consult the Command's Fall Protection Competent Person (CP) to determine the necessary fall protection for work at heights.

**P-1300 NAVFAC Safety and Health Handbook(DEC 2012):** pages 33-34

