

OSHA's Complicity

December 27, 2003

To the Editor:

Re "A Trench Caves In; a Young Worker Is Dead. Is It a Crime?" (Front page, Dec. 21):

If the facts are as stated in the article, of course it is a crime! And the Occupational Safety and Health Administration is complicit in the crime.

OSHA is a prime example of a bureaucracy that "doesn't want to rock the boat" and protects the corporations and companies it is supposed to regulate. It needs many fewer paper pushers and managers and many more people on job sites.

Get those people out of their offices and into the field to conduct more inspections, or get rid of OSHA and start all over again with an organization that will actually protect workers and prosecute companies that do not operate construction sites in a safe manner.

PAUL HOSMAN

Kalamazoo, Mich., Dec. 21, 2003