

Mining Fatalities: Still On The Rise In 2015



The recent upward trend in mining fatalities looks, unfortunately, to still be on the rise. Last year, we blogged about a Department of Labor (Mine Safety and Health Administration) report that showed an increase in mining death between 2012 and 2013.

The [numbers for 2014](#) are in, and they show that mining-related deaths held steady at 2013's higher rate. 2015 looks to be even deadlier, as there have already been four fatalities this year; at that rate, 2015 is on pace to have 20% more mining deaths than 2014.

This information should be especially concerning for those in the mining industry in Pennsylvania. Since 2004, Pennsylvania has the third most mining fatalities (27), trailing only West Virginia (120) and Kentucky (82).

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the Martin Law website with links for Home, The Firm, Attorneys, Materials, Blog, News, Settlements, Equal, and Contact Us. The main header features the Martin Law logo with the tagline "Working for people who can't." and contact information: "FREE CONSULTATION - CALL OR EMAIL US TODAY" with phone numbers 215-268-7646 and 888-229-6467. A sidebar on the left lists legal services: WORKERS' COMPENSATION, SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY, LONG TERM DISABILITY, and VETERANS BENEFITS. The main content area displays the title "FATAL COAL MINING ACCIDENTS INCREASED LAST YEAR" and a sub-headline "On behalf of Martin Law's personal injury lawyers, Accidents in October - January 28, 2014". The article text discusses a report from the Department of Labor showing a disturbing figure for industrial workers across the United States, with fatal accidents in the mining industry increasing to 2011, according to the BLS. Last year, 40 miners were killed in such accidents, compared to 38 in the previous year. It notes that the increase in mining fatalities occurred during the final quarter of 2010 when comparing statistics for the previous year. The increase in mining deaths was highlighted after three coal miners were killed in three consecutive days in October. The death of three coal miners in a span of three days had not happened in a decade. There are many hazards in the coal mining industry that put miners at risk for suffering a fatal injury. Accidents involving power handling equipment and machinery accounted for the most mining accidents last year.

This post, added to our blog in January of 2014, discusses the increasing fatality rate for miners.

For more on coal-related workplace illnesses and injuries, view our article on Black Lung benefits legislation and our blog post on the 2010 Clairton Coke Works explosion.
