

fack families against corporate killers

c/o Hazards Campaign, Windrush Millennium Centre,
70 Alexandra Road, Manchester M16 7WD Tel 0161 636 7557
mail@gmhazards.org.uk www.fack.org.uk

Press Release – immediate



2young2die

**FACK Vigil for Steven Allen , 23,
Killed on Construction Site in Bradford on 9th March 2007**

**Outside Inquest at Bradford Coroners Court, Magistrates Court,
The Tyrls, Bradford BD1 1LA
at 9 am Monday 2nd February 2009**

Steven Allen's mother Judith and family will be supported by FACK and members of Bradford Area Safety Reps Association at a vigil outside the Inquest into Steven's death which is scheduled to run for two days, starting on 2nd February.

Steven was killed on a building site in Manningham on 9th March 2007 when an incomplete load of bags on a pallet slipped as it was being lifted by a block grab and Steven's head was trapped. Judith Allen, Steven's mother, has been fighting to ensure her son's death is properly investigated by the police and HSE, and that all the relevant facts and people are questioned to ensure the full truth as to how he came to be killed are revealed. She hopes that the many questions still unanswered will be answered during the Inquest. See Steven's story on the FACK website:

<http://www.hazardscampaign.org.uk/fack/about/index.htm>

Judith Allen says: *"I still do not know exactly how and why my son came to die. I am not sure the investigation into his death, into whether the safety procedures and systems on site were good enough to protect workers, has been thorough enough. I don't know why a block grab was being used to lift pallets and I need to have some answers to all the questions that go round and round in my head. It's hard to lose a beloved son, but if Steven's death was due to poor safety I need to know and I hope this Inquest will provide some answers as to how he died."*

At this stage the HSE has not decided whether to prosecute for health and safety offences, the CPS has decided not to take a manslaughter prosecution. Depending on what comes out at the Inquest and the verdict, a decision about prosecution will be taken later.

Hilda Palmer spokesperson for FACK added: *“Judith needs to know why her son died and whether safety on site and its enforcement by the HSE is enough to prevent other worker deaths. The unacceptably high number of deaths in the construction industry are currently the subject of a Government inquiry and Judith and other members of FACK will be giving our views as to why workers are being killed and what needs to be done, at a meeting on 2nd March at the DWP in London. Employers in the industry, the HSE as enforcers of H&S law, and the government need not only to hear the views of the families of those who pay the ultimate burden for the lack of health and safety, but to take action on them and tighten up safety on sites before more workers are unnecessarily killed.”*

For Judith story of Steven’ death see:

<http://www.hazardscampaign.org.uk/fack/about/stevenallen.pdf>

**For more details contact Judith Allen Tel No 01535 216 450, mobile 07794669229
FACK - Hilda Palmer 0161 636 7557**

Notes to editors:

Judith Allen is a member of FACK

FACK was launched in July 2006 with the support of the Hazards Campaign. We have lobbied parliament and ministers in Westminster and Edinburgh, over the need for stricter laws on corporate killing, penalties which will be a real deterrent plus much more enforcement BEFORE someone is killed. We have spoken at many public meetings and conferences, including the CBI; launched FACK at the STUC in Scotland; spoken at International Workers Memorial Day events on 28th April in Edinburgh, Glasgow, York, Manchester, Oldham, Chorley, Liverpool, London, Penzance, Preston.

FACK aims leaflet - <http://www.hazardscampaign.org.uk/fack/about/fackleaflet08.pdf>

FACK Tel 0161 636 7557 mail@gmhazards.org.uk