

# Investigation Summary

S. C. Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation  
Office of Occupational Safety and Health

MOD Date		1. Reporting ID				2. Summary Number (Identifies This Summary) <span style="float:right; font-size: 1.5em;">▶ 200374270</span>			
3. Related Inspection Numbers	3.1 Type Number		3.2 Type Number		3.3 Type Number		3.4 Type Number		4. Total Entries
	I		I		I		I		

5. Injured/Deceased (Name)  Name Line Number	6. Inspection Number (3.1, 3.2 etc.)	7. Sex	8. Age	9. Injury			10. Nature of Injury	11. Part of Body	12. Source of Injury	13. Event Type	14. Environmental Factor	15. Human Factor	16. Task		17. Substance Code	18. Occupation Code
				a. Fatal	b. Hospitalized	c. Nonhospitalized							e. Reg. Assigned	d. Not Reg. Assigned		
				Mark "X" in only one box									Mark "X" in only one box			
1 Bradford Baity		M	37	X			02	04	16	1218	01		X			417
2 Mike Benke		M	49	X			02	04	16	1218	01		X			417
3 Melvin Champaign		M	46	X			02	04	1612	18	01		X			417
4 James Drayton		M	56	X			02	04	1612	18	01		X			417
5 William Hutchinson		M	48	X			02	04	1612	18	01		X			417
6 Mark Kelsey		M	40	X			02	04	1612	18	01		X			417
7 Louis Mulkey		M	40	X			02	04	1612	18	01		X			417
8 Brandon Thompson		M	34	X			02	04	1612	18	01		X			417
9 Michael French		M	27	X			02	04	1612	18	01		X			417
10																

19. Type of Event **Respiratory failure due to smoke inhalation.**

20. Abstract  
Abstract Line Number

1 On June 18, 2007, the deceased (Bradford Baity, Mike Benke, Melvin  
2 Champaign, James Drayton, William Hutchinson, Mark Kelsey, Louis  
3 Mulkey, Brandon Thompson and Michael French), employees of the  
4 City of Charleston Fire Department, were engaged in interior  
5 structural firefighting in a furniture store (Sofa Super Store,  
6 1807 Savannah Highway, Charleston, SC). The store had been  
7 converted from a 1960s era grocery store with a metal truss roof  
8 system. The fire and smoke spread rapidly, and they became lost  
9 and separated from their hoses. With air in air-packs running out,  
10 they could not find their way out. They died of smoke inhalation.