

# THE BLADE

## Coroner: Andersons workers suffocated in grain storage tank



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The [two men who died Friday](#) at The Andersons facility in South Toledo suffocated as a result of being entrapped in the grain storage tank, said Dr. Diane Scala-Barnett, Lucas County coroner.

Dr. Barnett ruled the deaths of Joshua Stone, 29, of Rossford, and James Heilman, 56, of Perrysburg, as accidental.

They and another coworker were in the storage tank breaking up compacted grain when it is believed they came upon an air pocket, causing grain to collapse around and on them, Dr. Barnett said.

Toledo fire crews were called about 9 a.m. Friday to the grain storage tank, 125 Edwin Dr. near the DiSalle Bridge that carries I-75 over the Maumee River.

The effort shifted from rescue to recovery within 90 minutes.

The company confirmed the fatalities two hours later.