

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, APPELLATE DIVISION,
FIRST DEPARTMENT

Krifca v. Bronx-Lebanon Special Care Ctr., Inc.

Krifca, 2026 NY Slip Op 03391 (Supreme Court of the State of New York Appellate Division First Department 2026) · No. Index No. 303938/15; Appeal No. 6785; Case No. 2025-00917 · Decided June 2, 2026

SUMMARY

The Appellate Division, First Department, affirmed an order granting plaintiffs summary judgment on liability under Labor Law § 240(1) arising from injuries caused by falling roofing materials. The court held that the materials fell because the securing belts were inadequate and that the plaintiff was engaged in a covered roofing activity. The court also granted the property owners conditional summary judgment on their common-law indemnification cross-claim against the material supplier, while declining to dismiss the supplier’s contractual indemnification claim against the plaintiff’s employer.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Supreme Court of the State of New York, Appellate Division, First Department
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Manzanet-Daniels, J.P.; Kennedy, J.; Mendez, J.; Michael, J.; Hagler, J.
JURISDICTION	New York Supreme Court, Appellate Division, First Department
DECIDED	June 2, 2026
DOCKET	Index No. 303938/15; Appeal No. 6785; Case No. 2025-00917
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Appeal from an order of Supreme Court, Bronx County, concerning summary judgment on Labor Law claims and indemnification claims arising from a construction-site injury.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	De novo review of summary judgment determinations and whether the moving parties established entitlement to judgment as a matter of law; successive summary judgment motions are not considered where they do not resolve previously identified factual issues.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	published
PARTIES	Bronx-Lebanon Special Care Center, Inc., The Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center, Flatiron Contracting Solutions v. Fuat Krifca, Isnike

TOPICS

construction law remedies contracts appellate procedure standard of review

PRACTICE AREAS

construction law personal injury indemnification appellate practice

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the plaintiffs were entitled to summary judgment on liability under Labor Law § 240(1) because Krifca was engaged in a covered roofing activity and the hoisted materials fell due to an inadequate securing device.
2. Whether the Labor Law § 241(6) arguments required consideration after summary judgment was properly granted under Labor Law § 240(1).
3. Whether Flatiron's successive motion for summary judgment dismissing Allied's contractual-indemnification claim resolved the factual issues previously identified by Supreme Court.
4. Whether BLHC was entitled to conditional summary judgment on its common-law indemnification claim against Allied.

HOLDINGS

1. Plaintiffs were properly granted summary judgment on liability under Labor Law § 240(1) because Krifca was engaged in a covered roof-replacement activity and the roofing materials fell while being hoisted due to the inadequacy of the belts securing the load.
2. The court did not need to address the Labor Law § 241(6) arguments because they were rendered academic by the proper disposition of the Labor Law § 240(1) claim.
3. Supreme Court properly declined to consider Flatiron's successive motion for summary judgment dismissing Allied's contractual-indemnification claim because the additional discovery did not resolve the factual issues identified in the prior order.
4. BLHC was entitled to conditional summary judgment on its common-law indemnification cross-claim against Allied.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“These facts demonstrate that the materials fell due to the inadequacy of the belts securing the load.” ([*1])

“However, the court should have awarded BLHC conditional summary judgment on its common-law indemnification claim against Allied because BLHC established its freedom from negligence and is only vicariously liable” ([*2])

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

On November 19, 2014, Fuat Krifca, a Flatiron foreman and roofing mechanic, was injured while working on a project to replace the roof of a building owned by BLHC. Allied supplied roofing materials to Flatiron and delivered them to the site using a boom truck. While Krifca attempted to unhook a belt from a pallet of materials being hoisted to the roof, the operator re-engaged the boom before the load was fully unhooked, causing the pallet to rise several feet and fall onto Krifca.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Supreme Court denied BLHC's motion for summary judgment dismissing the plaintiffs' Labor Law § 240(1) and § 241(6) claims and for summary judgment on BLHC's common-law indemnification cross-claim against Allied. The court granted the plaintiffs summary judgment on liability under Labor Law § 240(1) and § 241(6) predicated on 12 NYCRR § 23-8.1(f)(1)(iv), and denied Flatiron's successive motion for summary judgment dismissing Allied's third-party contractual-indemnification claim. The Appellate Division modified the order to grant BLHC conditional summary judgment on its common-law indemnification claim against Allied and otherwise affirmed.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Kolenovic v 56th Realty, LLC, 139 AD3d 588, 589 (1st Dept 2016)
- Rubio v New York Proton Mgt., LLC, 192 AD3d 438, 439 (1st Dept 2021)
- Auriemma v Biltmore Theatre, LLC, 82 AD3d 1, 12 (1st Dept 2011)
- Pough v Aegis Prop. Servs. Corp., 186 AD2d 52, 53 (1st Dept 1992)
- Farina v Plaza Constr. Co., 238 AD2d 158, 158 (1st Dept 1997)

OPINION

Krifca v. Bronx-Lebanon Special Care Ctr., Inc. 2026 NY Slip Op 03391

PER CURIAM.

Krifca v Bronx-Lebanon Special Care Ctr., Inc. - 2026 NY Slip Op 03391 skip to main content It appears you are using Adblock. Please disable Adblock to best experience our website. Law Reporting Bureau Thomas J.K. Smith, State Reporter Court Decisions Resources About Home All Court Decisions Decisions Krifca v Bronx-Lebanon Special Care Ctr., Inc. 2026 NY Slip Op 03391 June 2, 2026 Appellate Division, First Department Published by New York State Law Reporting Bureau pursuant to Judiciary Law § 431. This decision is uncorrected and subject to revision before publication in the Official Reports. Fuat Krifca et al., Plaintiffs-Respondents, v Bronx-Lebanon Special Care Center, Inc., et al., Defendants-Appellants, Allied Building Products Corp., et al., Defendants-Respondents. Allied Building Products Corp., Third-Party Plaintiff-Respondent, Flatiron Contracting Solutions, Third-Party Defendant-Appellant. Decided and Entered: June 02, 2026 Index No. 303938/15|Appeal No. 6785|Case No. 2025-00917| Before:

Manzanet-Daniels, J.P., Kennedy, Mendez, Michael, Hagler, JJ. Sipsas PC, Astoria (Ioannis P. Sipsas of counsel), for Flatiron Contracting Solutions, appellant. Ahmuty, Demers & McManus, LLC, New York (Frank J. Wenick of counsel), for Bronx-Lebanon Special Care Center, Inc. and The Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center, appellants. Jonathan D'Agostino & Associates, P.C., Staten Island (Edward J. Pavia, Jr. of counsel), for Fuat Krifca and Isnike Krifca, respondents. McElroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter, LLP, New York (John P. Cookson of counsel), for Allied Building Products Corp. and Arzee Supply Corp. of New Jersey, respondents.

[*1] Order, Supreme Court, Bronx County (Ashlee Crawford, J.), entered January 22, 2025, which, to the extent appealed from as limited by the briefs, denied the motion of defendants Bronx-Lebanon Special Care Center, Inc., and The Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center (together BLHC) for summary judgment dismissing plaintiffs Labor Law § 240(1) claim and § 241(6) claim predicated on Industrial Code [12 NYCRR] § 23-8.1(f)(1)(iv), (f)(2)(i), and (f)(5) as against them and for summary judgment on their cross-claim for common-law indemnification against defendant/third-party plaintiff Allied Building Products Corp., granted plaintiffs' motion for summary judgment on the issue of liability on their Labor Law § 240(1) claim and Labor Law § 241(6) claim predicated on 12 NYCRR § 23-8.1(f)(1)(iv), and denied the motion of third-party defendant Flatiron Contracting Solutions for summary judgment dismissing Allied's third-party complaint as against it, unanimously modified, on the law, to grant BLHC conditional summary judgment on its cross-claim for common-law indemnification against Allied, and otherwise affirmed, without costs. On November 19, 2014, Plaintiff Fuat Krifca was allegedly injured while working on a project to replace the roof of a building located at 1285 Fulton Avenue, Bronx, New York, owned by BLHC. At the time of the accident, Krifca was employed by Flatiron as a foreman and roofing mechanic. Allied was the supplier of roofing materials to Flatiron for the project and delivered those materials to the construction site using its boom truck. The court properly awarded plaintiffs summary judgment on the issue of liability on their Labor Law § 240(1) claim. Krifca was engaged in a covered activity as the record shows that he was accepting delivery of roofing materials during an ongoing project to replace the roof of a building (see *Kolenovic v 56th Realty, LLC* , 139 AD3d 588, 589 [1st Dept 2016] ["Plaintiff was engaged in repairing the roof, an activity to which Labor Law § 240(1) applies, and not merely in routine maintenance"]). Furthermore, plaintiffs demonstrated that the roofing materials fell while they were being hoisted within the meaning of Labor Law § 240(1). The record shows that pallets were hoisted to the roof using two belts and a "boom," and as Krifca attempted to unhook one of the belts, it caught underneath the pallet. The lift operator re-engaged the boom, before the load was fully unhooked and without a signal that it should be lifted. The load lifted several feet into the air and fell onto Krifca because the load was not fully released. These facts demonstrate that the materials fell due to the inadequacy of the belts securing the load. Given that the belts failed to keep the load secure before the hoisting process completed, Krifca "was not obligated to set forth the type of safety device that should have been provided" (*Rubio v New York Proton Mgt., LLC* , 192 AD3d 438 ,

439 [1st Dept 2021]). [*2] Plaintiffs were therefore properly awarded summary judgment on the Labor Law § 240(1) claim. We need not address the arguments concerning the Labor Law § 241(6) claim, which are rendered academic by our decision on plaintiffs' Labor Law § 240(1) claim (see *Auriemma v Biltmore Theatre, LLC* , 82 AD3d 1, 12 [1st Dept 2011]). The court properly declined to consider Flatiron's successive motion for summary judgment dismissing Allied's third-party claim for contractual indemnification. Allied argues that it is entitled to contractual indemnification based upon an invoice it submitted for the materials used during the construction project. Section 5 of the "Terms and Conditions of Sale" of the invoice allegedly contains the indemnification provision at issue but is illegible. According to Allied, Section 5 provides that "[b]uyer hereby indemnifies and holds Seller harmless from any and all property damages or personal injury claims, awards, or judgments including all fines, penalties and attorneys' fees of any kind arising from Seller's sale and/or delivery of the goods under this contract." When Flatiron previously moved for summary judgment seeking the same relief, the motion court denied the request to dismiss the claim, finding triable issues of fact as to the intent of the parties to indemnify and whether General Obligations Law § 5-322.1 applies. The testimony that Flatiron obtained through discovery after its initial motion , failed to resolve the previously identified issues of fact (see *Pough v Aegis Prop. Servs. Corp.* , 186 AD2d 52, 53 [1st Dept 1992]). Allied's employee, Mixto Torres, testified that he would explain some of the terms and conditions of Allied's invoices to his clients, but Flatiron was not his client. Flatiron's owner, Sakip Sela, testified he was never told that the terms and conditions governed the sales and deliveries of Allied's products. Neither individual's testimony resolved the issue as a matter of law. However, the court should have awarded BLHC conditional summary judgment on its common-law indemnification claim against Allied because BLHC established its freedom from negligence and is only vicariously liable (see *Farina v Plaza Constr. Co.* , 238 AD2d 158, 158 [1st Dept 1997]). THIS CONSTITUTES THE DECISION AND ORDER OF THE SUPREME COURT, APPELLATE DIVISION, FIRST DEPARTMENT. ENTERED: June 2, 2026 Court Decisions All Court Decisions Official Reports Service Bound Volumes Decision Search Resources RSS Feeds Style Manual Citation Tools Opinion Formatting & Privacy Guidelines Opinion Selection Criteria Legal Research Portal Site Index About About the Law Reporting Bureau About our Operations Contact Us Twitter Quick Contact Info 17 Lodge Street Albany, NY 12207 Phone: (518) 453-6900 Links to or from other sites do not signify endorsement or relationship with them.