



PORTUGAL

# Legal Shots

by SRS LEGAL

● EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL SECURITY

## Supreme Court of Justice standardizes jurisprudence on workplace accidents

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To hold the employer liable for a workplace accident, it is sufficient that the violation of safety rules increased the likelihood of the accident.

Recently, the Supreme Court of Justice (STJ) published Ruling No. 6/2024, which clarified the criteria for attributing a workplace accident to the violation of safety rules by the employer (or their representative, contracted entity, or company using the workforce).

The Ruling determined that, for the employer (or the aforementioned entities) to be held responsible:

- It is sufficient that the violation of safety rules increased the likelihood of the accident occurring;

And contrary to what has been upheld in other court rulings:

- It is not required to demonstrate that the accident occurred solely because the safety rules were violated.

With this decision, the STJ reduces the evidentiary requirement to determine the employer's responsibility, thus reinforcing the importance of compliance with safety rules in the workplace and ensuring their verification in the contracting chain.

The Ruling can be consulted [here](#).

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