Wellness – Mental Health at Work Fatality File



U.S. Customs and Border Protection Agents Face Rising Suicide Rates Amid Workplace Stress

In 2024, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agency experienced a concerning rise in employee suicides. By August, seven CBP employees had taken their own lives, nearly matching the total of eight suicides recorded in 2023, with several months remaining in the year. This trend follows the agency's worst year in 2022, when 15 employees died by suicide.

The increase in suicides has been attributed to multiple factors, including high-stress levels due to traumatic experiences at work and an unprecedented rise in migration patterns. Border Patrol agents have reported decreased morale and a sense of purpose, compounded by the challenges of managing increased migration and the emotional toll of encountering deceased individuals during their duties.

Efforts are being made to address the crisis, including implementing programs to destigmatize mental health issues and encourage open conversations between agents and their superiors. However, continued support and intervention are necessary to mitigate the mental health challenges faced by CBP employees.

Source: Nypost.com