

— HOUSTON TRUCK ACCIDENT ATTORNEYS

Truck Accidents in Houston, TX

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS



Table of Contents



— WHAT'S INSIDE

Introduction	3
The Severity of Truck Accidents	4
Common Causes of Truck Accidents	6
Establishing Liability in a Texas Truck Accident	8
Talk to a Truck Accident Attorney	10



— INTRODUCTION

Truck Accidents Can Affect Anyone

Every day in Texas thousands of commercial trucks, which include big rigs, tractor trailers, 18-wheelers, delivery trucks, tankers, and more, move the products and materials that are essential to the American way of life. These big trucks are vital; however, their size and power make them an especially dangerous presence on the road in the unfortunate event of an accident.

If you or a loved one have been injured or killed in a truck accident, you deserve to be fairly compensated for your pain and injuries. The attorneys of The de la Garza Law Group have thirty years of combined experience fighting for the rights of accident victims and helping them recover after an accident causes harm.

BIG RIGS
CAN BE

20x

the size of a passenger vehicle

BIG RIGS
CAN TAKE

200
feet

AND
UP TO

450
feet

to stop when going 55 mph

— PART ONE

A commercial truck can be as much as 20 times the weight of a standard passenger vehicle at 80,000 pounds.

Truck accidents cause more severe injuries and fatalities than other types of accidents.

When a big truck is involved in an accident with a much smaller car, even at a lower speed, the results are often tragic.

When an accident occurs between a big truck and a passenger vehicle, the occupants of the vehicle sustain much more significant injuries than those inside the truck. Around 82 percent of fatalities in these accidents are of those in smaller cars, on bicycles or on foot. Passenger vehicles offer little protection from the impact of a truck of that size.

Truck accidents often cause significant **injuries** to non-truck occupants



Texas leads the nation in the number of large truck accidents

A large truck is defined as trucks with a gross vehicle weight rating more than 10,000 pounds. As a large state with a large population and more roads, this makes sense statistically but is nonetheless an unfortunate figure. There were 556 fatal truck accidents in Texas in 2017, which resulted in almost 650 deaths. In addition, there were more than 1,500 big truck accidents resulting in serious injury.

There are roughly 500,000 accidents involving a big truck nationally every year. Of those, 4,761 people were killed in 2017 according to data from the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA).

Texas truck accident statistics:

There were 556 fatal truck accidents in Texas in 2017, which resulted in almost 650 deaths. In addition, there were more than 1,500 big truck accidents resulting in serious injury.

556

FATAL TRUCK ACCIDENTS

1500

INJURY ACCIDENTS

650

FATALITIES

— PART TWO

Common Causes of Truck Accidents

Even though professional truck drivers are highly trained to operate their trucks, the immense size and reduced maneuverability of big trucks can contribute to a serious accident from one seemingly small mistake.



Negligence

01

Whether the driver of the truck or another motorist who is at fault, failure to use adequate caution is the most common reasons for an accident. Drivers that fail to obey traffic laws and patterns can easily cause an accident.

Driver Fatigue

02

Truck drivers are often under intense pressure to make their deliveries as quickly as possible. Even though there are laws which dictate how many hours truckers can drive and how many hours they must rest, they sometimes are not enough. Driving while tired is especially dangerous when operating a tractor trailer.





Impaired Driving

03

Operating a vehicle either while under the influence of drugs or alcohol or while distracted by a phone or other device causes too many preventable accidents.

Reckless Driving

04

Speeding, unsafe maneuvering and more contribute to many crashes, especially around big trucks that have areas of little to no visibility.



Equipment Failure

05

Big trucks and trailers require special maintenance. Mechanical or cargo issues can create unsafe conditions. Common examples of this include brake failures, tire problems and improperly loaded trailers.

Road Conditions

06

Weather and road conditions may cause unavoidable accidents.



A blurred background image of a medical professional, possibly a nurse or doctor, in a hospital setting. The professional is wearing a white coat and is positioned near a patient in a hospital bed. The scene is dimly lit, with some medical equipment visible in the background.

— PART THREE

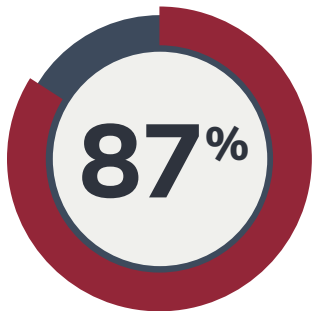
Establishing Liability in a Texas Truck Accident

All commercial truck drivers and the companies who employ them must abide by state and federal laws to maintain safety. These laws dictate things like the number of hours drivers are allowed to drive, how much they should rest, maintenance, record keeping, licensing, weight limits, required equipment and more. Not following these laws leads to dangerous, often avoidable, accidents.



Establishing Liability

More than one party may be liable in your truck accident case



In the US, driver negligence is the primary cause of 87 percent of all truck accidents.

The actions of multiple parties could have contributed to an accident and therefore more than one party can be found liable for any resulting injuries. The driver of the truck, another driver on the road, the owner of truck or trailer, a shipping or loading company, maintenance company, manufacturer, receiver, and other could potentially share liability depending on what caused the accident.

Determining exactly what led to the accident happening is critical to establishing legal liability. An experienced truck accident attorney will investigate an accident by whatever methods are appropriate to prove who was at fault and hold them accountable.

To do this, an attorney will investigate the accident. They will collect and preserve critical evidence, speak with witnesses and experts, gather maintenance records and driver logs from the trucking company and whatever else is necessary.



— PART FOUR

Talk to a Truck Accident Attorney

If you or a loved one were injured or killed in an accident involving a big truck, contact an experienced truck accident attorney without delay. An attorney will represent your best interests and protect your rights as you pursue fair compensation and will help you navigate the complicated and overwhelming legal process.



— YOUR ATTORNEY

Unlike other Texas personal injury firms, we pride ourselves in taking a client-first approach to every step of the recovery process.

At The de la Garza Law Group, every case is personal. Our attorneys are happy to accommodate you after your accident.

Any settlement offer demands a closer look. Trucking companies often have the means to fight accident claims aggressively to avoid lawsuits and negative publicity. These companies and their insurance companies do not have your best interests at heart.

The attorney team at The de la Garza law group has 30 years in combined experience and are ready to help after you or a loved one have been hurt in a trucking accident. We work on a contingency fee basis. If we do not recover compensation for you, you will not pay us anything. If your injuries prevent you from easily coming to our Houston offices, a home or hospital room visit can be arranged.

Always a **personal**
touch



Some Texas accident lawyers are more interested in taking on as many cases as they can, settling them quickly, and then moving on to the next case. At The de la Garza Law Group, we never use this churn-and-burn strategy because it goes against the very foundation of our firm.

We believe that the true measure of success is not just about the amount of money we can recover for our clients and their families, but about the impact we have on our clients' lives.

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