

KEEP ON TRUCKIN'

Every motorist in Missouri will eventually share the road with a tractor-trailer. With 2.97 million tractor-trailers registered for use across the United States, truckers log roughly 140 billion miles annually. Unfortunately, over half a million truck accidents also happen every year. These crashes can cause catastrophic damage due to the massive size and weight of a tractor-trailer. To help prevent serious injuries in a crash, it's important to know the facts about tractor-trailers and how a truck accident can occur.

SIZE

Trucks average 70 to 80 feet in length. If a driver is not properly trained in turning, they may cause the truck to jackknife.

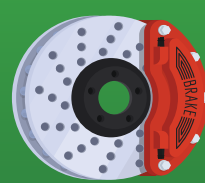


WEIGHT



A commercial truck weighs about 40 tons, whereas the average car only weighs approximately 2.5 tons.

MAINTENANCE ISSUES



Lack of general maintenance can increase the risk of a tractor trailer accident. Daily vehicle inspections are required by law.

CARGO ISSUES

Cargo issues such as unbalanced loads, cargo shifts, and improperly secured loads can impact crash dynamics.



REACTION TIMES



Trucks take 40% longer than cars to react in the event of a hazard and they require more braking distance.

UNSAFE DRIVING PRACTICES

Frequent lane changes, failure to use turn signals, and following too closely are never safe choices.



SPEED



Speed is a major contributor in 45% of rollover truck crashes and is of particular concern as trucks can weigh up to 20 times more than a car.

DISTRACTED DRIVING

Distracted driving increases the risk of a crash by 23 times and can be caused by phone use, eating, using a GPS, or talking while driving.



DRIVER FATIGUE



Driver fatigue is responsible for about 30% of all accidents. By law, commercial drivers should only be on the road for a maximum of 10 hours per day.

BLIND SPOTS

Due to the extensive blind spots associated with tractor trailers, truck drivers have limited visibility of the vehicles around them.



THE GOSS LAW FIRM, P.C.

There when you need it most.

1501 WESTPORT RD, KANSAS CITY, MO 64111 | 816.888.5000

TheGossLawFirm.com