Who Is Liable in a Houston 18 Wheeler Accident In a crash between two cars, there's usually one driver and one insurance company to deal with. An 18 wheeler crash is different. Several companies may share responsibility, and each one may have its own insurer. Possible defendants include the truck driver, the motor carrier, the owner of the trailer, the shipper or loader of the cargo, the company that maintained the truck and sometimes the manufacturer of a defective part. A freight broker may also be involved if it hired a carrier with a poor safety record. Texas Truck Accident Lawyer looks at each of these parties in every case. Finding every responsible party matters because catastrophic injuries can be expensive. Lifetime medical care, lost earnings and the impact on your family can easily exceed a single policy. Identifying every source of coverage gives you the best chance of a recovery that actually covers your losses. Sometimes the truck driver owns their own rig and leases it to a larger carrier. In other cases, the trailer belongs to a separate leasing company. Each arrangement affects who carries insurance and who can be held responsible. Federal rules generally treat the carrier whose authority the truck operates under as responsible for its safe operation, whatever the paperwork between the companies says. The firm reviews those agreements carefully, because trucking companies sometimes structure their businesses in ways designed to limit what injured people can recover.

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Spanish-speaking clients are welcome, and the firm offers Spanish-language information so families can understand every step. Houston is a city of many communities, and nobody should miss out on fair compensation because the legal system feels confusing. The team takes the time to explain your options, the paperwork and the process in a way that makes sense to you and your family. Every 18 wheeler crash leaves a trail of evidence, from the truck's electronic data to the driver's paperwork and the carrier's safety history. The challenge is getting hold of it before it's lost, overwritten or explained away. ***semi truck accident lawyer*** That's where experience counts, because knowing exactly what to ask for, and when, can shape the whole outcome of a case. Trucking companies start building their defense right away. Make sure someone is building your case too. Call Texas Truck Accident Lawyer at (832) 250-4888 for a free consultation with a Houston 18 wheeler accident lawyer, available around the clock from the firm's Uptown office on West Loop South.

FAQ About 18 Wheeler Accident Lawyer Houston

How long do I have to file an 18 wheeler accident claim in Texas? In most cases you have two years from the crash to file a lawsuit in Texas, and wrongful death claims usually have two years from the date of death. Claims involving a government vehicle or agency can require written notice much sooner. Texas Truck Accident Lawyer checks every deadline that applies to your Houston crash during a free consultation at (832) 250-4888. Who can be held responsible for an 18 wheeler crash in Houston? Responsibility can extend beyond the driver to the motor carrier, the trailer owner, the shipper or loader, the maintenance provider and sometimes a parts manufacturer or freight broker. Container trucks around the Port of Houston often involve several of these parties at once. The firm investigates each one so every source of insurance coverage is found. What should I do right after an 18 wheeler accident? Call 911, get medical care and, if you can, photograph the truck, its USDOT number, the trailer and the scene. Get witness names and numbers, and don't give a recorded statement to the trucking company's insurer. Then call a Houston truck accident lawyer so evidence such as ELD logs and dash camera footage can be preserved quickly. How much does an 18 wheeler accident lawyer cost in Houston? Texas Truck Accident Lawyer works on a contingency fee, so there's nothing to pay upfront and no attorney's fee unless money is recovered for you. The fee percentage is explained clearly before you sign anything. The firm also covers the cost of experts and investigators while the case moves forward. What evidence matters most in an 18 wheeler case? Key evidence includes the truck's engine control module data, electronic logging device records, dash and cab camera footage, the driver qualification file and maintenance records. Some of this can be overwritten within days, which is why the firm sends preservation demands to the carrier immediately and aims to interview witnesses within 48 hours. Can I still recover if I was partly at fault for the truck crash? Yes, as long as you were not more than 50 percent responsible. Texas uses proportionate responsibility, so your recovery is reduced by your share of fault. Trucking insurers often try to shift blame onto the other driver, and the firm uses truck data, witness accounts and crash reconstruction to keep fault assigned fairly. How much insurance do trucking companies have to carry? Federal rules require most interstate carriers hauling general freight to carry at least $750,000 in liability coverage, with higher minimums for oil and certain hazardous materials. Many carriers also have excess or umbrella policies. The firm identifies every policy that applies, including coverage held by trailer owners and shippers. Why are 18 wheeler crashes so common in Houston? Houston combines the Port of Houston, the Ship Channel petrochemical plants, major freight corridors like I-10, I-45 and I-69 and huge

distribution centers along Beltway 8 and the Grand Parkway. That volume of heavy truck traffic mixed with commuter traffic and frequent construction leads to crashes every day across Harris County. Do I have to talk to the trucking company's insurance adjuster? No. You aren't required to give a recorded statement to the other side's insurer, and doing so can hurt your claim later. Once you hire Texas Truck Accident Lawyer, all calls with the insurers go through the legal team so you can focus on recovering. Will my 18 wheeler accident case go to trial? Most truck cases settle, but the firm prepares every case as if it will go to trial because that preparation tends to produce better offers. Harris County truck cases may also be tried in phases under Texas rules adopted in 2021. You always make the final decision on whether to accept a settlement. Can I get help if I don't speak English well? Yes. Texas Truck Accident Lawyer serves Spanish-speaking clients across Houston and offers Spanish-language information so families understand each step. Consultations are free and confidential and can take place at the West Loop South office, by phone or by video.