

California Truck Accident Attorney

Many California passenger car drivers view big trucks as something they have to tolerate when driving on the roads. The trucks can block visibility and slow down the flow of traffic. And when something goes wrong with a big truck, things also tend to go really badly for anything that gets in their way.

There are over 140 million semi-trucks in operation on US roads – and close to one-third of those trucks are concentrated in 3 states. [California has the most semi-trucks of any state at over 15 million](#), followed by Texas with almost 13 million and Florida with just under 8 million.

The [California truck accident attorney](#) at Blue Seven Content knows that the many large trucks on California's highways can present significant dangers for those in the passenger vehicles that must share the road with them.

Large Truck Data and Accident Statistics

The National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA) defines a large truck as any truck (except a motor home or bus) that weighs more than 10,000 pounds. In fact, [a semi-truck with a loaded trailer can weigh up to 80,000 pounds](#). That is a whole lot of weight coming down the road.

[Crashes involving large trucks took the lives of 4,951 people in 2018](#) and injured another 151,000. About 72% of those who were either killed or injured were passengers in other vehicles. Pedestrians and others outside of vehicles made up 11% of the fatalities and 2% of the injured.

Truck accident fatalities are more likely to occur on a weekday and during daylight hours – with 77% of the fatalities occurring between Monday at 6 a.m. and Friday at 5:59 p.m. However, crashes that do occur on weekends are more likely to occur at night.

Our attorneys also want to point out that truck accidents regularly occur along Highway 154 in the Santa Barbara area. Accidents on this highway are on the rise, and they are often severe. Our attorneys have extensive experience helping crash victims who have been harmed and crashes along this dangerous stretch of highway.

Factors Contributing to Truck Accidents

There are a number of factors unique to large trucks and those who drive them that can contribute to the likelihood of being in an accident. Becoming aware of these things can help you better prepare to encounter large trucks on the road.

- **Driver fatigue** – truck drivers spend long hours driving and though laws are designed to force them to get adequate rest, falling asleep at the wheel still happens
- **Driver error** – Large trucks are almost 5 times as long as a passenger car and up to 20 times heavier. Excessive speed, inattention, or other poor judgment by the driver can have devastating effects because of the relative size and weight of the truck.

- **Equipment failure** – There is not much that is going to stop an 80,000-pound truck if the brakes malfunction. Tire blowouts are also common for large trucks.

What to do if You Are Involved in a Truck Accident

When the big rigs get involved in accidents with passenger vehicles, it's almost always worse for the smaller vehicles due to the differences in size and weight. If you get in a truck accident, the damage to your vehicle and the injuries to yourself and your passengers can be severe. After the accident, you may be contacted by the trucking company or their insurance company to try and settle your claim.

Before you provide any information, you need to consult with a California truck accident attorney so your rights to recover are protected. At Blue Seven Content, we investigate and establish your claim to make sure the driver, trucking company, and insurance carrier are held accountable for all your injuries and property damage. You can contact us for a [free consultation by clicking here](#) or calling us at 843-580-3158.