

Truck Accidents

What to know after a commercial vehicle crash in California



Crashes involving tractor-trailers often cause severe injuries and complex legal issues. This short ebook explains common causes, who may be liable, and the compensation injured people can pursue with Hillstone Law's help.

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Overview

Hillstone Law represents victims of commercial truck collisions, including freeway crashes, jackknife incidents, and underride collisions. We handle complex investigations and fight corporate insurers while clients focus on recovery.

Why you need a truck accident lawyer

- Preserve critical evidence such as dashcam footage, black box (ECM/EDR) data, and driver logs
- Identify all responsible parties—driver, trucking company, broker/shipper, maintenance provider, or parts manufacturer
- Navigate federal and state regulations (hours of service, maintenance rules, weight limits)
- Calculate full, long-term damages and negotiate with powerful insurers

Common causes of truck accidents

- Driver fatigue or hours of service violations
- Distracted or impaired driving
- Speeding or unsafe lane changes in blind spots
- Improper loading or cargo shifts
- Poor maintenance or equipment failure (brakes, tires)
- Dangerous road or weather conditions

Types of crashes and injuries

- Rollover, jackknife, rear-end, and underride collisions
- Runaway trailers and brake failure incidents
- Severe injuries: traumatic brain injury, spinal cord damage, fractures, internal injuries, and wrongful death

Who may be liable

- Truck driver and employer (vicarious liability)
- Freight broker or shipper for negligent hiring or loading
- Maintenance company or repair shop
- Truck/parts manufacturer for defects
- Government entity for dangerous road conditions (when applicable)

Compensation you may recover

- Medical bills and future care
- Lost wages and reduced earning capacity
- Pain and suffering and loss of enjoyment of life
- Property damage and out-of-pocket expenses
- Wrongful death damages for surviving family members

How Hillstone Law helps

We move fast to secure evidence, engage accident reconstruction and trucking safety experts, and pursue all avenues of recovery. No upfront fees—clients pay only if we win.

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