Truck Driver Fatigue Accident Lawyer Houston Hours of Service Fatigue is one of the most common factors behind serious 18 wheeler crashes. Federal hours of service rules limit property-carrying drivers to 11 hours of driving within a 14-hour window, and they require a 30-minute break after 8 hours behind the wheel. Those rules exist because a tired driver steering an 80,000-pound truck is a danger to everyone around them. Texas Truck Accident Lawyer looks closely at hours of service in every Houston truck crash case. Electronic logging devices record when a driver was on duty, driving and resting. Comparing those records with fuel receipts, toll records, delivery times and phone data can reveal whether the driver broke the rules or whether a dispatcher pushed them to keep going. When a carrier sets delivery schedules that can't be met legally, the company itself may be responsible. Pike's team digs into dispatch records and pay structures to see whether the pressure came from above. That evidence can change how an insurer values the claim. Fatigue cases often turn on small details. A fuel receipt from one city and a delivery time in another can show a driver Find out more couldn't have rested as long as the log claims. Driver-facing cameras may show yawning, head nodding or eyes closing. Some carriers even have fatigue-monitoring systems that flag drowsy driving, and those alerts can be revealing. The firm asks for all of it, because a pattern of tired driving that the company ignored can change the whole direction of a case and open the door to claims against the carrier itself.

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Clients consistently mention communication when they talk about the firm, and its 4.9 star Google rating from more than 100 reviews reflects that. You'll know who's working on your case, how to reach them and what's happening at each stage. Calls get returned, questions get answered in plain English, and you won't be left wondering whether anyone is actually working on your file. Houston's growth has pushed warehouses, plants and construction sites further out into the suburbs, so 18 wheelers now travel roads that used to carry mostly local traffic. Crashes on FM roads, state highways and frontage roads are increasingly common, and they can be just as serious as crashes on the interstate. The same evidence and the same federal rules apply to every one of them. 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.