Jackknife 18 Wheeler Accident Lawyer Houston A jackknife happens when the trailer of an 18 wheeler swings out to the side and folds toward the cab, often sweeping across several lanes at once. In Houston these crashes tend to happen during sudden braking on wet pavement, on sharp ramps, or when an empty trailer loses traction. Cars in the next lanes often have nowhere to go. Texas Truck Accident Lawyer has handled jackknife cases across Texas and knows what usually causes them. Common factors include speeding for the conditions, braking too hard, poorly maintained brakes, unbalanced or light loads and driver fatigue. A truck's engine control module can record speed and brake application in the seconds before a crash, and that data can show exactly what the driver did. Because jackknife crashes often involve *18 wheeler lawyer* several vehicles, the insurance picture can get complicated. Several drivers may be making claims against the same policy. Pike's team moves quickly to protect your claim, identify every insurance policy that applies and make sure your injuries are documented properly from the start. Jackknife crashes also tend to cause secondary collisions as drivers behind the scene try to stop. Sorting out which impact caused which injury can matter, because insurers will try to split responsibility between several vehicles to reduce what each one pays. The firm's reconstruction expert maps out the sequence of impacts and ties your injuries to the truck's actions wherever the evidence supports it. Clear medical records from the first visit onward help make that link, which is why getting checked promptly after the crash is so important.

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Trucking insurers often try to settle quickly and cheaply, sometimes before you even know how badly you're hurt. The firm steps in to stop that from happening. It makes sure your medical treatment is fully documented and your future needs are accounted for before any settlement is discussed, because once you sign a release there's no going back for more. Houston's freight network is one of the busiest in the country. Between the Port of Houston, the petrochemical plants along the Ship Channel and the huge distribution centers on the edges of town, 18 wheelers are part of every commute. That volume means crashes happen every day, and it's why having a lawyer who handles trucking cases full time makes such a difference. Get help from a Houston 18 wheeler accident lawyer who knows how trucking companies operate. Call Texas Truck Accident Lawyer at (832) 250-4888 any time, day or night. The office is on West Loop South near the Galleria, and the team can also come to you if you're still in the hospital or recovering at home.

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.