



October 2013

# YOU SHOULD KNOW

## IN THIS ISSUE /

Truck Accidents Up  
Car-Truck Driving Tips  
Sign Road Safe Petition



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Oliveri & Schwartz, P.C. -  
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Dear Subscriber,

From food to fuel, trucks move most of the freight in America. After dropping steadily since the mid-90s, the rate of truck accidents and fatalities is creeping up. Here is an overview of the issue and tips on how to avoid tangling with big trucks.



## THE DOCKET /

> OLIVERI & SCHWARTZ, P.C.  
CASE INCLUDED IN THE NY  
LAW JOURNAL'S LIST OF 2012



After reaching an historic low in 2009, deaths and injuries from truck accidents are on the rise. Why the turn for the worse? According to a [startling report](#) from the American Association for Justice, lax practices are forcing a growing number of unsafe trucks on the road that are often driven by overworked, underpaid and poorly trained drivers. Meanwhile, outdated insurance laws fail to provide adequate coverage for those involved in a car-truck accident. Since trucks move nearly 70 percent of our nation's freight, *you should know* the facts and what is being done to better protect all Americans. [Dozing Driver Kills 10 People >>>](#)

## BY THE NUMBERS /

**3,757**  
Killed

In 2011, 3,757 people died in collisions with trucks, an 11.2 percent increase over 2009. There were 88,000 injuries reported during the same period.

Source: *Commercial Motor Vehicle Facts, March 2013, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration* ([download](#))

**Only**  
**\$750,000**

Motor carriers are only required to maintain \$750,000 in insurance per crash. Yet, damages from a fatal crash can exceed \$4 million, leaving injured motorists and taxpayers to pay the difference.

Source: *Study Shows Trucking Companies Underinsured, Trucking Alliance*

**98**  
Percent

Ninety-eight percent of vehicle occupants killed in crashes involving a passenger vehicle and a large truck in 2011 were occupants of the passenger

**TOP SETTLEMENTS.**

> **\$1.2 MILLION JURY AWARD: NY COUNTY, FALL AT DEFECTIVE SIDEWALK TREE WELL, CAUSING KNEE REPLACEMENT**

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vehicles.

Source: *Large Trucks Fatality Facts*, Insurance Institute for Highway Safety

## BOOKMARK FAVORITES /

### Insurance Institute Tracks Truck Accidents

Noting that one in 10 highway deaths occur in a crash involving a large truck, the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety compiles extensive information on truck accidents. [Check here](#) for the latest statistics, status reports and other resources.

### Coalition Dedicated to Improving Car-Truck Safety

The [Truck Safety Coalition](#) is dedicated to reducing the number of deaths and injuries caused by truck-related crashes, providing support to truck crash survivors and their families, and educating the public, policy-makers and media about truck safety issues.

### What is your Road Safe IQ?

[Road Safe America](#) believes a truck driver has as much responsibility as a commercial airline pilot. Their mission is to make highways safer. Take their [informative quiz](#) and test your road safe IQ.

info@oliveriandschwartz.com

Phone: (800)427-9546 or  
(212)987-1100. [Continue reading.](#)



## Sign the Petition

Join those advocating for commonsense measures aimed at preventing deaths and injuries caused by truck accidents.

[Take action](#)



## Talking the Issues

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