Overloaded and Unsecured Cargo 18 Wheeler Crash Lawyer Houston Cargo that's too heavy, poorly balanced or not tied down properly can turn an ordinary trip into a deadly crash. An overloaded truck takes longer to stop and is more likely to roll over. Shifting cargo can throw a truck off balance in a turn, and unsecured loads can fall onto the 18-wheeler accident lawyer road. Texas Truck Accident Lawyer looks at loading practices in every case where cargo may have played a part. Federal cargo securement rules set specific requirements for tie-downs, blocking and bracing based on the type of load. Weigh station records, bills of lading and shipping paperwork can show whether a truck was over its legal limit. Responsibility for cargo problems doesn't always rest with the driver. The shipper or a third-party loader may have packed the trailer. The firm identifies who loaded the truck and whether they followed the rules, so every responsible party is held to account. Weight also matters for braking. An 80,000-pound truck traveling at highway speed needs nearly the length of two football fields to stop, and an overloaded truck needs even more. Brakes on overweight trucks wear faster and overheat more easily, especially in stop-and-go traffic. When a truck can't stop in time, the question becomes whether the load was legal and properly balanced. The firm's experts can calculate stopping distances based on the actual weight and 18 wheeler accident lawyer speed, which often shows exactly why the crash happened.

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The firm builds every 18 wheeler case as if it's heading to trial. That preparation is what pushes insurers toward fair settlements, because they can see the evidence is ready for a Harris County jury. You'll always have the final say on whether to settle or keep going, and the firm will give you honest advice about every offer, including what it would expect at trial. Many people hurt in truck crashes aren't sure whether they even need a lawyer. They worry about cost, about time and about getting caught up in a long legal fight. A short conversation with someone who handles trucking cases every day can answer those questions quickly and help you decide what makes sense for your situation, without any pressure. Have questions about your 18 wheeler accident? Texas Truck Accident Lawyer answers the phone 24/7 at (832) 250-4888. Visit the firm at 2100 W Loop S, Suite 818 in Houston, or ask about meeting by video. There's no upfront cost, and you'll leave the conversation knowing exactly what your next steps should be.

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.