

## **COMMERCIAL TRUCK CRASHES**

Commercial trucks have the potential to cause massive destruction and substantial damages. Given this exposure many truck drivers are required to obtain special licenses known as commercial driver licenses (CDLs) documenting they have the knowledge and skill necessary to operate large potentially dangerous vehicles. Despite being well trained, commercial truck drivers are under the gun to cover very large distances in as little time as possible. Stress created by this pressure can certainly affect their ability to drive safely, responsibly and potentially putting other motor vehicle operators in danger.

Operators of large commercial semi-trucks must manage these vehicles with particular attention and care in order to protect other operators on the road. If the driver of an eighteen wheeler fails to pay attention while operating the eighteen wheeler and makes a preventable error the lives of everyone around him or her are put in jeopardy. Due to the large nature of these vehicles their stopping distances and weight can quickly cause substantial damages to others.

Another risk of operation of eighteen wheelers is maintenance and repairs. Both owners and operators with the increased higher cost of fuel are pressured to reduce costs wherever they are able to do so. This may include cutting corners on repairs or maintenance. If routine repairs and maintenance is not done the likelihood of a catastrophic incident is inevitable. Brake, tire, steering and other mechanical type failures are becoming more and more common place due to the pressures of trucking company owners and/or operators to keep costs down and decrease the shipping time.

If you are involved in a crash involving a commercial vehicle it is critical that the evidence is preserved and an immediate investigation gets underway to document the cause of the crash. This may include retaining a truck safety expert who is knowledgeable in the field to inspect both the vehicles involved, the scene and obtain critical communication information located in the semi-trucks onboard communication equipment.

If you, a family member or friend has been injured or killed in a trucking collision, you need an attorney who knows how to investigate these types of matters fully and take the appropriate actions to prepare your case for court. In some instances, professional truck drivers are found to be at fault, while other collisions are caused by a negligent trucking company or poor road conditions. Contact the Simon Law Group to further discuss how we can be of assistance in your matter.