

Is being in a truck accident any different than in a car?

Absolutely and for a variety of reasons. To begin with, there is the sheer size of the truck versus the size of your average car. A truck can easily weight 80,000 pounds and a car would be somewhere in the 4,000 pound range. Also, if you are riding in the truck during an accident you are much more likely to survive the experience.

The causes of truck accidents are also much different than when driving a car. Most of the time, truck accidents are caused by cars. Many people do not realize that a massive truck can not stop or maneuver quickly enough to react to a car stopping unexpectedly or cutting them off. When it is not the car at fault it is usually one of the following reasons:

- A new trucker or one that has not had proper training
- Trucks are only rated for a certain capacity so when it is over loaded it changes the dynamics and handling of the truck
- Poor maintenance. A above board company will not only keep up to date on all vehicle maintenance but will make sure that they comply with the FMSCA truck inspection regulations
- Incapacitated drivers. Whether from lack of sleep or possible intoxication some professional drivers should not be allowed behind the wheel
- Driving in extreme conditions. Many truck drivers are pressured to complete their routes regardless of conditions and find themselves driving through a blizzard or hurricane winds.
- Aggressive driving behavior on the part of the truck driver.

All of these factors provide a different situation than your average car accident. However, the biggest difference is the insurance adjusters that represent the trucking company. They are on call and will be sent to the scene of the accident as soon as the trucking company is apprised of the situation. After the accident, the victims are generally seeking medical help or trying to gather pertinent details. The insurance adjuster will already be busy looking after their clients rights and doing their best to keep the trucking business out of trouble. They will often immediately begin building a legal defense in case it comes to a legal battle between their client and the other victims. Remember, the trucking company needs to keep their drivers on the road as much as possible so they will try their best to ensure that the other party involved in the accident is held at fault.