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Trucking Accidents Can Cause Devastating Injuries



The trucking industry is a vital component of the U.S. economy. Every year 3 million heavy-duty trucks move 9.2 billion tons of raw materials and finished products to their destinations!

Traveling with trucks weighing up to 80,000 pounds inevitably results in trucking accidents. The most recent accident figures available from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) report almost 3,600 fatal crashes in 2015 involving trucks, with 83,000 more crashes with injuries.

Here is a statistic that hits home - of the 4,067 people who lost their lives in a truck accident in 2015, only 667 or 14% were occupants of the truck itself. In a truck vs. car accident, drivers and passengers of the smaller vehicles don't have much of a chance, and common injuries include fractures, burns, traumatic brain injury (TBI), spinal cord damage leading to partial or full paralysis and internal organ injuries.

Driver Error Is a Major Cause of Truck Accidents

Although most truck drivers operate their rigs skillfully and responsibly, many accidents are caused by driver error such as:

- Excessive speed
- Driver distraction
- Driver fatigue or sleep deprivation
- Lane drift
- Inadequate training or experience
- Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs

However, drivers are not responsible for all accidents. Some accidents are out of the driver's control, such as with poor weather or road conditions, or can be blamed on negligence of the trucking company or manufacturer including:

- Brake defects in maintenance or manufacturing
- Tire failure, insufficient tread or mismatched tires
- Failure of other equipment

Drive Safely with Trucks and Share the Road

The huge weight and size of tractor-trailers mean that they take longer to accelerate, stop and turn than smaller vehicles. Also, the truck's size and shape limits the driver's ability to see neighboring traffic.

Here are a few tips on sharing the road safely:

- Be patient when driving near big rigs.
- Give a truck plenty of room when passing.
- Let a slow-moving truck enter the highway by changing lanes or easing up on the accelerator.
- Stay out of a truck's blind spots by moving quickly ahead.
- Don't change lanes abruptly in front of a truck.

Learn more about safely sharing the road with trucks in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA)'s Safety Tips for Car Drivers.

5 Fun Things To Do on Labor Day



In 1894, Congress proclaimed the first Monday of each September as a federal holiday. Labor Day honors the contributions that workers make to the strength, prosperity and well-being of the U.S.

Although traditional Labor Day celebrations include parades and speeches, today's retail sales promotions ironically result in retail workers working more instead of enjoying a day off!

Celebrate Labor Day in the Charleston Area

If you and your family yearn for a more adventurous celebration than a barbecue, try one of these local Labor Day festivities:

- Treat your sweet tooth to homemade apple butter made the old fashioned way at Blennerhassett Island Historical State Park on September 2-3. Take a sternwheeler ride to the island for a picnic and a horse-drawn wagon ride.
- Bring your acoustic instrument or just tap your feet at Pickin' in the Park at Blennerhassett Island Historical State Park the first and third Sunday through October. Players of all levels are welcome.
- Enjoy Appalachian, folk and bluegrass music at The Jackson's Mill Jubilee near Weston. This 3-day Labor Day festival features Native American dancing, homesteading activities, a Civil War encampment and lots of fun for the little ones.
- Celebrate all things Italian at the West Virginia Italian Heritage Festival in Clarksburg from September 1-3. You'll enjoy delectable food, music, live entertainment, contests and exhibits.
- Relax and enjoy a fine meal on September 1 while paddling down the Ohio River on board the Island Belle sternwheeler. You'll end up at Parkersburg Point Park to be immersed in The Purple Xperience - A Tribute to Prince. Be sure to call soon for reservations.

If you or a family member has been injured in a trucking accident or any other personal injury, it's important to get an attorney experienced in these types of cases involved immediately. Call (888) 402-9607 for your initial free consultation. Mani, Ellis & Layne, PLLC, injury attorneys in West Virginia, can help you determine whether you need a lawyer for an accident or any personal injury case.

Recipe of the Month Banana Split Kebobs



Here's a great healthy summer dessert -- fresh fruit kebobs. Make it fun for the kids with a drizzle of chocolate and crushed peanuts (if there are no allergies!).

Ingredients

- 2 bananas, cut into 1" pieces
- 24 1" pieces pineapple
- 12 large strawberries, rinsed, dried, and halved

Optional

- 2 c. chocolate chips
- 1/2 c. peanuts, chopped

Directions

1. Make kebobs: Thread two pieces each banana, pineapple, and strawberry onto skewer. Repeat process to assemble all skewers. Place all on parchment-lined baking sheet.

Chocolate and peanut option:

2. In a microwave-safe bowl, melt chocolate in the microwave in 30-second intervals, stirring in between, until completely smooth.
3. Drizzle chocolate over fruit kebobs and top with chopped peanuts. Freeze until ready to serve.

Recipe courtesy of Delish.com

What's Happening in Charleston, WV

Aug 5

Add your Spark! 5k Run/Walk
NGK Sparkplugs Inc.
Sissonville, WV
<http://www.tristateracer.com/event.php?RaceID=9560>

Aug 11

Charleston Seafood Beer And Wine Festival
Charleston Marina Complex
Charleston, WV
http://eventful.com/charleston_wv/events/charleston-seafood-beer-and-wine-festival-/E0-001-087676836-2

Aug 20

Decades Rewind
Clay Center for The Arts & Sciences
Charleston, WV
http://eventful.com/charleston_wv/events/decades-rewind-charleston-wv-/E0-001-104689920-6

Aug 27

South Carolina Reggae Jerk & Wine Festival And Exhibition
Magnolia Plantation & Gardens
Charleston, WV
http://eventful.com/charleston_wv/events/south-carolina-reggae-jerk-wine-festival-and-/E0-001-083301664-2

Sep 2

Charleston Distance Run
Kanawha Blvd. East, State Capitol
Charleston, WV
<http://www.charlestondistancerun.com/>

Sep 7

Jason Aldean, Chris Young & Kane Brown
Charleston Civic Center
Charleston, WV
http://eventful.com/charleston_wv/events/jason-aldean-chris-young-kane-brown-/E0-001-102605650-2

Sep 15 - 17

Mountain State Art & Craft Fair
Cedar Lakes Conference Center
Ripley, WV
<http://msacf.com/>

Sep 22

Alan Jackson
Charleston Civic Center
Charleston, WV
http://eventful.com/charleston_wv/events/alan-jackson-/E0-001-101349476-6

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Jonathan R. Mani



Damon L. Ellis



Bernard E. Layne III



Our Office

MANI ELLIS & LAYNE PLLC

It's not just business. It's personal.™

602 Virginia St East #200
Charleston, WV 25301
Phone: 304-720-1000

www.mel-law.com

Office Hours

Monday	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Tuesday	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Wednesday	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Thursday	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Friday	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Saturday	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Sunday	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

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