

THE WARREN REPORT

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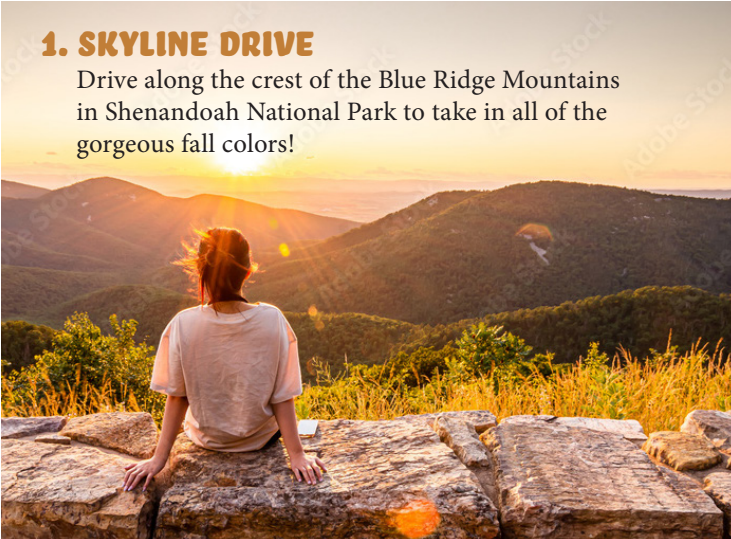
516 Locust Avenue, Charlottesville, VA 22902

October 2022

Seven Things to Love **ABOUT CHARLOTTESVILLE IN FALL**

1. SKYLINE DRIVE

Drive along the crest of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Shenandoah National Park to take in all of the gorgeous fall colors!



2. UVA FOOTBALL GAMES

Scott Stadium is the place to be on Saturday afternoons in fall!

3. WINE TOURS

The Monticello Wine Trail consists of more than 30 beautiful wineries all within 25 miles of Charlottesville! Fall is a great time to enjoy the vineyards and many of the wineries host fall festivals, tours, and other activities. in fall!



4. HIKING IN RAGGED MOUNTAIN NATURAL AREA

Hiking in Ragged Mountain Natural Area Enjoy the refreshing weather and take a hike through this 980-acre forest with trails and a reservoir.

5. TRICK OR TREATING ON THE LAWN

Whether you bring your kids to trick-or-treat, or simply come to hang out and costume-watch, wander the Academical Village during the Halloween on the Lawn celebration. Inside tip: Be sure to stop by Edgar Allen Poe's room (#13) which is always spookily decked out for Halloween.



6. APPLE PICKING AT CARTER MOUNTAIN

Pick your own apples with a panoramic view of Charlottesville. Warm up with a hot apple cider and a home-made apple cider donut!

7. SOCCER GAMES IN KLÖCKNER

The UVA men's and women's soccer seasons are in full swing! You can sit on the lawn if you have wiggly kids in tow!



TRACTOR TRAILER ACCIDENTS

Tractor-trailers can cause devastating injuries when they collide with smaller vehicles. The heavy weight and cumbersome operation of trucks make them a dangerous neighbor, particularly on the highway. In Charlottesville, I-64 and I-81 are notoriously dangerous corridors for tractor trailer accidents.

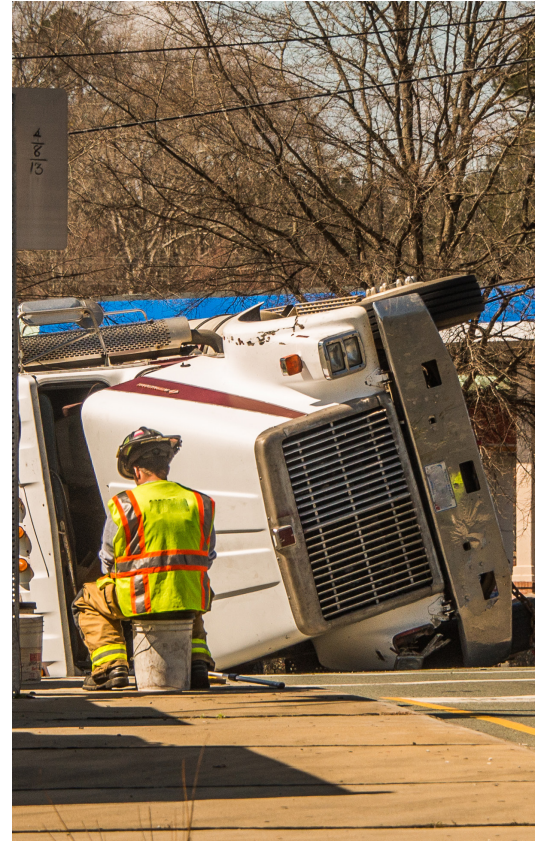
Trucks are usually operated as commercial vehicles, and that means that many people bear responsibility for the safe operation of a truck. Accordingly, a truck accident on roads, such as Interstates 64 and 81, could be traced to the irresponsibility of many different individuals or companies. These negligent parties may include the truck driver, maintenance company, retailer, trucking company, or vehicle manufacturer.

A truck crash could be caused by:

- A retailer loading a trailer with too much weight at the top

- A maintenance company failing to perform proper inspections on brakes
- A driver distracted by a phone call
- A trucking company that sets policies or deadlines that require drivers to take unnecessary risks
- Debris on the road left by a third party
- Reckless actions by the driver of another vehicle
- The manufacturer of a failed component on the truck

Regardless of the precise facts that led up to a collision, an injured person must always move forward with the same goal in mind: he or she must prove that a trucker caused an accident and link that accident to his or her losses. To this end, a truck accident lawyer could take the lead to discover every scrap of relevant evidence that may point to reckless driving, violations of trucker regulations, and unsafe trucking company practices.



TYPES OF ACCIDENTS AND HOW TO AVOID THEM



Jackknifing Accidents

How the accident occurs: Jackknifing occurs when the trailer of a tractor trailer swings out to rest at a 90-degree angle from the cab. The trailer often hits other vehicles and people when this occurs. This type of accident is usually the result of a sudden braking. However, it can also take place if a tractor trailer enters a curve too quickly, during downshifting, or if there is acceleration on a surface with very little friction.

How To Avoid This Accident: Use caution, especially in inclement weather. Rain, snow, and ice could cause a tractor trailer to lose traction and slide more than is intended. Do not drive closely to a tractor trailer in these types of weather conditions. Be attentive. Stay alert and aware of what the tractor trailers near you are doing. Remember that they often have to brake and swerve rather than just braking to avoid collisions, as their stopping time is slow.

Recent Case Result

Type of case: Fatal accident between car and tractor trailer

Place of incident: Augusta County, VA

Verdict or settlement: Settlement

Amount: \$720,000

Our client was traveling as a front seat passenger in a vehicle operated by his friend. They were stopped behind a tractor trailer on I-85 due to an overturned pickup truck. As they were stopped, a second tractor trailer collided with the passenger side of our client's vehicle. Both the driver of the tractor trailer and our client ultimately died from their injuries.

The wife of our client qualified as the administrator of her husband's estate. As such, we were able to file suit against both the driver of our client's vehicle and the driver of the tractor trailer. Since both drivers may have been responsible for some portion of liability, as best practice we always file suit against anyone who may have contributed, even partially, to an accident. This ensures that all available insurance coverage comes into play.

Once the lawsuit was filed, there were multiple pleadings and hearings filed to consolidate both our client's case and the driver of our client's vehicle counterclaim lawsuit. Consolidating cases in which one of the parties is a defendant can cause confusion for a jury. It can also lead to one case piggybacking on the other for experts and costs. Although we did not convince the judge that these two cases needed to be heard separately, we were successful in getting our case settled.

We were co-counsel on this case with Fried, Rogers and Goldberg in Atlanta, Georgia. The case resolved for \$720,000.



\$2,500 Hard Work Pays Off Scholarship Awarded to Sean Hatcher

Sean is a 2021-22 graduate from Randolph-Henry High School in Charlotte Court House, Virginia and will be attending Norfolk State in the Fall. Sean worked hard in high school to maintain his grades while balancing after school sports and working late-night hours at a local fast food restaurant. We commend Sean on his commitment to education and his hard work ethic! He says he is very grateful for the scholarship and that the money will help him in his continued education as he pursues a degree in Computer Science. Congratulations again, and thank you to all of our other applicants!

Rollover Truck Accidents

How the accident occurs: Rollover semi-truck accidents often happen because the vehicle's center of gravity is high which causes it to be unstable and overturn. The ideal center of gravity occurs when the vehicle's weight is distributed evenly on all sides, but that can quickly change if the truck is overloaded or improperly packed. When a big rig is taking a sharp turn, the gravitational force pulls it away from its center, and if the driver is speeding, a rollover can occur.

How To Avoid This Accident: One of the only things you can do to stay safe from this type of accident is to always keep a safe distance between you and the truck.

Under-ride Accidents

How the accident occurs: If a car is traveling too closely when

a tractor trailer stops, they could easily slide into the undercarriage of the trailer. This type of accident can also occur when a small vehicle slides into the undercarriage from the side of the tractor trailer. In almost all cases, this kind of accident is fatal as the entire top of the vehicle could be sliced away in the impact.

How to avoid this accident: Maintain a safe driving distance. Tractor trailers need more time to slow down and may break sooner than a small car. Leaving enough space between your car and the trailer is crucial to avoid a rear-end collision where an under-ride accident could take place. Space out. Do not drive directly to the side of a tractor trailer unless passing. A tractor trailer may need to swerve into your lane to avoid hitting something in the road or the car in front of them if they are driving too fast.

We focus our practice on cases involving:

**Personal Injury
Wrongful Death
Children's Injuries
Bicycle Accidents
Auto Accidents**



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