



# THE TSC NEWSLETTER

2022 Issue 3

## Philadelphia Ride of Silence



TSC Volunteer Cat DeSalvo with her husband Jim's bike. Jim was killed by a tire that flew off of an overloaded dump truck while riding his bike.

The Ride of Silence is an annual ride held during National Bike Month to honor the lives of cyclists lost to traffic violence and to raise awareness about cyclist safety. Commercial Motor Vehicles frequently hit pedestrians and cyclists on our city streets as some in our community know all too well.

TSC staff members, Zach, Kelli, and Jordan, traveled to Philadelphia on May 18 to meet up with TSC volunteers whose loved ones were killed by trucks while riding their bicycles. It was a privilege to witness this powerful event and to honor the lives of Jim DeSalvo and Emily Fredricks.

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Zach and Kelli with Rich and Laura Fredricks who lost their daughter, Emily, when she was struck and killed by a sanitation truck while riding her bike to work.



Laura, Jordan, Rich, Kelli, Cat, and Zach



Kelli and Cat

# Sorrow to Strength 2022

**3 DAYS LEFT TO REGISTER!!!!**

[Conference Registration](#)

[Hotel Reservation](#)

**September 17-20**

**Yours Truly Hotel in  
Washington, D.C.**

## **REGISTRATION CLOSES AUGUST 15!**

Our Sorrow to Strength conference is held every other year and is designed specifically for the survivors of truck crashes and the families and friends of those who have died or been injured. The event allows us to come together for a weekend of sharing, remembrance, education, and workshops followed by two days of meetings on Capitol Hill, led by experienced volunteers to advance truck safety. Don't miss this opportunity!

## TSC Lunch N' Learn Series



On August 10, IIHS' Matt Brumbelow joined TSC Executive Director, Zach Cahalan, and CRASH Board Member, Jennifer Tierney, for an informative Lunch N' Learn focused on the issue of Underride Safety.

Matt gave us an overview of how IIHS got involved in underride safety research and helped us unpack some of the substantial shortcomings in the NHTSA rulemaking on underride requirements.

Many victims and survivors in our community have been forever changed due to an underride-related crash. Thank you for joining us Matt, and thank you IIHS for your continued work on this life-saving equipment.

Stay tuned for our next Lunch N' Learn announcement as we finalize details with yet another highly regarded expert on our issues of interest. You can watch this and our previous Lunch N' Learns on YouTube anytime!

“ I AM SO GLAD THAT THE TSC HAS ARRANGED THESE EVENINGS WITH ROBERT ZUCKER!  
-TSC VOLUNTEER ”

**PREPARING FOR TRAUMA  
RE-EXPOSURE**



**ZOOM NIGHT**

**With Professional Grief Counselor  
Rob Zucker**

AUGUST 23

7PM EASTERN

**REGISTER TODAY!**

# Public Policy Update

Get up to speed on another busy season for important truck safety issues!

by Zach Cahalan

- On July 26th, the DC Court of Appeals denied our petition filed against the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) final Hours of Service (HOS) rule. We appreciate Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters for helping lead this fight for safety alongside us. Our new Driver Fatigue Factsheet helps explain why this rule harms safety efforts.
- The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) took action to fulfill some of its underride guard-related mandates in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). First, they announced a rear underride guard final that utterly failed to meet both our expectations and that of Congress. TSC most certainly will be submitting a petition to NHTSA requesting they reconsider this rule. Secondly, NHTSA accepted nominations for a newly formed Advisory Committee on Underride Protection. TSC is fortunate to have multiple nominees put forward for this Committee and hopes to have our nominees accepted to inform this important work.
- July 26th was not kind to us! Regrettably, FMCSA also began accepting motor carrier applications to participate in the Safe Driver Apprenticeship Program (a.k.a. Teen Trucking Pilot Program). Due to TSC pressure, FCMSA did modify the program, such as forcing carriers to formally register with the Department of Labor as Apprentice Providers as well as adding a new requirement for rear driver-facing cameras for drivers that must be used during their training. We remain staunchly opposed to this program and will be closely monitoring it.
- In other FMCSA happenings, the agency issued a Supplementary Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (SNPRM) to require speed limiters in CMVs. TSC strongly supports this effort and filed joint comments with Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety in the open comment period.
- On June 8th, **Robin Hutcheson** advanced out of the Senate Commerce, Science and Technology Committee and awaits full Senate confirmation to become FCMSA Administrator. The position has lacked a Senate-confirmed Administrator for 3 years. Unfortunately, on Aug 12, **Dr. Steven Cliff** announced his resignation and pending departure as NHTSA Administrator.
- Legislatively, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee advanced H.R. 2187, the Truck Parking Safety Improvement Act. TSC supports efforts to increase truck parking, a known safety issue, as long as those efforts do not compromise appropriated funding for other important needs. Additionally, Rep. Mast (R-18-FL) introduced several anti-safety bills that would seriously compromise safety if anyone took them seriously. Efforts to roll-back truck size and weight requirements will likely increase if the House or Senate switches hands after November elections.

## Follow us on Social Media!

TSC is VERY active on social media. The best way to stay up to date on what's going on and expand our reach is to follow us and engage in our online community! Here's how:

[Comment on our Posts](#)

[Share or Retweet our Posts](#)

[Tag Us](#)

[Attend our Lunch N' Learn Series](#)

[Offer and Receive Support in our private Facebook Group](#)



Questions?

Contact [kelli@trucksafety.org](mailto:kelli@trucksafety.org)

## A Note from the Executive Director



We are gearing up for what is shaping up to be the BEST Sorrow to Strength gathering yet! I am beyond excited to meet so many of you in-person for the first time. The power of your stories has changed me and has the power to impact anyone who hears them. A former FMCSA Administrator told me this past year that she always learned the most from meetings with victims and survivors. NEVER underestimate what the simple act of bearing witness to your experience can do.

Participating in Sorrow to Strength helps our volunteers feel more confident and comfortable in sharing their stories with policymakers. Perhaps more importantly, bonds of friendship amongst each other are strengthened and new ones formed. renewed. No one can do this alone and Sorrow to Strength brings us together and reminds us that together we are greater than the sum of our parts and for that we are grateful.

-Zach

## First Response: By The Numbers

MAY 2022 - JULY 2022

# 108

**VICTIM & SURVIVOR FAMILIES  
REACHED**

The purpose of our First Response Program is to get information and resources to people affected by truck crashes as quickly as possible after their crash, when they need it most.

This work is supported through the generous donations of our volunteers and the broader community. Please consider a donation to help us continue to be there when someone needs us most. To donate, visit our [website](#).

# DID YOU KNOW?

*The Truck Safety Coalition offers a variety of support resources for truck crash survivors and the families of truck crash victims.*

- Robust [online resources](#) to help navigate the journey after a truck crash.
- Professional grief support:
  - A free month of online therapy through Better Help
  - Bimonthly grief support groups on Zoom led by a professional grief counselor
- Peer support through our private online Facebook group: [Truck Safety Coalition - Survivors, Families, and Friends](#)
- Multiple ways to honor your story:
  - [Monthly Giving Memoriam Wall](#)
  - [Our Stories](#)
  - Crash anniversary posts on our social media channels

*If you need support, we are here for you. Email [kelli@trucksafety.org](mailto:kelli@trucksafety.org) to reach our first response team.*

## INTRODUCING THE TSC ADVISORY BOARD

The Truck Safety Coalition recognizes the important contributions of many different experts to the conversation on truck safety. We rely on a dedicated Advisory Board of accomplished professionals who have agreed to offer us their expertise as we navigate the ever-changing landscape of truck safety policy and current events. Join us as we welcome our new advisory board members. Thank you all for your invaluable contributions to the TSC mission!



### Elisa Braver, PhD

Dr. Elisa Braver received a Ph.D. in epidemiology from The Johns Hopkins University. She previously was a researcher with the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) in the Office of Research and Engineering.

### Professor Drew Dawson, BA (Hons) Psych PhD

Professor Drew Dawson is internationally recognized for his contributions to the scientific community and industry in the areas of sleep and fatigue research, organizational psychology and human behavior, industrial relations negotiations, and the human implications of hours of work.



### Robert Martineau

Robert Martineau serves as CEO of AirFlow Deflector since 2012 as well as a management consultant, practicing accountant, vulnerable road user activist, and volunteer within various organizations. Airflow products are designed to save the lives of those involved in truck crashes.



### Steve Viscelli

Steve Viscelli is an economic sociologist who studies work, labor markets, automation, and public policy. He is an Associate Professor of Practice at the University of Pennsylvania.





# MAKE YOUR STORY KNOWN!



**To add your story to our website:**

**email a photo and your story to [info@trucksafety.org](mailto:info@trucksafety.org)**

**We share our stories...**

- To grieve
- To educate
- To remember



Severe truck crashes happen far too more than most people realize. Sharing your story is one way to help raise awareness and educate others about the urgent need to improve truck safety.

Take a look at the stories other community members have shared and contact us to take the first step to share yours. We can even help you craft your story should you find it understandably difficult to approach.

**Read the stories shared by our amazing volunteers on our [website!](#)**

## Is Your Business Interested in Supporting the Truck Safety Coalition?



Align your business with the trusted name of the Truck Safety Coalition and stand in solidarity with truck crash victims and survivors. We have several visibility benefits for our donors! Contact [info@trucksafety.org](mailto:info@trucksafety.org) to learn more!.

### TSC's Badging Program is available to ANY donors at gift levels of \$5K and above

#### CHAMPIONS OF COURAGE: \$5,000 - \$19,999

- Champions of Courage Listing on TSC Supporter Webpage, hyperlinked to your website
- Branded Lifesaver Badges with your organization's name for use on webpages, letter-head and other materials
- Group Recognition on ALL TSC Social Media Platforms



#### CHAMPIONS OF CHANGE: \$20,000 - \$49,999

- Featured in 2 TSC Quarterly Newsletters
- Access to Exclusive TSC Patron Video Updates
- Annual Special Gift
- Champions of Change Listing on TSC Supporter Webpage, hyperlinked to your website
- Branded Lifesaver Badges with your organization's name for use on webpages, letter-head and other materials
- Individual Recognition on ALL TSC Social Media Platforms



Check out current supporters at <https://trucksafety.org/our-supporters/>