

December 18, 2022

## Truck Safety Coalition Volunteer Statement: 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Biden Truck Crash

Fifty years ago today, President Biden's family was devastated by a tragic truck crash. His wife, Neila Biden, and daughter, Naomi, affectionately known as Amy, lost their lives. Beau and Hunter Biden also sustained serious injuries.

This story, as horrific and unimaginable as it may seem, is sadly not unique. Roughly 5,000 people lose their lives annually due to truck crash violence and another 147,000 are injured. I too, lost my dearly beloved son, Bryan (7), in a preventable truck crash. No words can adequately express the depth of pain and loss that I endure every day since.

For reasons unbeknownst to me, America has long turned a blind eye to the carnage caused by large trucks on our roads. This must end. Truck crash deaths have increased a stunning 66% since 2009.



Proven solutions are available. I call upon President Biden and his Department of Transportation to require Automatic Emergency Braking (AEB) on ALL commercial vehicles. Automated Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS), such as lane assist, and blind spot detection can prevent collisions and must also be required. Lastly, rear and side underride guards can prevent the slaughter that occurs when passenger vehicles pass under truck trailers and must be required on all CMVs. Remarkably, President Biden's DOT does not even track instances of underride fatalities.

As one who knows the immense fortitude required of truck crash victims to face every day that following the crash that claimed their loved ones, these truck safety failings are unacceptable and inexcusable. President Biden, I ask you as a father who personally know the pain of losing a wife and child, that you stand in solidarity with crash victims and use the full power of your authority to protect the lives of all roadway users.

Eileen Kosc, Truck Safety Coalition Victim-Volunteer

<u>Eileen lost her son</u>, Bryan, age 7, when a box truck struck their family vehicle at 65mph in stopped traffic

Middeltown, DE