



THE TSC NEWSLETTER

2023 Issue 1

VOLUNTEER POWER!!!



Truck Safety Coalition Volunteers are making their mark in 2023!

In the past three months, TSC has welcomed four new Board Members, mobilized volunteers to fight unsafe trucking proposals and shared our stories directly to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Acting Administrator to impress upon NHTSA leadership the urgent need to issue strong truck safety oriented rulemaking.

Victim and survivor volunteers drive everything we do at TSC. It is our animating belief that those **MOST** impacted by the failure to prioritize truck safety **MUST** be heard by policy-makers at the highest level.

Read more about what our incredible volunteers have accomplished on Pg. 3 and learn how you can get involved!

CONTENTS

Volunteer Power

01

Upcoming Events

02

Volunteer Spotlight

03

Monthly Giving

04

Welcome New Board Members

05

Thank you Dawn King

06

Public Policy & Media Update

07

Donor Spotlight: Rick Watts

08

Annual Campaign

09



Upcoming Events

Lunch N' Learn

TRAFFIC SAFETY RESOURCE
PROSECUTOR

LUNCH N' LEARN



With Jenny True Reed, Traffic
Safety Resource Prosecutor, KY

MARCH 22

11:30 AM EASTERN

[REGISTER TODAY!](#)

Join us as we learn from Jenny True Reed, a Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor (TSRP) in KY. Jenny provides training and technical assistance on traffic related issues to both prosecutors and law enforcement officers throughout the Kentucky. TSRPs facilitate a coordinated, multidisciplinary approach to the prosecution of impaired driving and other traffic crimes, such as those concerning CMV and CDL laws and regulations.

Tune in **LIVE** on March 22 at 11:30,
No Facebook Account Required!

Do you have ideas for future Lunch N' Learn Sessions or would like to offer your expertise to the group? We want to hear from you at info@trucksafety.org

Grief Zoom Night

SPRINGTIME SOLACE

GRIEF ZOOM NIGHT



With Professional Grief Counselor
Rob Zucker

MARCH 29

7PM EASTERN

[REGISTER TODAY!](#)

Our bi-monthly Grief Night with Robert Zucker is fast approaching. Join us as we practice deep listening, extend ourselves to one another and reflect on new practices to help cope with adjusting to life following a truck crash.

An attendee from last session shared, "I am SO thankful for these sessions." Robert is a masterful facilitator and creates an environment where everyone feels welcome.

REGISTER TODAY!!!

We are seeking sponsors for our these valuable sessions, please contact info@trucksafety.org if you can help underwrite this service.



TSC VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Eileen Miller has led the charge to ban distracted driving in Pennsylvania for 8 long years following the loss of her son, Paul, to a distracted truck driver. Her unyielding perseverance, buoyed by the support of her husband Paul, has made a difference. After passing the PA Senate and the House, the distracted driving bill is on the verge of being signed into law.

Watch her recent remarks (16:40) at a recent Press Conference promoting the bill. Congratulations Eileen!!!



Daniel Dorman, his son Harvey, and his in-laws survived a terrible truck crash. All survived, but the cost of medical care quickly escalated beyond insurance limits.

A resident Iowan, Daniel was dismayed to hear about the Iowa legislature's irresponsible efforts to place arbitrary limits on motor carriers that limit claims victims need and deserve following a crash. Daniel took action and testified against the bill (SF 228/HF 201) in an IA Senate hearing AND made this powerful video to educate the public and policymakers about its unjust impacts to crash victims and how it harms truck safety.

Similar to the effort in Iowa, Florida's legislature is also pursuing unjust reforms that limit the ability of crash victims to pursue full accountability of motor carriers following a crash and limits the medical care claims they can make.

The measure also has the full support of Governor DeSantis and TSC Volunteer Jane Mathis was having **NONE** of it. Read her powerful Op-Ed opposing this ludicrous bill (HB 837) that prioritizes private profit over public safety.



Want to raise your hand to stand up for truck safety too? Send us an email to info@trucksafety.org and we'll put you on our Action Alert List!

The benefits of

Monthly Giving at The Truck Safety Coalition

Donating a lump sum all at once can be difficult, but with TSC's Monthly Giving Program you can make a monthly contribution that fit your budget and adds up to make a large impact for our community.



\$50
a
month

easier on the
pocket



quickly becomes....

\$600
a
year

with a bigger
tax receipt

Top Reasons Monthly Giving is Easier for you

1. IT'S EASY & AFFORDABLE

Regular donations can be made in affordable monthly installments from your bank account or credit card.

2. IT'S FLEXIBLE

You can increase, decrease, pause, or stop your monthly gift at any time.

3. TAX RECEIPTS ARE EASY

A cumulative tax receipt will be issued to you annually.

4. STAY BETTER CONNECTED

We would love to stay connected with you and to keep you informed on how your gifts is making an impact at TSC.

5. TSC MONTHLY DONOR MEMORIAM WALL

Each monthly donor has the opportunity to craft a touching online memorial in honor of one they love lost or injured to truck violence

First Response: Did you Know?

The Truck Safety Coalition offers several resources to support our crash victims and survivors. Do you know someone affected by a truck crash? Let them know TSC is here to help



In partnership with TSC, Betterhelp offers one month of free virtual counseling to TSC community members. Email info@trucksafety.org to get started.

TSC offers bimonthly Zoom group grief counseling with Robert Zucker. It is an incredibly supportive and helpful environment whether your crash was 3 months ago or 30 years ago. Join us!



We have helpful information created by victims and survivors, for victims and survivors to support you in your post-crash journey. Check it out at <https://trucksafety.org/survivors-assistance-and-first-response/>

First Response: By The Numbers

CY 2022

416

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.

Many victims and survivors understandably feel alone, disoriented and overwhelmed following a truck crash. Hearing directly from someone else who has been through this trauma is incredibly powerful and a great way YOU can get involved and make a difference with TSC.

Welcome New CRASH & P.A.T.T. Board Members!!!



CRASH

Anna Guardipee is a crash survivor who lost her best friend, Jenny Burton in her crash.

She is an active TSC Volunteer and owns her own business, Safety Step, a business that manufactures and sells speciality step stools in various markets across the country.



P.A.T.T.

Kevin Donovan is a retired Army CPT, First Armor Division, who continued his public service with the Maine State Police.

During his 15 years with Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit he enforced Safety Rules & Regulations and investigated commercial motor vehicle crashes.



P.A.T.T.

J.J. Burns has a reputation nationally as a go-to-expert on truck crash litigation. He helps truck crash victims' families hold trucking companies accountable.

He volunteers to advocate for more responsible trucking rules and regulations across the country.



P.A.T.T.

Joseph Hanslip has been a member of Sanford, Maine's City Council since 2005. He currently serves as Deputy Mayor.

He was employed as a police officer before retiring early due to a permanent disability resulting from injuries received in the line of duty.

TSC BOARD MEMBER DONATES \$15,000 IN HONOR OF HER FATHER

The Truck Safety Coalition is grateful for the generous individuals, corporations, and foundations whose financial support has allowed us to meet the continued high need of the truck safety community. We are excited this month to spotlight one of these dedicated donors, CRASH board member Dawn King.

Dawn's family found the Truck Safety Coalition in 2005. She was searching for answers and support after her dad was killed on December 24, 2004, by a semi-truck driven by a sleepy, overworked driver.

Among her many contributions to the fight against preventable truck crashes, Dawn is a Citizens for Reliable and Safe Highways Foundation (CRASH) Board Member and the Past President of the Truck Safety Coalition.

We spoke to Dawn about her commitment to being a leading partner for TSC. Here's a snippet of our interview.



Q: How would you describe the Truck Safety Coalition and its mission to another potential donor?

A: TSC is a group of families who have suffered unthinkable tragedy at the hands of an industry vital to our country's economy. They are diverse people across all economic levels, living across the country, from both sides of the political aisle and multiple cultures, who accomplish extraordinary things working only from their hearts.

Q: What aspects of our work are most important to you?

A: For me, the most crucial aspect of our work is the support piece, providing emotional and informational support to people in the midst of perhaps the worst moments of their lives. We provide a sense that people are not alone, that the emotional weight of the crash doesn't have to be kept inside, and that some of the grief can be released to a group that truly understands. Most people express a sense of relief at finding others like themselves and then a sense of sadness that so many of us belong to our 'truck safety family.'

Q: Do you have any advice for us to be sure you remain an enthusiastic supporter and inspire others like you to join our mission?

A: Please share your stories! The stories behind new volunteers motivates me to do more and donate more. Every time a new family joins us, their story should be shared. It allows them to see their loved ones honored and helps us all stay focused on our mission. Read our stories at <https://trucksafety.org/our-stories/>. To see yours listed, contact johnetha@trucksafety.org.

“Our dad's crash changed the trajectory of our family. TSC was there for us and supporting their work is the best way we have of paying it forward.” – Dawn King

Public Policy Update

The 118th Congress is off and running and TSC is making a point to make sure folks have no excuse to lose sight of the truck crash crisis on our roads and the proven solutions that will make a difference. Here are just a few things to be aware of as 2023 gets underway:

- [Letter to USDOT Secretary Buttigieg](#)

TSC, joined by Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Transportation Trades Department AFL-CIO, Consumer Federation of America, Center for Auto Safety and more urged DOT to take action on long-overdue truck safety reforms such as requiring AEB in all CMVs, strengthening Hours of Service Requirements, requiring Proficiency Testing for New Motor Carriers, and more. Read the letter [HERE](#).

- [Letter to Senate & House Government Oversight Committees](#)

Following the Wall Street Journal's explosive reporting on the complete lack of concern for safety in the USPS' truck freight contracting operations, TSC called for Congressional Hearings to investigate these critical safety concerns. In addition, TSC collaborated with Congressman Gerry Connolly to demand a USPS Office of Inspector General investigation as well. Read the Congressional Hearing Letters [HERE](#) and Congressman Connolly's OIG Letter [HERE](#). Following this heavy scrutiny, [Wall Street Journal reports](#) that **USPS has announced a major change effective immediately: *USPS contractors must now report serious crashes to USPS leadership***. This constitutes the first time, to anyone's knowledge, that USPS is tracking truck crash deaths and injuries caused by their unsafe contractors.

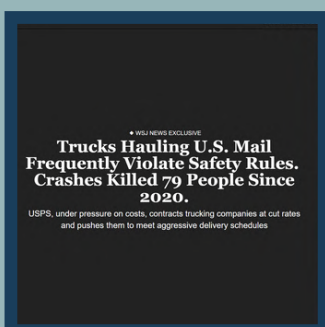
- [Statement Opposing H.R. 471, "SHIP IT Act"](#)

In January, U.S. Representatives Dusty Johnson (R-SD-01) and Jim Costa (D-CA-21) introduced a House Bill that is a smorgasbord of long-sought truck industry exemptions. The bill seeks weight exemptions, Hours of Service exemptions, CDL Trainee Supervision exemptions, ELD exemptions and more. **It's an egregious affront to safety.** Read TSC's H.R. 471 Statement [HERE](#)

- [NHTSA Nominee Announced](#)

In February, President Biden nominated Ann Carlson, current NHTSA Acting Administrator to be Administrator. Her nomination must be confirmed by the Senate and no hearings have yet been announced. TSC volunteers recently met with Acting Administrator Carlson to share our stories to motivate NHTSA leadership to act swiftly to secure truck safety gains on important issues such as Automatic Emergency Braking, Underride Guards and more.

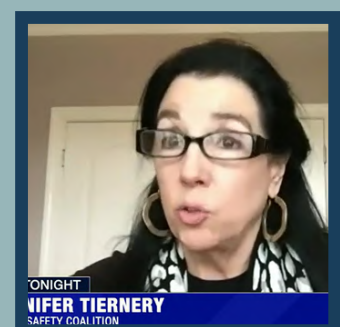
TSC Media Round-up



Wall Street Journal
USPS Unsafe Contracting



TSC Volunteer Debra Cruz
Truck Safety



TSC Volunteer Jennifer Tierney
Underride Guards

DONOR SPOTLIGHT Q&A: RICK WATTS

Rick Watts joined the TSC community after his family was killed in a preventable truck crash. On June 25, 2015, Rick's daughters, Kelsie, and Savannah Garrigues, arrived in Atlanta for a summer visit with their mother, Tiffany Watts. Tiffany and her mother, Sandra Anderson, picked Kelsie and Savannah up at the airport and headed home to Tennessee. Unfortunately, while stopped in construction traffic, a tractor-trailer failed to stop and collided with eight vehicles killing six people, including Tiffany, Kelsie, Savannah, and Sandra.



Q: What's your connection to the Truck Safety Coalition?

A: TSC reached out to me after the crash that killed my family. I am thankful for them doing so, as it has helped me in many ways in dealing with the aftermath of the crash.

Q: Why is the Truck Safety Coalition an organization you believe in strongly enough to support your time, talent, and treasure?

A: I believe TSC does an incredible job at trying to keep the highways and interstates safe for all of us, and I believe the TSC is helping to keep others from having to face what I faced with the crash that killed my family.

Q: How would you describe the Truck Safety Coalition and its mission to another potential donor?

A: If you care about the safety of your friends, family, and neighbors, this is an extremely worthwhile organization.

Q: What aspects of our work are most important to you?

A: Working with Congress and other governmental agencies to adopt and support safer roads and help to control unsafe trucking practices.

THE TRUCK SAFETY COALITION IS SO GRATEFUL FOR THE SUPPORT OF MR. WATTS! THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR MISSION!

We Just Hit 15% #GiveTSC



WE ARE 10% AWAY FROM ACHEIVING OUR QUARTERLY GOAL!

We are just about to hit the first of many milestones to come during our 2023 Annual Campaign! Three months into our kickoff and we are nearly at the 15% mark! Our goal is \$40,000 between now and April 1st, and we need your help to reach it. Please consider a donation to help us continue to be there when someone needs us most. To donate, visit our [website](#).

Follow us on Social Media!



- Comment on our Posts!
- Share or Retweet our Posts
- Offer and Receive Support in the [Survivor, Families & Friends Community on Facebook](#)
- Tag us!
- Engage with our Community
- Join our Zoom nights
- Sign up for our Action Alerts and Newsletter!

Questions?

Contact johnetha@trucksafety.org