



THE TSC NEWSLETTER

2024 Issue 3

A Magical Night!!!



The **2nd Annual “Night to Celebrate Truck Safety”** Gala was a resounding success! Held at the beautiful Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill, the evening brought together survivors, advocates, and supporters for an unforgettable celebration of progress and hope. Together, we raised crucial funds for the Truck Safety Coalition's life-saving work. We are so grateful for the generosity of our attendees, sponsors, and silent auction donors.

The night was filled with heartfelt moments, inspiring testimonials, and remarkable courage and resilience everywhere you look, reminding us all why TSC's mission is so necessary. As we reflect on the event's success, we extend our deepest gratitude to everyone who helped make the night possible. **Learn more out more about this incredible night on pages 8-11.**

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A LEGACY OF STRENGTH: GAGE EVANS' COMMITMENT TO TRUCK SAFETY

This year, Gage Evans made an extraordinary commitment to supporting victims and survivors of truck crashes by donating \$50,000 to the Truck Safety Coalition. Her gift, among the largest TSC has ever received, reflects her deep compassion for those who have experienced life-altering tragedies. Gage's dedication to helping the community stems from her own personal loss, and through her generosity, she is honoring the memory of her late husband.



As part of this incredible contribution, Gage helped sponsor TSC's 2nd Annual Gala, donating \$10,000 to support the event. At the gala, we were honored to present Gage with a commemorative check in recognition of her support. Her commitment to both victim support and the larger Truck Safety Coalition mission has been invaluable, and we are deeply grateful for her partnership.

Gage's unwavering focus on helping families and survivors in the aftermath of truck crashes has been a true inspiration to us all. Her generosity and passion continue to make a significant impact on our community, providing critical resources for those who need it most.

TSC Spooktacular Trivia is Back!!!



RSVP HERE

Government Affairs Update

Vice Presidential Candidates on Truck Safety Issues



Minnesota Governor Tim Walz (D), Harris' Vice-Presidential selection, has been publicly supportive of sleep apnea testing for CDL holders. The NTSB cites driver fatigue as a major contributor in truck crashes. Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA) is believed to be pervasive amongst truck drivers in what the American Academy of Sleep medicine calls a **public health risk**. Governor Walz's position on sleep apnea is highly commendable and could save countless lives. Learn more about fatigue and OSA [HERE](#).

Ohio Senator JD Vance (R), Trump's Vice-Presidential selection strongly opposes the use of speed limiters in large trucks. Vance co-sponsored the Deregulating Restrictions on Interstate Vehicles and Eighteen-Wheelers (DRIVE) Act which **prohibits FMCSA from proceeding with speed limiter rulemaking**. Despite the fact that 20% of all fatal crashes occur at speeds 70+ miles an hour, Vance and some Members of Congress prefer to ensure that truck drivers operating in interstate commerce can recklessly speed, despite the clear and present danger to all roadway users. FMCSA estimates that hundreds of lives would be saved annually if speed limiters were required to be used. Learn more about the benefits of speed limiters [HERE](#).



FMCSA Administrator Revolving Door Keeps Spinning



Meera Joshi, Robin Hutcheson, Sue Lawless and now [Vinn White](#). In late June 2024, Vinn was appointed by DOT Secretary Buttigieg to serve as FMCSA Deputy Administrator, who will also serve as the FMCSA Acting Administrator.

Additionally, Vinn is also the USDOT Acting Chief Artificial Intelligence (AI) Officer. Prior to joining FMCSA, White was responsible for coordinating USDOT initiatives on emerging transportation technologies, including coordinating cross-departmental policies related to automated driving systems and surface vehicle-to-everything connectivity (V2X). In fact, after years of delay, DOT recently announced a robust V2X Deployment Plan. Learn more about this V2X's promising potential [here](#).

NTSB Issues Report with Safety Recommendations to DOT

In the early morning of December 2022, a combination truck crashed into the rear of a bus traveling 65-70 mph, killing 3 and seriously injuring 9 others. The NTSB conducted an investigation its [report findings](#) this August. The Report includes several safety recommendations, among them: FMCSA regulations should be revised and require providers of Electronic Logging Devices (ELDs) to create audit logs, NHTSA should complete performance standards and protocols for forward collision avoidance (such as Automatic Emergency Braking) systems AND require the use of onboard video event recorders.



DOUBLE THE IMPACT: MATCHING GIFT DONOR SPOTLIGHT



Crash victim, Paul Katuszonek



Family survivor, Barbara Galgiani

BARBARA GALGIANI – A CALL FOR CHANGE THROUGH GIVING

Barbara Galgiani's connection to the Truck Safety Coalition is deeply personal. In 2012, her nephew, Paul Katuszonek, was tragically killed by a truck driver who violated hours-of-service regulations. Paul, a dedicated police officer, cancer survivor, husband, and father to a one-year-old daughter, had his future stolen from him. The truck driver responsible was convicted of misdemeanor vehicular manslaughter and served only six months, while the company that employed him, Gold Star Foods, faced no criminal charges. Barbara has been fighting for change ever since, seeking to hold not only drivers but also their employers accountable for the dangerous practices that lead to crashes like the one that claimed Paul's life.

Barbara found the Truck Safety Coalition in her search for justice and solace and has been an active supporter ever since. This year, Barbara has been a tremendous advocate for matching gifts, generously encouraging others to support the TSC's mission. For Barbara, the legislative work of the TSC is most important, as she believes that changes in laws and regulations are crucial to preventing further tragedies.

Her commitment to raising awareness extends beyond her financial contributions. Barbara has used her personal networks to share the message of truck safety, inspiring others, including a business owner with a fleet of trucks, to take action and provide support. She continues to stay engaged with TSC by reading the newsletter, following updates on social media, and actively participating in campaigns.

Barbara's passion for change and her dedication to the memory of her nephew serve as an inspiration to us all. Her leadership in our matching gift efforts this year reminds us that together, we can make a real difference in the lives of those affected by truck crashes.

"I hope that with the efforts of the Truck Safety Coalition, no family will have to endure the kind of loss that ours did. It's through changes in laws and regulations that we can prevent further unnecessary tragedies." - Barbara Galgiani

DONOR SPOTLIGHT: NORA'S JOURNEY FROM GRIEF TO ADVOCACY

Nora's connection to the Truck Safety Coalition (TSC) began after the tragic loss of her son, Dominic, in a preventable truck crash in May 2022. In the months following his death, Nora searched for ways to understand and address the dangers of underregulated trucks, leading her to TSC. After reaching out through the TSC website, she quickly received a response, and Dominic's story was soon shared on TSC's "Our Stories" page. Nora attended the Sorrow to Strength conference in September 2022, where she found a supportive community and the strength to begin her advocacy journey.

Since then, Nora has turned her grief into action, advocating for legislative change and public awareness of truck safety. She has visited Capitol Hill several times, hosted fundraisers in Dominic's honor, and even launched a postcard campaign urging lawmakers to improve safety regulations. She views her advocacy as a way to continue parenting Dominic by ensuring that his story contributes to saving lives.

Additionally, Gilead Sciences—her employer—has matched over \$10,000 in donations to TSC. Nora encourages others to explore donation-matching opportunities with their employers to maximize the impact of their contributions.

"Our stories matter. We can leverage them to promote a very positive change against road violence. Our stories save lives and preserve quality of life; they honor the thousands of lives lost annually to preventable truck crashes. Through our stories our loved ones are not forgotten." - Nora Lopez



Crash victim, Dominic Lopez-Toney



Family survivor, Nora Lopez & family

**THE TRUCK SAFETY COALITION IS SO GRATEFUL FOR THE SUPPORT
OF BARBARA & NORA! THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR MISSION!**

EMPLOYER MATCHING GIFT PROGRAM

*Multiply Your Impact with
Corporate Matching Gifts!*

Did you know that many companies offer a corporate matching gift program to double—or even triple—the impact of their employees' donations to nonprofits like the Truck Safety Coalition? By participating in these programs, your contribution can go even further in supporting our mission.



Each company sets its own guidelines, such as the matching gift ratio, minimum and maximum match amounts, and deadlines for submissions. To see if your employer offers this benefit, contact your HR or corporate giving representative.

For any questions about matching gifts or to learn how your contribution can make an even bigger difference, reach out to Johnetha Lindsey, Director of Strategic Partnerships & Development, at (202) 937-6430 or via [email](#).

Companies With Known Matching Gift Programs

3 M Corporation
Abbott Laboratories
Adobe Systems
ADP Foundation
Aetna Corporation
AIG Insurance
Alliant Energy Foundation
Allstate Foundation
American Airlines
American Express
Applebee's International, Inc
ARAMARK Corporation
AT&T
Avon
Bank of America
Bartlett & West Engineering
Boeing Corporation
Budget Rent-A-Car
Burlington Northern Santa Fe

Caleres Inc.
Capitol Federal Financial
Cargill Inc
Catepillar
Cessna/Trextan Aviation
Chevron Corporation
CIGNA Corp
Citgo Petroleum Corporation
Citigroup
Clorox Company
Coca-Cola
Colgate-Palmolive Company
Cooper Tire & Rubber
Company
Dow Chemical/Dow Inc
Every
FHLBank
Ford Foundation
Ford Motor Company
Gap Inc

General Electric Foundation
General Mills Corporation
General Motors
Georgia Pacific
Goodrich
H & R Block Foundation
Hallmark Cards
Hewlett-Packard
Palmolive
Home Depot
Honeywell Inc
J.C. Penney Company Inc
JPMorgan Chase
Johnson & Johnson
Kimberly Clark
Kmart/Transformco
Macy's
McDonald's Corporation
Microsoft

PepsiCo
Pfizer Inc
Pizza Hut/Yum! Brands
Proctor & Gamble
Progressive Corporation
Prudential Financial
Quaker Oats/PepsiCo
Ricoh
Starbucks Corporation
Taco Bell/Yum! Brands
The Central National Bank
T-Mobile US
Union Pacific Corporation
United Parcel Service of
America Inc
US Bankcorp Foundation
US Foods
Verizon Wireless/Verizon
Communications
Walmart

A matching gift can double the impact, helping us provide even greater support to victim families and survivors of preventable truck crashes.

TRUCK SAFETY COALITION IN THE NEWS

NHTSA committee blasts DOT in truck underride report

Divided advisory committee sends Congress majority, minority viewpoints



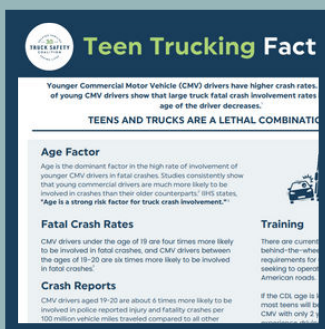
John Gallagher • Tuesday, July 02, 2024



FreightWaves: [Regulators taken to task for not doing enough to protect against underride crashes.](#)

[Read Article](#)

Additional Stories



ABC9 KY/GA:
[Teen Trucking Still a Terrible Idea](#)



CDLLife: [TSC Issues Scathing Letter to DOT Secretary Buttigieg](#)



9News Denver: [FMCSA Incapable of Monitoring New Entrants](#)



This year, **WE NEED** passionate supporters to join us as **Giving Tuesday Ambassadors for Giving Tuesday on December 3rd.**

Our goal is to recruit **20 captains** who can each raise \$2,000 to support the Truck Safety Coalition's mission.

As an ambassador, you'll rally your network to contribute to this important cause, with all the resources and guidance provided to make your campaign a success.

BONUS, the ambassador with the most donors will win a signature TSC Memory Bear—an exclusive teddy hand-crafted by Lisa Alleman!!!

If you're interested in becoming a Giving Tuesday captain, please contact Johnetha Lindsey at johnetha@trucksafety.org to sign up or learn more. We'd love to have you on board!

[REGISTER TO BE AN AMBASSADOR TODAY](#)

THANK YOU TO OUR GALA PARTNERS

CHAMPION

Gage Evans, in loving tribute
of her husband, Bill Bailey



LEADER



DOLLAR | BURNS
BECKER & HERSHEWE
TRIAL ATTORNEYS

ADVOCATES

Bruce & Dawn King, in loving memory of her Dad, William Badger

METIER
LAW FIRM
STRENGTH WHEN YOU NEED IT

Grant Lawson
NBTA Board Certified
Truck Accident
Attorney



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION FOR
JUSTICE®

The Association for Trial Lawyers

CRAIG KELLEY
AND
FAULTLESS LLC



GENTRY LOCKE
Attorneys

COLLABORATORS

Anna Guardipee & Paul Huffman

Beth Badger, in loving memory of her Dad, William Badger

Daniel, Axel, and Oliver, in loving memory of Sarah Debbink Langenkamp

Eric Cantor, Esq.



SAFER ROADS.
SAVING LIVES.



PARTNERS

Jackie Gillan

Amy Stolarski, In Gratitude to the Friedrich Family for Their Dedication to Truck Safety

The Dominic Lopez-Toney Hope Fund

Blankingship
collected expertise Keith^{pc}



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR

2ND ANNUAL NIGHT TO CELEBRATE TRUCK SAFETY



WE ARE INCREDIBLY GRATEFUL FOR THE UNWAVERING SUPPORT OF OUR DONORS THIS QUARTER. THANKS TO YOUR GENEROSITY, WE RAISED AN AMAZING **\$99,000** TO FURTHER OUR MISSION OF ADVOCATING FOR SAFER ROADS AND SUPPORTING CRASH VICTIMS. YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS NOT ONLY HELP FUEL OUR EFFORTS BUT ALSO PROVIDE CRITICAL RESOURCES TO THOSE IN NEED. WE COULDN'T DO THIS WITHOUT YOU, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING THIS IMPORTANT WORK TOGETHER. THANK YOU FOR STANDING WITH US EVERY STEP OF THE WAY.

WE'RE SO CLOSE TO REACHING OUR GOAL OF **\$100,000** THIS YEAR, AND WITH YOUR HELP, WE CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN. EVERY GIFT, NO MATTER THE SIZE, BRINGS US ONE STEP CLOSER—CONSIDER GIVING TODAY!

GIVE NOW



[HTTPS://TRUCKSAFETY.ORG/DONATE/](https://TRUCKSAFETY.ORG/DONATE/)



2024 TRUCK SAFETY COALITION GALA AWARD HONOREES

Truck Safety Champion Award Honoree: Congressman James Comer



The Truck Safety Champion Award was established in 2023 to recognize individuals or groups who have demonstrated exceptional leadership in advancing truck safety and the strategic goals of the Truck Safety Coalition.

Congressman James Comer (R-KY-1) has served Kentucky's 1st District in the U.S. House of Representatives since 2016. A staunch advocate for rural communities and public safety, Congressman Comer played a pivotal role in the passage of the Mail Traffic Deaths Reporting Act in the House of Representatives. His leadership in promoting stronger oversight and safety standards within the trucking industry, particularly within the United States Postal Service, has been crucial in protecting lives on the road. As Chair of the House Committee on Oversight & Accountability, Congressman Comer's unwavering commitment to truck safety reform exemplifies the power of bipartisan collaboration in making our roads safer for all.

Truck Safety Philanthropist Award Honoree: Nora Lopez

The Truck Safety Philanthropist Award acknowledges individuals and businesses that have made significant philanthropic contributions to support the mission of the Truck Safety Coalition.

Nora Lopez receives this year's Philanthropist Award for her remarkable advocacy and fundraising efforts. Following the tragic loss of her son, Dominic Lopez-Toney, in a semi-truck crash in 2022, Nora has dedicated herself to advancing TSC's mission. Through her leadership in organizing two major fundraising events that raised nearly \$60,000, Nora's work has provided critical support to amplify the voices of crash victims and drive meaningful change in the trucking industry. Her tireless efforts honor her son's legacy while making a profound difference in the lives of others affected by truck crashes.



TSC Volunteer of the Year Award Honoree: Michelle Grubbs



The Volunteer of the Year Award recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the TSC community through their time, talents, and dedication, serving as role models of compassion and service.

Michelle Grubbs is honored as this year's Volunteer of the Year for her extraordinary advocacy following the devastating loss of her son, Trevor Doom, in a 2021 truck crash. Despite her grief, Michelle has become a relentless advocate for truck safety, spearheading legislative efforts in Kentucky to hold truck drivers accountable and make roads safer. Her advocacy has led to tangible changes, including lowering speed limits in crash-prone areas. She also played a key role in passing the Mail Traffic Deaths Reporting Act, inspiring Congressman Comer's unwavering support. Michelle's work has transformed her personal tragedy into a powerful force for change, honoring her son's legacy of service and dedication to the community.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

On Friday, September 20th, the Truck Safety Coalition hosted its 2nd Annual Silent Auction at our "A Night to Celebrate Truck Safety" gala. This exciting event offers guests the opportunity to bid on exclusive items while supporting our mission to advocate for safer roads and assist crash victims. Your participation in this year's auction will help us continue making a meaningful impact in the lives of those we serve. With your support we successfully raised

\$4,700!!!

WE CARE



WE LOVE



WE HELP



CONTINUE TO SUPPORT OUR GALA

Help support crash victims and fight for truck safety reform! Donations requested in lieu of attendance.

Visit the website to give securely online today: www.trucksafety.org/donate

All funds support the Truck Safety Coalition's mission to support crash victims and reduce deaths and injuries from truck crashes

DONATE NOW

P.A.T.T. BOARD MEMBER, JEFF BURNS – A LEGACY OF ADVOCACY & GENEROSITY

Jeff Burns has been a key figure in the Truck Safety Coalition community for over 30 years. As one of the nation's top truck crash attorneys, Jeff has devoted his career to advocating for safer roads and justice for victims. His work extends far beyond the courtroom, contributing to major reforms and policy changes in the trucking industry.

This year, Jeff deepened his commitment to crash victims and their families by making two significant gifts, along with an extraordinary challenge to the community. **He pledged to match up to \$25,000 in donations at two TSC fundraising events—Nora Lopez's birthday event and our 2nd Annual Gala—greatly amplifying the impact of each donation.**



Jeff's passion for truck safety is driven by his first-hand experience working with victims. "Fighting for improved truck regulations is a David vs. Goliath fight. The trucking industry spends millions each year fighting against reasonable safety improvements. I've sat with too many families in their kitchens, grieving the loss of loved ones. TSC does so much with very limited resources, but it needs support to keep going," Jeff said. "No other organization has had the impact on truck safety that TSC has had. TSC fights for victims and supports families, providing hope and helping them honor their loved ones by preventing future tragedies."

Jeff's dedication, both in his professional life and as an engaged Board Member, continues to inspire us all. His unwavering commitment to justice and his generosity reminds us of the power we have to make a difference for crash victims and their families.

"Dominic's crash was not unusual. It is symptomatic of a national crisis in the trucking industry. You can't feel safe because you are not safe every time you are on the road."

– Jeff Burns



We're Almost There!



WE ARE ONLY 35% AWAY FROM ACHIEVING OUR GOAL!

As we approach the final stretch of our 2024 annual campaign, we're excited to share that we are just **35%** away from reaching our goal! Thanks to supporters like you, we've already made tremendous progress in serving our community and advancing our mission.

We invite you to help us close the gap and finish strong. Your donation, no matter the size, will make a lasting impact and bring us closer to achieving our goal.

Looking ahead, our Giving Tuesday and End of Year Campaigns offer even more opportunities to make a difference. To donate today, visit our [website](#).

Follow us on Social Media!



- **Comment on our posts!**
- **Share or retweet our posts**
- **Offer and receive support in the Survivors, Families, & Friends Community on Facebook** (click to request to join)
- **Tag us!**
- **Engage with our community**
- **Join our Zoom nights**
- **Sign up for our Action Alerts and Newsletter!**