



May 08, 2025

The Honorable Mitch Behm
Acting Inspector General
U.S. Department of Transportation Office of Inspector General
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mitch Behm,

The Truck Safety Coalition, Citizens for Reliable and Safe Highways (CRASH), and Parents Against Tired Truckers urge the Office of Inspector General to investigate the extensive alleged fraudulent activity conducted by Skyline CDL School in Washington and CDL skills test third-party examiner, Jason Hodson. As appropriate, we request the matter be referred to the Department of Justice for prosecution of federal law. [Investigative reporting](#) conducted by Oregonian reporter, Ted Sickinger, reveals the details of a dangerous scheme executed by bad-faith actors to fraudulently claim students completed CDL training requirements in exchange for cash bribes. It is suspected that over 800 fraudulent CDLs may have been issued in just 18 months' time.

Paul Reed, Assistant Administrator at the CDL program at Washington's Department of Licensing, led the State of Washington's investigation that uncovered the extensive fraud after receiving multiple complaints regarding Skyline CDL. His agency has taken all subsequent actions authorized under state law and invites a federal investigation, saying, "No one from local or federal law enforcement has reached out to us, but we would fully cooperate in an investigation if they did." He laments that his agency has no direct means to refer the case to law enforcement.


CDL fraud is a safety issue that plagues the industry and concerns many industry stakeholders. The American Trucking Association (ATA) acknowledged as such in its April 2024 [letter](#) to President Trump. The organization points out how infrequently registered training providers are removed from the federal registry despite the ATA having knowledge of noncompliant entities on the registry. Lewie Pugh, Executive Vice-President of the Owner Operator Independent Driver's Association (OOIDA) [staunchly believes](#) "we need more comprehensive driver training in this country" and is concerned by the proliferation of ELDT training schools that purport to assist students in obtaining a CDL in as little as 24 hours.

President Trump's [Executive Order](#), "Enforcing Commonsense Rules of the Road for America's Truck Drivers," echoes these same concerns. Section 4 of the Order, *Strengthening Commercial Driver's License Security for Safer Commercial Motor Vehicle Operations*, directs the Secretary of Transportation to "**take appropriate actions to improve the effectiveness of current protocols**

for verifying the authenticity and validity of both domestic and international commercial driving credentials (emphasis added).”

Fraudulent CDL training schools and complicit examiners rarely face substantial consequences for their role in profiteering at the expense of public safety. This abhorrent behavior will continue unless strong enforcement and deterrence occurs. Truck crash fatalities are unacceptably high, with nearly 5,500 killed in the last year on record and more than 150,000 injured. Since 2009, truck crash deaths have increased by a disturbing 62%. Inadequately and fraudulently trained truck drivers have no place on America’s roads and highways.

Sincerely,



Tami Friedrich
President, Truck Safety Coalition



Russ Swift
Co-Chair, Parents Against Tired Truckers



Jennifer Tierney
Chair, Citizens for Reliable and Safe Highways



Zach Cahalan
Executive Director, Truck Safety Coalition (TSC)

cc: U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy