

Deadly efficiency

Ft. Lauderdale: The dirty little secret in the world of commercial trucking accident litigation is that it is commonplace for accidents to be caused by violations of the safety rules meant to protect the public. Astonishingly, this latest crash — which killed one individual and badly wounded comedian Tracy Morgan — came on the heels of a vote by the Senate Appropriations Committee in favor of an amendment sponsored by Sen. Susan Collins to *relax* the safety rules aimed at reducing trucker fatigue. The trucking industry typically opposes safety regulations by arguing they obstruct efficiency. But the crash that injured Morgan is yet another unfortunate example that when motor carrier profits take precedence over safety and regulatory compliance, innocent lives will be lost on our nation's roads.

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