NTA SAFETY CORNER

SEPTEMBER 2026

Safety Management Council
The Safety Management Council of the Nevada Trucking Association is dedicated to enhancing the safety and security of the trucking industry. This council brings together industry experts to share best practices, provide safety training, and networking with peers and partners in law enforcement and regulatory agencies. Join us today!

Newsletter Highlights

- Safety Council Meeting Notice
- Medical Examiners Removed from Registry
- FMCSA Upgrades Pre-Employment Screening Program
- Wreaths Across America
- TRAINING Classes Scheduled!
- Free Driver Training – UCSD TREDS
- Survey – Top Industry Concerns – Your Voice is Needed!
- Truck Driver Appreciation Week – Coming Soon!
- Training – What do you Need?
- MOTUS - UPDATE
- NV OSHA Heat Regulations – Reminder!
- Calendar of Events / Save the Dates
- Guest Column: Trucking Resurgence – A Year in Review

Safety Council Meeting
The next Safety Council meeting is September 10, 2026. This will be held on ZOOM.

Join us in welcoming Jake Peters with Meremac Solutions to present “Trucking Websites that Produce” and cover the building blocks for websites that establish a strong reputation with drivers, along with metrics to monitor after the site launch.

Time: September 10, 2026 10:00 AM Pacific Time
Meeting ID: 854 8190 3924
Passcode: 493128

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85481903924?pwd=5S1xE4uurQLhX1DwqnBWdOsd6QmfZp.1

FMCSA Takes Action on Medical Examiner Compliance
FMCSA has removed 4,751 active medical examiners from the National Registry for failing to update their medical license information and has notified another 382 examiners that they face removal for not meeting 10-year training and certification testing requirements. Medical exams completed before an examiner’s removal remain

valid, and drivers and carriers can use the National Registry to verify a medical examiner's current status or find a certified examiner. View the National Registry.

FMCSA Upgrades Pre-Employment Screening Program

FMCSA has added two enhancements to its Pre-Employment Screening Program (PSP) to help motor carriers make faster, more informed hiring decisions. PSP reports now display first-name variations found across a driver's crash and inspection records, while a new optional privacy setting allows companies to mask portions of sensitive information, including dates of birth and CDL numbers.

Visit the PSP Site



Join NTA in Honoring Our Fallen Heroes with Wreaths Across America

On Saturday, December 19, 2026, Wreaths Across America will be at locations in Nevada to Remember and Honor our veterans by laying Remembrance wreaths on the graves of our country's fallen heroes and the act of saying the name of each and every veteran aloud.

Each wreath sponsored through NTA's page will be distributed among participating veterans' cemeteries across Nevada, getting one step closer to every hero being remembered this December.

Your sponsorship does not go to one specific location. Instead, it supports the collective mission of remembrance throughout the entire state. Wreaths will be carefully allocated to participating sites based on need and availability, helping to fill gaps where local sponsorships may fall short.

By sponsoring a wreath, you become part of a broader movement that unites communities across Nevada in honoring those who served and sacrificed for our freedoms.

Your gift extends far beyond one cemetery. It connects you to a network of volunteers and supporters who embody the Wreaths Across America mission: to Remember the fallen, Honor those who serve, and Teach the next generation the value of freedom.

Sponsor Here

TRAINING Classes Scheduled – Register Today!

Periodic Vehicle Inspections: Inspector Qualifications (6 hours)
September 29, 2026 - 9am – 3pm
Cost: free for Ascendant Nevada / NTNSIG members; others $225

This training is a basic requirement necessary for all qualified maintenance technicians who complete the periodic annual inspection. Inspections/technicians will learn what the requirements are to become a qualified inspector and how to maintain their qualification. This course covers the elements of the DOT annual periodic vehicle inspection, completion of the annual inspection reports and placement of decals. Students will learn the regulatory requirements of the annual periodic vehicle inspection and 49 CFR 393 and 396 Appendix A, previously known as Appendix G.

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Supervisor Training on Reasonable Suspicion: Drug & Alcohol Testing (3 hours)
October 20, 2026 – 9am – 1pm
Cost: free for NTNSIG / NTA members; non-members $150

In this course, the trained supervisor will receive the necessary FMCSA-mandated training and certificate to comply with 49 CFR 382.603. Every supervisor who interacts with CDL Drivers is required to receive a minimum of 2 hours training in the detection of alcohol misuse or controlled substances use.

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Designated Employer Representative (DER): Drug & Alcohol Programs (6 hours)
November 24, 2026 – 9am – 3pm
Cost: free for NTNSIG / NTA members; non-members $300

Learn the necessary requirements to fulfill the role of the Designated Employer Representative (DER). This course will prepare the DER to perform their daily duties within the FMCSA Drug and Alcohol Testing Program, as required by the FMCSA and the DOT. Through this course we provide an in-depth study of the FMCSA and State Rules/Regulation of 49 CFR Parts 382 and Part 40 for Alcohol and Controlled Substances Testing Program required for CDL Drivers.

Defensive Driving: A SAFER Approach to CMV Operations (3 hours)
December 15, 2026 – 9am – 3pm
Cost: free for NTNSIG / NTA members; non-members $300

After taking this course, drivers will know how to prevent accidents by trying to anticipate hazardous situations and adjusting their behavior to compensate for the day-to-day interactions that face all commercial motor vehicle operations. Drivers will learn to recognize situations that are considered hazardous, learn how to properly adjust speed and position to be able to safely maneuver as hazards develop.

These are instructor-led webinars. A zoom link will be sent once registration has been received. Please contact patti@nevadatrucking.com to register.

ATRI Top Industry Concerns Survey – Your Input is Needed!
NTA is asking our members to complete this very important survey and identify your top concerns. As in past years, the data is used to develop a national report, but more importantly, it will generate a Nevada-specific report that will affect our policy, operational and safety decisions moving forward. Click the link or scan the QR code below - select Nevada - and answer the questions. It's that simple.

Please take a few minutes and help shape NTA's efforts and get your voice heard! See the "Guest Column" for more information.

https://www.research.net/r/2026-TII-Survey

UCSD TREDS – FREE Safety Course for Drivers
UCSD TREDS has announced the launch of Safe Haul: Navigating U.S. Regulations for CMV Drivers, a free online training designed to help drivers stay current on U.S. CMV regulations and support safe driving practices.

Developed by UC San Diego TREDS with funding from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, the self-paced course includes practical, interactive training on topics

such as commercial licensing, hours of service, fatigue, speeding, distracted driving, and more. Registration is now open: https://bit.ly/4u1PEAB



National Truck Driver Appreciation Week – September 13-19
Nearly every aspect of daily life is made possible because a truck driver delivered the goods and resources people need.

NTDAW is an important time for America to thank all the professional truck drivers for their hard work and commitment in undertaking one of our economy's most demanding and important jobs. These 3.6 million professional men and women not only deliver our goods safely, securely, and on time, but they also keep our highways safe.

Please join us for our Nevada Celebrations
September 9th – Sloane Inspection Station – Las Vegas (~10am – noon)
September 16th – Verdi Inspection Station – Verdi (~10am – noon)

Contact patti@nevadatrucking.com to sponsor or volunteer!

NTA Training Center
We are working on the training calendar for Q4 2026 and 2027 and **need your help**!
What sort of training do you want?

- In-person classroom?
- Recorded Webinars?
- On-line, instructor led?

What topics?

- Reasonable Suspicion / Designated Employer Representative
- Annual Vehicle Inspection
- Driver Qualification Files & Compliance
- Drug/Alcohol Policies & Testing Procedures
- CPR / AED / First Aid

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Please drop me a note at patti@nevadatrucking.com to request / suggest training so I can better provide what you need instead of what I think you need.

FMCSA Registration System Updates: MOTUS Available But Still "Glitchy"
MOTUS is a huge step in modernizing the front door for motor carriers and deterring bad actors who have exploited gaps in FMCSA's legacy system. However, the launch has brought some technical issues that are delaying or disrupting access.

FMCSA is actively working to address these. Registrants that are experiencing issues accessing or updating their accounts can submit a support request ticket through the online ticketing system. If your account is already in good standing and you don't need to make immediate administrative changes, please help reduce volume by waiting to log in over the coming weeks as FMCSA works through initial system glitches.

NOTE: if you are having issues with your insurance carrier requiring documentation, trucks being stopped at inspection stations for registration information, broker issues or other operational concerns due to your inability to access MOTUS, please call NTA for assistance.

REMINDER: NV OSHA Heat Illness Prevention Program
As temperatures begin to rise across Nevada, trucking companies are reminded to review and comply with Nevada OSHA's heat illness prevention requirements to help protect employees working in high-temperature conditions. Drivers, warehouse personnel, mechanics, yard workers, and other outdoor employees are all at increased risk for heat-related illness during the summer months.

Nevada OSHA regulations require employers to implement measures including access to potable drinking water, scheduled rest breaks, shaded or cooled recovery areas, employee training, and procedures for responding to heat illness symptoms. Companies should also ensure supervisors and employees are trained to recognize the warning signs of heat exhaustion and heat stroke and understand emergency response procedures.

The Nevada trucking industry has always emphasized safety, and heat illness prevention is another important part of protecting employees both on and off the road. Companies are encouraged to review their heat illness prevention plans now and make any necessary updates before peak summer temperatures arrive.

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Safety Council Meetings
The Safety Council will meet via ZOOM on the 2nd Thursday of each month in 2026. As a reminder, these meetings are free and available to all NTA / NTNSIG members.

September 10 October 8 November 12 December 10

Other Dates of Interest
September 13-19 – National Truck Driver Appreciation Week
September 29 – Vehicle Inspection Procedures Seminar
October 20 – Reasonable Suspicion Training Seminar
November 24 – Designated Employer Representative Seminar
December 15 – Defensive Driving Seminar

Get Involved!
We are excited to invite all members to actively participate in our Safety Council and safety-related programs. By joining, you'll have the opportunity to contribute valuable insights, share experiences, and collaborate on events. Let's work together to build a positive safety culture in Nevada. Join us in making a difference! Contact Patti today!

Patti Gillette * Director of Safety * Patti@NevadaTrucking.com * 720-560-3957



Guest Column:

The Industry's Own Crackdown: A Year of Trucking Resurgence, By the Numbers

Doug Marcello, Saxton & Stump

In fall 2025, TAEC — the Trucking Association Executives Council, a federation of state trucking associations formalized in 1962 — released an action plan called Trucking Resurgence: The Fight for Fairness and Safety. It was a blunt acknowledgment from inside the industry: bad actors had exploited gaps in CDL issuance, safety data systems, and electronic logging oversight, and the professionals and companies upholding real standards were paying the price — in cost, in reputation, and in courtroom exposure. (NOTE: NTA's CEO Paul Enos was part of the group of state association executives who spearheaded this report.)

Six months later, TAEC has published a progress report. For anyone defending trucking litigation, it's worth reading closely — not as a press release, but as a sourced counter-narrative to the story plaintiff's counsel tells juries.

Seven Priority Areas, One Year of Enforcement

The original plan identified seven scope areas: CDL integrity, reforming the safety data system, cross-border workforce integrity, non-domiciled CDL reform, English language proficiency enforcement, combating trucking fraud, and electronic log integrity. The progress report tracks measurable action in each.

CDL INTEGRITY

Federal regulators removed nearly non-compliant training providers from the federal registry, with 550 fraudulent CDL schools shut down outright. Additional rulemaking is underway to eliminate self-certification in CDL training — a gap that has been a recurring theme in negligent hiring and entrustment claims.

REFORMING THE SAFETY DATA SYSTEM

USDOT launched the MOTUS registration platform, intended to improve carrier identity verification and reduce fraudulent registrations tied to chameleon carriers — shell entities that re-register under new names to escape safety histories. The report is candid that the rollout has faced technological setbacks, but notes hundreds of high-risk carrier investigations have already been completed, with FMCSA and state MCSAP partners conducting additional enforcement operations focused on driver training and principal-place-of-business verification.

NON-DOMICILED CDL REFORM

New federal eligibility standards are projected to make roughly 97% of existing non-domiciled CDL holders (194,000+) ineligible over a multi-year period, with some states moving to immediate revocations. This is likely the single most consequential data point

in the report for negligent hiring defense — it directly addresses driver qualification gaps that plaintiff experts have used to argue systemic industry recklessness.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Federal out-of-service enforcement was reinstated, resulting in 27,000+ OOS violations issued nationwide. Multiple states have layered on their own testing requirements and penalties.

COMBATING TRUCKING FRAUD

States have expanded criminal penalties for cargo theft and proposed specialized task forces. At the federal level, the bipartisan Combating Organized Retail Crime Act (CORCA) — aimed at organized cargo theft, supply chain crime, and freight fraud — has passed the House and is pending in the Senate.

ELECTRONIC LOG INTEGRITY

Federal regulators removed 76 non-compliant ELD platforms from approved registries and blocked 426 more from entering the marketplace, with work underway on stronger certification requirements, including ending self-certification.

Twenty States, One Direction

At least 20 states — including Alabama, Texas, Tennessee, Indiana, Iowa, Arkansas, and Virginia — have enacted or introduced legislation aligned with the Trucking Resurgence plan, addressing CDL integrity, English proficiency, non-domiciled CDL oversight, cargo theft, and driver qualifications. Many more states have updated policies and enforcement guidance without formal legislation.

Why This Matters for Nuclear Verdict Defense

The core reptile-theory argument asks jurors to see the trucking industry as a monolith that prioritizes profit over safety and only changes under threat of punishment. This report — sourced to a coalition of state trucking associations working with federal regulators — tells a different, verifiable story: an industry that identified its own weak points and organized, at its own initiative, to close them.

That doesn't make any individual defense case easier by itself. But it is durable, citable context for shaping the broader narrative your firm and your clients are telling outside the courtroom — which increasingly shapes what happens inside it.

The Gap Nobody's Fixed Yet

The report's most sobering section isn't about wins — it's about capacity. FMCSA regulates close to 8 million entities with 1,118 employees, or one employee per 7,155 regulated entities. The FAA, by comparison, has 46,000 employees overseeing 1.7 million entities — a ratio of roughly one to 38. FMCSA's 2026 budget request is a little over $1 billion; the FAA's is over $27 billion.

Source: TAEC, Trucking Resurgence: The Fight for Fairness and Safety — Progress Report, released July 18, 2026.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, August 24, 2026
Contact: Rebecca Brewster
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Trucking Industry Asked to Rank Top Concerns

Washington, D.C. – The American Transportation Research Institute, the trucking industry's not-for-profit research organization, today launched the 2026 Top Industry Issues Survey. The annual survey asks trucking industry stakeholders to rank the top issues of concern for the industry along with potential strategies for addressing each issue.

Now in its 22nd year, ATRI's annual analysis not only ranks the issues overall but also provides insights into how critical topics are ranked differently by motor carriers and truck drivers. The report also allows trucking stakeholders to monitor issues over time to better understand which issues are rising, or falling, in criticality.

"For more than two decades, the Top Industry Issues list has been essential reading for any professional seeking to gain deeper insight into the current state of trucking. Compiled annually by ATRI, this report provides a crucial snapshot that identifies trucking's biggest challenges, sets our priorities, and focuses the ATA Federation's advocacy to develop commonsense solutions. Just as important, it serves as a valuable guide for influential policymakers who want to understand how they can best support the men and women who keep America moving," said **ATA Chair Greg Hodgen, Groendyke Transport, Inc. Chief Executive Officer**.

"ATRI's annual survey gives all truck drivers a collective voice. If your top concern is the lack of truck parking, driver compensation, detention at customer facilities, driver training, infrastructure or something else, this is your chance to bring those issues to light and have your voice heard. I encourage you to please take a few minutes to complete the online survey and encourage your peers to do so also," said **Bob Bramwell, an America's Road Team Captain and professional truck driver for ABF Freight**.

The results of the 2026 survey will be released October 18, 2026, as part of the American Trucking Associations Management Conference & Exhibition to be held in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Industry stakeholders are encouraged to complete the 2026 survey available by **clicking here**. The survey will remain open through October 2, 2026.

ATRI is the trucking industry's 501c3 not-for-profit research organization. It is engaged in critical research relating to freight transportation's essential role in maintaining a safe, secure and efficient transportation system.