Fort Myers Accident Highlights Dangers of Big Trucks By: Carmen Dellutri

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A recent <u>Fort Myers truck accident</u> on Interstate I-75 highlights that even small errors by big trucks can lead to serious injuries.

A Naples truck driver was cited for making an improper lane change while being passed and for operating a vehicle in an unsafe condition in connection with an accident last month. As <u>Naples News</u> reports, the driver turned his tractor-trailer into the path of a passing vehicle, causing serious injuries to both the driver and the passenger.

Unfortunately, these types of accidents are on the rise. In 2010, 276,000 semis and other large trucks were involved in crashes resulting in 3,675 fatalities and 80,000 injuries. The number of truck-accident related deaths represents a nine percent increase over 2009 figures.

With this in mind, we remind drivers to exercise extra caution when maneuvering around large trucks on Florida's roadways. Below are a few specific tips:

- Let trucks have the right of way.
- Never cut-off a truck, especially when it may need to stop.
- Trucks have large blind spots called "no zones." That means if you cannot see the truck driver in his outside mirrors, than he probably can't see your vehicle.
- Maintain at least a minimum four-second following distance from a truck.
- When passing, remember that large trucks are much longer than automobiles and take a longer time to pass.
- Maintain a constant speed when passing and make sure you can see the front of the truck in your rear-view mirror before moving in front of the truck.
- Be careful when passing a truck that is also pulling a trailer, as there are times when the trailer could swing in your lane.
- Do not try to squeeze into the space next to a large truck when it's making a turn, because it could hit you or even drive over the top of your car.
- When traveling on the highway, try not to position your car in between two or more trucks, as they may not see you and pull into your lane, forcing you into another vehicle.
- If you are stopped behind a commercial truck on an incline, leave space in between in case the truck drifts backward when it shifts gears.

The <u>Dellutri Law Group</u> is focused on making bad situations better and putting lives back together. If you or someone you love has been seriously injured in a **Fort Myers accident** caused by someone else's negligence, you may be entitled to compensation.

To learn more about your legal options, contact our experienced <u>Fort Myers injury</u> <u>attorneys</u> for a free consultation.