NC Car Accident Lawyers Addresses Durham Truck Accident Risks Following I-85 Log Truck Crash

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CHARLOTTE, NC - June 12, 2026 -
NC Car Accident Lawyers highlights the complex liability issues facing Durham motorists after a multi-vehicle crash involving a log truck on Interstate 85 near the Durham-Granville County line on June 13, 2025, closed both southbound and northbound lanes for more than two hours. The incident, which scattered logs across the road surface and created a traffic standstill stretching for miles, underscores the unique legal challenges commercial truck accidents present under North Carolina's contributory negligence standard.

The June crash exemplifies the specific risks Durham County motorists face from commercial vehicle traffic. Durham County averaged 9,000 total traffic crashes per year from 2020 through 2024, with commercial vehicle crashes including logging trucks, delivery vans, and Research Triangle Park freight carriers folded into general statistics rather than tracked separately, according to NCDOT data. This makes it difficult for victims to assess Durham's commercial vehicle risk without examining specific corridor data.

The I-85 corridor through Durham County carries a mix of long-haul tractor-trailers, regional delivery trucks,

and specialized logging and agricultural haulers serving rural Granville and Person County operations to the north. These commercial vehicle crashes involve Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration regulations, timber hauler-specific cargo securement rules, and potentially multiple parties, including the log hauler, the timber company, and the land management contractor.

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration cargo securement regulations under 49 C.F.R. Part 393 govern how logs and lumber must be secured on commercial flatbeds. When violations of these regulations contribute to a cargo spillage crash, they constitute federal statutory violations that establish both negligence and causation simultaneously, giving Durham truck accident lawyer cases involving struck victims a particularly strong liability foundation.

Research Triangle Park, the 7,000-acre research campus adjacent to Durham, generates continuous delivery vehicle traffic on NC-54, Davis Drive, and the I-40/I-85 interchanges. This includes same-day delivery vans, pharmaceutical distribution trucks, and laboratory supply carriers that operate under different regulatory frameworks than long-haul trucking.

North Carolina's contributory negligence rule eliminates all recovery if a truck accident victim is found even one percent at fault. Trucking company and timber company defense teams begin reviewing dashcam footage and cargo securement logs within hours of a crash. Victims who make statements before obtaining legal representation routinely provide information that is used to construct a contributory fault argument.

"When cargo securement regulations are violated and logs or other materials scatter across a federal highway, the combination of FMCSA violation and resulting crash creates a liability record that establishes both negligence and causation simultaneously," stated a firm representative for NC Accident Lawyers Durham truck accident lawyer services. "However, even when a commercial trucking company's cargo securement violation caused the crash, defense attorneys will probe whether the victim was following too closely, had time to brake, or was distracted. Any finding of even one percent fault eliminates all recovery under North Carolina law."

NC Car Accident Lawyers is a network of personal injury law firms serving truck accident victims and other injured motorists throughout North Carolina, with offices in Durham, Raleigh, and Charlotte. The firm handles commercial truck accidents, car accidents, motorcycle crashes, and rideshare collisions on a contingency fee basis, with no upfront costs and free case evaluations available 24 hours a day.

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NC Car Accident Lawyers

North Carolina Car Accident Lawyers fight for your rights and fair compensation after an accident, handling legal challenges so you can focus on recovery.

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