

THE GREEN LIGHT

The official newsletter of ATA Comp Fund

WHAT'S INSIDE

Holiday Safety Tips: 2-3
Building Blocks of a Safety Culture: 4
Monthly Safety Training: 5
Safety Spotlight: 6-7
What's Happening: 8
Program News: 9

IT'S THE HOLIDAY SEASON...

2025 is winding down, but not before holiday celebrations begin. While Thanksgiving is the "official" start of the Season, many holiday enthusiasts are already in full celebratory mode, putting up decorations and dusting off those Christmas music playlists (and we support this 100%).

With the holidays, comes more travel. People are hitting the roads during this time of year, and with that comes the risk of increased accidents, injuries, and fatalities.

As we all prepare to travel and visit family during the holidays, remember to stay aware, focused, and SAFE.

HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

Jason Brown November 18, 2025

'Tis the season for celebration... AND for safety awareness! As holiday travel, decorating, & online shopping peak, so do the risks of home fires, package theft, and cyber scams. From electric vehicle (EV) battery hazards & kitchen fires, AI-driven fraud, and porch pirates, this holiday season brings new challenges that demand proactive steps.

Here are some practical tips to keep your home, family, & data safe; so, you can focus on what matters most... enjoying the holidays!



DECORATIONS & HOME FIRE SAFETY

- **BATTERY & EV CHARGER HAZARDS:** A recent survey warns against the fire risk of overnight charging of e-bikes/power tool batteries. Avoid charging unsupervised and use certified accessories.
- **DAISY-CHAINING RISKS:** 57% of decorators still daisy-chain power strips. The survey advises using certified light sets, timers, weatherproof outlets, and avoid overcrowding.
- **DRY CHRISTMAS TREE SAFETY:** Water live trees daily and keep heat sources more than 3 feet away.

COOKING & KITCHEN SAFETY

- **THANKSGIVING FIRE SPIKES:** NFPA reported almost 1500 Thanksgiving cooking fires in 2023. In fact there are an estimated 88,000 annual cooking fires, with a 240% surge on Thanksgiving Day.
- **COMMON IGNITION TRENDS:** 66% of kitchen fires begin at the source of ignition, when flames meet flammable items; 34% are from leaving food unattended.
- **SAFETY TOOL GAPS:** Only 14% of households check smoke detectors monthly; 53% of homes lack carbon monoxide detectors; 25% lack kitchen fire extinguishers.

HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS *CONTINUED*

PACKAGE THEFT & GIFTING

- **PORCH PIRATE ANXIETY:** 62% of Americans fear package theft and over 60% favor secure delivery. Consider adopting smart doorbells and/or package lockboxes.
- **COUNTERFEITS & UNSAFE DEALS:** 58% of buyers prioritize price. Over 83 million Americans unknowingly bought counterfeit items online in 2024.
- **TOY INJURIES:** There are an estimated 155,000 toy-related Emergency Room visits for children 12 or younger annually. Read recommended ages and consider potential hazards before gifting.



SCAMS & CYBERSECURITY

- **AI-ENHANCED FRAUD:** Deepfake and AI text/scams rose 1500% worldwide in 2024. In the US, victims lost over \$1 trillion last year alone. Do your research before purchasing.
- **PHISHING & NON-DELIVERY SCHEMES:** IRS, USPS, and the FTC warn of scams posing as delivery updates. Do not click links and verify on official sites.
- **HOLIDAY SCAM LOSSES:** FBI reported holiday fraud costs of \$309 million in 2023. The USPS warns of counterfeit postage scams and mail theft. Learn more [HERE](#).

As we wrap up the year, remember that safety doesn't take a holiday. Whether you're decorating, cooking, shopping online, or hitting the road, a few simple precautions can prevent accidents & reduce stress. Stay alert, plan ahead, & share these tips with family, friends, & coworkers. Remember... the best gift you can give this season is a safe & joyful celebration!

BUILDING BLOCKS OF A SAFETY CULTURE RECAP

Abby Greer November 15, 2025

That's a wrap on our Building Blocks of a Safety Culture Alabama tour this year! We hope our attendees enjoyed a day full of valuable content. The Building Blocks of a Safety Culture (BBSC) is designed to bring together trucking industry professionals to explore the tools, insights, and strategies essential for fostering a strong and sustainable safety culture within your organization.



ACCIDENT & INJURY TRENDS

ATA COMP FUND
RISK MANAGEMENT

From accident and injury trends to how your company's hiring process can impact your claims, our Risk Management team provided statistics and solutions you can use immediately. They even conducted a "What Not to Do" for a post-incident interview!

Safety is not about more rules and regulations; it is about changing the behavior of employees to create a culture of prevention. Building a culture of safety may not prevent accidents from happening, but it changes the perception that accidents are just "part of doing business".



BUILDING A SAFETY CULTURE

ATA COMP FUND
RISK MANAGEMENT



BEYOND COMPLIANCE: Operational Efficiencies as a Safety Strategy

CLINTON SEYMOUR
ALABAMA TRUCKING ASSOCIATION

Compliance is the baseline, but efficiency drives real results. The "run smart, not hard" approach boost profits, improves safety, and creates a stronger company culture. Alabama Trucking Association's very own, Clinton Seymour, showed how safety is Beyond Compliance.

The thought of a workers' compensation claim is enough to cause panic in the calmest of minds. So what are the "Best Practices" for reporting (and managing) claims? What do you do if there is a CAT claim? What are your options for Return-to-Work or Modified Duty?



INCIDENT TO RESOLUTION: Winning Workers' Comp with Investigation & Strategy

ATA COMP FUND
CLAIMS MANAGEMENT

NEED SAFETY TRAINING IDEAS? 2026 CALENDAR IS COMING!

Abby Greer November 15, 2025

Coming up with fresh, new content for monthly safety trainings can be tough. Our Risk Managers have been working hard to provide an easy tool that can assist in safety training for our members... and helps to alleviate some of the stress that comes with scheduling these very important meetings. The MONTHLY SAFETY TRAINING CALENDAR provides topics for each month and includes a one-page handout, relevant videos from our our archives, and a quick game to reinforce the message and be used for prizes!

JANUARY

New Year, Safe Start. Let's take a moment to refresh our team on general safety, hazard awareness, and safety goals.



FEBRUARY

Impaired Driving is still a major concern. There are plenty of hazards on the road while *not* driving impaired. Just don't do it.



MARCH

Slips, Trips, and Falls remain one of the most frequent causes for workplace injuries. Step up the concept of situational awareness.



APRIL

Distracted driving is 100% preventable. Don't let any call, text, email, or other distraction put you and others at risk.



This resource is available exclusively to members of the ATA Comp Fund program and is also available in our [Online Portal](#) under the Resources tab. Contact your Risk Manager today to learn more about how you can incorporate this useful tool in your safety trainings!

SAFETY SPOTLIGHT

Abby Greer November 12, 2025

The "Safety Spotlight" feature of The Green Light shines the spotlight on safety professionals to gain insight into their background, and their thoughts and ideas on safety in our industry.

Meet Wanda Brooks, CDS – Compliance Manager at RE Garrison Trucking in Cullman, Alabama. Her career in trucking began in 1994, but has had a love of trucking her entire life. Her uncle and stepdad were truckers and, whenever the opportunity arose, she would play in their trucks and pretend she was a trucker. Trucking is in her blood...

How did you get started in Safety?

I started out in safety in 1994 at ADF in Forest, MS, as the assistant plant manager. I was the first person that the plant manager hired and helped build the plant from ground up.



I literally started working out of a pickup truck building the policies and procedures book and oversaw the monthly employee safety meeting that all employees had to attend. I trained employees on bloodborne pathogens, CPR, onboarded all employees for safety while on the operations floor to use PPE, wearing safety glasses, gloves, ear plugs, hard hats and steel toe shoes.

What do you view as the main duties of a Safety Director?

A director is setting expectations for the team, to create team building opportunities, support the culture, and create leadership training opportunities for the team.

Why is safety important to you?

The lives of our drivers and the safety of the motoring public is a top priority.

What has been the most challenging task in your role/career as a Safety Director?

Having all departments to realize everything starts and ends with safety. No matter what industry you are working in. There are only two jobs in trucking, driving the truck or supporting the person driving the truck.

SAFETY SPOTLIGHT

Continued

How do you promote your company's safety culture? How do you get employees to "buy in" or get involved?

At RE Garrison, we set the expectation from the "Crown driver program." When a driver does the whole driving job, 7 KPI's are easily met and leave no space for the driver not to capitalize on the opportunity to return as good or better than they left and deliver the freight for a profit and become a "Crown Driver."

What advice do you wish you had received early in your safety career? What advice would you give to someone who is starting out in their safety role?

How important Safety is to the profitability of the business. Rates change, roads change, people change, but safety is safety. Either you prioritize care about the driver's safety or you're in the wrong department. My best advice is to build a safety culture by building relationships.

What is one piece of advice you would give to a Trucker? What would be your safety quote or message?

Advice I would give a Trucker, you know your body better than anyone else or any technology device, don't be distracted but focus on your surroundings. At the end of the day lives matter!

Any other information you would like to provide?

I have written 7 books. My last one is "I want to be a Trucker." The Lord laid this one on my heart last November leaving Women in Trucking. All my books are God inspired. I enjoyed writing this one because it is so important to this generation to understand how important a driver is. Without truck drivers moving freight the world would be totally in chaos. And all we see now days are billboards and commercials to sue that big old bad trucking industry to the point a lot of them are going out of business. Trucking is a great career, and there are many avenues for truckers. A mechanic is a trucker, the owner is a trucker, dispatcher is a trucker, and a safety person is a trucker.



Scan here to order your copy of
I want to be a Trucker today!

WHAT'S HAPPENING



AMERICAN TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH INSTITUTE (ATRI) SEEKS RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS

A new ATRI research initiative aims to study the rising costs of Commercial Auto and potential strategies for managing risks. Each participating carrier will receive a customized report, comparing their fleet's cost of risk to their peer group. You can complete the survey [HERE](#). Deadline is Friday, December 19th.

ALABAMA TRUCKING HONORS FRAZIER

The [Alabama Trucking Association](#) is celebrating the retirement of Tim Frazier, a longtime safety leader who devoted more than 50 years of service to the trucking industry. All ATA Members are invited to join as they celebrate Tim's Legacy on Wednesday, December 10th at the Alabama Trucking headquarters. RSVP by December 3rd [HERE](#).



HOLIDAY HOURS

NOVEMBER 26 ATACF/AIR: 8AM - 12PM CCMSI: 8AM - 2PM	NOVEMBER 27 ATACF/AIR: CLOSED CCMSI: CLOSED CCMSI On-Call (Thanksgiving): Glenda Howe 309-472-0466	NOVEMBER 28 ATACF/AIR: CLOSED CCMSI: CLOSED
DECEMBER 23 ATACF/AIR: 8AM - 5PM CCMSI: 8AM - 2PM	DECEMBER 24 ATACF/AIR: 8AM - 12PM CCMSI: CLOSED CCMSI On-Call (Christmas): Ron Walker 941-321-6985	DECEMBER 25 ATACF/AIR: CLOSED CCMSI: CLOSED
DECEMBER 26 ATACF/AIR: CLOSED CCMSI: 8AM - 5PM	DECEMBER 31 ATACF/AIR: 8AM - 12PM CCMSI: 8AM - 12PM CCMSI On-Call (New Years): Jennifer Whitfield 205-240-4027	JANUARY 1 ATACF/AIR: CLOSED CCMSI: CLOSED
JANUARY 2 ATACF/AIR: CLOSED CCMSI: 8AM - 5PM		

In case of emergency, please contact Suzy Baker (Director of Claims) at 334-425-4298

On behalf of the ATA Comp Fund Board of Trustees and our entire team, we express our gratitude for every partnership we have. From our agency and broker partners to our 600+ member companies, we are thankful for the trust placed in our program over the years.

Thank you!



PROGRAM NEWS

RENEWALS HAVE BEEN PROCESSED... WHAT'S NEXT?

Renewals have been issued as of mid-October and you should have received your coverage documents via email. Please take a moment to review your 2026 coverage and, if there are any questions or updates, notify a member of Underwriting at (334) 834-7911.

Year-end audit information is going out in the next few weeks. Be on the lookout for email communications regarding scheduling your 2025 payroll audits. We are excited to announce a new and approved Audit process, including a user-friendly online portal. If you have questions about this upcoming audit season, please contact Rita Golson at RGolson@ATACompFund.org or Tameka Sharpe at TSharpee@ATACompFund.org.

OUR TEAM IS GROWING!

Please join us in welcoming Leslie Prince as our Underwriting Account Manager! Leslie joined our team on October 15th with previous experience in insurance account management. She will be responsible for managing and servicing existing accounts for the ATA Comp Fund and AIR programs.



Wesley Peebles joined us November 17th and is responsible for providing loss control and risk management services to our member companies in Georgia and Florida. With more than a decade of experience in safety leadership, transportation compliance, and management, Wesley brings a practical, solutions-focused approach to reducing workplace risk and strengthening safety culture.



A copy of our most recent [Financials](#) can be found on our website.

