Ross Moore Law Examines DeKalb Truck Crash Liability

September 10, 2026

ATLANTA, GA - September 10, 2026 -
Two serious tractor-trailer crashes on Interstate 20 near Panola Road in DeKalb County within a single week have drawn attention to the legal complexity facing truck accident victims when collisions occur in highway construction zones. On October 21, 2025, a woman in her 30s was killed on I-20 East near Panola Road (Exit 17) after her sedan struck the rear of a tractor-trailer that had stopped due to construction. Her vehicle came to rest underneath the trailer in the center lane, where it was then struck by a second vehicle. DeKalb County Police and the Georgia Department of Transportation confirmed all eastbound lanes were blocked from approximately 3:10 a.m. to 5:45 a.m., according to Atlanta News First and FOX 5 Atlanta. Investigations into the crash remain ongoing, and no findings of fault have been established.

One week earlier, on October 14, 2025, a multi-vehicle crash involving a tractor-trailer on I-20 West past Panola Road seriously injured at least one person, triggering a medevac helicopter response, the closure of all westbound lanes, and a DeKalb County Police investigation, according to GDOT and Atlanta News First. The two incidents mark a second serious tractor-trailer crash on the same corridor within seven days.

Federal and state reporting reflects a rise in commercial vehicle crash volume in Georgia over the past decade. Figures published by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and GDOT indicate that reported truck-involved crashes statewide increased from roughly 19,000 in 2013 to more than 50,000 in 2023. Because reporting definitions and datasets can vary year to year, the two figures reflect the agencies' published statewide counts rather than a single fixed methodology. The I-20 corridor serves as a primary east-west freight route connecting Atlanta to Birmingham, Augusta, and Savannah, carrying heavy commercial truck volumes alongside passenger traffic through Decatur at highway speeds.

When a tractor-trailer stops in a construction zone and a following vehicle strikes it, potential liability may involve multiple parties, including the truck carrier, the construction contractor, and GDOT, depending on what investigations ultimately determine about hazard lighting, signage, lane taper design, flagging operations, and traffic control plans. Such determinations are made only after the facts are established, and no party is presumed at fault in advance. Georgia Senate Bill 68, signed April 21, 2025, permits defendants in civil litigation to apportion fault to unnamed non-parties. In a matter involving several potentially responsible parties, each defense team may seek to distribute fault to the others, a dynamic that can affect the share of damages a plaintiff ultimately recovers.

"In construction zone truck crashes, the carrier's defense may argue the contractor's lane taper or flagging contributed, the contractor's defense may argue the carrier's hazard lighting was inadequate, and GDOT may argue both private parties bear responsibility," said Ross Moore, Founding Attorney at Ross Moore Law. "SB 68 lets each defendant point to the others as unnamed non-parties without formally adding them. That is why early evidence preservation matters so much. The work of a Decatur Truck Accident Lawyer often begins with preservation requests to the carrier for electronic logging and event-data records, to the contractor for traffic control plans and flagging logs, and to GDOT for construction zone design records, because that information can become difficult to obtain as time passes."

Ross Moore Law represents Decatur and DeKalb County truck accident victims from its Atlanta office and litigates I-20 and I-285 personal injury and wrongful death claims in the DeKalb County State Court and Superior Court. Additional commentary on construction zone liability is available from the Ross Moore Decatur Truck Accident Lawyer team.

Ross Moore Law is a BBB-accredited personal injury law firm founded in 2012 by Attorney Ross Moore II, a seven-consecutive-year Georgia Super Lawyers Rising Stars honoree, representing truck accident victims,

car accident survivors, and other injury clients throughout Decatur, DeKalb County, Metro Atlanta, and Nashville, Tennessee. The firm handles cases on a contingency fee basis.

###

For more information about Ross Moore Law, contact the company here:Ross Moore LawRoss Moore Law7068907541info@rossmoorelaw.com309 North Highland Avenue Northeast A, Atlanta, GA 30307

Ross Moore Law

Ross Moore Law is a personal injury firm in Atlanta, led by Ross Moore, offering dedicated legal representation to accident victims across Georgia, focusing on maximizing settlements and protecting clients' rights.

Website: https://rossmoorelaw.com/

Email: info@rossmoorelaw.com

Phone: 7068907541