

## ***Please Stop Preventable Underride Injury and Death***

***AnnahLeah & Mary for Truck Safety***  
[annaleahmary.com](http://annaleahmary.com)

***StopUnderrides.org***  
[stopunderrides.org](http://stopunderrides.org)

September 15, 2020

Company Name  
Street Address  
City, State Zipcode

Company Name Board and Name of CEO/President:

We, on behalf of thousands of underride victims and for the motoring public, are begging you to take action to stop preventable injury and death from underride collisions. Motor vehicle accidents cannot be stopped, but injury and death as a result of a passenger vehicle passing underneath a semi trailer can be prevented by simple devices.

In 1969, the DOT noted the danger and proposed rulemaking to prevent a passenger vehicle from sliding beneath the rear of a semi trailer. Since then, hundreds of millions of dollars have been spent in developing motor vehicle safety devices such as energy absorbing structures, seatbelts, airbags, and collision avoidance systems. All of these safety devices are ineffective when a vehicle crashes into a semitrailer due to underride. *You and your loved ones will more likely survive a crash into a brick wall than into a semitrailer.*

Trailer manufacturers have been aware of this issue for decades and have lobbied against safety development, worked together to counter civil lawsuits, and attempted to maintain confidential settlements with underride victims instead of addressing these dangerous and defective trailer designs with transparency and integrity.

The IIHS has proven via research and testing that most semitrailers built before 2019 were manufactured with dangerous and defective rear guards. These rear guards fail to prevent underride injury and death in collisions that are otherwise survivable (<https://www.iihs.org/topics/large-trucks/truck-underride>). North American semitrailers do not have side guards.

Since 2014 Aaron Kiefer ([www.trailerguards.com](http://www.trailerguards.com)) and Perry Ponder ([www.angelwingskirts.com](http://www.angelwingskirts.com)) have spent personal time and savings on developing life saving retrofit devices to mitigate the underride risk to the motoring public. Visit their websites to see how the *AngelWing* side guard, *ToughGuard* rear reinforcement, or the combined *SafetySkirt* full protection system can be purchased and installed onto your trailer fleet.

Please join us in ending these preventable tragedies by installing retrofit side and rear guarding devices on your trailers. Your actions will save innocent lives and prevent the burden and heartache of litigating these accidents.

Sincerely,

Jerry and Marianne Karth

Mark Hawkins & Lois Durso-Hawkins



*Angelwing Retrofit, 40 mph Test*



*ToughGuard Retrofit, 38 mph / 30% Overlap Test*



*SafetySkirt Retrofit System (Angelwing, SafetySkirt, ToughGuard for max fuel savings and complete underride protection)*