



The Caltrux 5th Wheel

WEEKLY NEWS & INFORMATION FROM THE CALIFORNIA TRUCKING ASSOCIATION

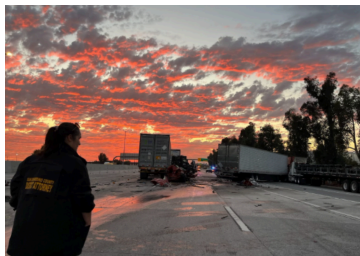


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CTA's Government Affairs Team Shares Non-Dom CDL Update

Despite the 2025 winding down, the **Trump Administration** and the **California Department of Motor Vehicles (CA DMV)** continue to square off over **non-domiciled commercial driver's licenses (CDLs)**.

As you are likely aware of by now, CA DMV paused the issuance and renewal of CDLs on September 29 as new federal rules took effect. Just a week later, the DMV issued 60-day cancellation notices to 17,000 holders.

A November 13th full court stay from the **U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit** paused the federal restrictions, allowing states to potentially continue issuing licenses under previous, broader regulations pending review of the **Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA)** Interim Final Rule (IFR) regarding non-domiciled CDLs.

On December 10, CA DMV sent a letter to the **Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA)** stating the agency would resume processing non-domiciled CDLs on December 17.

Several media outlets published stories under the presumption that the DMV would resume processing CDLs without consideration of potential intervention from the federal government.

The federal government responded the following week, on December 16, preventing the CA DMV from resuming the issuance and renewal of non-domiciled CDLs. **As a result the CA DMV has again delayed their plan.** However, CA DMV's cancellation notice sent to non-domiciled CDL holders remains in effect as initially indicated by the agency.

The situation remains fluid and CTA will notify members of any changes as information becomes available.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact [Nick Chiappe](#).

Registration Open for January Virtual Policy Committee Meeting

CTA will be hosting our virtual Policy Committee meetings on January 14th and 15th! Participants are welcome to register for one, some of, or all of the committee meetings on CTA's website.

Meetings are scheduled for:

Wednesday, January 14th

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. PST - Kingpin Committee Meeting

10:05 a.m. - 11:05 a.m. PST - Highway Policy Committee Meeting

Thursday, January 15th

9:00 - 10:00 - Environmental Policy Committee Meeting

10:05 - 11:05 - Safety, Security, and HR Policy Committee Meeting



The Winter Board meeting will take place the following week during **CTA's Annual Membership Conference** on Friday, January 23rd.

Don't miss your chance to be a part of impactful discussions about our Association and hear updates on the upcoming legislative session and top industry issues.

Click the button below to register. We hope to see you all there!

[Register Now!](#)



ATA States Concerns Over Federal Pot Reclassification

Last week, following President Trump signing an executive order that reclassifies marijuana as a Schedule III substance, **American Trucking Associations' Vice President of Safety Policy Brenna Lyles** issued this statement:

“While we do not hold a formal position on marijuana legalization or deregulation, we are concerned about the safety risks of rescheduling marijuana without explicit safeguards to preserve the testing authority and technical requirements that apply to DOT-regulated, safety-sensitive workers. A safe driver is a qualified driver. And a qualified driver is drug- and alcohol-free. Motor carriers must retain reliable, enforceable tools to ensure they are not putting unqualified drivers behind the wheel.

“Without clear measures to ensure DOT’s drug- and alcohol-testing program retains—and is equipped to execute—marijuana testing authority, such a federal policy shift could have serious consequences for highway safety and the integrity of the national transportation network. This risk is exacerbated by the fact that there is currently no proven, widely accepted standard to determine marijuana impairment at roadside or before a driver begins operating a vehicle, making it far more difficult to prevent impaired driving.

“The stakes are not theoretical. Marijuana accounts for nearly 60 percent of all positive drug tests among commercial drivers subject to DOT testing requirements.

The ATA expressed its appreciation for the Department of Transportation’s ongoing commitment to highway safety and its work to strengthen driver qualification and enforcement standards. But urged DOT to proactively coordinate with HHS, DOJ, and Congress to ensure that any federal policy shift was rooted in safety.

Congress Passes Defense Bill with Moving & Storage Provisions Championed by ATA

The **American Trucking Associations (ATA)** is applauding the passage of the **National Defense Authorization Act** - which includes provisions supporting truck drivers and adding transparency and efficiency to the process of moving military families. The legislation now heads to the president's desk to be signed into law.



"In spite of the increasingly challenging political and legislative environment, ATA continues to grind out wins for the trucking industry," said **Henry Hanscom, ATA's senior vice president of legislative affairs**. "Truck drivers and motor carriers are critical to our national security, delivering military personnel and supplies where they need to be safely, securely, and on time. The significant reforms that ATA successfully secured in the annual defense bill will strengthen this essential partnership between trucking and the Pentagon."

The bill requires military installations to provide restroom access to truck drivers delivering munitions for DoD and includes several provisions intended to address waste, fraud, and abuse in the transportation of military freight. The new legislation also speaks to the moving and storage industry's indispensability to military readiness, enacting measures that will improve the process of military moves, contract benchmarking, servicemember reimbursement, and ensure better general oversight.

AMC26: Sessions & Speakers Announced

We're less than a month away from **CTA's 72nd Annual Membership Conference (AMC26)**! If you haven't already, it's time to register and make your plans.

Over AMC26's content-packed three-days - **January 21 to 23** - participate in informative sessions by day and relax among the extensive amenities by evening in and around the **Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa**.



We continue to add details to our [AMC26 schedule](#), but here's some highlights:

The Future of Transportation Funding
with **Kiana Valentine**, Transportation California,
and **Lauren Prehoda**, Caltrans

The 2026 Insurance Market Landscape
with **Mark Sektnan**, VP, State Government Relations,
American Property Casualty Insurance
Assoc. (APCIA)

Grid Sustainability & Reliability - Transitioning to ZEV Technology
with **Matt Schrap**, Chief Commercial Officer, **Forum Mobility**, and **Andrea Pratt**, VP of
Government and Utilities Relations, **Greenlane**

Minimizing Liability During Driver Hiring Process: A Legal & Compliance Discussion
with **Christopher J. Eckhart**, Partner, **Scopelitis**, and **Sue Lawless**, Partner, **Scopelitis**

There's just over a week left for the discounted group room rate at our host hotel. **Book before January 5th at \$289/night (plus taxes and fees)**. [Visit Monterey Plaza Rooms](#) to reserve online.

Be part of "**Driving the Economy, Steering the Future**" - join us at AMC26!

[Click Here for Details](#)

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AWARD/SCHOLARSHIP NOMINATIONS



TUF SOB: Calling All Scholars

The **TUF SOB** (Truckers United Fraternity Super Offspring of the Boss) scholarship program provides financial support towards furthering the educational goals of trucking's next generation and the industry's future leaders.

Created by CTA members, TUF SOB was created to raise funds and award grants to trucking's next generation.

More than three decades later, the program has provided in excess of \$400,000 in scholarships to over 500 deserving individuals.

TUF SOB scholarship awards go to high school graduates entering college, as well as those continuing their college education. The TUF SOB program also supports those that wish to go to trade schools, as well as adults wishing to attend college. Anyone who supports the trucking industry is considered, as long as they are sponsored by a CTA-member company.

Click below for the nomination form.

[2026 TUF SOB Application](#)

EVENTS

CTA's 72st Annual Membership Conference

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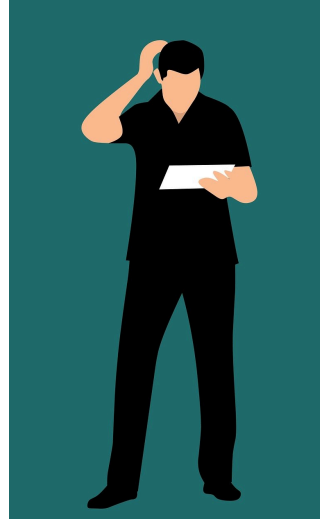
Remember to use the “Help Desk Online Contact Form” when you have a compliance or regulatory question on an issue.

The CTA Help Desk Online Contact Form is an exclusive member benefit designed to help with assisting various questions including:

- Driver qualification rules
- Drug testing questions
- Federal and California motor carrier safety regulations
- Log book/Hours-of-service regulations
- Vehicle load & securement rules
- Environmental regulations
- Hazardous materials regulations

Visit www.caltrux.org/compliance-help-desk/, or email helpdesk@caltrux.org.

Please be sure to include as much detail and information as possible. CTA's Government Affairs team will do their best to get back to you in timely manner.



Compliance Confusion? Help Desk Has Your Solutions!

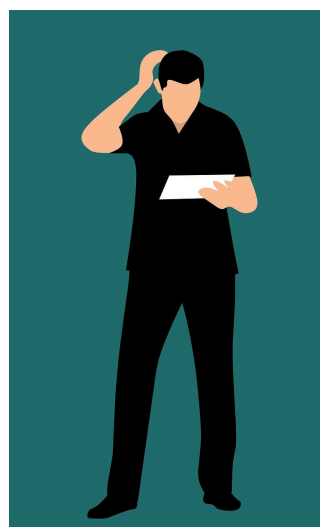
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[Contact the Help Desk](#)

DRIVER SAFETY EDUCATION

Brush Up on Safety Issues With TREDS

CTA is partnered with UC San Diego's [Transportation Research and Education for Driving Safety Center \(TREDS\)](#) to prevent crash-related morbidity and mortality by improving safe driving behaviors.

TREDS offers two courses aimed at preventing commercial motor vehicle-involved crashes from distracted and substance-impaired driving. They partner with the CTA to make courses available to the commercial motor vehicle industry.

Courses are approximately 60-minutes in length and available in both English and Spanish.



Courses focus on distraction related to the use of cell phones and electronic devices and...

Courses focus on substances most commonly reported to the FMCSA Drug & Alcohol Clearinghouse and...

Scope of the problem
Risk & consequences
Rules & regulations
Distracted, fatigued & drowsy driving
Work zone safety

Scope of the problem
Contributing factors
Risks & consequences
Laws & testing procedures
Strategies to drive-drug free

[Learn More](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Upcoming events can be accessed via CTA's Events Calendar](#)

MEMBER EXCLUSIVE BENEFITS & SERVICES



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[Contact Levi Ochotorena for more information and a CTA Member-exclusive price quote.](#)



The Caltrux Magazine Bookshelf: Digital Back Issues

For decades **Caltrux Magazine** has informed and entertained our members with news and features regarding the transport business, our legislative challenges and wins, and in-depth focus on the movers and shakers of California trucking.

The [Caltrux Bookshelf](#) uses a digital flipbook format to display these magazine issues in high quality, complete with articles and advertisements - identical to what you already receive in the mail.

