

The Transportation Law Firm

# A Meteor is Coming!

Ethics of Artificial Intelligence



# Agenda

- Define Technology and Artificial Intelligence
- ChatGPT
- 3. Ethics of AI under the Model Rules of Professional Conduct
- 4. Privacy, Surveillance, Intellectual Property, and Cybersecurity
- 5. Platforms for Al
- 6. Benefits of Al
- 7. Let's Try It Out
- 8. When in doubt, reach out!

#### A Meteor is Coming! Ethics of Artificial Intelligence

Cari L. Sheehan

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# **Defining Technology**

**Technology** - The application of scientific knowledge to efficiently solve real-world problems

**Technology disruption** - When innovation replaces existing systems and habits

**Internet of Things (IoT)** - The system of connected devices that provides the ability to send and receive information over the internet. "Things" refers to internet-connected devices such as smartphones, virtual assistants, and wearable technology.

**Reach** - The broad nature of technology as it moves through society

Self-sustaining - When technology acts as a catalyst to spur even faster development

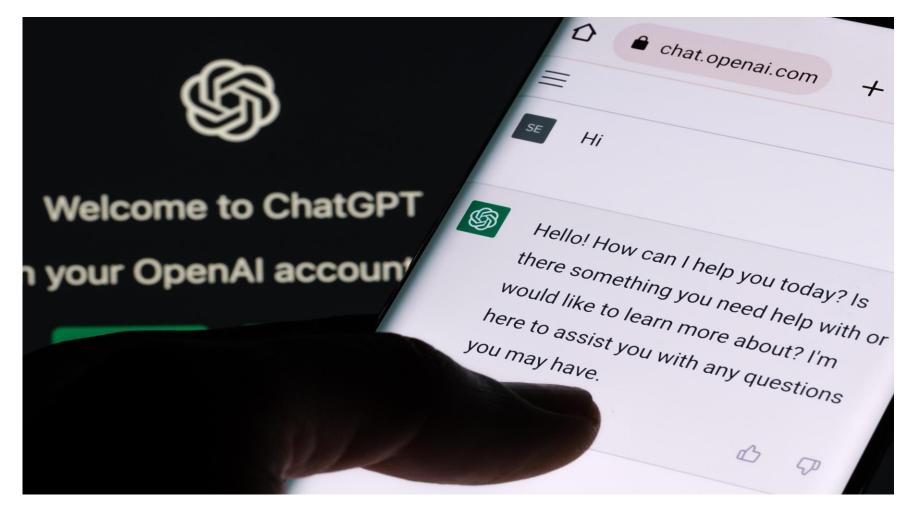


# Defining Artificial Intelligence

Technology that allows machines to learn and perform tasks that typically require human intelligence using algorithms and data



## **ChatGPT**





# ChatGPT (openai.com)

#### It is a "Generative Pre-trained Transformer"

- > ChatGPT 3.5 (Plus): Free Service; Not as reliable or accurate
- ➤ **GPT-4**: most advanced system, producing safer and more useful responses; Costs \$20/month for faster speed and exclusive access to beta features like browsing, plugins, and code interpreters
- > DALL-E: Al system that can create realistic images and art from a description in natural language; Cost 'credits' per usage



# ChatGPT Capabilities

#### **Language Generation:**

It can generate text in a natural language that is difficult to distinguish from text written by a human.

#### **Question Answering:**

It can answer questions based on a given context or topic.

#### **Text Completion:**

It can complete partially written text with suggestions that are contextually relevant.



# ChatGPT Capabilities

#### **Text Summarization:**

It can summarize long pieces of text into a shorter, more concise version.

#### **Language Translation:**

It can translate text from one language to another.

#### **Sentiment Analysis:**

It can analyze the tone and sentiment of text.

#### **Chatting:**

It can engage in conversations with users and provide them with relevant responses.



# ChatGPT Capabilities

Explain Stock (buying/selling) Options Trading

#### Design Database Schema

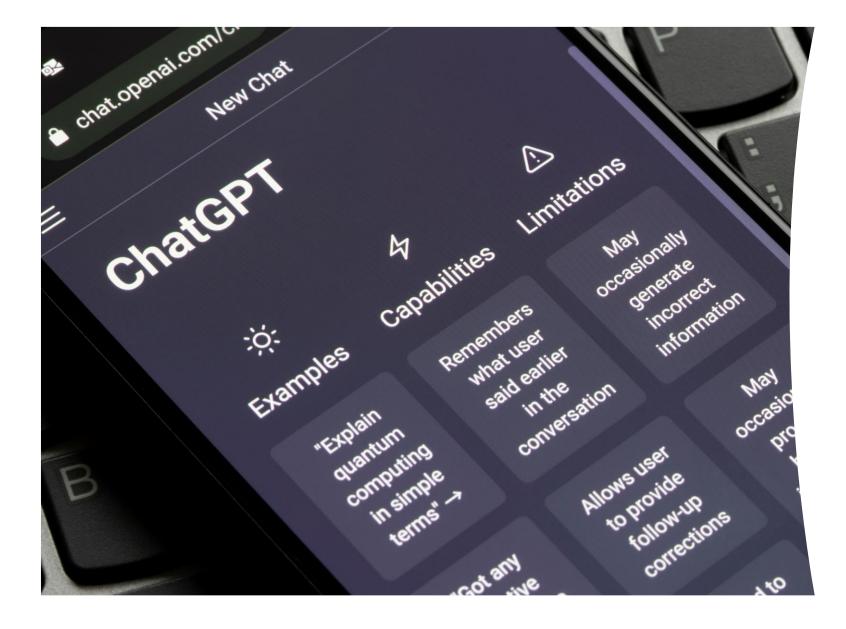
E.g., design for online merchandise store

**Brainstorm Names** 

#### **Recommend Activities**

E.g., team-building day with remote employees



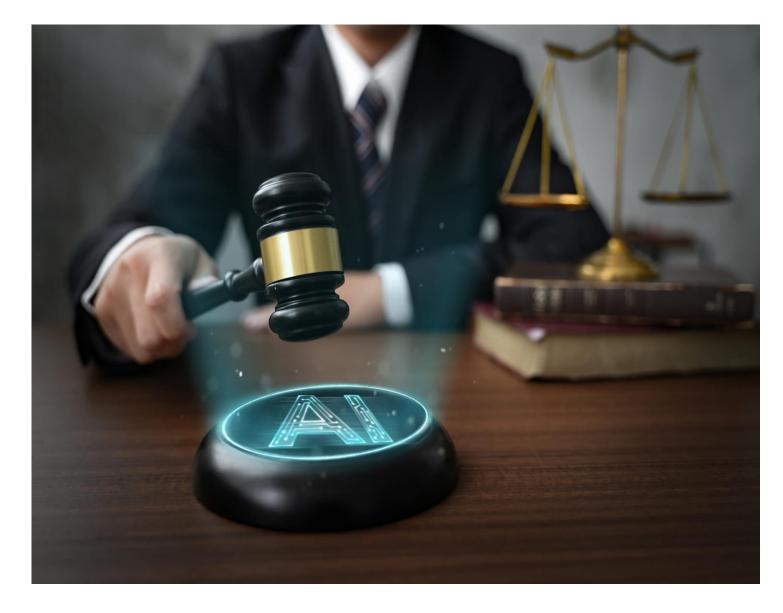


What happens if everyone uses ChatGPT?









Attorney Rules of
Professional
Conduct
vs.
Artificial Intelligence





# Model Rule 1.1 Competency

#### Rule 1.1 - Competency

- Lawyers must provide competent representation to a client
- Lawyers must have the requisite legal knowledge, skill, thoroughness, and preparation necessary to effectively represent a client

#### Rule 1.1, Comment 6

• To maintain the requisite knowledge and skill, a lawyer should keep abreast of changes in the law and its practice, *including the benefits and risks associated* with the technology relevant to the lawyer's practice, engage in continuing study and education and comply with all continuing legal education requirements to which the lawyer is subject.





# Model Rule 1.6 Confidentiality

#### Rule 1.6 - Confidentiality

- Lawyers shall not reveal information relating to the representation of a client unless the client gives informed consent
- Lawyers must take reasonable steps to prevent the disclosure of confidential information
- There is no exception under Rule 1.6(b) for artificial intelligence.
- You need to know how the information in input is being used, stored, and accessed!





## Model Rule 1.4 Communication

#### Rule 1.4 - Communication

- Lawyers shall promptly inform clients of any decision or circumstances needing the client's consent and/or input
- Lawyers have a duty to keep clients reasonably informed of the status of the matter, and to consult with clients regarding the means in which a lawyer uses to accomplish the client's objective





## Model Rule 1.5 Fees

#### Rule 1.5 - Fees

 Instructive regarding fees, but not definitive because based on "reasonableness"

 You cannot charge "what you would have spent" - you can only charge for "actual time and work performed"





## Model Rule 8.4 "Kitchen Sink"

Rule 8.4(a), (d), and (g) - The "Kitchen Sink" Rule

- (a) violate or attempt to violate the Rules of Professional Conduct, knowingly assist or induce another to do so, or do so through the acts of another;
- (d) engage in conduct that is *prejudicial to the administration of justice*;
- (g) engage in conduct, in a professional capacity, manifesting, by words or conduct, *bias or prejudice* based upon race, gender, religion, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, age, socioeconomic status, or similar factors. Legitimate advocacy respecting the foregoing factors does not violate this subsection. A trial judge's finding that preemptory challenges were exercised on a discriminatory basis does not alone establish a violation of this Rule.





# Model Rules 5.1 & 5.3 Supervision

#### Rules 5.1 (Supervision Subordinate Lawyers) and Rule 5.3 (Supervision of Non-Lawyers)

• Requires lawyers to adequately supervise and train other lawyers and nonlawyers (e.g., administrative staff, vendors, etc.)

#### **Considerations:**

- Can you definitively say that your assistant, law clerks, vendors, experts, outside counsel, etc. . . are not using AI to produce legal documents, analysis, or the like?
- Can you definitively say that in using AI your assistant, law clerks, vendors, experts, outside counsel, etc... are complying with the Rules of the Professional Conduct in using AI?



# SI

## Model Rule 4.1 Truthfulness

#### Rule 4.1 - Truthfulness in Statements to Others

- Lawyer shall not make a false statement of material fact or law to a third person
- Lawyer shall not fail to disclose a material fact to a third person when disclosure is necessary to avoid assisting in criminal of fraudulent act by a client, unless disclosure is prohibited by Rule 1.6

#### Other truthfulness rules that could be implicated:

 Rules 3.3 (Candor to Tribunal), 3.4 (Fairness to Opposing Counsel), and 7.1 (Truthfulness in Attorney Advertising)



What happens when you forget the Rules of Professional Conduct?

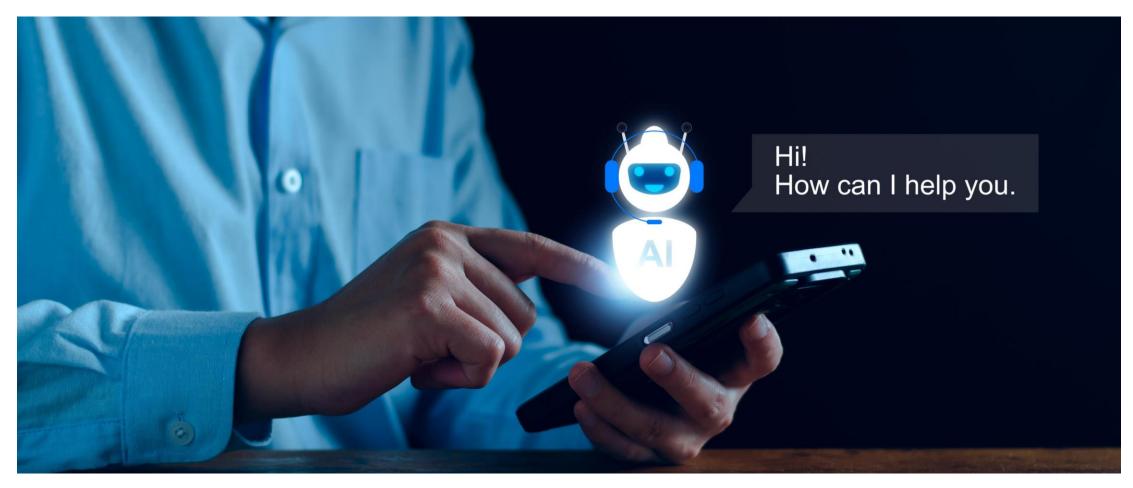








# Privacy, Surveillance, Intellectual Property, and Cybersecurity





## **Privacy**

#### **▶** Data Protection

- <u>Cookies</u> Data from a website that is stored on a computer, which is then sent back to the website
- Right to Be Forgotten Law allows internet users in the European Union (EU) to have unwanted links removed from Google search results
- General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) -European Union (EU) law on data protection and data privacy
  - Compliance can be costly to firms.
  - United States lacks a comprehensive consumer data protection law.
- Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) U.S. law that directs the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to create and enforce regulations governing the online privacy of children





### **SURVEILLANCE**

- Surveillance tools include cameras, beacons, biometric surveillance technology (e.g., facial recognition).
- Recognition technology is not accurate
- Recognition technology could lead to misidentification
- Facial recognition technology suffers from racial bias.

What about employee privacy?





#### INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

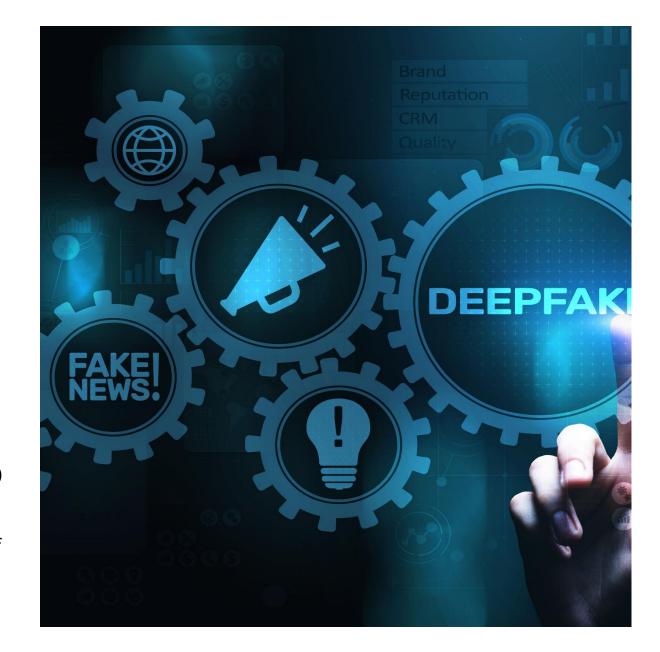
- ► Intellectual property Intangible ideas and creative materials
  - Technological advancements are challenging the ownership of intellectual property.
- ► Copyright Protects original works, both published and unpublished, including musical, literary, dramatic, and artistic works
  - Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) protects copyrighted materials on the internet
- ► Trademark Protects words, phrases, symbols, and designs
  - Cybersquatters defraud businesses and consumers.
- ► Patent Infringement When an organization makes, uses, or sells a patented item without permission
  - Misappropriation of emerging technologies can be expensive and difficult to prove.



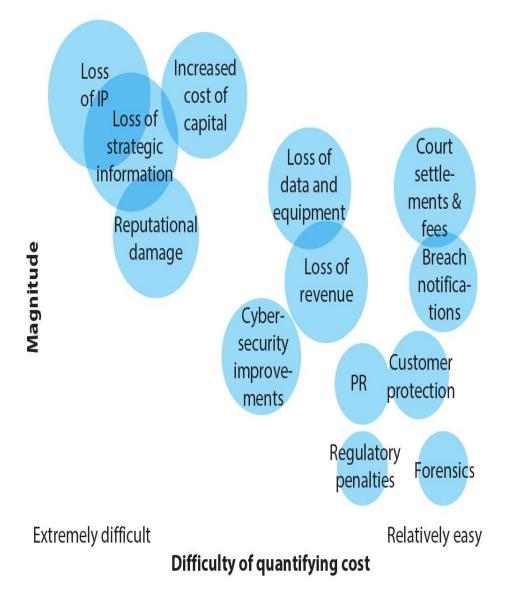


#### CYBERCRIME

- ► Malware Malicious software that can be used to steal intellectual property or sensitive customer data
- ► Fraud Intentional deceit for the purpose of financial or personal gain
  - Online fraud is a major issue for both businesses and consumers.
- ▶ Phishing A cybercrime in which attackers disguise themselves as a legitimate business to obtain sensitive information
- ▶ Deep Fake An image, or a voice audio recording, that has been edited using an algorithm to replace the person in the original with someone else (usually a public figure) in a way that makes it more authentic.
- ▶ Voice Cloning The creation of an artificial simulation of a person's voice.



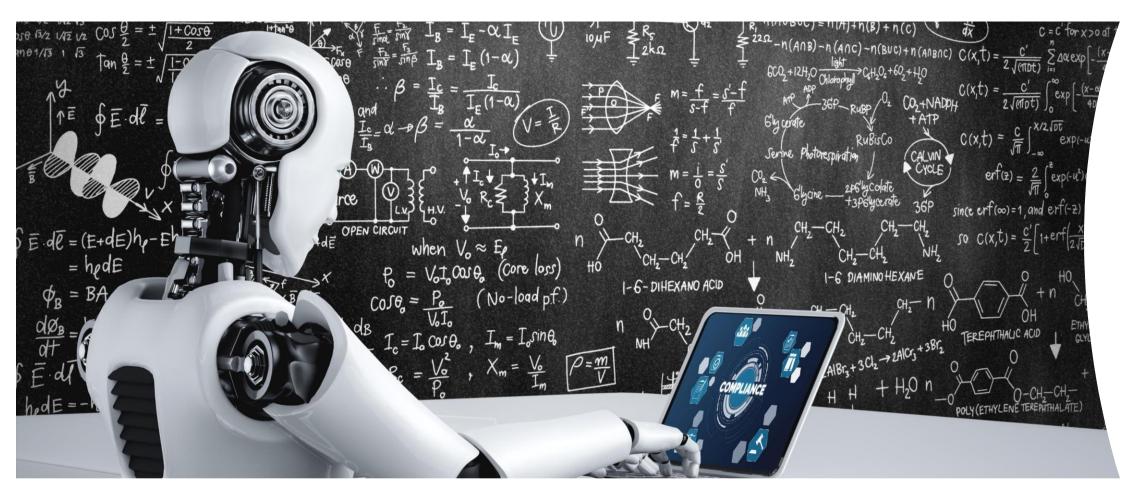




The Costs of an Adverse Cyber Event

Source: The Council of Economic Advisers, "The Cost of Malicious Cyber Activity to the U.S. Economy," February 2018, https://www. whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/The-Cost-of-Malicious-Cyber-Activity-to-the-U.S.-Economy.pdf (accessed March 29, 2021).

# Let's Take a Look







## Phishing and Voice Cloning





## **Voice Cloning**

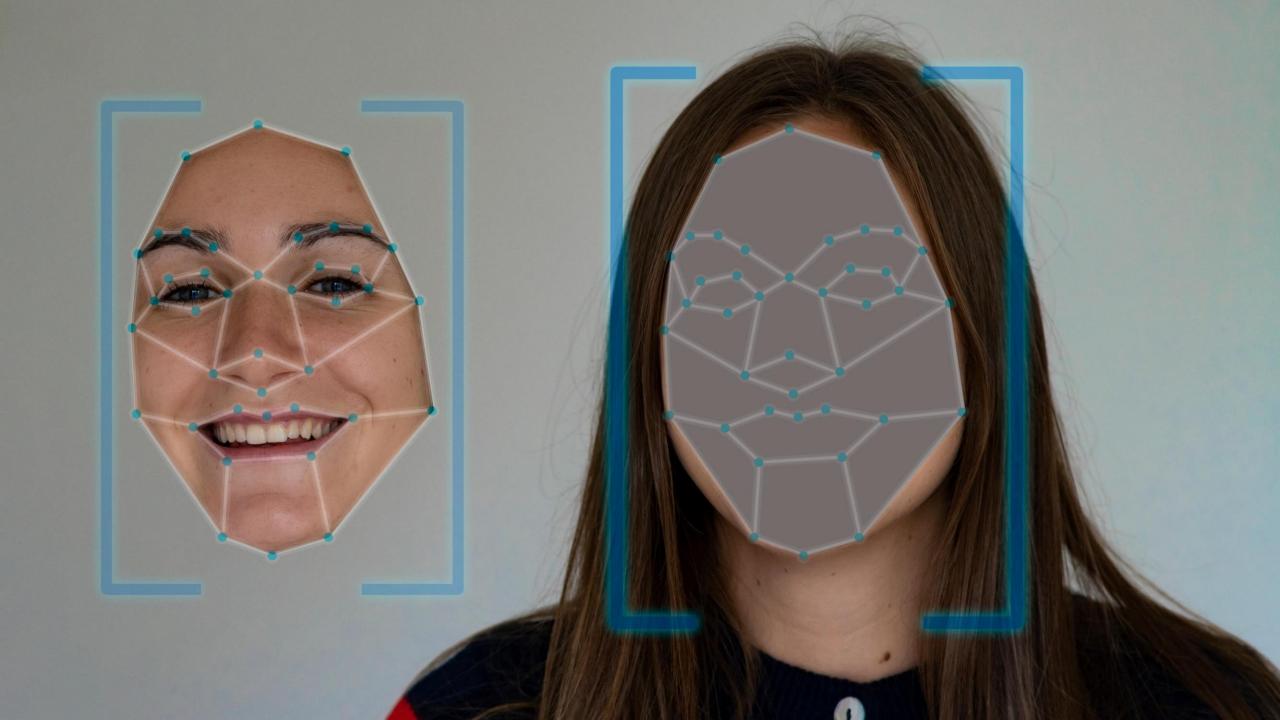




### Al and Copyright









#### **Discussion**

What other issues do you see arising?



Do you think we have a "digital divide" (defined next slide)?

#### Digital Divide

The varying levels of access to technology across social, geographical, and geopolitical groups



# Benefits and Useful Al Platforms in the Legal Professional





#### Benefits and Opportunities of Al

Improved Legal Research: AI-powered research tools enable legal professionals to efficiently analyze vast amounts of legal information and extract valuable insights.

**Streamlined Contract Review:** Al-based contract review platforms automate the review process, saving time and reducing the risk of errors or oversights.

**Efficient Document Automation**: Al technology can streamline document creation and management, enabling faster and more accurate drafting of legal documents.

**Enhanced Decision Support:** Al provides legal professionals with data-driven insights and predictive analytics, empowering them to make more informed decisions.



#### Improved Legal Research

**AI-Powered Legal Research Tools:** AI platforms offer advanced legal research capabilities, allowing legal professionals to access and analyze legal information more efficiently.

Case Law Analysis: All can analyze vast amounts of legal cases and extract relevant insights, supporting legal professionals in their research and decision-making process.

**Citation Analysis:** All algorithms can analyze citations and references, facilitating the identification of relevant legal sources and improving research efficiency.

**Predictive Analytics:** Al-powered predictive models can assist legal professionals in predicting case outcomes and assessing the likelihood of legal arguments' success.



#### Streamlined Contract Review

**Contract Management Systems:** Al-based contract management systems automate contract creation, organization, and monitoring, improving efficiency and compliance.

**Automated Data Extraction:** All can automatically extract relevant information from contracts, saving time and reducing manual effort in the review process.

Clause Analysis: Al-powered tools can analyze contract clauses, identifying potential legal issues, risks, and inconsistencies.

**Risk Assessment:** Al can assess the risk level associated with specific contract terms and provisions, enabling proactive risk mitigation.





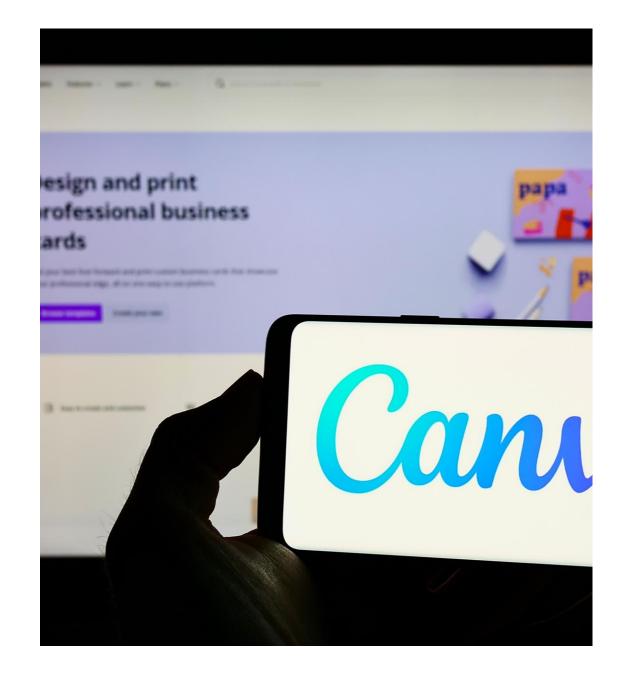
## Efficient Document Automation

**Efficient Document Automation:** Al technology can streamline document creation and management, enabling faster and more accurate drafting of legal documents.

**Template Creation:** All enables the creation of standardized document templates, reducing the time and effort required for repetitive document drafting tasks.

**Version Control and Collaboration:** Al-powered document automation platforms facilitate version control and enable seamless collaboration among legal professionals.

**Time Savings:** By automating document creation and management, AI saves valuable time, allowing legal professionals to focus on high-value work.





## Enhanced Document Support

Enhanced Decision Support: Al provides legal professionals with data-driven insights and predictive analytics, empowering them to make more informed decisions.







So where do we stand with the use of Al Platforms?



#### Platforms to Consider

#### CaseText - Casetext - CoCounsel

- CaseText CoCounsel does document review, legal research, memos, depositions preparation, and contract analysis in minutes - with results you can trust
- Free Trial, but subscription for the Basic Research or All Access Pass with monthly, 1-year plans, and 2-year plans



Lex Machina - Legal Analytics by Lex Machina

- Lex Machina provides legal analytics to companies and law firms, enabling them to craft successful litigation strategies, win cases, and close business; part of LexisNexis
- Legal Analytics combines data and software with individual attorney review to provide a winning edge



Kira Systems - <u>Machine Learning Contract Search, Review and Analysis</u> <u>Software | Kira Systems</u>

- Kira Systems analyzes and reviews contracts and documents within minutes; finds clauses and discrepancies in contracts within seconds
- Kira automatically highlights and extracts provisions that are important to you and helps you organize your data for analysis
   Import, Process, Analyze, Search/Review, Export Reports



ThoughtRiver - <u>Automated Contract Review | Accelerating Contracting |</u>
<u>ThoughtRiver</u>

• ThoughtRiver scans and interprets information from written contracts used in a variety of sectors, assessing them against a pre-determined set of criteria

LegalSifter - Al Contract Management & Software | LegalSifter

Combines AI and expert advice to review and navigate contracts rapidly. It's
designed to help lawyers and non-lawyers review draft contracts with expert
oversight



Loom Analytics - Loom Analytics

 Specializes in workflow automation and analytics, offering innovative solutions across industries to support growing revenues

DoNotPay - <u>DoNotPay - Your AI Consumer Champion</u>

 Al to help fight big corporations, protect privacy, find hidden money, cancel subscriptions, and beat bureaucracy



Everlaw - Take Control of Your Ediscovery and Legal Holds (everlaw.com)

• Ediscovery & Case Preparation Software. Organize case data, execute discovery and collect key findings and analysis in Storybuilder. Create instant first drafts and summarize key documents with AI, verifiable citations to key evidence built in the platform; collaborate seamlessly while building case narrative and preparing for trial

Neota Logic - <u>Automating processes just got easier - Neota</u>

• Build solutions to scale your knowledge, streamline your processes and automate your documents. All without writing a single line of code!



#### **Discussion**

#### What Platforms do you use?





#### **Building Trust in Al**

**Explainability:** All systems should be able to provide clear explanations and justifications for their decision-making processes.

**Human Oversight:** Human experts should have the ability to review and intervene in AI systems to ensure ethical and responsible outcomes.

**Disclaimers:** Read the disclaimers on each platform!

DO NOT FORGET THE ETHICAL RULES!





## Managing Ethical Issues in Technology

Businesses are responsible for the ethical use of technology.

Can be difficult to identify potential issues with emerging technology

Effective programs take a strategic approach

Chief privacy officer (CPO) - An executive responsible for developing and implementing policies and procedures related to privacy protection

Knows about privacy laws, data protection laws, crisis management

Governments need to maintain basic infrastructure and support for technology.





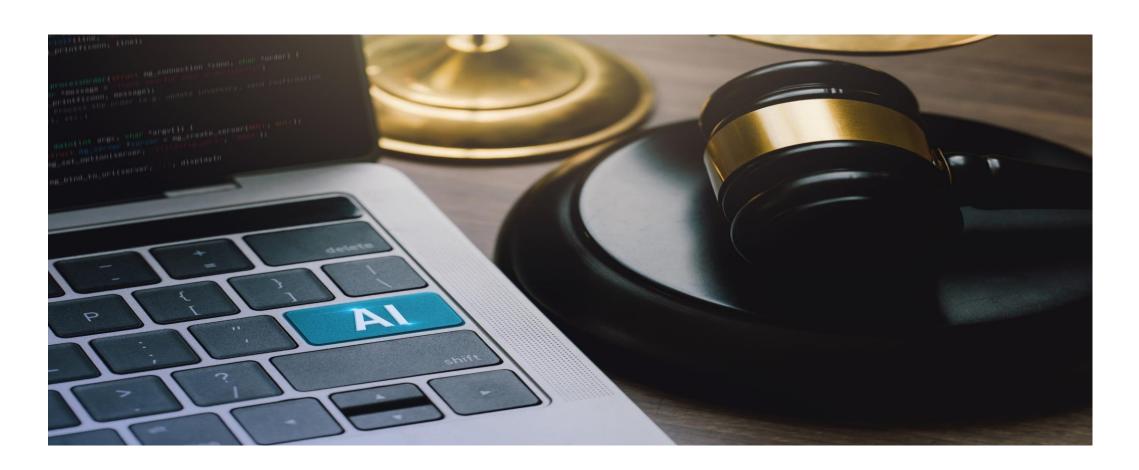


When In Doubt

**Reach Out!** 



## Let's Try It Out





## Cari Sheehan, Esq. <a href="mailto:csheehan@scopelitis.com">csheehan@scopelitis.com</a>





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The Transportation Law Firm

### **Employment Tax Controversies**

April 16, 2024

Steven A. Pletcher *Partner* 

Rebecca S. Trenner *Partner* 

#### **IRS Disputes**

Steven A. Pletcher

Partner

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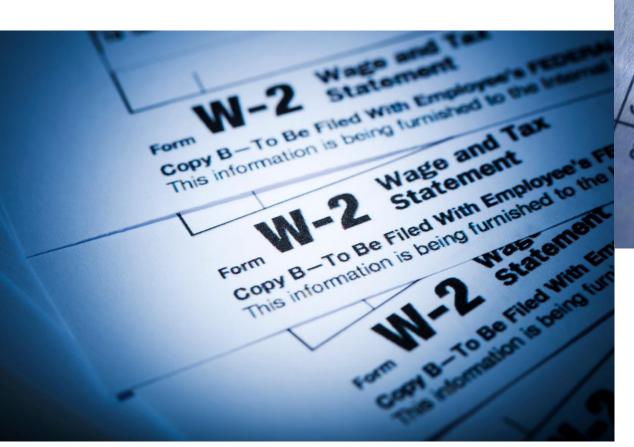


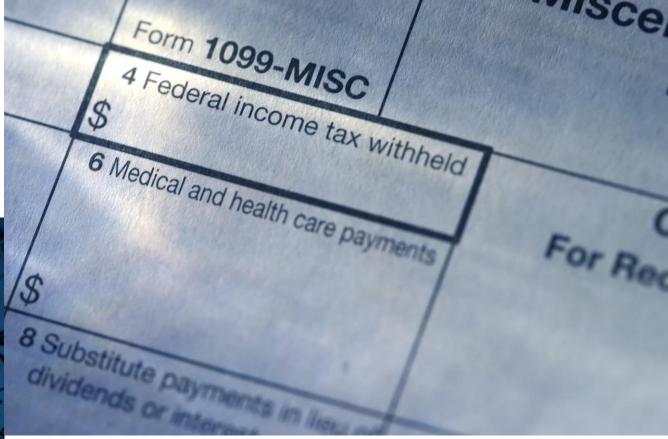
**Copelitis** 















### Equipment Lease Agreement

tne wo Lesso	This Equipment Lease Agreement (this "Agreement"), is made and entered into this
1.	<u>Lease of Equipment</u> . We hereby lease to you and you hereby lease from us the equipment described in <u>Appendix A</u> attached hereto (the "Equipment").
2.	$\underline{\textbf{Term}}$ . The term of this Agreement's hall be for a term of $\underline{}$ months, commencing on the date of this Agreement.
3.	Lease Payments.
	(a) <u>Lease Payments</u> . You shall pay us, as rent for the use of the Equipment, the monthly rental reflected on <u>Appendix A</u> attached hereto and incorporated herein for each month during the term hereof (the "Lease Payments") until the expiration date of this Agreement, together with all such additional charges as may be provided herein. If you fail to make any or all of the payments specified above within five (5) days of the due date, you agree to pay, in addition to all collection costs incurred by us, including reasonable attorney fees, interest on all amounts past due at the rate of one and one-half percent (15%) per month or the maximum legal rate allowed by applicable state law, whichever is higher.
	(b) Additional Charges. After delivery of the Equipment, you shall payus, in addition to the amount specified above, all charges for structural alteration, special equipment, painting, lettering or artwork requested by you. Such charges shall be separately invoiced and shall be due upon receipt. You shall be tain written authorization from us prior to making any alteration to the Equipment. You shall bear the cost of any modification or additional equipment required to bring the Equipment into compliance with statutory regulations implemented after execution of this Agreement.
	(c) <u>Mileage Determination</u> . For any purpose under this Agreement, mileage shall be determined by the odometer reading on the Equipment or such other standard recording devices as may be attached to the Equipment. Lessees hall immediately report to Lessor in writing any malfunction of the odometer or recording device on the Equipment. In the event of such malfunction, mileage shall be computed by trip reports, driver logs, or by applying the daily average mileage for the prior thirty (30) days, or such lesser number of days that the Equipment has been in service. Lessee shall provide Lessor all mileage readings when requested by Lessor.



<u>Deduction Authorization</u>. As a condition of entering into this Agreement, you agree to enter into an Independent Contractor Agreement (the "Contractor"



**Copelitis** 

















# State Unemployment Tax Disputes

Rebecca S. Trenner

Partner

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State unemployment agencies have shifted gears post-pandemic.







With motor carriers utilizing IC fleets on state unemployment agencies' radar, is it possible to avoid an unemployment tax audit?



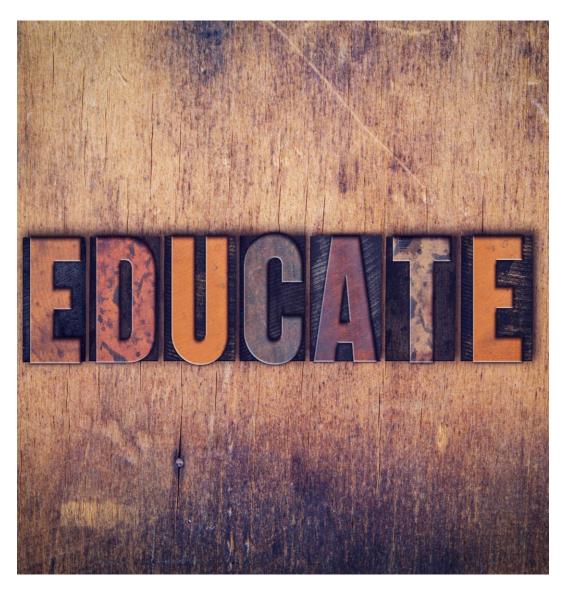
Treat every IC unemployment claim as a potential audit.

- Respond timely.
- Respond thoroughly.
- Rely on favorable law.













### State UET Appeal Process



- > Written Appeal
- > Informal Discovery
- > Settlement?
- Administrative Hearing
- Board of Review Appeal
- Judicial Appeal







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The Transportation Law Firm

### Cargo Claims: Theft by Fraud

Kathleen C. Jeffries Partner Clifford Lauchlan

Attorney

Fraud

Be On Guard

Don't Be a Victim

## SCAMS RISING

**Increased Danger** 

Warning! Scopelitis

Beware!

WATCH OUT

Fraud

Be On Guard

Don't Be a Victim

### SCAMS RISING

**Increased Danger** 

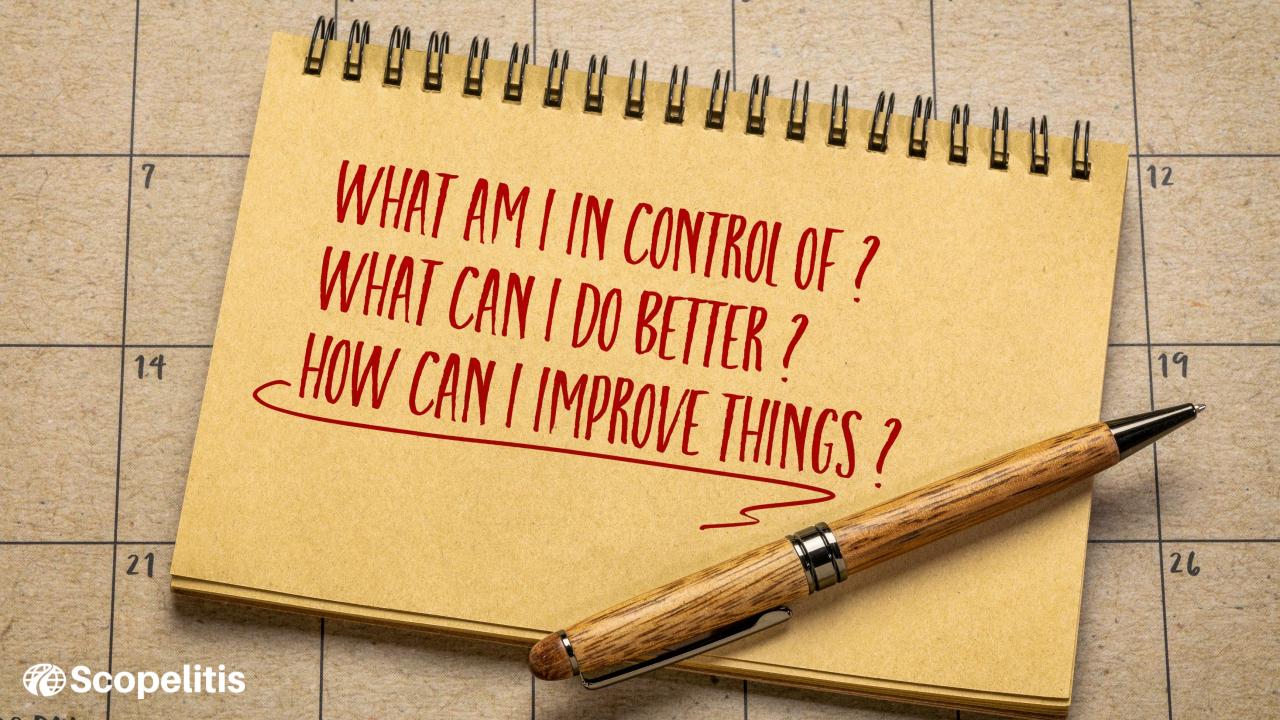
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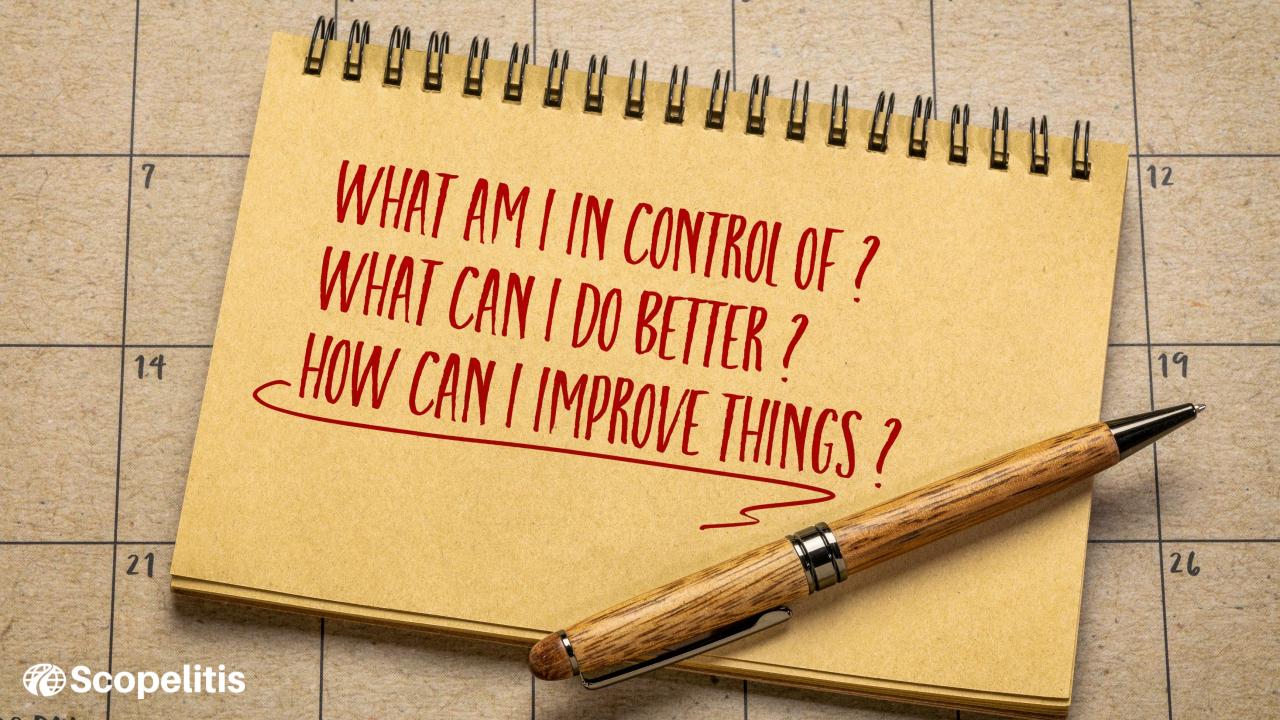
Beware!

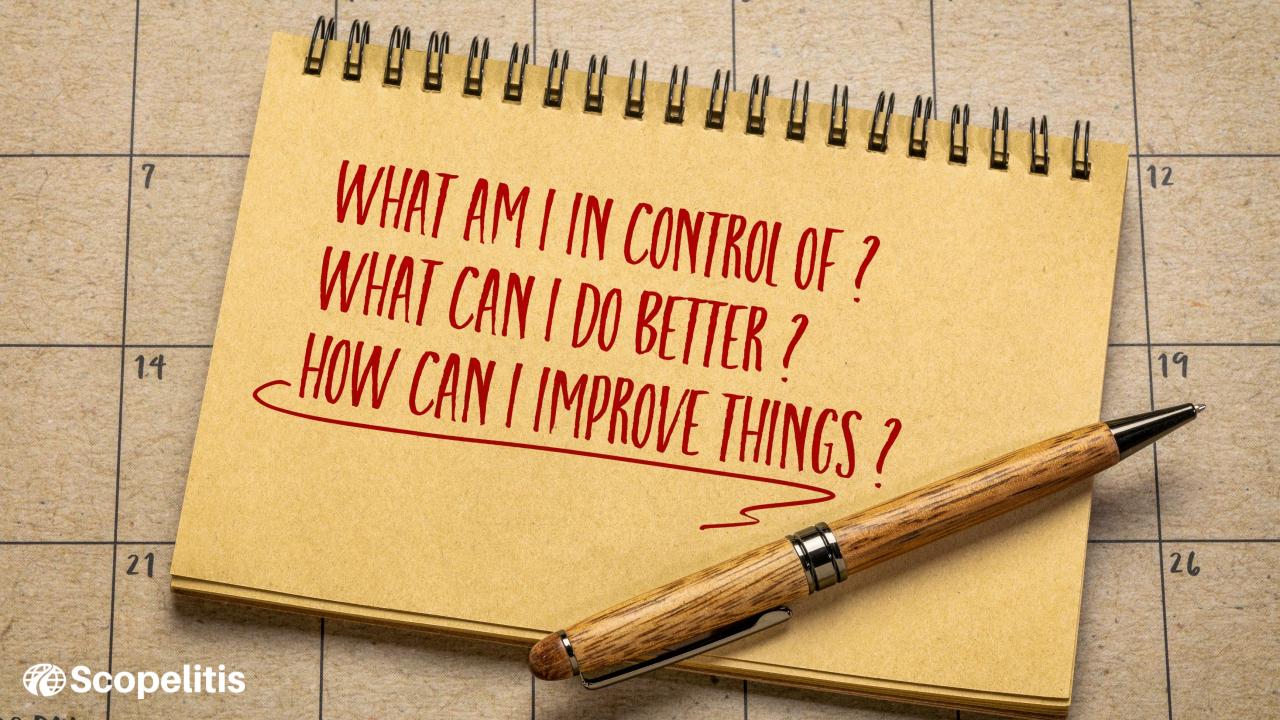
WATCH OUT

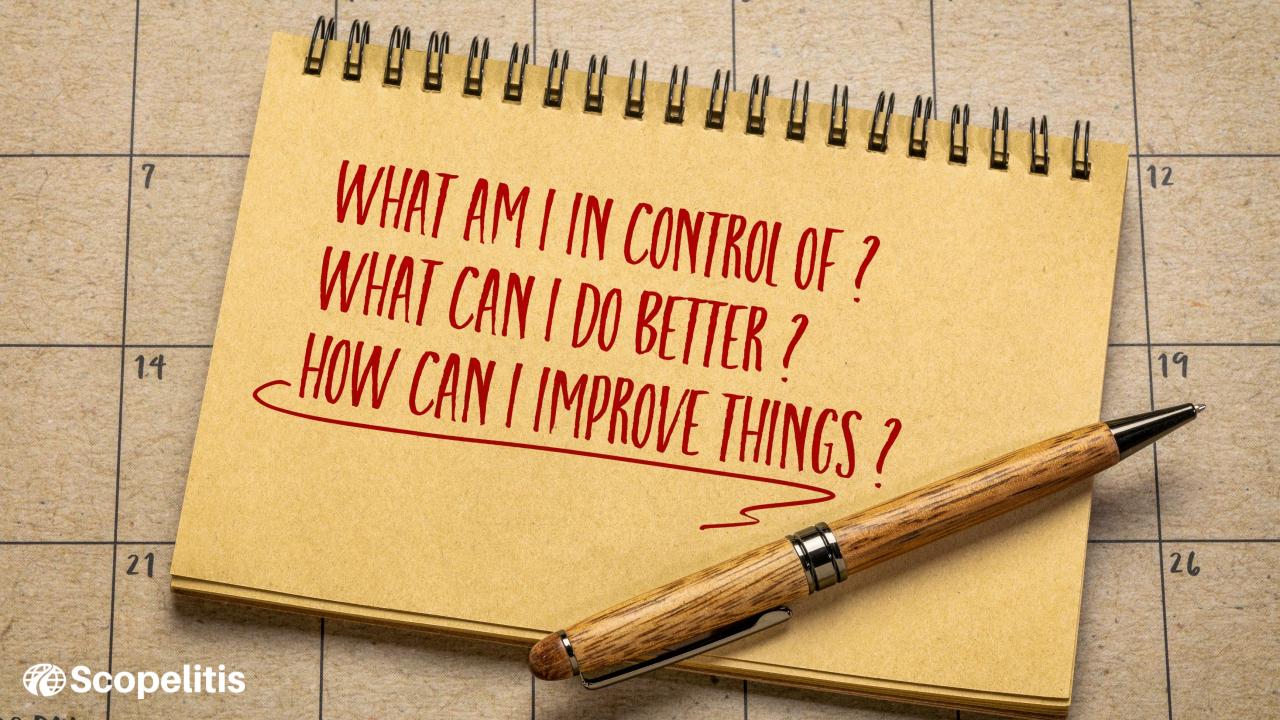


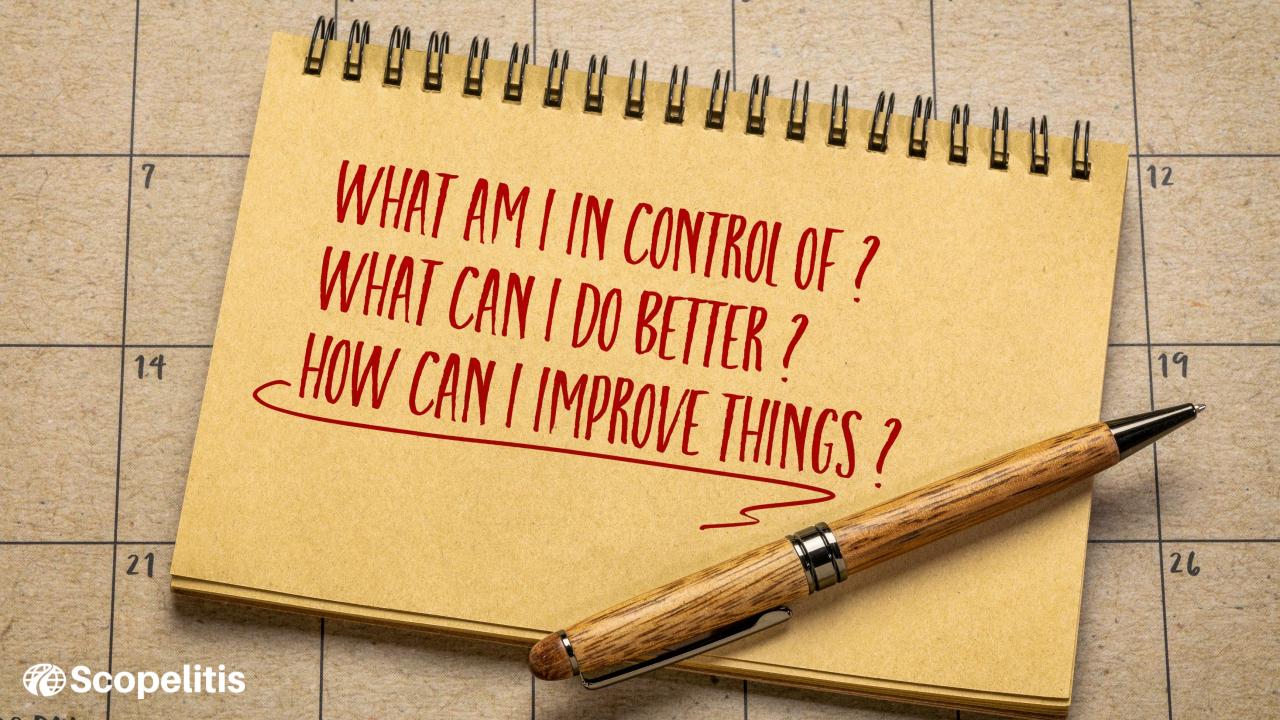


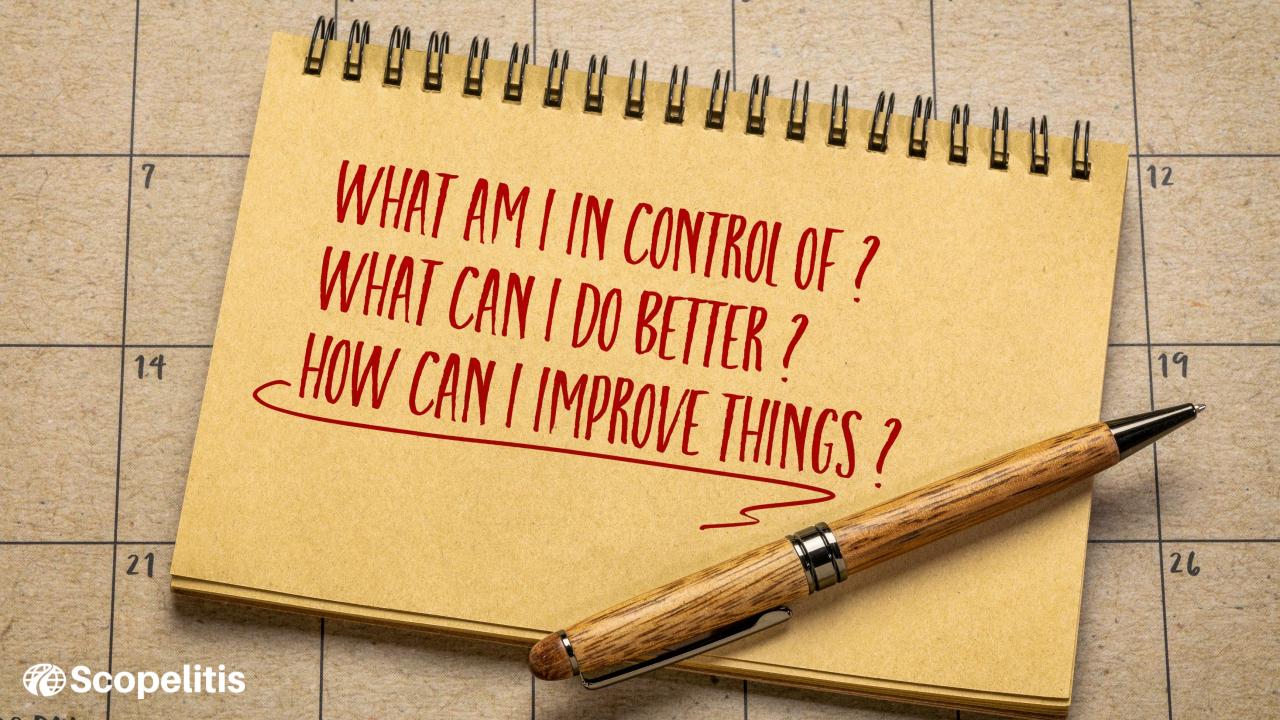




























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The Transportation Law Firm

## Legal Considerations in Distinguishing Brokerage from TMS Services

## Legal Considerations in Distinguishing Brokerage from TMS Services

Nathaniel Saylor Partner, Scopelitis



Nathaniel G. Saylor

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#### TMS and Brokerage

What is the difference and why should I care





# Common "Industry" Distinctions between Brokerage and Transportation Management



### Common "Industry" Distinctions between Brokerage and Transportation Management

- Brokerage (Typically)
  - Often transactional
  - Undisclosed margin
  - Shipper considers broker a "carrier"
  - Broker often required to assume cargo liability, indemnity obligations, representations as to carrier conduct, etc.
- Transportation Management (Typically)
  - Integration shipments pushed from EMS to TMS
  - Shipper might contract with carrier (at least initially)
  - Carrier charges may well be disclosed to shipper (or even contracted by shipper) with TMS provider just receiving flat management fee.





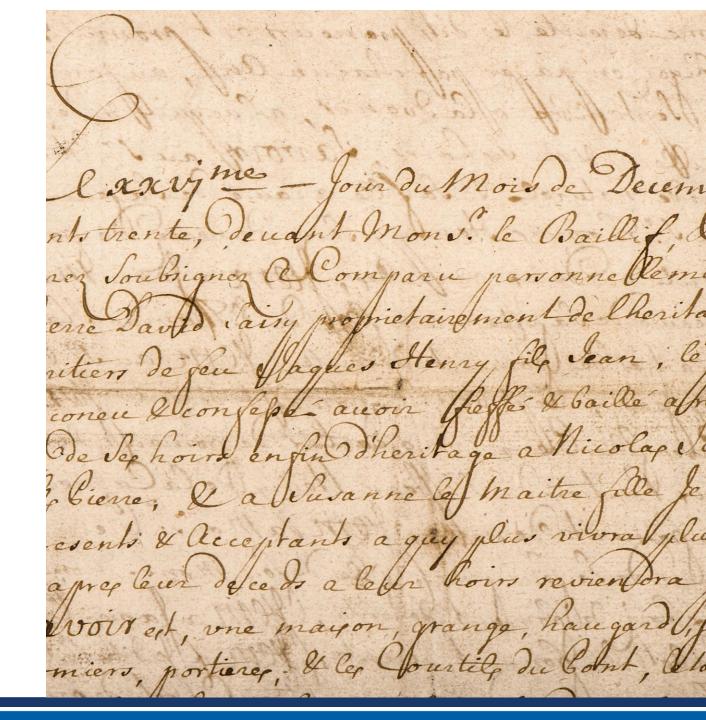
"Broker means a person who, for compensation, arranges, or offers to arrange, the transportation of property by an authorized motor carrier".

49 C.F.R. 371.2.



Contract language doesn't matter right?

It's all just "boilerplate"



- Problems with providing TMS Service under Brokerage Contract
  - Who contracted with the carrier?
  - Margin on carrier rates?
  - Exclusivity?
  - Shipper access to TMS?
  - Cargo liability
- Indemnity



- Problems with Brokering under TMS Contracts
  - Are you allowed to have margin?
  - Meeting warranties regarding carriers (e.g., insurance limits)
- Indemnity





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# Current Issues in Cross-Border Transportation

Nathaniel G. Saylor Partner Scopelitis

Louis Amato-Gauci Partner Miller Thomson, LLP Braden K. Core Partner Scopelitis

Renato Martinez-Quezada Partner EC Rubio





The Transportation Law Firm

## Legislative Update

Greg Feary
President & Managing
Partner, Scopelitis

Shannon Cohen Partner, Scopelitis

Prasad Sharma Partner, Scopelitis

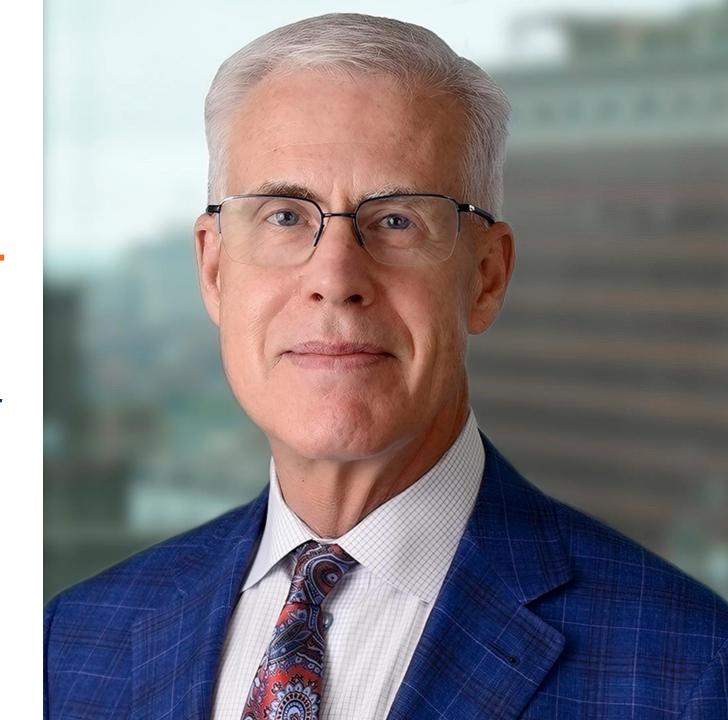
#### Introduction

Gregory M. Feary

President & Managing Partner

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## Federal Update

Prasad Sharma

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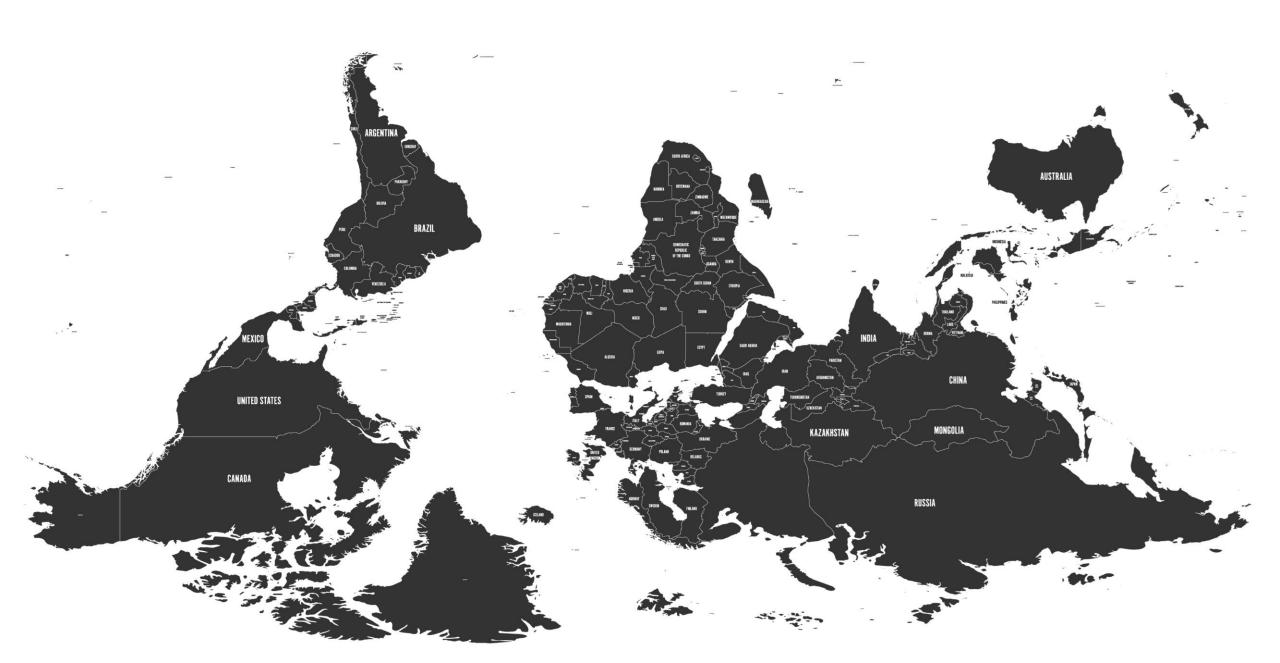




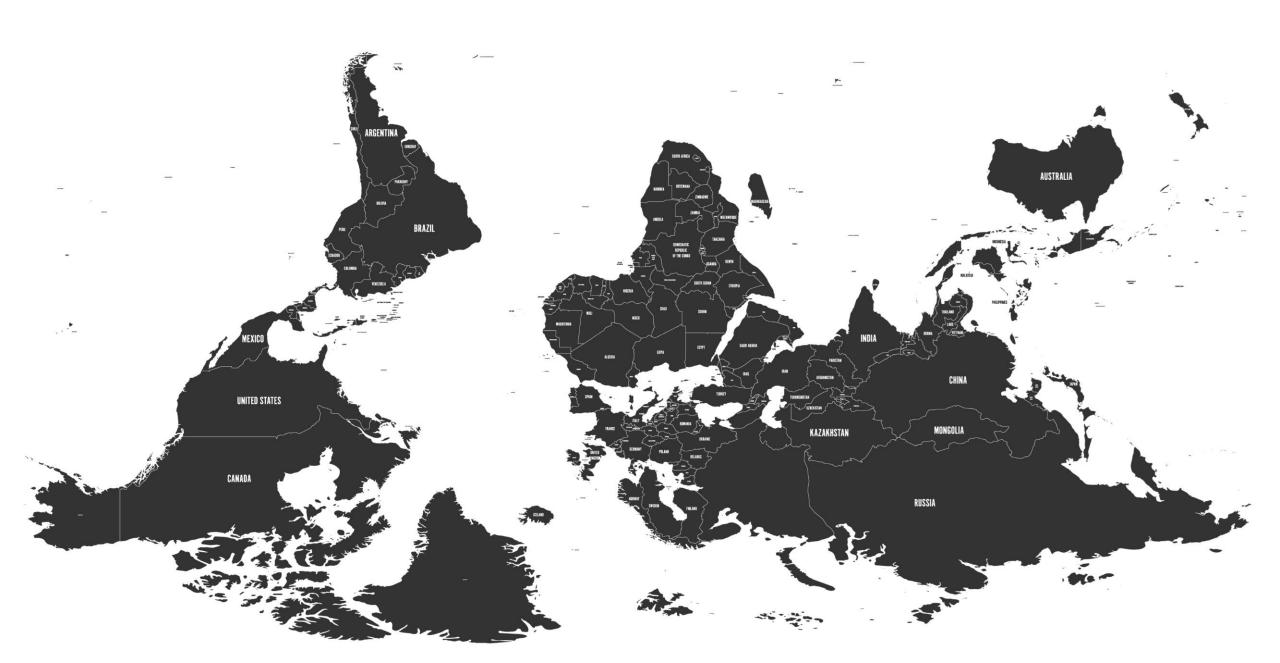




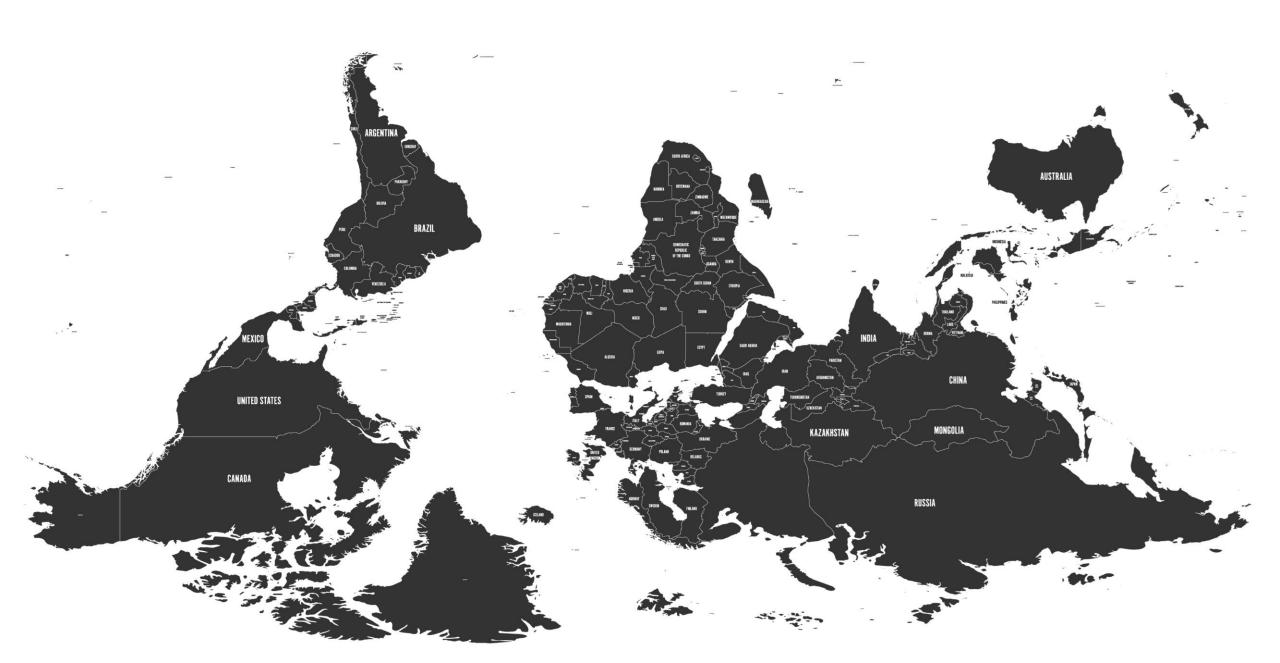
## UPSIDE DOWN WORLD MAP

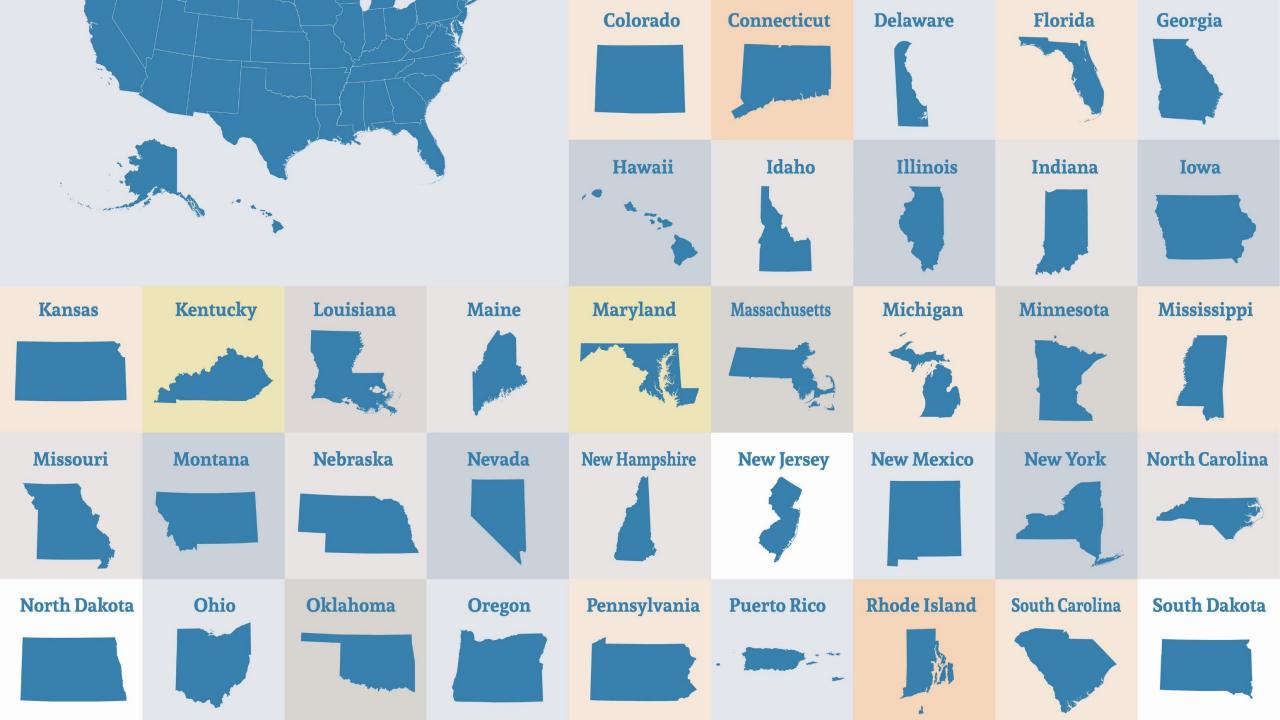


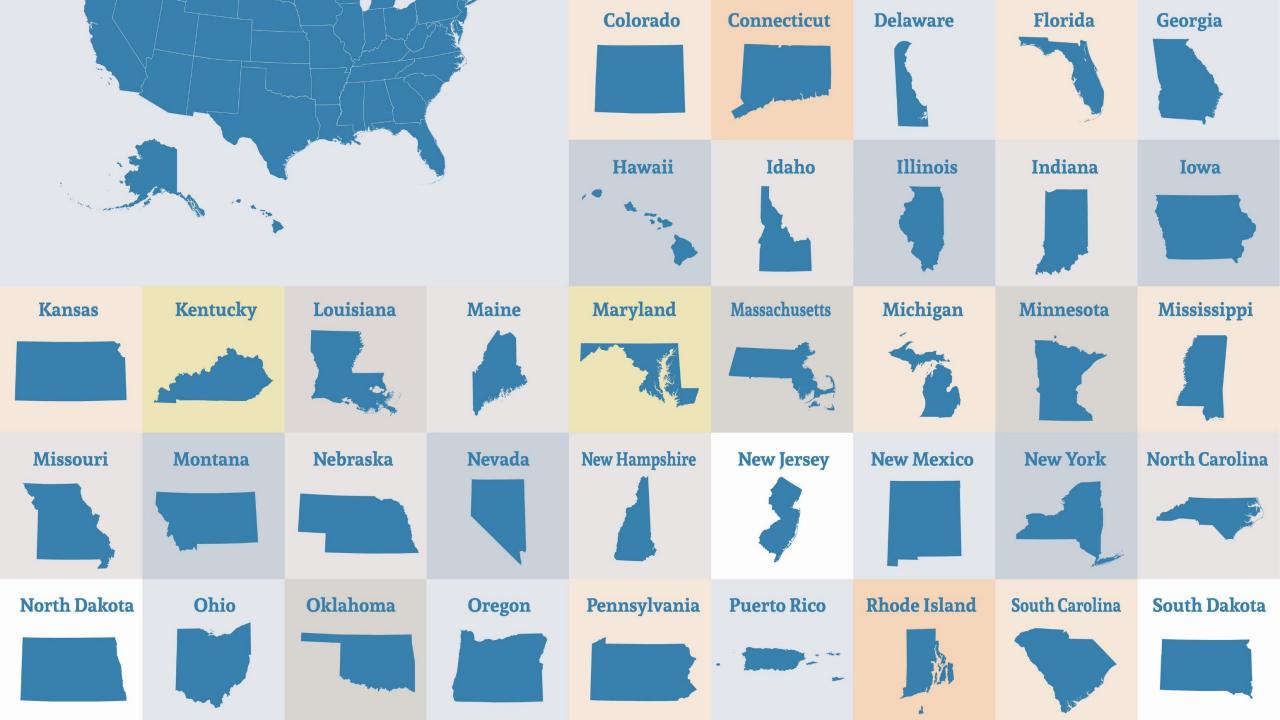
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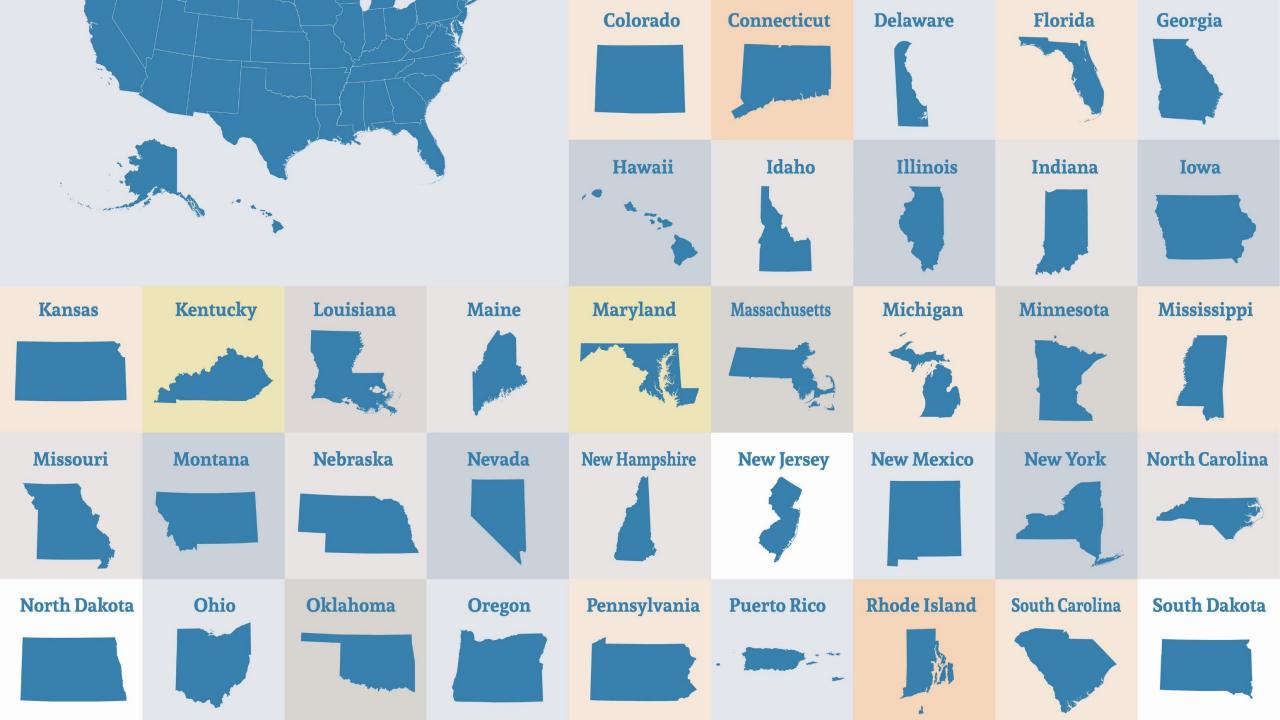


## UPSIDE DOWN WORLD MAP









### **State Update**

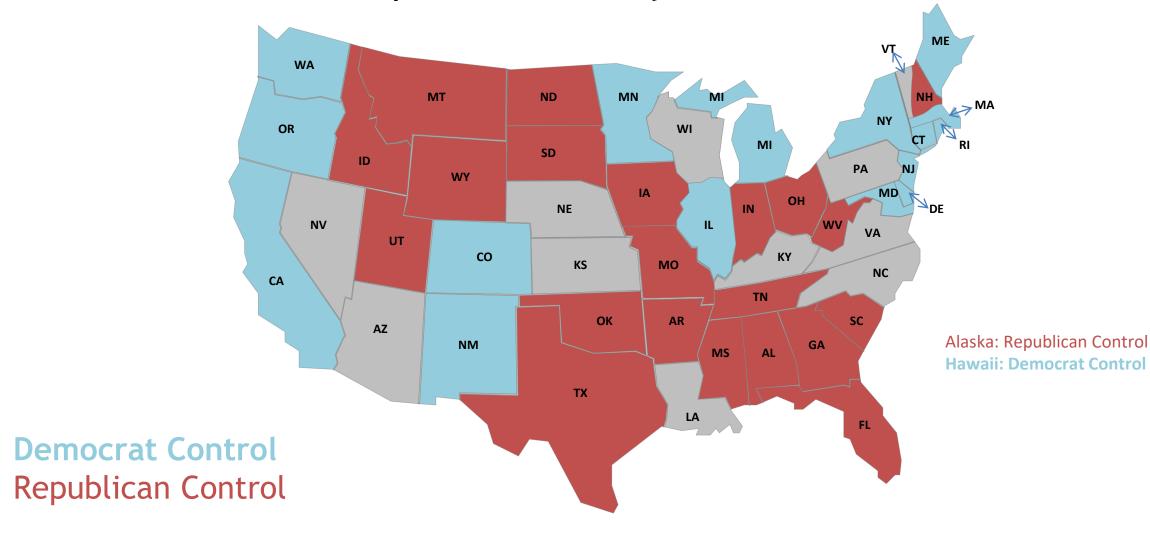
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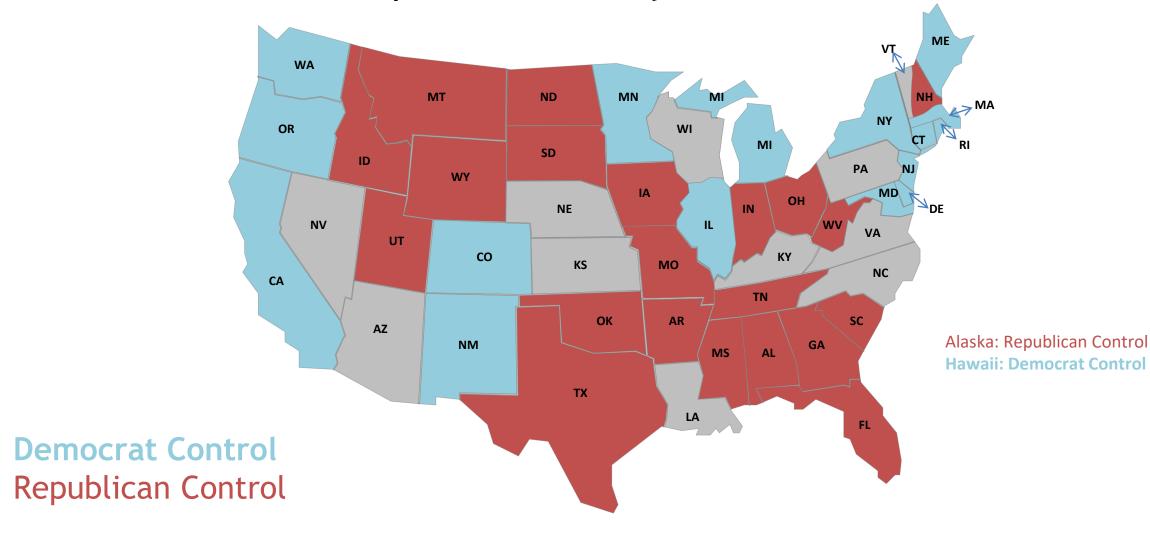


#### State Partisan Lineup - Unified Party Control





#### State Partisan Lineup - Unified Party Control











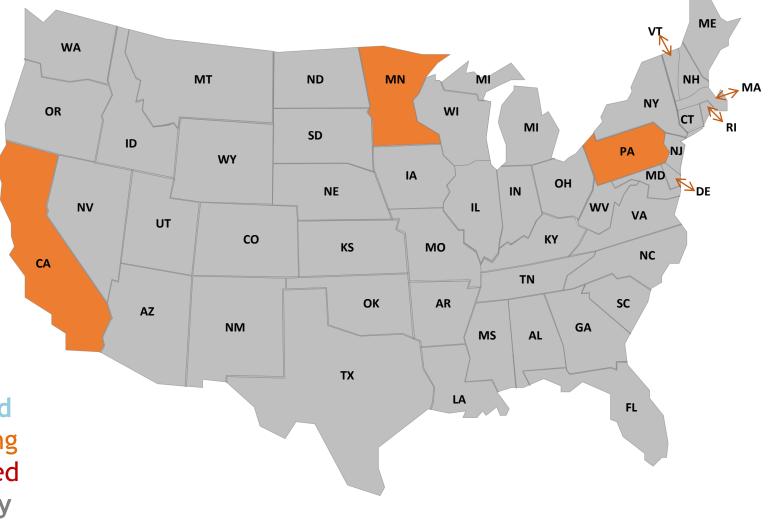






2023-2024 Proposed Trucking Specific

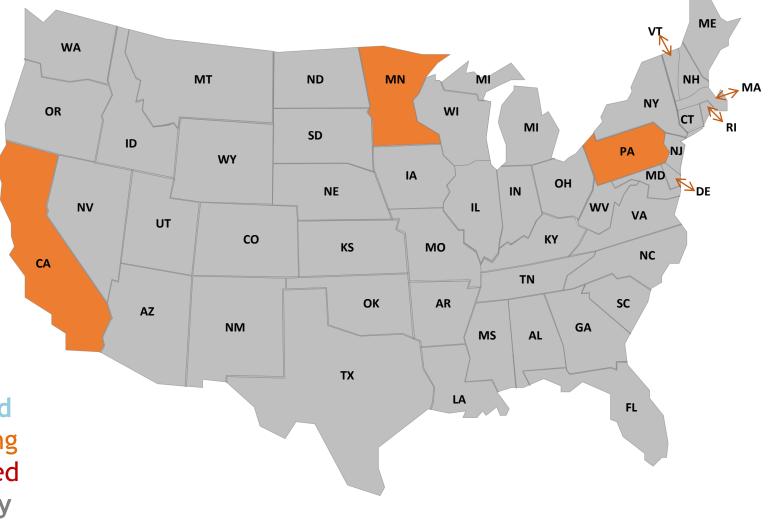
IC Legislation by State





2023-2024 Proposed Trucking Specific

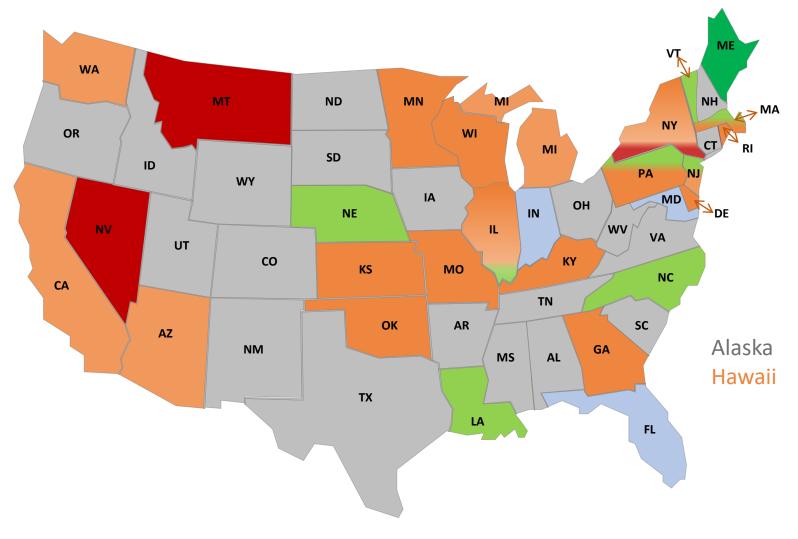
IC Legislation by State





2023-2024 Proposed Generally Applicable

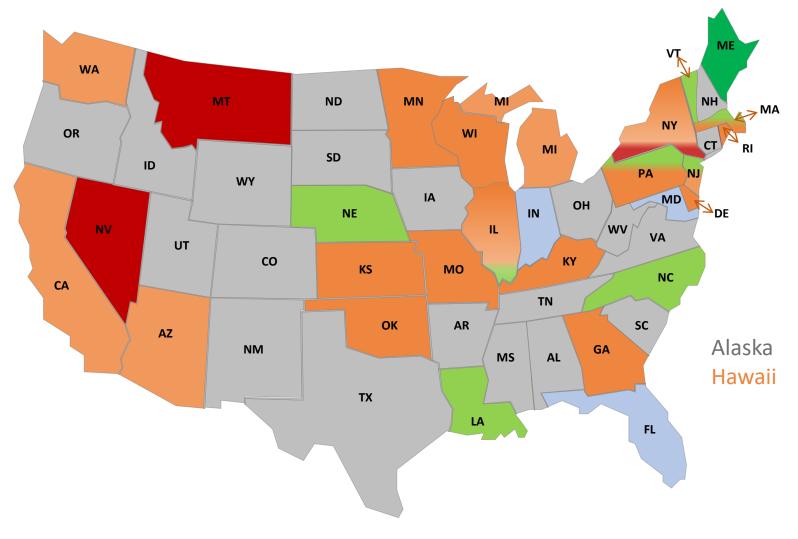
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2023-2024 Proposed Generally Applicable

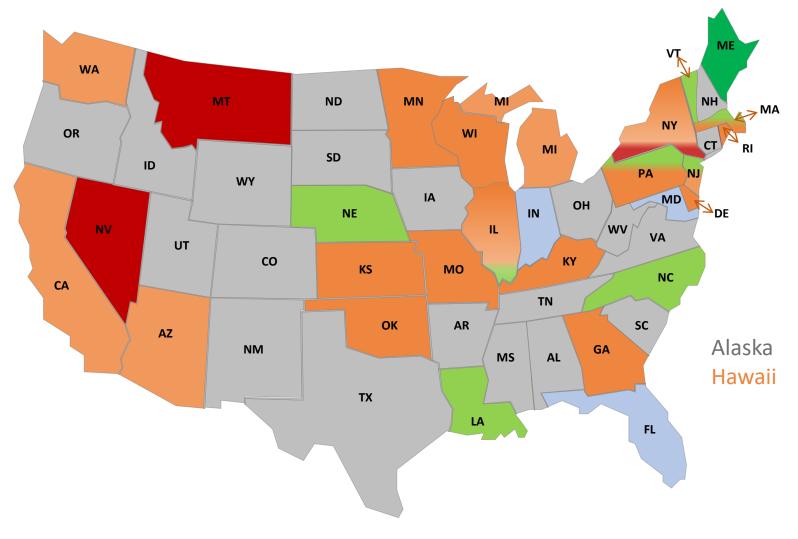
IC Legislation by State





2023-2024 Proposed Generally Applicable

IC Legislation by State





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The Transportation Law Firm

# Privacy Considerations for Transportation Companies

Shannon Cohen Partner, Scopelitis

Dylan Goetsch Associate, Scopelitis



### Agenda

- 1. Cybersecurity and Data Privacy: Risks in the Transportation Sector
- 2. Strategies to Mitigate Privacy and Cybersecurity Risk
  - A. Compliance with Privacy Laws
  - **B.** Contracts: Best Practices

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#### Privacy Risks: Statutory Compliance



Compliance Strategies Without a Federal Law

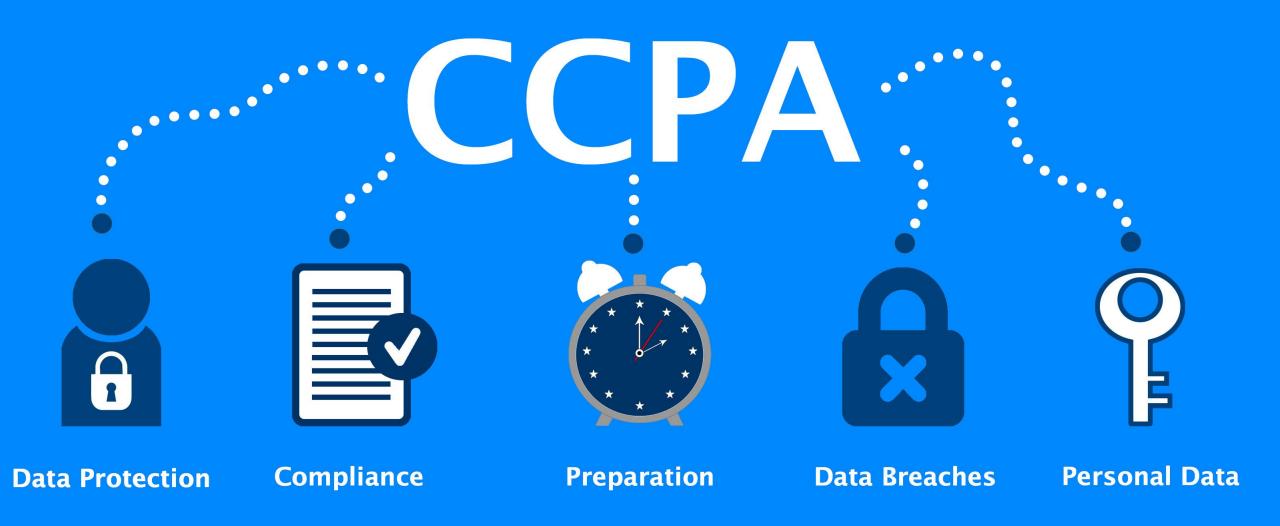


#### Privacy Risks: Statutory Compliance

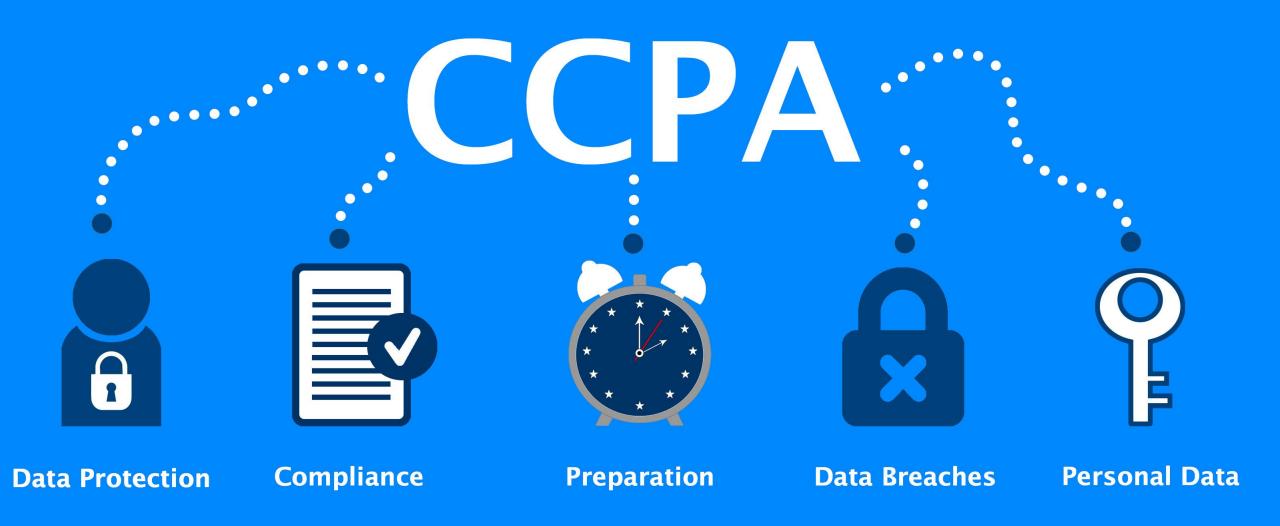


Compliance Strategies Without a Federal Law

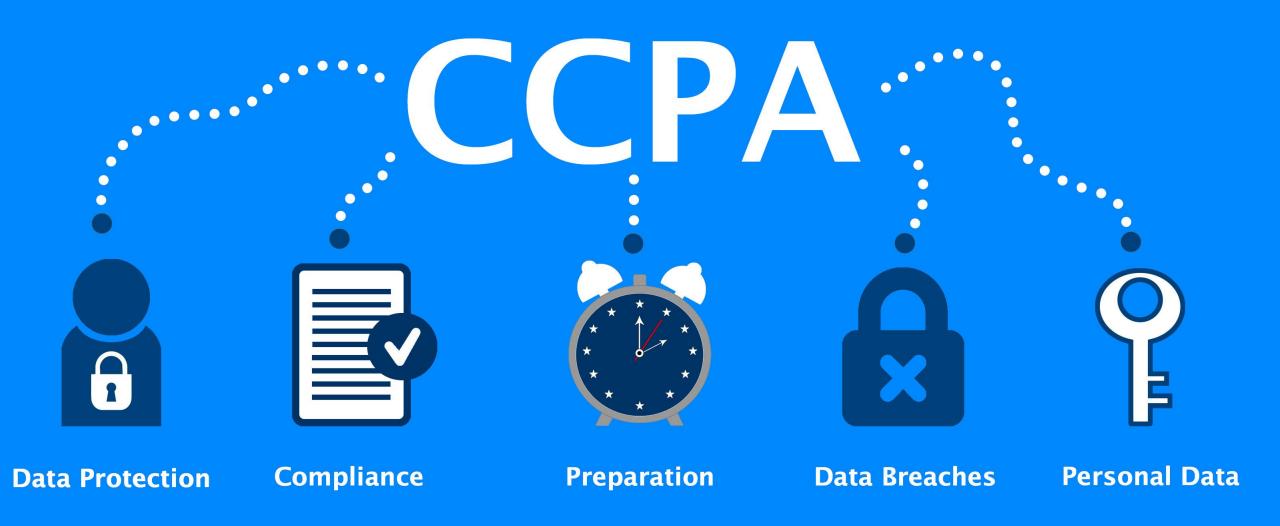














### CCPA Compliance Requirements





### BIPA: Keys to Compliance





### BIPA: Keys to Compliance





#### Shannon M. Cohen

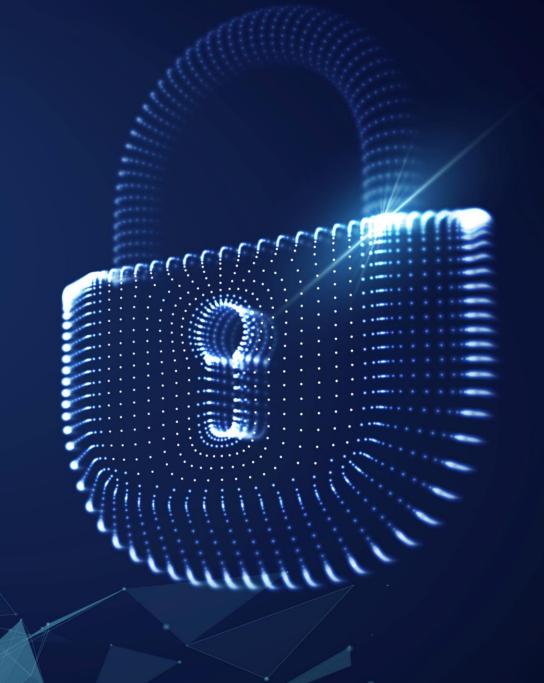
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Risks to the Transportation Sector



#### Cyberattacks: Do I Need to Worry?





#### Cyberattacks: Do I Need to Worry?































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### What's Driving Class Actions?

James H. Hanson Partner, Scopelitis

R. Jay Taylor, Jr. *Partner, Scopelitis* 

















The Rolling Contraction MALE CHANGED

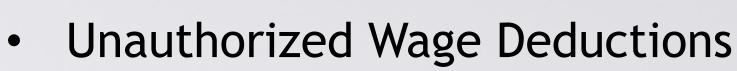






## **Potential Claims**

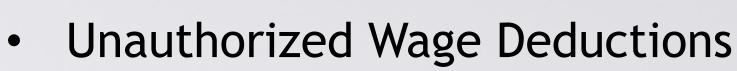
- Unpaid Time
- Incorrect Pay
- Incorrect Policies





## **Potential Claims**

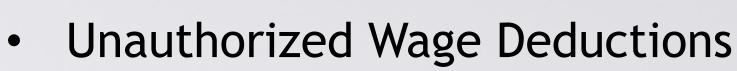
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## **Potential Claims**

- Unpaid Time
- Incorrect Pay
- Incorrect Policies









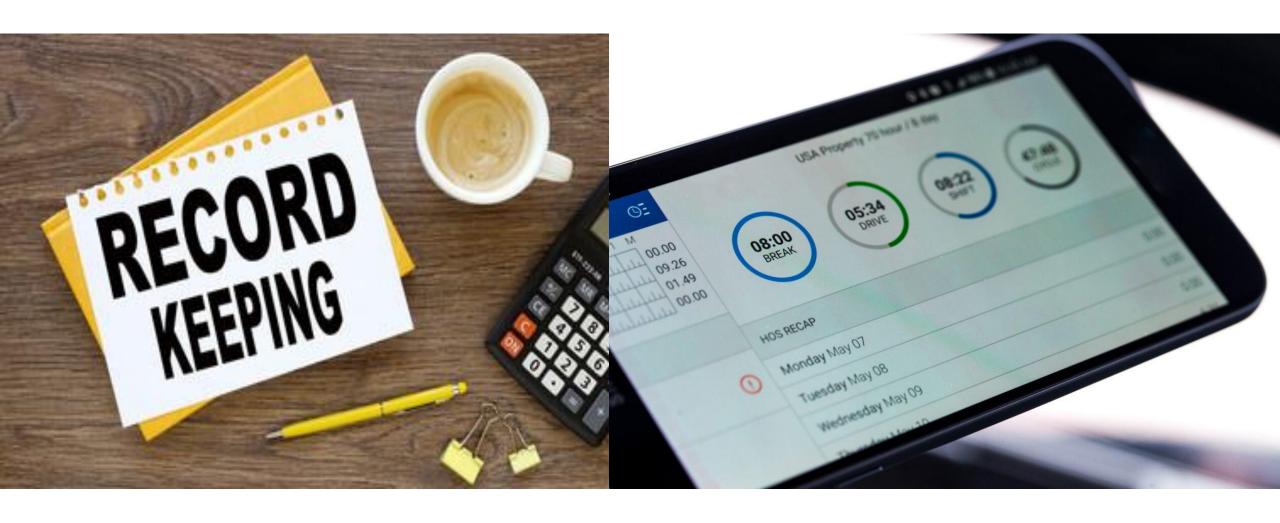


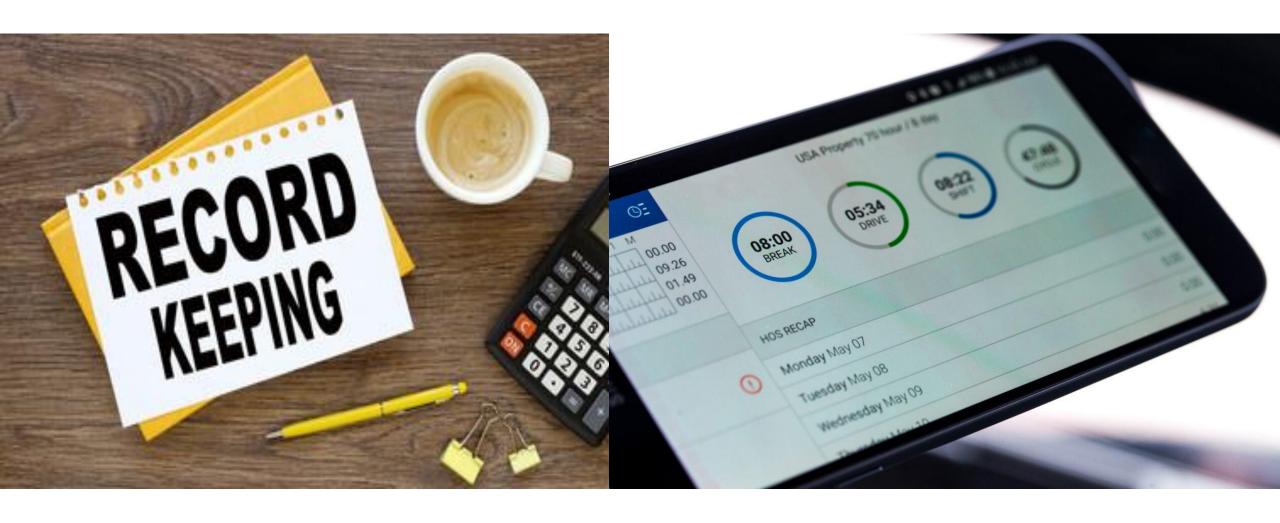


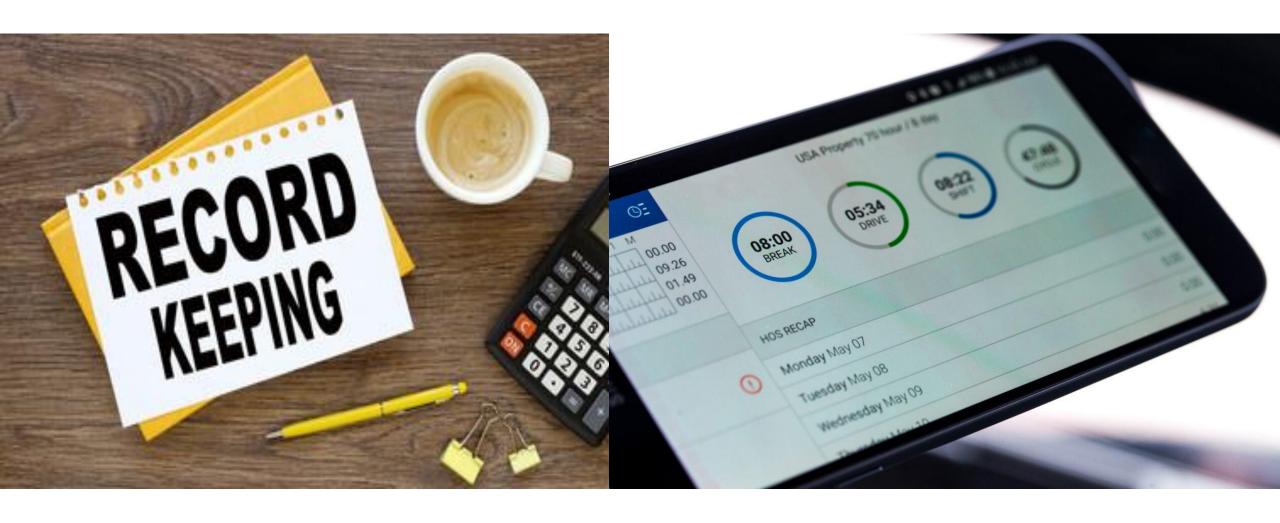












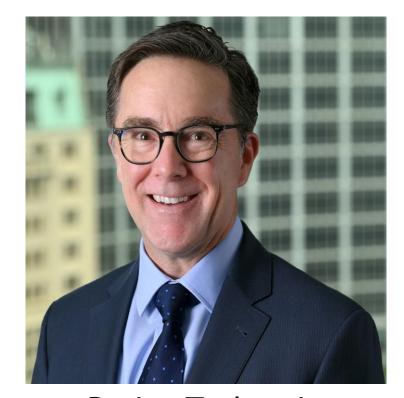








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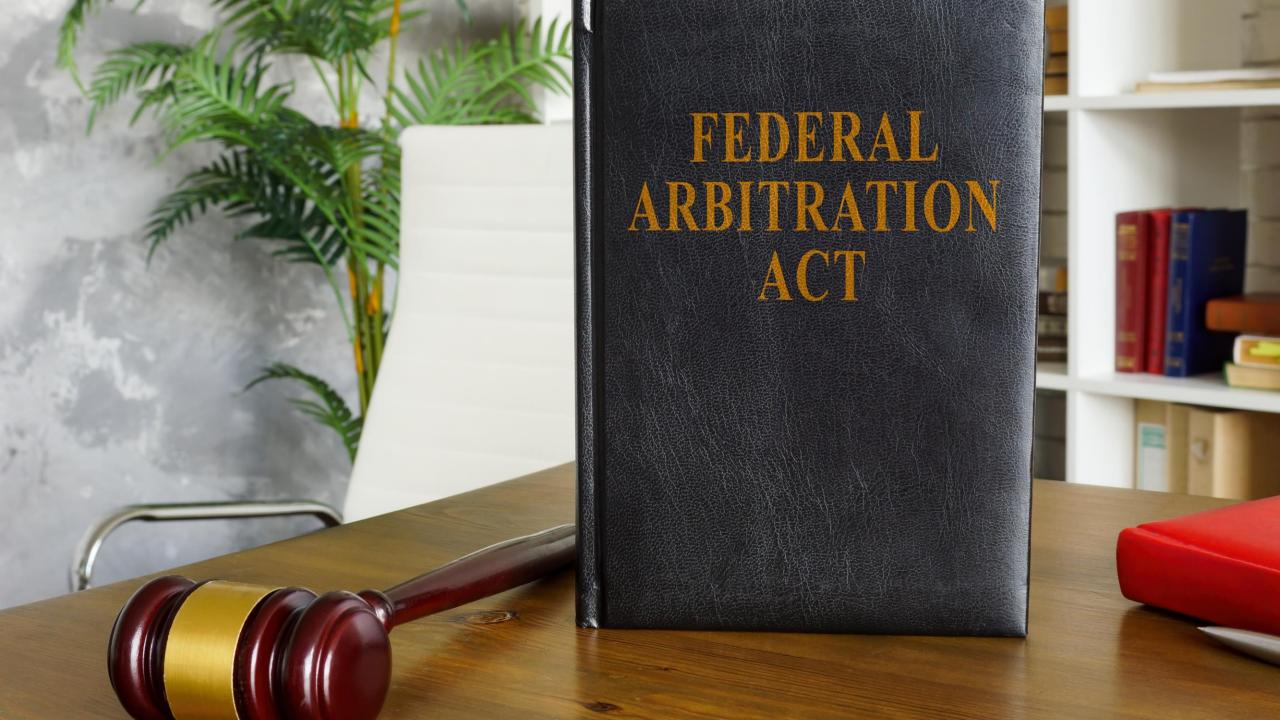
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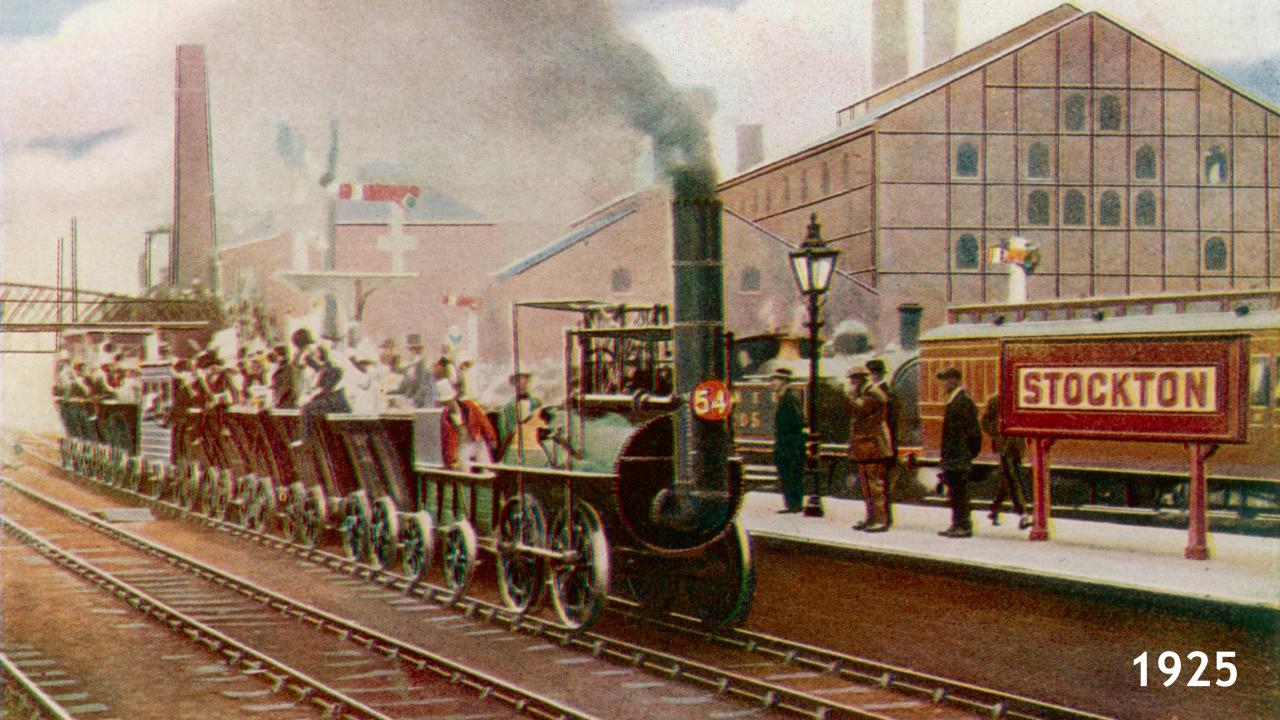


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## Arbitration Developments











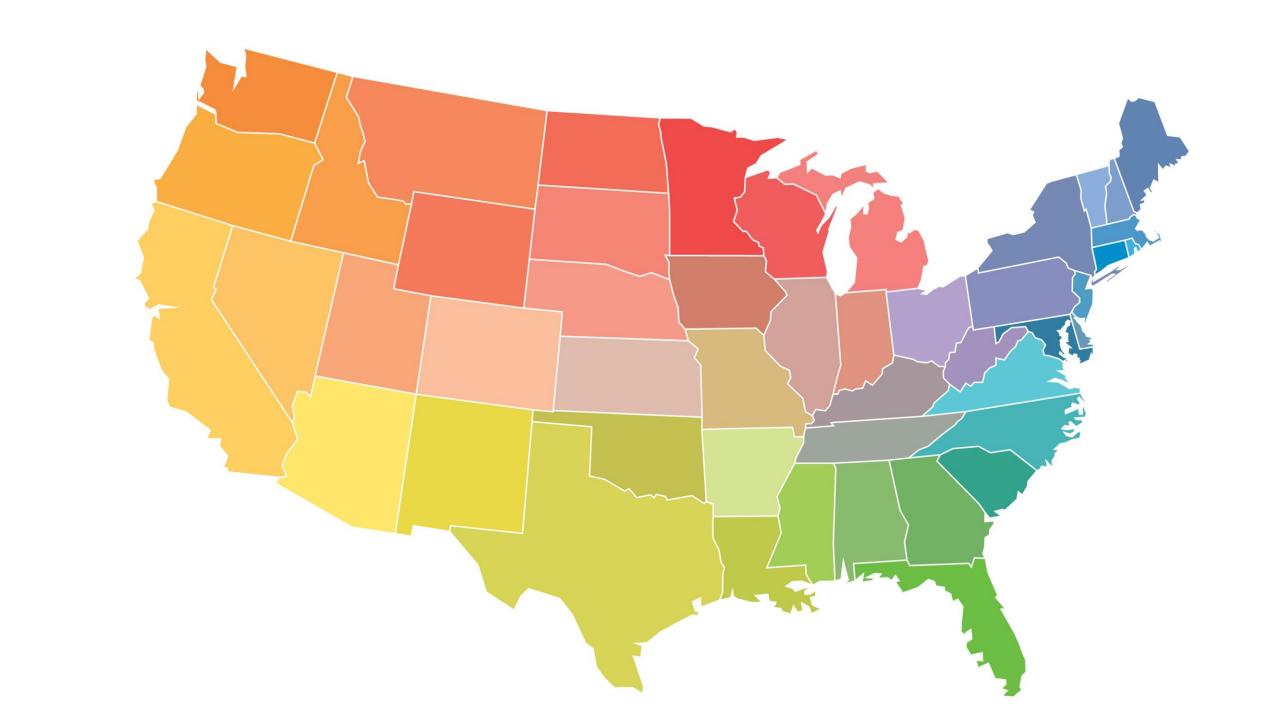






















## Questions?



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The Transportation Law Firm

### Accident Litigation Trends and Strategies in 2024

2024 Scopelitis Transportation Law Seminar April 14 - 16, 2024

Andrew F. Marquis

Partner

Renea E. Hooper Partner



## Agenda

- Post-Pandemic Current Trends in Verdicts and Settlements
- 2. Tort Reform And Court Reform

#### Post-Pandemic - Current Trends in Verdicts and Settlements

Andrew F. Marquis

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## Post Covid- Are Nuclear Verdicts Still a Thing?

YES, BUT.....





## A recent example from Cook County, Illinois ...

The accident occurred in Valparaiso, Indiana

- Accident in 2016, trial in July 2023
- \$44M Verdict (43.5M)
- Spinal cord injury
- 60-year-old female
- Likely 15-20M life care plan





#### WHAT DRIVES LARGE VERDICTS?

 JURISDICTION, JURISDICTION (GA., E. TX., FL., CHICAGO, ST. LOUIS, ETC.)

• Bad corporate facts especially at 30(b)(6) depositions



#### WHAT DRIVES LARGE VERDICTS?

New World Order?



Born: 1995 - 2015 Age: 6 - 26 years

Gen Z



Millennial

Born: 1980 - 1994 Age: 27 - 41 years



Gen X

Born: 1965 - 1979 Age: 42 - 56 years



**Baby Boomer** 

Born: 1944 - 1964 Age: 57 - 77 years



#### Roadblock

The Trucking Litigation Problem and How to Fix It

July 2023



## Overview of Trucking Litigation in America

 Main Point: "Even though trucking is getting safer, verdicts are getting bigger. And that's a problem."



## The Numbers Behind the Study

• Study review: 154 trucking litigation verdicts and settlements (June 2020 to April 2023).





#### Conclusions

Pick the right jurisdiction.

 Avoid trying cases with bad corporate facts - or keep them out of evidence.

Evaluate the strength of the plaintiff's lawyer



# Tort Reform - Where Are We Now And Where Are We Going?

Renea E. Hooper

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## Factors Contributing to Nuclear Verdicts

- Trucking is the target industry
- Health care providers
- Litigation fundings
- Widening circle of defendants
- Derivative claims against trucking companies
- Ambiguous standard of care
- Expanding list of "duties"

X factor: Different mentality of jurors





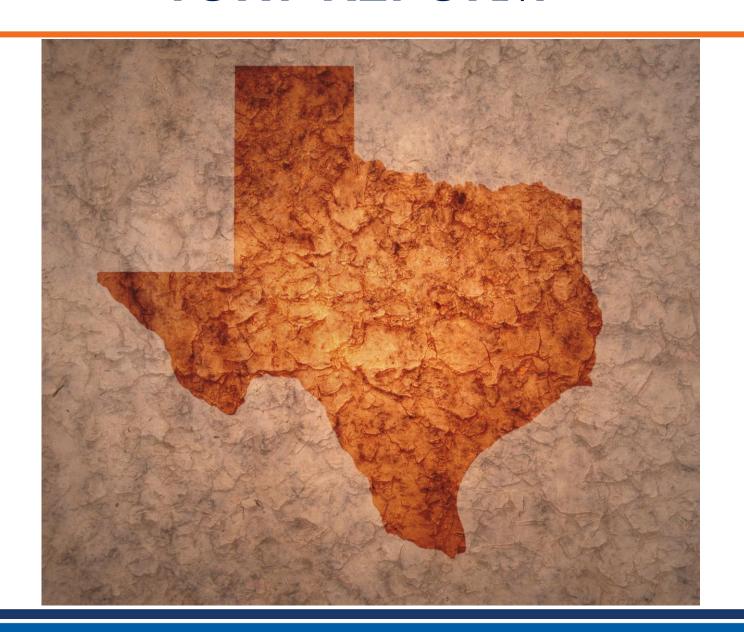




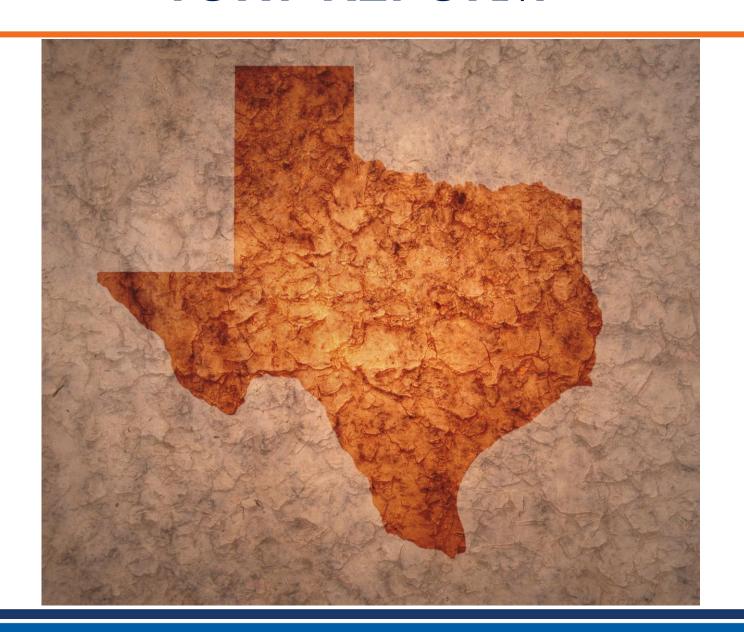
#### **Examples**

- Texas
- Florida
- lowa
- Georgia
- Indiana



























## **COURT REFORM**





#### **COURT REFORM**

- Some rational evidence-based determination of non-economic damages
- Limited definition of duties of drivers and company
- Admission test (vicarious liability)
- Defined standard of care
- Damages caps Relationship of punitive damage award to wrongful act



### CONCLUSION

Know your jurisdiction and venue

 Stay informed and involved on legislative efforts and changes to the laws to combat nuclear verdicts





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## Multi-Jurisdictional Issues in Worker's Compensation

2024 Scopelitis Transportation Law Seminar April 14 - 16, 2024

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Partner

Victor Shane Partner Mary Beth Hughes

Partner

Carla Hounshel

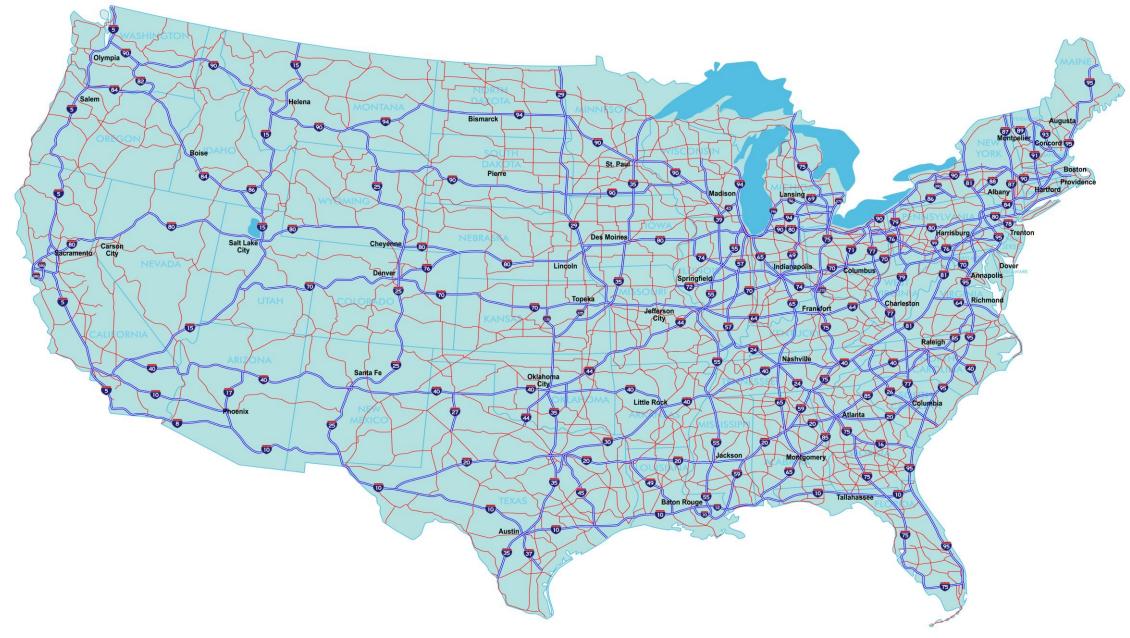
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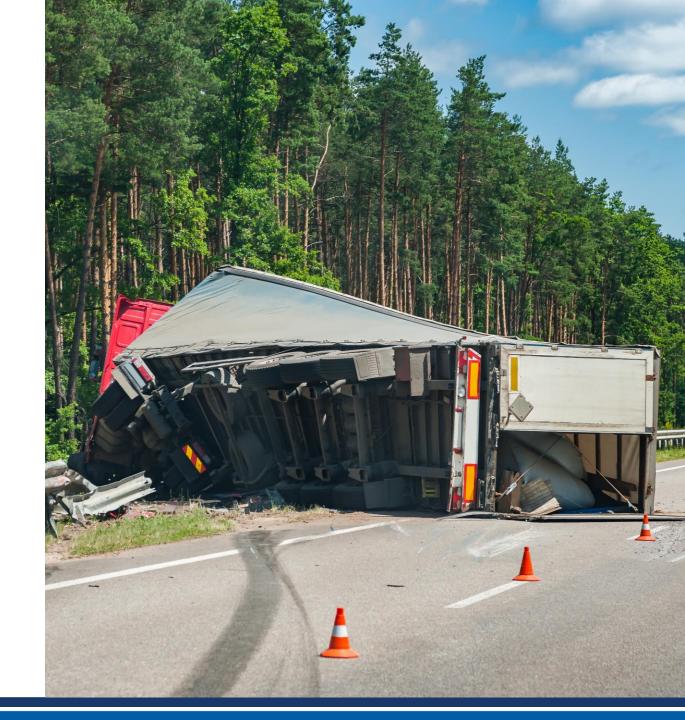






#### **Jurisdiction**

- Accident Location
- Contract of Employment
- Principal Place of Work
- Employer Principal Location





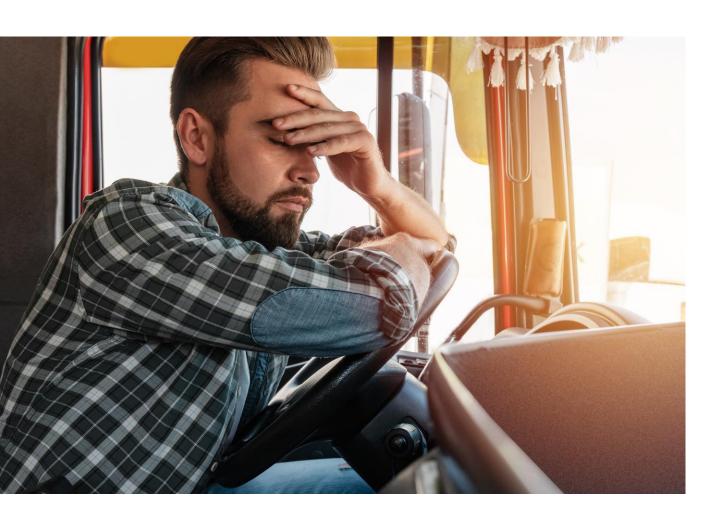
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#### Where Do I File?



- Multi Jurisdictional Claims
- Comparison of Benefits
- Credit From One Jurisdiction to Another?



#### **Other Factors**

- Choice of Medical Care
- Lump Sum Settlements





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#### Settlement

- Consider every state where jurisdiction exists.
- Which states allow settlement?
- Should you even bring it up?





#### Settlement

- Consider every state where jurisdiction exists.
- Which states allow settlement?
- Should you even bring it up?







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