

# NEWSBREAK

## December 2025 Publication of the Minnesota Professional Towing Association



### Inside This Issue

- Towing and Recovery Industry Strengthens Support Survivor Fund
- Executive Letter
- Brokers can be held liable in trucking accidents
- DVS Special Update
- TRAA's Legislative Action Workshop & Hill Day 2026
- Minnesota Risks Millions Over CDL Audit
- AAA: Year-End Holiday Travel on Track to Break Records
- Hacker or Tow Professional?
- College-Educated Oversupply Crisis Worsens



### Towing and Recovery Industry Strengthens Support for Survivor Fund at Annual Wall of the Fallen Name Unveiling Ceremony



Chattanooga, TN – On November 25<sup>th</sup>, the towing and recovery industry came together in a show of solidarity and compassion at the Wall of the Fallen Name Unveiling Ceremony, held Saturday, October 11, 2025, at the Wall of the Fallen Memorial in Chattanooga, Tennessee. During the ceremony, three major industry leaders—AAA, GEICO, and Jerr Dan—presented significant contributions to the Survivor Fund, underscoring the ongoing commitment to providing immediate financial support to the families of towing operators who tragically lose their lives in the line of duty.

As part of this year's annual event, the contributions made by these respected companies were presented to the Survivor Fund, a crucial initiative dedicated to offering financial relief and assistance to the loved ones of towing professionals who face the heartbreaking loss of their family member. The Survivor Fund is designed to help alleviate the financial burden placed on families during an incredibly difficult time, covering funeral costs, medical expenses, and other urgent financial needs that can arise after such an untimely loss.

"The Wall of the Fallen ceremony is a poignant reminder of the risks that towing operators face every day in order to keep our roads safe," said Jeffrey Godwin, Co-Chairman of the Survivor Fund Committee and vice president of the International Towing Museum board.

"We are incredibly grateful to our partners at AAA, GEICO, and Jerr Dan for their generous contributions to the Survivor Fund. Their ongoing support plays a vital role in ensuring that the families of fallen heroes are not left to face these challenges alone."

*(continued on page 4)*

# MPTA Board of Directors

## ***PRESIDENT***

**Ron Gardas Jr.**  
Twin Cities Transport &  
Recovery  
3760 Flowerfield Rd  
Blaine, MN 55014  
763-784-7501  
'24-'27

## ***VICE - PRESIDENT***

**Lance Burda**  
Burdas Towing  
PO Box 249  
Rogers, MN 55374  
763-428-9911  
'25-'28

## ***SECRETARY/TREASURER***

**Ron Feist**  
Feist Automotive  
1875 N. Lilac Dr.  
Golden Valley, MN 55422  
763-544-5512  
'23-'26

## ***DIRECTORS:***

**Josh Schaffer**  
Pulver Towing  
2554 Cr 7  
Marshall, MN 56258  
507-828-5720  
'25-'28

**Jay Thompson**  
Lake City Towing  
2904 Winter Street  
Superior, WI 54880  
218-722-7781  
'24-'27

**Joe Lomsdal**  
Aggressive Towing  
2636 16th Ave So  
Moorhead, MN 56560  
218-287-2344  
'23-'26

**Noah Kreitinger**  
Dean's Towing  
1164 W. Frontage Rd.  
Owatonna, MN 55060  
507-291-0685  
'24-'27

**Lonnie Krackow**  
Borkowski Towing & Salvage  
PO Box 868  
Winona, MN 55987  
507-452-9073  
'25-'28

**Chris Frovik**  
Frovik's Towing  
14835 Aberdeen St NE  
Ham Lake, MN 55304  
763-786-9220  
'23-'26

## ***LOBBYIST***

**Rob Leighton**  
Nolan, Thompson, & Leighton  
952-405-7171

## ***LEGAL COUNSEL***

**Randy Thompson**  
Nolan, Thompson, & Leighton  
952-405-7171

## ***EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR***

**Lance Klatt**  
2886 Middle Street  
Little Canada, MN 55117  
651-487-2231

## ***OFFICE STAFF***

**Nikki Steger**  
2886 Middle Street  
Little Canada, MN 55117  
651-487-2231

MPTA contact information:

2886 Middle Street  
Little Canada, MN 55117

Phone: 651-487-2231  
Fax: 651-487-2447

Email: [admin@mnprotow.org](mailto:admin@mnprotow.org)

**If you would like to make a  
contribution to help with the legislative  
efforts, please send your donations to:**

**MPTA  
2886 Middle Street  
Little Canada, MN 55117**

## Message From Executive Director, Lance Klatt

Wishing everyone wonderful Holiday Season!

Wishing to take time and thank members of the MPTA for another great year and your support! I always say, our industry would be more difficult without great members like you and hope you feel the same about the MPTA. Another great year with our training classes, MPTA's Annual Meeting and Hall of Fame inductions.

We wished for a snow-filled winter, and our wishes came true considering the past two years have been very interesting to say the least. Will not be long and the spring will be here and so will MPTA events. As discussed last year, MPTA is planning on hosting its annual picnic at a local indoor go-kart track. Originally planned for December, however, we know how unpredictable December can be. So, April will be the month for MPTA "Smash for Cash" go-kart picnic. (More information forthcoming)

MPTA board of directors are currently planning Western National's training sessions and be on the lookout for those dates and events. The Legislative session begins mid-February as this may be the year we strengthen our slow down-move over legislation and secure dealer's licenses for those smaller towing members.

Of course, we must not forget about the implementation of the Family Medical Paid Leave program beginning this past January 1st. MPTA sent out new/updated labor posters and communications ensuring all employees are aware of their labor rights and programs.

Please be safe out there! I have seen many postings of drivers not slowing down or moving over creating an unforgettable adventure on our roadways for our towing community.

Wishing everyone a Happy New Year and excited for what 2026 will bring!

Lance Klatt  
Executive Director  
Minnesota Professional Towing Assoc.



# The **Ultimate** Digital Tow Toolkit

- Confirm owner and lienholder information with on-demand vehicle records.
- Verify title history, theft reports, and salvage data from the NMVTIS database.
- Streamline the notification process using digital certified mail.
- Finalize and print lien packets online, then submit them in person.

Discover more at  
[info.add123.com/mpa](https://info.add123.com/mpa)



 **AutoDataDirect**



(continued from front page)

Through the growing contributions from industry leaders like AAA, GEICO, and Jerr Dan, the Survivor Fund continues to expand its reach and increase the support it offers to families. The industry's response to the Fund has been overwhelming, with many companies stepping forward to contribute year after year. The program's success is a testament to the towing and recovery community's deep sense of camaraderie and commitment to supporting the industry.

#### **About the Survivor Fund:**

The Survivor Fund, managed by the International Towing and Recovery Hall of Fame and Museum in Chattanooga, TN, was established in 2006 to provide financial assistance to families who have lost a loved one while working in the towing and recovery industry. Since its inception, the Fund has helped hundreds of families through these tragic losses.

## **Brokers can be held liable in trucking accidents if they fail to properly vet carriers or if their negligence contributes to the accident.**

**MPTA members and the towing industry in some circumstances find difficulty in recovering the cost of recovery, clean up and tow. If struggling with insurance companies, a towing operator may be able to try and collect from a broker.**

#### **Understanding Broker Liability**

Brokers act as intermediaries between shippers and trucking companies, coordinating the transportation of goods. While they do not operate the trucks themselves, they have a responsibility to ensure that the carriers they hire are safe and qualified. If a broker fails in this duty, they may share liability in the event of an accident.

#### **Key Factors in Broker Liability**

**Negligent Selection:** Brokers can be held liable if they hire a trucking company with a known history of safety violations or inadequate insurance. Courts often examine whether brokers exercised reasonable care in selecting carriers.

**Contractual Obligations:** If a broker has contractual terms that relate to safety and fails to adhere to them, they may face liability if an accident occurs as a result.

**Monitoring and Oversight:** Brokers are expected to monitor the safety records of the carriers they hire. If they neglect to do so and an accident occurs, this can be grounds for liability.

**Legal Theories:** Legal claims against brokers often involve theories of negligent hiring or negligent selection, focusing on the broker's own carelessness rather than vicarious liability for the actions of the driver.

#### **Recent Developments**

Recent case law has highlighted the increasing scrutiny on brokers regarding their liability in trucking accidents. For instance, a case in the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals has raised questions about whether brokers can be shielded from liability under federal law when they fail to ensure the safety of the carriers they hire.

#### **Conclusion**

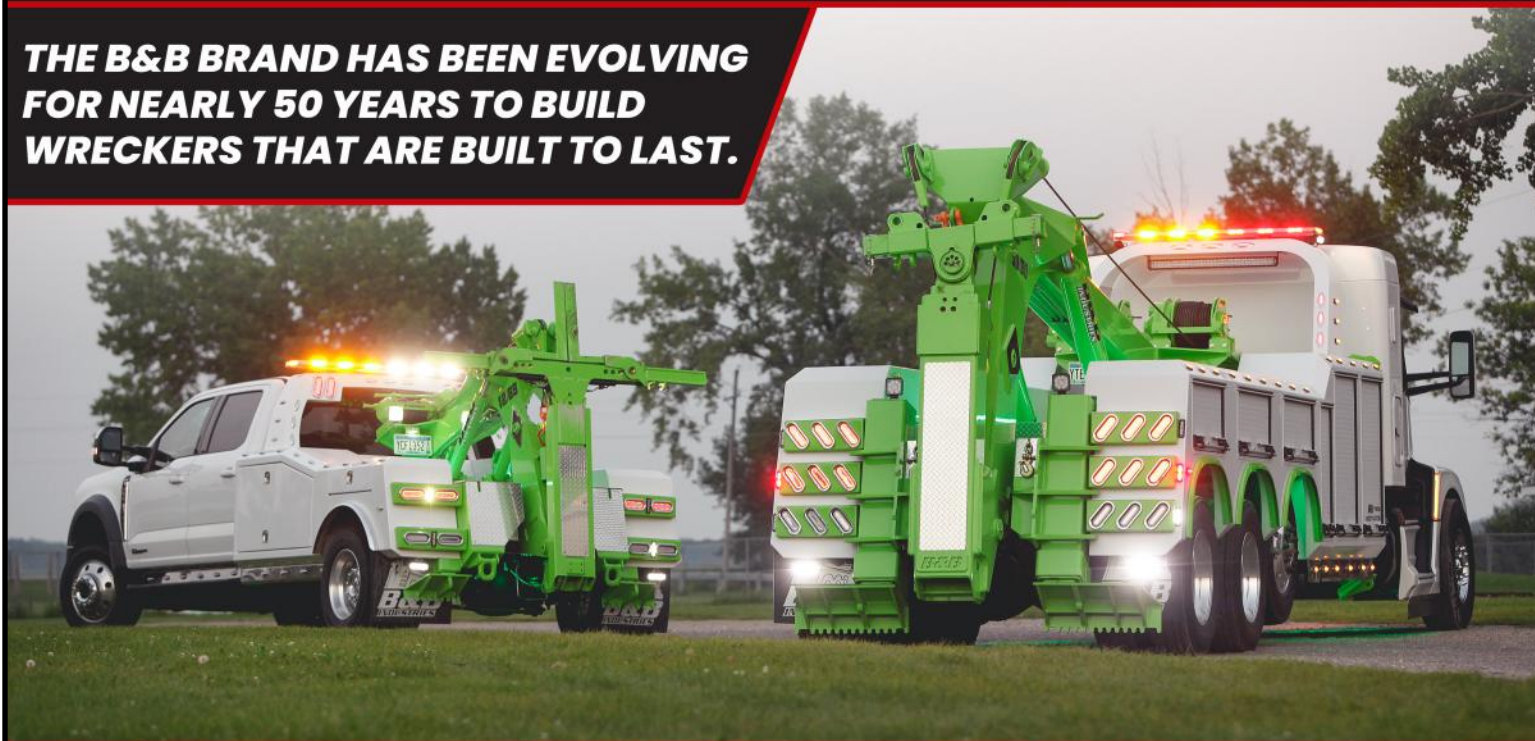
In summary, brokers can be held liable for trucking accidents if they do not fulfill their responsibilities in selecting and monitoring carriers. Victims of trucking accidents may have grounds to pursue claims against brokers, especially if it can be shown that the broker acted negligently in their hiring practices. Understanding these dynamics is crucial for anyone involved in a trucking accident case.



# **B&B** **INDUSTRIES**

## **A LEGACY OF PERFORMANCE**

**THE B&B BRAND HAS BEEN EVOLVING  
FOR NEARLY 50 YEARS TO BUILD  
WRECKERS THAT ARE BUILT TO LAST.**



 **SERVICE & REPAIR FOR ALL MAKES AND MODEL  
WRECKERS AND TOWING EQUIPMENT**

 **CUSTOM FABRICATION & WELDING**

 **FLATBED AND WRECKER COLLISION REPAIR**

 **MANUFACTURERS OF 8-80 TON WRECKERS,  
ROTATORS, DETACHABLE TOWING UNITS &  
SKID LOADER WINCH ATTACHMENTS**

 **HANDCRAFTED IN THE USA USING  
AMERICAN-MADE PRODUCTS**

**BBTOWSUPPLY.COM**

**20020 177TH ST NW | BIG LAKE, MN 55309  
OFFICE@BBTOWSUPPLY.COM**

**CALL: (763) 333-4743  
TEXT: (763) 200-6057**



## DVS SPECIAL UPDATE- IN CASE YOU MISSED IT!

### **New regulations for issuing non-domiciled CDLs and CLPs**

The U.S. Department of Transportation announced new regulations for issuing non-domiciled commercial driver's licenses (CDL) and commercial learner's permits (CLP) that started Sept. 29.

Driver and Vehicle Services (DVS) is evaluating how these regulations will impact CDL and CLP drivers and applicants, including the documentation we can accept. Due to these regulations, we are not currently allowed to accept new non-domiciled CDL and CLP applications. This includes renewals, duplicates, address changes, upgrades and transfers

### **MNDRIVE update**

We updated MNDRIVE to stop non-domiciled CDL and CLP applications depending on the supporting documentation provided.

If a supporting document is not accepted, you will get the following error: The selected document is not currently accepted for CDL or CLP issuance due to new USDOT regulations.

### **Applicant questions**

We recognize some people may become upset or frustrated by the new regulations. We've included some talking points to help with those conversations.

If you are getting other questions frequently, please let your regional supervisor know so we can provide guidance on how to respond.

### **When will I know which documents I need to apply for a non-domiciled CDL or CLP?**

Driver and Vehicle Services is reviewing the new regulations as quickly as possible. They will be providing information, including which documents we can accept, to ensure compliance with federal and state law. Keep checking [dps.mn.gov/CDL](https://dps.mn.gov/CDL) for updated information.

### **I'm a U.S. citizen or permanent resident. Can you accept my application?**

We can accept CDL and CLP applications if you use one of the following as supporting documentation: U.S. passport, birth certificate, certificate of birth abroad, certificate of citizenship, certificate of naturalization or permanent resident card.

Driver and Vehicle Services will be providing additional information, including which documents we can accept, to ensure compliance with federal and state law. Keep checking [dps.mn.gov/CDL](https://dps.mn.gov/CDL) for updated information.

I am authorized to work in the U.S. Can you accept my application?

Due to the new regulations, we are not currently accepting non-domiciled CDL and CLP applications.

If you need to update your address or make other changes, you will be required to change (downgrade) your CDL to a regular (class D) license.

Please know we are reviewing the new regulations as quickly as possible and will provide additional information, including the documentation we can accept, as it becomes available. Keep checking [dps.mn.gov/CDL](https://dps.mn.gov/CDL) for updated information.

Can I update my non-domiciled CDL or CLP?

Due to the new regulations, we are not currently accepting new non-domiciled CDL and CLP applications. This includes renewals, duplicates, address changes, upgrades and transfers.

Questions?

More information, including what documentation we can accept for non-domiciled CDL and CLP applications, will be shared as it becomes available. Visit [dps.mn.gov/CDL](https://dps.mn.gov/CDL) for the latest information.





ZIPS.COM | 800-222-6047 | FREE SHIPPING ON \$199+ ORDERS\*

# Just a click away. Zips.com



Purchase & personalize your apparel with us.

## We build trucks, too!

Besides parts distribution, our company also builds light, medium and heavy duty wreckers, industrial carriers and service trucks.



\*Free shipping is only valid on purchases of \$199 or more and ground shipments within the contiguous 48 states for products weighing less than 150 lbs.

## Work with our MN personal sales consultant.

**Brian McDermott**  
C: 612-209-1366  
E: brian@zips.com





## TRAA's Legislative Action Workshop & Hill Day 2026

Registration is now open for TRAA's 8th annual Legislative Action Workshop & Hill Day! Next year's event will take place on **Tuesday, February 24 to Wednesday, February 25, 2026.**

This premium event is the Towing and Recovery Industry's only National "Hill Day". Each year we focus on particular topics that align with TRAA's legislative priorities to improve the Towing Industry. We work collaboratively during constituent and group meetings with Members of Congress, regulators, and staffers to secure essential support for legislation and regulations that impact the towing and recovery industry.

**This is your opportunity to make real, substantial change for the whole towing community and have fun with industry friends while doing it.**

### Early Bird Pricing\*

TRAA Member: **\$699** (\$200 Member Discount)

Non-Member: **\$899**

The event will again be held at the Royal Sonesta Washington DC, Capitol Hill! Steps from the U.S. Capitol Building, Senate office buildings, Union Station, National Mall, and local restaurants

The discounted room rate is **\$379/night** plus applicable taxes (the nightly amenity fee is also waived). We only have a limited number of discounted rooms, secure your room via the reservation form now.

**(Registration Form is on next page)**

## Tentative Event Schedule

### Tuesday - February 24, 2026

- Registration & Breakfast
- Legislative Workshops on Policy Priorities and Hill Day Meeting Prep Session
- Panel of Capital Hill Staff to discuss Transportation Priorities
- Lunch
- Panel of USDOT Officials
- State Association Sharing
- National Hill Monuments Night Bus Tour

### Wednesday "Hill Day"

- Constituent Meetings with Members of Congress (meetings facilitated by TRAA's federal lobbying team)
- Members of Congress Meet & Greet on Capital Hill
- TRAA Dinner - Hill Meeting Report Out





## 2026 Legislative Action Workshop & Hill Day February 24-25, 2026 Event Registration and Hotel Deposit Form

Please complete and return the form via fax (888) 392-9300 to the TRAA Office for processing. A confirmation email will be sent to the email address(es) listed below. The deadline for registrations is 1/31/2026 and hotel reservations is 1/15/2026.

### TRA A's Legislative Action Workshop Event Registration

The event registration includes all 2-days of meetings facilitated by Tremont Strategies Group, events and group meals as indicated in the event schedule\*. Registration fees are non-refundable. Visit <https://traaonline.com/hillday> for more details.

**Company Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Early Bird Discount (register by December 31, 2025)**

**TRA A Member Pricing (subject to verification)** \_\_\_\_\_ # of attendees x \$699.00

**Non-Member Pricing** \_\_\_\_\_ # of attendees x \$899.00

#### **Standard Registration (January 1-January 31, 2026)**

**TRA A Member Pricing (subject to verification)** \_\_\_\_\_ # of attendees x \$799.00

**Non-Member Pricing** \_\_\_\_\_ # of attendees x \$999.00

Please list attendee(s) information below:

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell #:** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell #:** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

\*Required to schedule meetings - Home Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Office Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ (if different)

\*Preferred Constituent Meeting Format: \_\_\_\_\_ In-Person \_\_\_\_\_ Virtual/Zoom (best for those w/mobility concerns)

\*Distribution of attendee contact information to event participants: *Please check to Opt Out* ☐

### Royal Sonesta Washington DC, Capitol Hill Hotel Reservation (deadline 1/15/2026)

**The room rate is \$379/night plus applicable taxes for a King or Queen/Queen room. Savings of 30% off of rack rate and no nightly amenity fee.** Credit card information will be submitted to the Royal Sonesta Washington DC, Capitol Hill Hotel for processing the required room deposit. Hotel booking is being made on your behalf, hotel reservation subject to Royal Sonesta's own terms, policies, and conditions. Please note that you will be billed by TRAA for the cost of any cancellation or modification to your hotel reservation made any time after January 15, 2026. By submitting this registration, you accept this term and condition.

**Name on reservation:** \_\_\_\_\_ **# of Rooms:** \_\_\_\_\_ **# Guests per room:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Check In:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Check Out:** \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **Hotel Opt Out** I am not staying at the host hotel. If looking for other hotel options, please email: [contact@traaonline.com](mailto:contact@traaonline.com).

**Event schedule:** From Tuesday at 8:30AM (2/24/2026) to Wednesday at 9:00PM (2/25/2026)

**\*\*Limited room block available to check in on Mon (2/23/2026).**

### Credit Card Authorization

The credit card listed below may be billed for the authorized charges.

**Cardholder's Name (as it appears on the card):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Credit Card Billing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Credit Card Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Expiration Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Security Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Authorizing Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please fax the completed form to (888) 392-9300. By submitting this form, I confirm that I have read the details and authorize the Towing and Recovery Association of America, Inc. to charge my credit card as noted for event registration and room deposit.**

- Event schedule subject to change
- Disclaimer: Any constituent meeting handouts or distributed materials must have pre-approval.
- TRAA Member Pricing subject to verification.
- Limited number of rooms available in each room block category.



# HYDRAULIC REAR STIFF LEGS

EXCLUSIVELY CUSTOM BUILT & INSTALLED AT

**TWIN CITIES**  
WRECKER SALES



1301 Jackson Street  
St. Paul, MN 55117

**TWIN CITIES**  
WRECKER SALES



800-287-4210  
tcwreckersales.com



## Minnesota Risks Millions Over CDL Audit

The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) is warning that Minnesota could forfeit more than \$30 million in federal highway funding after a federal audit found widespread problems with how the state issued non-domiciled commercial driver's licenses (CDLs).

In a December 1 letter to Governor Tim Walz, Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy said the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) discovered that roughly one-third of the non-domiciled CDLs it reviewed in Minnesota were granted improperly. According to USDOT, the state issued licenses that extended beyond a driver's lawful presence, granted CDLs to Mexican nationals who were not present under DACA, issued non-domiciled CDLs to lawful permanent residents who should have received regular CDLs, and in some cases failed to verify lawful presence at all.

USDOT has given Minnesota 30 days to pause new non-domiciled CDL issuances, identify all noncompliant licenses, revoke and reissue them when appropriate, and complete a full internal audit of state procedures.

Federal officials said the funding threat is part of a broader nationwide review. Since mid-2025, FMCSA has also flagged concerns in Pennsylvania and California over similar CDL-issuance issues.

Source: <https://cdllife.com>

## AAA: Year-End Holiday Travel on Track to Break Records

AAA expects a record 122.4 million Americans to travel at least 50 miles from home during the year-end holiday period from Dec. 20 to Jan. 1. The projection marks a 2.2% increase over last year and surpasses 2024's record of 119.7 million travelers.

Road trips will dominate holiday travel, with 109.5 million Americans driving—about 89% of all travelers. Lower gas prices are helping fuel the trend, with the national average dipping below \$3 a gallon for the first time in four years. AAA urges motorists to stay safe during one of the most dangerous travel periods of the year and reminds drivers to Slow Down and Move Over for roadside workers. Last holiday season, AAA responded to more than 860,000 roadside emergencies.

Air travel is also expected to hit new highs. AAA projects 8.03 million people will fly domestically, the first time that number has exceeded 8 million. Average fares are up 7%, nearing \$900 roundtrip.

Another 4.9 million travelers are expected to take buses, trains, or cruises—an increase driven largely by strong post-pandemic demand for cruising.

Source: AAA



## Hacker or Tow Professional?

Are you a “Hacker” or a “Professional” tower? “Hacker” is street slang that’s tossed around when towers don’t follow time-worn guidelines that support operations and industry safety.

For towers who identify as a “Misfit,” this narrative may stir some emotions. One of the industry’s self-proclaimed influencers shared his collection of dislikes against annoying tow truck drivers based on behaviors he’s witnessed on a day-to-day basis. To protect his online identity, let’s call him “Mr. Influencer,” a self-acclaimed expert of the industry’s Tow Police.

While I don’t support internet influencers and their antics, I found one post especially entertaining and complete with enough substance to share with you. Mr. Influencer didn’t speak highly of certain tow operators. His complaints (not mine) pointed out a list of annoying tow operator behaviors. Here’s what he had to say about fellow towers — what he didn’t like were:



1. **“Call chasers and speeders”** — his biggest complaint, saying, “Around here tow truckers drive like fools on highways and city streets.” He noted it was especially true of towers who expedite and chase calls.
2. **“Tailgaters”** — listed as a close second, saying towers use a tow truck’s size to intimidate motorists and make traffic move over. Obviously, tailgating actions tend to cause road rage from motorists who weren’t having it.
3. **“Tow trucks who drive the shoulders”** — upset him, noting that, in attempts to get somewhere quick, “They’re always driving too fast on the shoulders.” Note: Shoulder response isn’t illegal in some states when authorization is provided by law enforcement.
4. **“Lights on all the time”** — saying, “Towers drive with emergency lights ‘on’ everywhere they go.” Note: Depending on the state tow companies serve, it may be legal to drive with lights ‘on’ when vehicle code law authorizes it, or when a tow or transport impedes traffic.
5. **“Tow trucks have circus lighting”** — citing carriers and wreckers where, “A little bit of emergency lighting goes a long way!”
6. **“If it fits, it ships”** — complaining that wreckers and carriers are constantly overloaded and over-length. Note: Overloading is a dangerous practice that affects braking and steering that can lead to collisions. Sorry — just because “it fits” doesn’t make it safe or legal.
7. **“One-Hook Wonders”** — towers who don’t comply with tie-down and safety chain requirements. “You see ’em with maybe one J-Hook chain... that’s it.”
8. **“Escaping debris”** — describing towers who don’t secure loose items from vehicles, only to drop into a following vehicle’s path. Towers are reminded to secure carrier items before tow or transport commences.
9. **“Asinine road ragers”** — where out-of-control towers commit road rage once angered at another party’s driving actions. Road rage could be the result of items one through four. For example, a 2017 flatbed operator fired shots into a semi-truck, resulting in an intentional homicidal death. The tower was charged with first-degree murder and sentenced to 50 years.
10. **Final dislike:** “Tow truck drivers think they’ve got some kind of authority.” Note: Tow operators have zero authority under law and this mindset may result in violence.

### Hackers Versus Professionals

I submit that Mr. Influencer makes valid points in his post that seem correct. While I’ll take the “middle of the road” approach here, consider what personality you choose to be: “Hacker” or “Professional?”

*(continued on next page)*



(continued from previous page)

Because the industry sees little to no enforcement, it's easy for towers to fall into one of these two categories. For the "Hacker," laziness, short-cutting, and a brazen disregard for industry teachings create many of Mr. Influencer's "dislikes."

The Hacker personality may be driven by an "It'll never happen to me" mentality, or "I've been doing it that way for years and I ain't been caught yet." And for towers who attend the "Internet University of Tow Operator Training," the tricks you apply in the field may result in an unintentional injury or death to you or an innocent person.

For professional tow operators, following vehicle code law and working within industry expectations is an easy process. Professionalism is a practiced behavior that conforms to industry expectations.

In that mindset, what personality defines you?

By Randall C. Resch

## TOW INDUSTRY & WEEK

### College-Educated Oversupply Crisis Worsens

The widening mismatch between an oversupply of college-educated workers and a deepening shortage of talent for non-degree, hands-on jobs has grown even more pronounced.

Bloomberg reports that the latest delayed BLS data shows a sharp deterioration in white-collar jobs, especially those holding four-year degrees, now making up a record 25% of all unemployed - or about 1.9 million folks, the highest level since 1992.

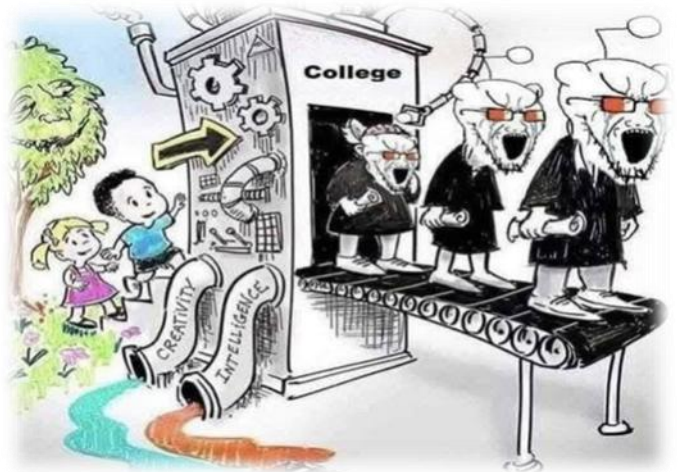
The unemployment rate for bachelor's degree holders climbed to 2.8% in September, while joblessness for other education groups remained relatively the same. Young degree-holders are getting squeezed the most: unemployment for ages 20 to 24 jumped to 9.2%, an increase rarely seen outside recessions.

There currently is an alarming shift in the labor market: an oversupply of college graduates and a shortage of non-college-degree technical workers.

Palantir CEO Alex Karp recently had an epic quote about this emerging labor market mess :

"The education industrial complex has spent more time transforming kids into Marxist activists than preparing them for future labor market shifts. Now, these purple-haired degree holders are entering a shrinking labor market, and companies view these kids as giant liabilities."

**It's time for young people to consider avoiding overpriced college.** Perhaps time to learn an actual skill that makes you valuable, one that lets you remain productive before automation and AI sweep the labor market, such as building data centers or working on natural gas turbines.



# Member Directory

<b>Aitkin</b>	Dennis' Towing 320-684-2825	<b>Coon Rapids</b>	Corky's Towing 612-919-1106	<b>Lakeville</b>	Marek's Towing & Repair 952-469-3182
<b>Albert Lea</b>	T&W Towing 507-473-2999	<b>Crystal</b>	Twin Cities Transport & Recovery 651-642-1446	<b>Mankato</b>	Affordable Towing 507-388-8697
<b>Anoka</b>	North Star Towing 763-427-4160	<b>Currie</b>	Radke Wheel Service 507-763-3129	<b>Marshall</b>	Pulver Towing 507-828-5720
<b>Apple Valley</b>	Dick's Valley Service 952-432-2848	<b>Dayton</b>	MN Towing and Repair 612-326-6687	<b>Minneapolis</b>	Blaine Brothers 763-780-5130 612-333-8900 Bobby & Steve's Auto World South Minneapolis 612-861-6133 Metro Wreckers Services 612-330-0013
<b>Arlington</b>	After Burner Auto Body & Towing 507-964-2809	<b>Detroit Lakes</b>	DL Towing 218-847-6362	<b>Minnetonka</b>	Kustom Karriers 952-938-4680
<b>Austin</b>	Otomo's Auto Towing 507-450-0051	<b>Duluth</b>	Dukes Towing 218-722-8885	<b>Montevideo</b>	Monte Motor Sales, Inc. 320-269-6264
<b>Blackduck</b>	Bogart's Towing 218-835-4548	<b>Eagan</b>	Magnum Towing 651-423-7201	<b>Moorhead</b>	Aggressive Towing & Recovery 218-287-2344 Ed's Towing Service 218-233-7740
<b>Blaine</b>	Citywide Service Corp 763-786-9020 Frovik's Towing 763-786-9220 Hooked Up Towing & Recovery 612-913-0702 Twin Cities Transport & Recovery, Inc. 651-642-1446	<b>Elk River</b>	Collins Brothers Towing 763-241-9177 Lynch Wrecker Services 612-578-5168	<b>Mountain Iron</b>	Iron Range Towing and Automotive 218-780-1726
<b>Bloomington</b>	Darrick's Preferred Auto 507-583-9994	<b>Faribault</b>	Glenn's Service LLC 507-334-4202	<b>New Brighton</b>	Freeway Towing 651-633-5525
<b>Bloomington</b>	Chief's Towing, Inc. 952-888-2201	<b>Fergus Falls</b>	Beyer Towing 218-205-6137	<b>Oakdale</b>	Twin Cities Transport & Recovery, Inc. 651-642-1446
<b>Brooklyn Center</b>	Sandoval Services 612-845-0623	<b>Forest Lake</b>	Dan's Towing 651-464-5551	<b>Owatonna</b>	Dean's Westside Service 507-455-1950
<b>Brooklyn Park</b>	Citywide Service 763-424-4900 Feist Towing 763-544-5512	<b>Grand Meadow</b>	Gregerson Towing & Recovery 507-272-4088	<b>Plymouth</b>	Frankies Towing Co 763-595-0321 Twin Cities Transport & Recovery 763-544-3202
<b>Burnsville</b>	Captain Towing 952-856-2901	<b>Inver Grove Heights</b>	South East Towing 651-451-9721	<b>Prior Lake</b>	Zeilla Holdings 763-273-1185
<b>Cannon Falls</b>	Siewert's Towing 507-263-4791	<b>Ironton</b>	AutoSmith Service Group 1-218-545-5715	<b>Red Wing</b>	Midway Auto 651-388-8296 Siewerts Garage 651-388-9163
<b>Clearwater</b>	Blaine Brothers 320-558-9966	<b>Lafayette</b>	Five Star Towing 507-843-2677		
<b>Columbus</b>	Blaine Brothers Truck Aline 763-786-8863	<b>Kasson</b>	T & K Towing Service 507-250-4573		



# Member Directory

**Rochester** CSC Towing  
507-289-8344  
Gregerson Towing & Recovery  
507-272-4088  
Rochester Towing, LLC  
507-288-7317  
Pulver Towing  
507-282-3851

**Savage** Allen's Service Inc.  
952-894-1000

**Scanlon** Blaine Brothers  
218-879-6681

**Shafer** PLC Recovery  
651-257-3975

**Spring Lake Park** Citywide Service  
763-432-4550

**St. Anthony** Twin Cities Transport  
& Recovery, Inc.  
651-642-1446

**St. Cloud** Andy's Towing  
320-251-5691

**St. Paul** Twin Cities Transport  
& Recovery, Inc.  
651-642-1446  
PLC Recovery  
651-247-9783

**St. Charles** Whitewater Wrecker Service  
507-718-9669

**Virginia** Armory Shell Towing & Service  
218-741-6050

**Waseca** Bocks Service Inc.  
507-835-5407  
Tesch Service Center  
507-835-4610

**White Bear Lake** Twin City Transport  
& Recovery, Inc.  
651-642-1446

**Willmar** City Line Towing  
320-231-3869  
Ed's Service Center & Sales  
320-235-5945

**Winona** Borkowski Towing & Salvage  
507-452-9073

## NORTH DAKOTA

**Bismarck** Berg's 24 Hour Towing  
701-663-6491

## SOUTH DAKOTA

**Big Stone** The Shop, Inc.  
605-862-8215

**Watertown** Performance Towing  
218-722-7781

## WISCONSIN

**Ashland** Tomlinson's Inc.  
715-684-3359

**Baldwin** Day & Nite Towing, LLC  
715-684-3359

**Balsam Lake** Lake Services Unlimited  
715-857-5753

**Hixton** Jensen Towing and Repair  
715-963-3431

**LaCrosse** Goldbeck Towing Service  
608-781-4869

**Roberts** Star Equipment  
715-749-4450

**Superior** Lake City Towing  
218-722-7781

## ASSOCIATE

**Accounting/Towing Software**  
Towbook

Kendall Smith 810-320-5063

## Auto & Equipment Sales

Twin Cities Wrecker Sales  
Rod Pellow 651-488-4210

Worldwide Equipment Sales  
Jeff Irr 815-725-4400

Zip's Truck Equipment  
Paul Rottinghaus 1-800-222-6047

## Banking/Financial

Customers Commercial Finance  
Josh Johnson 952-484-0882

## Fabrication & Manufacturing

B&B Industries  
Lance & Layla Burda 763-333-4743

## Health Insurance

Health & Life Financial Services  
Kevin Urlaub 763-287-0055

## Insurance

Corporate Four Insurance  
Jessica Hrabe 952-896-9535

Kapnick Insurance  
Marc Engel 952-905-6017

Midwest Insurance Service  
John Hall 651-439-5939

## Insurance Subrogation

Corrective Action Recovery Solutions, LLC (C.A.R.S)  
Greg Schafer 507-530-5032

## Management Consulting

Professional Transport Management Company  
Steve & Sue Schmit 612-366-0525

## Uniforms

Cintas Kevin Gaskins 763-391-5266

## Vehicle Data Information

Auto Data Direct  
Parker Devenney 773-771-9910



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## **MPTA Board Meeting**

January 27, 2026

Dinner: 6:00 pm

Meeting: 6:30 pm

MPTA Office  
Little Canada, MN



Meetings may be cancelled due to weather please  
check <https://www.facebook.com/groups/mnprotow> for all  
event updates.