

Truck Crash Investigation Underride Evaluation Checklist

These questions should be asked and answered during every truck crash investigation and included in the crash report and FARS Report:

1. Did airbags deploy and [seat belt pre-tensioners](#) activate/function as intended?
2. Did the car's [crumple zone](#) function as intended?
3. Did the truck enter any part of the passenger occupant space, i.e., [passenger compartment intrusion](#) (PCI)? What was the condition of the car, i.e., were the windshield, doors, or roof caved-in or sheared off?
4. Was the intrusion in their [survival space](#)?
5. Were the [occupants trapped](#)? Did they have to be [extricated](#)?
6. What part of the car was involved in collision with the truck?
7. With what part of the truck did the car initially collide?
8. Did it happen at the side of the truck?
9. Did it happen at the front of the truck?
10. If it collided in the rear, at what point on the rear guard did it make contact?
11. What happened to the rear underride guard?
12. What appeared to be the [condition of the rear underride guard](#)? Did it look like it was [properly maintained](#)? Was it rusty, corroded, have cracks, etc.?
13. Did the underride prevention equipment have any record of maintenance?
14. Was it a tractor trailer or a single unit truck (box truck, straight truck)?
15. Who was the [truck manufacturer](#)? What make, model, and year was the truck-tractor?
16. Who was the [trailer manufacturer](#)? What make, model, and year was the trailer (**ask for VIN**)?
17. Were there any serious injuries? If so, where was the person sitting in the passenger vehicle?
18. Were there any fatalities?
19. If so, where was the person sitting in the passenger vehicle?
20. If so, what was listed as the primary cause of death?
21. Capture as much of this information as possible with photographic evidence.
22. If a person was taken to the hospital with injuries, follow-up later to see if they died or had long-term debilitating injuries.