

52-car pile-up. Severity Due to Truck Drivers' Excessive Speed. Adverse Weather was not a Sudden Condition.

A settlement was reached between the families of a woman and her infant child and several trucking companies involved in a 52-car pile-up that occurred during a winter storm. The trucks lost control and crashed into other stopped/previously crashed vehicles, which resulted in a fire. Three other people were killed in the crash.

Robson Forensic reconstructed the crash, and evaluated weather conditions, the actions of the truck drivers, the cause and spread of the fire that resulted from the crash, and the cause of death for both the woman and child. We determined that the described "whiteout" did not occur suddenly, and that the truck drivers were going at excessive speeds given the weather conditions. Impact by the first truck caused the previously crashed truck to strike the vehicle occupied by the mother and child. Both the woman and infant survived the impact, but were killed when the flames of his vehicle spread to their car.

To email the experts involved in this case: [Thomas P. Lacey](#) with [Motor Vehicle Accidents](#)
[Jamie R. Williams Ph.D.](#) with [Biomechanical](#)
[Edmund G. Knight P.I.](#) with [Fires / Explosions](#)
[Raymond L. Lee Ph.D.](#) with [Meteorology](#)