

DALE WATKINS

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I possess over 25 years of experience overseeing and managing drivers through ownership and operation of my own trucking company, as well as more than 17 years serving as a compliance agent with a large national trucking association. This extensive background enables me to understand both the practical and regulatory aspects of trucking safety, providing valuable insights that complement enhance communication with drivers.

EXPERIENCE

JANUARY 2023-TO PRESENT

EXPERT OPINIONS, SAFE TRUCK SOLUTIONS LLC, fka, WATKINS CONSULTING

My company delivers professional, industry-standard opinions for court cases and offers compliance and regulatory guidance to small motor carriers. So far, I have prepared nine reports and opinions and I have given deposition testimony on three occasions.

JANUARY 8, 2019 – APRIL 4, 2024

BUSINESS SERVICES MANAGER, OWNER OPERATOR INDEPENDENT DRIVERS ASSOCIATION (OUIDA)

Manage a group of 30 individuals who work in Compliance, Permits and Licensing, and a DOT certified Drug and Alcohol Testing Consortium departments. Since I have been manager, (2019, through 2022), we have hit and surpassed record business in P&L and our Drug Consortium (from 12,000 to over 17,000 through 2022). While managing these departments, the duties under Assistant Manager are still my responsibility as no new assistant manager was ever hired.

OCTOBER 16, 2017, TO JANUARY 8, 2019

ASSISTANT MANAGER, OWNER OPERATOR INDEPENDENT DRIVERS ASSOCIATION

Managed the Business Services department during the manager's absence and supervised the Compliance Department. Duties included responsible for the time sheets, and vacation requests for the three departments, as well as directing our Compliance Department to assist our membership to help with 100 to 500 calls a day dealing with issues pertaining to the trucking industry.

JULY 10, 2006, TO OCTOBER 16, 2017

COMPLIANCE AGENT, OWNER OPERATOR INDEPENDENT DRIVERS ASSOCIATION

I would take from 12 to 25 calls per day answering questions and assisting members with various kinds of questions. These would range from leasing regulations to violations they received while on the road. We assisted in Data Q Challenges to contract carriers and brokers to make sure our members were getting a fair chance. This also included a few trips to Washington DC to speak directly to Transportation Staffers in the Senate and the

House. During this time, I directed 15 members in a successful lawsuit against a motor carrier that was defrauding the owner operators. My duties also included being interviewed for a trucking publication and for taped segments and live radio programs that were broadcasted on Sirius XM Radio. I also assisted with the development of a new program designed to assist members when starting as new carriers, maintain their driver files, and equipment maintenance files. This has proved to be highly successful in keeping our small motor carrier's complaint in DOT audits. With my vast background, I was OOIDA's go to person for our lobbyists in Washington DC. I was always answering questions on how legislation would affect our membership. This included a direct role in assisting with language and subject matter for various bills in, including one that assisted our military veterans in getting their DOT medical certificates.

JANUARY 1, 1974, TO JULY 10, 2006

TRUCK DRIVER AND FARMER, SELF EMPLOYED

I farmed 1,200 acres of row crops and fed up to 4,000 hogs annually across five states simultaneously. Additionally, I owned and operated a trucking company with Federal Operating Authority with up to six class 8 trucks and drivers, coordinating both local and long-haul freight transport.

EDUCATION

SKILLS

- Being a truck driver myself as well as a business owner, I relate directly with both owners and drivers.
- My experience as an owner and an employee of OODIA has allowed me to become intimately familiar with the FMCSRs and State regulations.
- I hold a Class A Commercial Driver's License, with endorsements for tanker vehicles, doubles/triples, and passenger transport.
- My experience at OOIDA has allowed me to develop numerous law enforcements contacts on both the Federal and State levels.
- With my mechanical background, I understand the complexity of trucking equipment.
- I have accumulated over one million miles of safe driving experience operating Class 7 and Class 8 trucks.

ACTIVITIES

My wife and I love to travel, whether it is in the US or abroad. I love to go to my farm and tinker with equipment; from mowing grass to building a pond. It provides me my "quiet" place to unwind.