

Major case unit

When plaintiffs' bar uses creative, aggressive tactics in their pursuit of transportation cases, our **major case unit** offers strategic solutions to help address these challenges and control costs.

These dedicated colleagues have extensive experience handling high-complexity and large exposure transportation claims, helping motor carriers, freight brokers and insurers face inflated medical bills, overtreatment, fraudulent claims, unrealistic time-limit and policy-limit demands, social inflation, and the ever-present potential for nuclear verdicts. Upon notice of a new loss, they begin an aggressive investigation and collaborate closely with defense counsel to achieve superior claims outcomes.

Simplify complex transportation cases

We help ensure the best possible outcomes for clients with expert solutions and an experienced team. Our transportation claims specialists work with highly experienced professionals both within Sedgwick and throughout the industry to assist with all aspects of the claims investigation.

Our services include:

Urgent response

- MCU Transportation Specialists are on-call and available 24/7 to respond to severe or catastrophic events. Complex claims advisors maintain direct contact with the client while managing the on-scene response and initial investigation, plus immediate follow up and reporting.

- MCU staff immediately start helping to control and mitigate loss, coordinating with transportation-focused defense counsel, field adjusters, environmental response technicians and accident reconstructionist to ensure the client's legal interests and brand are protected.

Defense counsel selection

- We leverage a proven network of transportation-focused defense attorneys throughout the U.S., partnering with only industry-leading firms and attorneys with dedicated transportation practice groups.
- These experts provide an early assessment of each loss and collaborate with our Complex Claims Advisors and clients to move each case toward resolution.

Aggressive investigations

- Our special investigation unit provides comprehensive and aggressive investigations from day one.
- Our internal red tag coordinator ensures client's equipment is properly preserved only as long as necessary and our clients' vehicles are back on the road as soon as possible.
- Our nurse review team completes comprehensive medical records reviews to support the investigation process and identify potential causation defenses, and reasonable/customary medical billing reviews.
- Our network of nationwide industry-leading vendors and experts handles any additional services that may be needed to strengthen the claim investigation.

Claims resolution strategies

- Our team works toward early resolution whenever feasible to minimize litigation expense and achieve the best outcome for the client.
- With our expanded claims resources, we can reduce our team's caseloads to allow for rigorous investigation, analysis and reporting.
- We act with urgency to drive cases forward and achieve superior results.

Valuable services, exceptional results

Our expert team works closely with defense counsel and assists clients throughout the claims process. Below are some examples of cases we have assisted with and the successful outcomes:

The client's employee was driving a tractor trailer southbound on a highway nearing a controlled intersection and had a green light to proceed. The plaintiff's vehicle was traveling eastbound on the intersecting road. As the client's driver neared the intersection, the plaintiff's vehicle accelerated quickly on a red light, pulling out in front of the insured vehicle. The insured collided with the driver's side of the plaintiff's vehicle. The client's driver was traveling above the speed limit, which was noted as a contributing factor to the loss. While liability was favorable, the plaintiff driver was killed in the accident and two minor children in the vehicle sustained life-threatening and permanent injuries.

- Demand: **\$15M**
- Defense counsel value: **\$5M-\$10M**
- Client-provided authority: **\$1.25M**
- Resolution: **\$250k**

Our client's driver was traveling on a three-lane highway when the plaintiff ran out from alongside the highway. The driver was unable to avoid and fatally struck the plaintiff. The file handler completed in-depth background and social media checks and an investigation that revealed the plaintiff suffered from years of alcohol and drug abuse. While liability was favorable, it was also discovered that our client's driver was over his hours of service. Through an aggressive investigation and negotiations, the file handler was able to resolve the case via direct negotiations without the client incurring any legal expenses.

- Demand: **\$1M**
- Defense counsel value: **\$500k**
- Client-provided authority: **\$500k**
- Resolution: **\$75k**

While exiting the freeway, a group of five motorcycles attempted to overtake the client's tractor trailer. One of the motorcyclists collided with the vehicle, causing him to lay down his bike under the trailer. The other motorcyclists claimed the client's employee was driving erratically and swerved towards the group causing the accident. Our urgent response team was able to get boots on the ground while the scene was still active. We secured pertinent evidence and the drive cam footage that clearly showed the driver was free of any negligence. The file handler was able to utilize the dash cam footage and other investigative details to persuade the plaintiff to dismiss the case.

- Demand: **\$10M**
- Defense counsel value: **\$5M** if found liable.
- Client-provided authority: N/A
- Resolution: Voluntary Dismissal

We are here to help

For more than 50 years, our tailored claims solutions have been helping our clients thrive. Even in an ever-changing environment, our experience and thorough understanding of the unique challenges within the transportation industry demonstrate stability and value. We offer comprehensive claims services, and an integrated approach designed to achieve the best possible outcomes.

To learn more about our major case unit, contact:



Mike Carmody

AVP claims

608.451.5452

michael.carmody@sedgwick.com