

Major case unit

In today's world, plaintiffs' bar continues to use creative, aggressive tactics in their pursuit of transportation cases. Motor carriers, freight brokers and insurers face many challenges including vastly inflated medical bills, overtreatment, fraudulent claims, unrealistic time-limit and policy-limit demands, social inflation and the ever-present potential for nuclear verdicts. Our major case unit, part of our transportation center of excellence, offers strategic solutions to help clients address these issues and control costs, while minimizing the risk for exceptionally high jury awards.

The dedicated colleagues in our major case unit have extensive experience handling high-complexity and large exposure transportation claims. Immediately upon notice of a new loss, they begin an aggressive investigation and collaborate with defense counsel throughout the life of the claim to help achieve superior outcomes.

Expert solutions for complex transportation cases

We provide expertise and solutions to help ensure the best possible results for clients. Our transportation claims specialists work with highly experienced industry experts at Sedgwick and throughout the industry to assist with all aspects of the claims investigation.

Our services include:

Urgent response

- The transportation specialists in our major case unit are on-call and available 24/7 to respond to severe or catastrophic events
- Our complex claims advisors maintain direct contact with clients while quarterbacking the on-scene response, initial investigation, immediate follow up and reporting to clients

- Our colleagues immediately begin working with the client's claims team to help control and mitigate the loss; they coordinate with transportation-focused defense counsel, field adjusters, environmental response technicians and an accident reconstructionist to ensure the client's legal interests and brand are protected

Defense counsel selection

- We utilize a proven network of transportation-focused defense attorneys throughout the U.S.
- We partner with only industry-leading firms and attorneys with dedicated transportation practice groups
- These professionals provide an early assessment of each loss, and collaborate with our complex claims advisors and clients to move each case toward resolution

Aggressive investigations

- Sedgwick's special investigation unit provides comprehensive investigations from day one
- Our internal red tag coordinator ensures our clients' equipment is properly preserved only as long as necessary and their vehicles are back on the road as soon as possible
- Our nurse review team completes medical records reviews to support the investigation process and identify potential causation defenses, and assists with medical bill reviews to ensure charges are reasonable and customary

- We can access our network of nationwide industry-leading vendors and experts for any additional services that may be needed to strengthen the investigation

Claims resolution strategies

- Our team works toward early resolution whenever feasible in order 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 a sense of 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's 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, Sedgwick has been providing tailored claims solutions to meet our clients' needs. 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:
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To learn more about our integrated and customized solutions, visit [SEDGWICK.COM](https://www.sedgwick.com)