

NOT JUST A BIG CAR CRASH — YIN AND YANG TRUCKING TRENDS Gregory L. Gowan & Marisa Ybarra-Williams

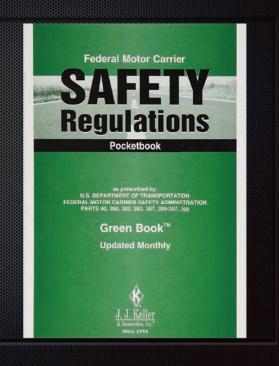
#### Spoliation Letters - Imposing a duty to preserve

Brookshire Bros., Ltd. v. Aldridge, 438 S.W.3d 9 (Tex. 2014)



## **Key FMCSRs**

- Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations
  - Sections 40 and 382: Drug and Alcohol Use
  - Sections 383 and 391: Driver Qualifications and Licensing Standards
  - Section 387: Insurance Requirements
  - Section 392: Rules of Driving, Fatigue, Alcohol Use, Schedules, and Inspections
  - Section 395: Hours of Service Limitations
  - Section 396: Inspection, Repair, and Maintenance
  - Section 397: Hazardous Materials



#### **FMCSRs** and **Discovery**



- Driver's logs
- Driver inspections
- Driver qualification files
- Event tracking data
- Dash cam footage

- **Dispatch records**
- Safety and **Training Manuals** 
  - Alcohol and Drug Tests
- Telephone Records

### Vicarious Liability Theories of Recovery

- Statutory Employer
- Respondeat Superior
- Negligent Entrustment



#### Statutory Employer

- . 49 C.F.R. § 376.12(c)(I)
- Interstate motor carriers required to assume full direction and control of leased vehicles
- Full responsibility for:
  - Maintenance and operation of equipment
  - Borrowed drivers
- Vicarious liability as a matter of law
- Transaction-specific determination, general authorization to operate as motor carrier irrelevant



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# Title search: Not Just A Big Car Crash: Yin and Yang Trucking Trends

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