



Atlanta Metro Law Addresses Airport Rideshare Crash Law

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Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, ranked by Airports Council International as the world's busiest airport by passenger traffic for most years since 1998, generates constant Uber and Lyft demand across its domestic and international terminals. Atlanta Metro Law is outlining the statutory framework that governs rideshare accident claims arising from the airport's high-demand pickup environment, where drivers circle the terminal loop, stop in active traffic lanes, and navigate an unfamiliar road network under time pressure.

Georgia's Transportation Network Company Act, codified at O.C.G.A. § 33-1-24, establishes driver qualification requirements for Uber and Lyft drivers operating in the state. According to the statute, those requirements include criminal background checks, disqualification for DUI convictions within the past seven years, disqualification for violent felony or sexual offense convictions, a zero-tolerance policy for drivers under the influence while on the platform, and vehicle inspection standards. Georgia courts have long recognized that the violation of a statute enacted for public safety can support a negligence per se theory where the injured party falls within the class the statute was designed to protect, a doctrine articulated in decisions such as *Central Anesthesia Associates v. Worthy*. Whether a platform's approval of a driver who fails to meet a

specific TNC Act requirement supports such a claim depends on the facts of each case.

The TNC Act also requires Transportation Network Companies to maintain one million dollars in primary commercial liability coverage when a driver has accepted a ride request or is actively transporting a passenger. That coverage threshold applies to airport pickup crashes whether a collision occurs in the designated TNC pickup zone, on Airport Circle, or on the approach roads connecting the airport complex to I-85 and I-285 in Fulton County.

Airport zone drivers can also face compounding distraction risks. Simultaneous navigation of the airport road system, monitoring of the Uber or Lyft app for pickup confirmation, communication with arriving passengers, and platform time pressures may combine to produce the inattention pattern that Georgia's Hands-Free Act, O.C.G.A. § 40-6-241, was written to address.

Atlanta Metro Law represents rideshare accident victims injured at Hartsfield-Jackson Airport, Buckhead, Midtown, and throughout Metro Atlanta. As an Atlanta rideshare Accident Lawyer practice, the firm applies trip data preservation demands, TNC Act compliance investigations, and SB 68 apportionment analysis from the day a crash is reported.

Georgia Senate Bill 68, signed by Governor Brian Kemp on April 21, 2025, addresses the apportionment of fault in civil litigation, including allocation to non-parties in certain circumstances. In an airport zone rideshare crash, defense counsel may seek to allocate fault to additional parties, an argument that can affect a driver's individual liability share and an injured claimant's total recoverable damages. The practical effect in any given matter turns on how courts apply the statute as litigation under the new law develops.

"The TNC Act sets a clear statutory standard for who may drive for Uber or Lyft in Georgia, and where the evidence shows a platform approved a driver who did not meet those requirements, that can become a central liability question," said a spokesperson for Atlanta Metro. "At Hartsfield-Jackson, acceptance-rate pressure, arrival penalties, and constant app navigation create conditions in which the interaction between the Hands-Free Act and SB 68 apportionment becomes especially relevant to how these cases are resolved."

Atlanta Metro Law is a personal injury law firm representing rideshare accident victims, car accident clients, bicycle accident survivors, and other injury clients throughout Metro Atlanta and Georgia. The firm handles Uber accidents, Lyft accidents, distracted driving crashes, and related personal injury matters on a contingency fee basis. More information from the ATL Metro Atlanta rideshare Accident Lawyer team can be

found on the website.

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Atlanta Metro Personal Injury Law Group

Atlanta Metro Law is dedicated to fighting for the rights of individuals injured in accidents, prioritizing client satisfaction and achieving the best possible outcomes.

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