



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Motor Carrier
Safety Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

JAN 30 2015

Reply to: MC-RRR

Mr. Todd Spencer
Executive Vice President
Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association
1 NW OOIDA Drive
Grain Valley, MO 64029

Dear Mr. Spencer:

Thank you for your letter concerning the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) New Information Collection Request: The Impact of Driver Compensation on Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety [Docket No. FMCSA-2014-0325]. The following is a response your letter.

Theme: The proposed research should include driver's insights on how compensation impacts safety performance. Further, the study should be concerned with truthful reporting and the quality of information from respondents.

FMCSA Response: The proposed study will use current data from the FMCSA safety data systems collected from carrier investigations and roadside activities. This data is driver specific and will be used to compare safety performance to compensation methods. In the case where a motor carrier has only one method of pay, a direct relationship can be considered. However, in the case where multiple methods of pay are used by a single carrier, then the survey questionnaire will expand to solicit individual driver compensation characteristics and safety history. In this way, the research considers drivers and their contribution to safety. Truthful reporting is always a concern in any research effort. The goal is to remove as much opinion and focus on verifiable, quantitative data. The FMCSA recognizes the need to validate collected information and will use all means available to cross-reference data where possible.

Thank you for your support of this project. In particular, we appreciate you providing detailed suggestions, example scenarios, and questions related to "other compensation" methods. We will consider all of your suggestions as we make final preparations to conduct the study.

This response is posted along with other public responses in the 30-day Federal Register notice; docket FMCSA-2014-0325. Should you need additional information or assistance, please contact Theresa Hallquist, Mathematical Statistician, FMCSA Research Division, at (202) 366-1064 or theresa.hallquist@dot.gov.

Sincerely,

Dr. Martin R. Walker
Chief, Research Division