

The Final Question:

"As advocates for drivers, we would like for you to share your stories about a specific problem or incident that you encountered. In your own words, tell us about a dangerous situation when parking. Your identity will remain confidential." (Up to 300 characters.)

100 Pages in total were collected. The following 33 pages of driver comments represent less than half of all final comments made.



I was in Alabama picking up a high value tire load. I was on time but they took over 6 hours to load my trailer, leaving me with only 1 hour left on 14 hour clock. I asked if I could take break there as the nearest safe parking was over 2 hours away. They hemmed and hawed and finally agreed I could as long as I parked in a vacant field at end of DC (distribution center). But I was not allowed out of the truck because as I am a female driver. Male drivers are allowed to break there with no problem, use the bathroom and break room. Exactly 10 hours later a manager was banging on my door and asking me to leave or else he would call the police. The next time I will park on a ramp or field in an unfinished industrial park rather than put up with this harassment.

There was one incident where I had waked up and my trailer doors were open and 3 persons were inside asleep. I called the local police and they were arrested. The rest area where this happened is no longer there. I'm an old truck driver and I know there is no way I could defend myself against one young adult much less three.

Drivers at rest areas are so packed in they often block the road to exit. I only needed to use restroom but couldn't park legally to do so. Instead I stopped in the street to pee and then had to wake up two drivers' to have them move their trucks so I could exit the rest area. I thought I was going to have to fight them to move their trucks.

I had a prostitute soliciting drivers at a truck stop in Ohio. She kept knocking on my door and disrupting my sleep. I had to call the police and they had her arrested.

Memphis Tennessee truck stops always have shady characters roaming parking lots, begging for money, hell they even advertise drugs for sale on the CB radio very frequently.

I find it hard with the new HOS (hours of service) to find safe comfortable parking now. You have to stop at places you don't feel comfortable because your load is "hot" and you have to push it on the hours. I try not to park at the pilot or TA in Chicago area because I've witnessed trucks getting broken into by young thugs in the area.

I'm not on the road overnight much. In Connecticut I drove through 3 rest areas, newly renovated with LESS truck parking, bus parking more spots and all empty. I-95 rest areas are not set up correct for the

size of the vehicle.

I have often been under load and not been able to find secure, well lit parking. My company dictates no unsafe parking, on shoulders etc., sometimes I drive under/over my hours to find a safe area.

Shippers and receivers that take 2 to 3 hours to do a job that should only take 45 minutes... I have on numerous occasions have run out of hours at these shippers and receivers only to find out that they don't allow parking on their lots. Mainly due to a few bad apples out there. So I have been forced to find a "SAFE:" location to park which at some times have taken up to an hour, when I have already ran out of hours at the shipper/receiver.

Mine is an unusual situation involving an equipment truck used by the company on remote sites. If out of hours, I have to get a hotel room (no sleeper cab). Biggest problem is that with the changes in HOS rules, the truck is getting too expensive to operate so we are getting rid of it.

Houston TX down town in a Loves truck stop... scary place. People walked all night long up and down, around and around that truck stop. Just looking for trouble. In Ft Worth TX on the rail head, no trucks allowed into receiver before 1 hour of appointment, Trucks park on the streets there. Crack daddy makes the rounds about every hour. San Antonio, TX, I don't feel safe in that town ever no matter where I have to park.

I was parked at a small truck stop in Tenn. and at about 2:30 am the gun shots rang out and then the law show up making all kinds of noise and kept me up the last 6 hours of my rest time.

Out of time around large municipalities resulting in poor choice of overnighting. at the time I ran load's to Boston MA, I had a load that delivered at 4 am of swinging lamb... I drove for FFE out of Lancaster TX at the time they also had electronic logs. I parked down town at the receiver and at 3 am I was woke up to a woman telling me she worked for the place I was delivering to. She then asked for my phone number so she could call me when it was time to back into the dock... As I got up to grab a pen she then got up into my truck on the passenger side and sat down in the seat. I handed her my pen she wrote my number down and the grabbed my leg saying you want some company. I replied no I'm married... She then gave me a story of how she will get hurt if I didn't pay but I really didn't have any cash I always use my card she finally left but I then got calls that night saying I was going to be sorry... Nothing ever happened after that but I never took that load again...

I got ticket in City of Industry, California for parking in explicitly permitted area. Could go to court, but the travel cost of it would be greater, than paying the fine.

In San Jose, California, I spent a half hour driving in an industrial area, looking for parking. Desperate, I called parking administration and asked them, where I can find appropriate place. "We don't know, but you sure shouldn't park where it's forbidden"...

DETROIT is a horrible area, both for Safety and for having absolutely no truck stops within easy reach. Most rest areas/service plazas have designated truck, bus, RV & car parking. If a commercial vehicle is forced to park in an area not designated as such, the driver is often cited with an overly expensive parking fine. When cars park in designated truck, bus or RV parking it is ignored by law enforcement and therefore, encouraged. The same can be said for RV operators who park in designated truck parking and put out slide rooms and awnings that hang over into adjacent parking spaces, as though they were in a camp ground or RV park. Again, no one says anything.

A couple of years ago I suddenly felt ill on the CT Turnpike during rush hour and needed a Rest Room. knowing that truck parking would be full in the Darien Service Plaza I opted to park out front rather than take a chance of not being able to park at all out back. I was immediately confronted by a CT Trooper and told to move the truck. I explained that I was sick and needed a rest room. He told me to go ahead and he'd take care of me when I got back (his words). When I returned I was issued a \$75 parking ticket and informed that the "correct response" should have been, "Yes Sir, I'll move the tuck Sir". No sympathy and

no use of discretion. The truck was out of the way and not blocking traffic. Just not "legally" parked.

Thank you for taking the time to do this. It has been a long time coming.

I parked on the on-ramp in New Jersey with three other trucks. A State Police officer pounded on my door and told me to move. I said that I was on my ten (10 hour sleep break) and I don't know where to park. He said move it now or I will give you a ticket. I drove for 1 1/2 hours more until the next truck stop.

The big thing is the off ramps. You can be asleep and then you get woke up told to move so now we are back on the road sleepy and out of hours.

When delivering to Amity St. in Jersey City, NJ, I end up parking on that street because unloading takes so long, and e-logs prevent me from leaving to search elsewhere. It's a quiet street, but it can't be the best of neighborhoods.

I avoid the Vince Lombardi service plaza because it's crowded, dirty, and has reports of crime. Even though it is large, this one spot cannot contain the parking needs of all North New Jersey.

If I could not find a safe spot in rest area or truck stop, had to put my truck on the on ramp shoulder, of very busy freeway.

It is unacceptable that Walmart DC in Bentonville, AR, world headquarters for Walmart has no truck parking close to facility. Got a two lane farm road to location and closest gas station is a mile down the road and you can't park on the side street by the gas station if no other traffic is around were you can maneuver thru the gas station parking lot and park on the side street. I will never go back to that location. Baltimore has a TA but got to pay. But only two truck stops in that large metroplex? You got to get there real early in the day to get a spot. I usually plan where I am going to park by noon for a two or three o'clock shut down. I run early morning and afternoon. I try not to run in the evening during rush hour. You can pretty much forget about getting a spot to park after 5 pm in any city truck stop.

Whenever in a downtown area in any city and you find yourself out of time and have no choice but to park in a strange area I am never able to sleep always have to stay awake and watch things most areas in downtown areas trucks should not have to be Little city trucks should be only trucks to go to these areas There just accidents and murders and high jacking waiting to happen Outside of downtowns usually ok

I found a lot in Miami to park one night while waiting for delivery and was told I had to pay for month to park there. That sucks for drivers coming out of town especially when drivers that live there have the truck stops packed. 595 truck stop helps I guess, only been there once. I just don't go into the area till about 9am - 11am and just deal with traffic.

The new 30 minute break law adds 2.5 hours to my week, and working dedicated in the northeast there needs to be more truck stops.

Parked in a fueling station and was out of hours. They had 3 spots for truck parking and I was an hour away from dropping my load. Woke up the next morning to find my bar on the landing gear gone and my tool box broken into. Place had no security cameras, so I was out \$1,200.

The one that comes to mind was 6 years ago at an abandoned truck stop on hwy 51 in west TN. Nothing happened, but I had a bad feeling all night and did not rest well. I was glad when sunrise came and I was finally able to go make my pick up.

I was ticketed 130 dollars for parking on an entrance ramp in Indiana to take that stupid 30 minute mandatory break!

Parking at a shipper's dock on a few occasions, I have been awakened by homeless people. One time I was awakened by a noise, looked in my mirror, and found someone trying to steal my spare at the same dock. While I never felt terribly unsafe personally, I have felt very annoyed.

The problems I have seems to be when you get loaded later in the day and you drive into the early morning hours or really anything after 9 or 10 pm you will have trouble finding a place to park so without a safe place to park you end up driving when you should be resting.

Road rage at tight quarter truck stops. Trucks rolling out of full rest areas.

Most nationally recognized trucking companies, i.e. Swift, Werner, J.B. Hunt, etc., have offices and parking areas in most cities but their drivers won't use them. All these company trucks have e-logs and they are shut down wherever they are, leaving nowhere for anyone else to park

During a snow storm in Upper NY I was forced to drive in unsafe conditions while looking for a safe haven. Everything was full or closed leaving me no choice but to keep going till I finally found a spot.

I was parked in a truck stop in TX and they robbed my whole fuel out of my tank. Prostitutes inside the parking lots of truck stops knocking at my door at any time and insisting on making you uncomfortable, drug dealers offering drugs for sale and thieves walking around to steal our equipment. Very unsafe and dangerous line of work not only on the road but even when you are supposed to rest to keep on working.

They just need to realize we move freight all over and nobody wants trucks around there neighborhood. We need a place that we can let our hair down a little and rest and relax and not fear for our safety and security. Thanks for showing some interest in a lonely and thankless profession.

It is hard to find anything in Chicago I have delivered to the Sysco Des Plaines location and they will not let you on the lot for a 6 am apt. prior to 5 am and they tell you a few spots you can park but you either get a parking ticket or you get woke up at 3 am by a guy claiming you're in his spot and then he says you can stay but just sits there in his car waiting.

In many truck stops if you do not get there before dark you have to park in the entrance, on the sides or on the street outside and I do not feel safe doing this as I could easily get hit.

I had to park at a container yard in Newark N.J. There were homeless and questionable people about all night long. I was nervous and did not sleep all night, then had to drive a full day the next day, all the truck stops were full.

I have seen prostitutes step out of one truck and up into the next truck regularly. I have waked up to a lot surrounded by police and a dead body against the fence behind me. I have watched and given a police report on an attempted hit and run against another truck....the list can go on and on...

SCAMS GOING ON IN TRUCK STOPS

I have been driving for over 30 years, and when I break my own rules I feel extremely unsafe. When I break my rules, I have extremely limited choices. I had to park in the meat packing district of NYC overnight, and a driver behind me was beaten while I was doing my paperwork between 2am and 3am. Beef was stolen from that driver's trailer. When I realized what had happened and tried to help the driver, the thieves were gone before the police arrived. Truck drivers are employees and therefore we should be provided with a safe haven each and every rest period. We are not serfs.

I've never felt that state rest areas should be utilized for 10 hour breaks. Hard to make use of the restrooms, or snack venders if you can't find parking. 2 hour limit.

While trying to take the mandatory 1/2 break it very hard to find a legal parking place, so therefore I risk getting a parking ticket to do so.

I was in a rest area on I-40 in Arkansas when I woke up and tried to leave there was another truck blocking me in so I knocked on his door and asked to back up so I could get out and he pulled a gun on me and I climbed up on his truck and tried get his gun but I could not get out of his hand so I told him to just shoot me or get the hell out of my way so I could leave and fired a shot over my head and then he backed up and let me out.

I try to never drive tired but when there is no where to park you keep pushing till you find somewhere and hope like hell it's not too late and if I don't feel safe there I will keep going till I find somewhere safe even though I'm on e-logs hours be damned my safety is more important, having to drive extra hours to find parking is aggravating and illegal

I drive a straight truck and at night, some drivers do not look at a space and almost back into me. At a truck stop in Lake Station, IN I woke up with someone I didn't know yelling at me who was sitting in my driver seat. Luckily they meant no harm but told me I forgot to lock my door. I could have been robbed or killed if it were anyone else.

I always have people asking for money. I give them a couple bucks to kind of "buy" my safety there, so to speak. I do not get out of my truck after I park it in "iffy" areas.

Going to Montana was running out of time and couldn't find a truck stop or place to safely pull over for the night. So I wound up parking on a shoulder of an off ramp where no one was around and truck was barely off the road due to short shoulder. But this had to be done because the 14 hour rule was about to be gone over. Could have been hijacked or killed and no one would have known.

If not in a proper safe parking place, it is always dangerous, regardless of where it is, and we are supposed to protect ourselves and equipment. How do we do this, and rest???

I have caught (on a number of occasions) someone trying to hide on or break into my truck. There have been 5 times I had to forcibly protect my truck and load. I could go on but it seems like I'm beating a dead horse. We are out here and must protect ourselves and those around us that may be victimized; nobody else is in a position to do it.

The biggest problem is parking where I feel safe. All around truck &, safety for me as a female; there are so many times I have needed or just want to get out of the truck but can't due to the safety for myself and truck or the safety of load.

Being in a rest area or parking area when trucks are parked in a wish bone most spots were made for 40-45 foot trailers not 53 foot

When you are tired, parking is hard to find and nothing feels safe.

I been very lucky so far to stay away from anywhere I don't feel comfortable but it's getting next to impossible to find a safe place.

As a female driver, it's not safe for any of us to be in an abandoned lot, truck stops, anywhere we don't know. How about some security that doesn't stay inside the truck stop?

I can honestly say that for the most part I've been very fortunate with parking, when I find a spot! Usually I park in secluded areas (abandoned strip malls, closed gas stations, or behind shopping centers) and "test" my luck with whether not I'll be harassed by authorities. For the most part no one bothers me; I keep a low-profile. In PA. I find myself grabbing off-ramps a lot despite "No-parking" signs; so far no one has bothered me. Maybe they know it's getting harder to find a spot? Westbound PA. 7/2013 has closed (2) rest areas at the 247 & 89. This will definitely make my breaks harder to come by. Besides that, NJ/NY is too congested to even think about parking so I always head for the hills and roll the dice. Truckers are avoiding rest areas now because DOT is making it the "Anything-but-rest-areas" with Creeper Vans and mobile scales. You want scale? Build a scale. Don't interrupt my lunch, dinner, or nap. It's getting out of control!

I am team now and will not go back to solo because of no parking. Have to use a make shift toilet because none are available or scared to leave truck.

When you need to stop late at night ,chances are you will not find parking, unless you double park ,park in

a place where your truck might get hit or keep driving when you should be stopped resting. Nobody wants a truck stop in their area. Parking on highway ramps is DANGEROUS and illegal in most states. Many states will not let you take 10 hours in a rest area.

Depending on the time you would be stopping you have to start looking for parking several hours before you plan to park. Sometimes even cutting your day short just to find a safe place to park.

About the worst thing is having to park in an unknown area with little or no lighting. The main problem with parking is the police harass us when we are sleeping in a REST AREA. They wake us up and want to do inspections while we are on our mandatory rest breaks and some shippers and receivers won't let drivers stay on their property making us have to take unnecessary risks to get some rest.

The USDA does not allow us to park at the packing houses, and there's no spaces left after dark at truck stops, so we are forced to time the load delivery time to drive straight in for an appointment. If a driver needs an unexpected break, you're out of luck. My truck has been vandalized for parking at a crowded truck stop because my load of livestock made too much noise for the other truckers to sleep.

As a former OTR driver, now local delivery, I've found many times planning ahead doesn't always work. Many spots on the east coast have you parking on on/off ramps or rest area ramps. As a local driver with the new mandatory 30min off duty break before my 8th hour, some routes have me in dangerous areas within Detroit where robberies are high risk... but I don't have a choice... I have to remain compliant.

Parking almost anywhere in or around West Memphis, Arkansas area has a severe drug and crime problem. Most commercial drivers are harassed by drug peddlers and prostitutes.

When you only have the off/on ramps available. The ones in Florida are the worse because most of them don't have any shoulders to allow you to get your truck out of the road. I've seen trucks parked and would have half of their truck or more still on the ramp.

Truck stops are not safe. I was in Lancaster Texas at pilot truck stop, watched about 15 prostitutes and drug dealers beat up a JB hunt driver, security did nothing at all and it took police 37 minutes to arrive to the scene. No one was even arrested, they did nothing at all, very upsetting :(driver was rushed in ambulance, after that I left the truck stop and will never return. Security is there for a reason not to watch thugs beat up the working man, very sad.

I'm the night time driver of my team. At times I need to park it I can't due to no place to park so I go to the fuel island grab more coffee or walk around thinking I'm ok to drive again I go ten miles down the road and I'm done again I have had to wake up my partner to help me find a place to park...

I sometimes stop at/near the TA (Travel Centers of America) off I-10 just west of Jacksonville, Florida. Two incidents occurred that I remember. Around 2010 - 2011.

- 1) Two criminals tried to rob a truck driver, the truck driver shot a bow arrow into the head of one of his attackers and the other attacker ran away.
- 2) A truck driver was held up at gunpoint by three criminals, pulled from his truck, tied up and left him in an empty building, they stole his entire tractor and trailer; these men were caught and arrested. Both men (truck drivers) were seeking parking.

When I've left plenty of time on my run and allowable time for incidents, I have begun looking for parking at times an hour before my shift would end only to find 3-4 truck stops/rest areas full and forcing me to drive direct to destination to find I'm not welcome to park their overnight.

In general there is just not enough quality parking. Parking at shippers or consignees usually not allowed and in my case when I do park at one it is usually in desolate area and no security. It's hard to get any rest

when you don't feel safe

I usually try to avoid parking in places I don't feel comfortable with. My biggest problem is lack of truck parking places, late night what little parking is always full, if your sleepy this is bad... Prostitutes, drug dealers, thieves, and peddlers eyeing what you have in your cab through the window and standing on your step to do so, reaching in trying to push the product in your face.

I personally have not had an incident happen to me because generally try not to put myself into that kind of situation. When I park I close my curtains and don't go looking for trouble. But with that being said, something needs to be done by law about Shippers and Receiver providing us with safe and adequate parking and the ability to take or finish our break at their location. We did not make the HOS laws, but we have to abide by them, and they should too.

I have one to many stories...sad but true. I will say this, get in the truck and work 1 month OTR running 48 states and let me know how you feel about it. You will learn the meaning of second class citizen and you will also learn to appreciate a toilet and running water to shower or clean up.

San Francisco: I had a customer that I had to deliver spices to, asked for directions and if it was alright to park overnight- customer said we were allowed but they would not be held responsible for anything that happened- turns out there is an apartment down the street where there is a lot of gang activity, the receivers building had all plexi glass windows and the front of the building where you park is literally peppered with bullet holes. Very reassuring :-(
Closed rest areas in Colorado make finding parking difficult and dangerous.

While I have been parked in Gary, Indiana I watch drug deals AS WELL AS CALLGIRLS
The worse time of day to find parking is after sun goes down. I have been known to have to drive all night even when I am tired to find safe place to park. As a rule try to be done for the day at 1600 (4:00 PM)

I try not to park in unsafe areas. I had to park on the side of US 101 in a dirt wide spot north of LA one night. That scenario made me nervous.

YOU RUN OUT OF HOURS DRIVING NO TRUCK STOP PARKING THE COPS ARE TELLING YOU TO MOVE OR THEY WILL TOW YOU, VIRGINIA IS THE WORST.

I haul a lot of hazmat. I am looking into having my CCW to be armed on the road. The law is sketchy in regards to this. I have been confronted in a rural setting with a hazmat load and 911 were called and suspect detained.

I have on several occasions been woken up and bothered by prostitutes, drug dealers, pan handlers, and law enforcement during my 10 hour break. I have had my air lines from my tractor to trailer messed with and my 5th wheel release pulled while sleeping. If not for the fact that I ALWAYS do an adequate pre trip inspection these could have led to bigger problems.

I was in the southeast USA and had to drive 250 miles to find someplace to sleep. I was out of hours and tired from loading and tarping in 104 degree heat and I couldn't find so much as a truck accessible ramp that wasn't full already.

The worst has been going to park in a safe location, like a rest area, only to find it closed, then its rush and drive around to find the next safest place to park. It's very stressful.

Prostitutes, Drug Dealers, Drivers Unable to Backup and Park makes finding a safe place hard to find. I have been backed into and I have been approached by people who have tried to rob me in truck stops. More security would be helpful in some cases if the security guard could do more than ride around in his golf cart.

At a mall in Tampa, FL there was a group of people that started pointing at me. A couple of minutes later 2 of them started approaching me quickly as the group watched so I opened the door and let my leashed pit

bull out and they turned around to return to their group. I obviously had to leave after that.

Hookers and beggars knocking on my door at rest stop just north of Dallas made this 6'8" guy a nervous to the point I had to tell one guy if he knocked on my door again I was going to bury him in the rest stop trash.

At a shipper in NJ, I was told to keep windows and doors locked and told not to get out of truck. Shipper told me they have found dead bodies.

I was parked at a shipper's location and was awakened by knocking at my door. There were 2 men trying to awaken me and they were not employees of the shipper. I was a bit worried and called 911 they left before police arrived.

California, I was feeling sick when I started my shift, and after couple hours of driving I couldn't find a truck stop and a rest area so I was dizzy and parked on the side of the road where there was a sign saying "emergency only". 3 hours later a CHP came, and gave me a ticket. I told him the only rest area was above full and I rather get a ticket then spend the rest of my life in jail because I killed somebody.

Petro Atlanta, weird people walking around at night making you feel unsafe, were as you do not want to leave your truck at night.

I was waiting to unload in Chicago. I ran out of hours. It was 38 miles to the closest safe parking area. My boss said he would not approve me to drive off duty to a safe haven. I did it anyways, and I was given a written warning from my company.

There's no parking in the los Angles Ca so you have to stop short of hours causing inefficiency or you want to park close to the shipper/receiver, then get there and there's no parking signs everywhere and there's all kinds of room to park with plenty of lights and open space but you have park around abandoned cars and dropped trailers.

I want to say here, that I have missed out on a lot of income because it is my daily goal to plan ahead for a safe place to park...so I often stop earlier than I would have to stop. Shippers/receivers should be required to let us stay for a 10-hour break if they detain us for more than 2 hours...PERIOD!! They would learn to schedule better...as some customers DO schedule better.

Most of my bad experience is with the northeast states, the do not have very much parking. If they have rest area's they are not patrolled. Closing down truck stops or truck stops being sold and rebuilt most always have less parking for trucks. Southwestern area where there was parking has been deemed unsafe and closed like California where you could get far enough off the road to rest, have been closed to roads with no truck parking added. A lot of the truck parking is there and are more trucks and less parking. Truck stops upgrading don't add more parking for trucks. New truck stop has to deal with new regulations. Noise, fuel leaks, bad elements and such. Most drivers have trouble finding parking due to amount of trucks in larger shipping areas not just at the ports. Some deliver in areas they never needed truck parking and never have or will. I drove as team and solo driver. Never stayed in one place long as a team driver. Solo depended on what and where pick/up delivery was. Some had parking others didn't. It would be nice to find a safe place to park. Sometimes you can't and that's not resting when every sound wakes you.

I had two men in San Diego try and get into my truck when I was parked sleeping. I had to park on a street that had no lights. Thanks to another truck that was passing at the time, he helped scare them off. There just is not enough truck parking anywhere.

Having to drive when you are worn out because of lack of parking then you find a very tight spot you are too tired to back into. That's why it was open. Bad storm hits the area and it is full of trucks trying to do the safe thing only nowhere to go.

Lack of open parking spaces forced other drivers to rest in the shoulder of a highway off ramp. Another (obviously tired) driver taking the exit struck a parked truck. A man and his wife in their sleeper were

killed.

POOR PARKING DESIGN.....NO OR LITTLE OVERSIZE PARKING (CRITICAL).....NO SECURITY (URBAN OR NEAR URBAN).....NO LEE-WAY TO GET TO PARKING (CRITICAL--OH,PA)

Driving 2500 miles in Northeast every week. I'm in and out of Boston and have to take my 30 min break after my first 6 hours on. Usually the rest area and trucks stop are completely full at hours I'm running.

Shippers/receivers in larger cities should allow parking when out of hours to legally move. At the Petro in Lake Station (actually, ANY truck stop in that area) has a SERIOUS problem with prostitutes that continuously knock on the door over & over & OVER again.

I remember traveling over 120 miles across I-40 in TN stopping at every truck stop and rest area, I was unable to find a safe parking spot. The bad thing was I was fighting to keep my eyes open... it was a very bad night for me that night. Due to new regulations, most trucks now stop by 7 pm. It's next to impossible to find a parking spot after that time in many cities, like Nashville.

Woke up in rest area for DOT to do inspection.

Parking is a major problem for drivers, it's on my mind throughout my drive, where will I park always feel uncomfortable when parking near a customer, will a cop come by & run me off? Or give me a ticket? Also my merchandise is it safe? We don't have enough safe truck parking, that's the honest truth.

Parking no matter where it is can be dangerous. You could have drug dealers, prostitutes or anybody else come and bother you any time of day or night.

Finding safe parking after dark has become almost impossible in some area, especially in and around larger cities. If you find yourself having to park after dark, more times than not you are forced to park in less than desirable and often unsafe areas.

Since I have avoided dangerous parking by continuing to drive on, I mostly am concerned about darkened parking areas with very tight parking. Therefore I do not rest well worrying about someone hitting my truck.

99% of shippers and receivers want you gone as soon as you're loaded/unloaded, you need a couple of minutes to do paper work for that load and make phone calls etc.

Nearly hit other trucks on ramps while turning going into full rest areas trucks stops so full you have to pull out after fueling too much illegal parking going on. Hope this helps.

Unlit parking area in small truck stop in South Carolina, I was jumped by two men with a shotgun. I was able to get away because someone had went out to dump trash at the fuel island that I was parked 100 feet in front of

Felt like guard in Bronx was setting me up to get robbed!!

Any time I am out of hours and can't find parking is dangerous. It's a lose-lose situation. Park illegally or drive illegally. No legal solution.

I usually dread the days where I have to unload and reload. Shippers and receivers tie up most of the day. Driving time suffers because I have to find parking too soon with hours available.

Chicago meat market district I caught some characters breaking in my trailer. Atlanta someone tried breaking in the truck with me in the bunk.

Just outside of Baltimore in a rest area I was told to leave or be fined because I had been there too long.

I had to park in Chicago one night. ENOUGH SAID!!!

As I am new to the truck driving industry my family is not. I'm a third generation truck driver and my family has had experiences of being at gun point and even had a truck stolen out on the road. I have seen that parking spaces are very hard to find later in the evening and night time which becomes very aggravating and dangerous when you're tired and ready to find a spot to rest. I hope my opinion helps encourage and help other truckers and this cause.

While in New York City there is very few areas to park your truck so when you do find a spot it's in a bad location and full of drug activity and wrong doing.

Mostly high speed drivers on a ramp or parking area. I once watched a gun fight in New Jersey over a parking spot. I don't stop at Borden Petro any more. I usually start my day early... like 3 or 4 am. So I'm parked before supper. Seemed to work fine.

Gary IN...not sure if it's safe or not. Just because of the area. Some Big Cities have people coming to your truck trying to sell stuff or looking for handouts....besides prostitutes. That's my only concern.

close quarters, and parking is all over the service plaza

I WAS AT A RECIEVER, RAN OUT OF HOURS AND HAD TO PARK. THERE WAS A NO PARKING AREA IN FRONT OF RECEIVER. I WAS PARKED FOR ALMOST 2 HOURS AFTER APPT. TIME BECAUSE OF BAD MANAGEMENT....THE COPS SHOWED UP AND TOLD US WE HAD TO MOVE OR RECIEVE A TICKET.

West Virginia has small truck stops on I-77. I checked 2 out but left due to no space. Drove to a rest area 30+mi down the road. Difficult to park in due to drivers not parking straight. Was out of hours nearly in middle of night.

I parked my truck on an on ramp in Virginia and ran out of hours when then local police showed up. They were fine with me there but 10 min later the state police showed up I tried to explain the situation he told me he did not care that I was out of hours and I had to get my truck off the interstate or he was going to cite me which could result in losing my license.

Anytime I park on a street in a commercial district I feel uneasy due to a lack of any safety measures that I can legally take.

Rest areas are full. I struggle to find a parking place to take my 30 minute break or to use a restroom.

The parking problem is like the HOS problem. The people who make the rules don't know anything about trucking. How do these people end up making rules for the trucking industry when they can't even drive a truck?

I haul gas so ALWAYS on high alert. I live in North Dakota and out in the western part of the state parking is a big issue. Safe parking is even harder to find.

My truck was damaged by another truck and the driver left while I was at a well-known truck stop. In all, 3 trucks were damaged, including the truck that left the scene of the accident. On another occasion I was out of hours and parked in a Walmart Supercenter parking lot for the night. I was forced after 1 AM in the morning to violate my hours of service by local law enforcement and find another location to park my truck. By driving another 45 minutes to another location, it reset my sleeper berth hours and set me back from making my scheduled delivery.

I own and drive for myself. Specialty freight, I have a favorite places for parking but I don't want a bunch of idiots screwing them up so I'll keep it to myself, after 30 years of driving one learns things.

I drive a lot in Tennessee and have found it very hard to find parking throughout the state. On April 1st of 2013 I received a phone call from one of my delivery customers trying to give me directions to their location. I pulled off the interstate onto the acceleration ramp to write the directions down and received a \$184 parking ticket for 6 minutes of parking. I guess I should have written the directions down while driving...

While at a Flying J facility in Jackson, MS during the night I felt my truck rock (I thought it was the wind) woke up and my passenger side window had been broken.

I was parked at a receiver in Nashville. I walked to find a place to eat. I approached a police officer to ask for info and was treated like I was doing something wrong for approaching him. It gave me an uneasy feeling that night.

My wife and I were traveling in upper New York... we had to park in an old rest area... no attendance or lights. A pickup truck about an hour or two pulled up about 30 yards in front of us. I had just waked up and was setting on edge of bed. This guy walks up to the truck and stared at us. Went to get in front of truck and he went back to truck. 15 min later he walked to back of trailer around other side then went back beside his pick up and started masturbating. Regardless of me being out of hours I left. He followed us for about 40 miles. Could not read his plate and no cell service where we were. Both my wife and I truly feel if we stayed any longer he would have done something bad. I'm a 3rd degree black belt and I don't scare easy... But something told me that day....DON'T GET OUT clear as a bell. I was truly affair that day and we will never forget it.

Anytime in southern California, when I can't park at my companies lot. Even in the industrial areas, you can't park anywhere. We can't park on on/off ramps. We can't park anywhere anymore.

Appointment To Deliver In Chicago At 20:00. Got To The Receiver, found No One There. Closed Until 2300. Local Police Threatened Citation If I Remained On Site. Spent Two Hours Bouncing Around Downtown Chicago Until I Found An Abandoned Parking Lot. Then Got Kicked out Of There And Headed Back To The Receiver, Only To Get Kicked Out Again.

About anytime a person has to drive their maximum hours late into the night, "he" will encounter problems due to early arrivals and being fatigued. I used to run into Detroit and had to drive late. One night while legally parked at a T/A in western MI, my truck was hit hard, causing thousands of dollars in damage. Of course, no one saw the truck that hit me and at that time they had no security cameras. Also in MI I was sleeping and trailers were hit from another truck backing in behind me. As the driver and I were doing inspection of trailer to see if there was damage, their accomplice went around to my truck and opened the door taking my wallet. Thankfully, they took only cash and tossed to wallet under the truck where I found it in morning when I looked for my shower card. That situation could have been a lot worse if I had gone back to my truck quicker.

I was at a rest area, my passenger door was unlocked, a man jumped in and opened a briefcase and asked me how much I wanted (DOPE), it happened so fast I had very little time to react, I told him to get the F#*K out of my truck!! He retreated, but if he had a gun, I could be dead!!

One time I stopped at a facility and I asked the man in charge if I could park there. He asked me if I had a gun. I said "No". He said keep a club close and do not get out of the vehicle. I had to park there because I was out of hours. I did not sleep much that night. I believe I was in Nashville, TN. When I did expedite back in early 2000 I was in Pittsburgh area with 1 hour left to drive I was not allowed to park at receivers so I went in the direction of the next load and it took me over 2 hours to find a safe and legal parking spot.

Woke up, tried to start truck, had no power anywhere on truck. Got out, pulled lid from battery box, Batteries stolen.

VERY, VERY hard to find parking when approaching Seattle.

My company setting "odd" appointment times in large cities creates a need to plan ahead, break early, and wake up at all hours. I will never, ever under any circumstance park in an urban or rural location if security isn't provided, or if it's unknown to me.

My air lines have been cut, cops asking me to move with no help in relocating, people looking for money, had my doors opened, fuel stolen, noisy lots, hard to get into lots, 5th wheels pulled, valve stems broke I could go on and on thanks, driving 20yrs.

Being woken up by prostitutes in the middle of the night

Being a female, going to city truck stops where men hang out, I don't go to, they stare at you and I feel unsafe.

Had children gangs spray paint my trailer.

A lot of towns do not let their resident truck driver's park in their own towns, so they have to take up a valuable parking space that some weary traveler could use. We experienced that until we took it in front of the village. We now park in a space in our home town.

I would just like to say it is very hard to find parking late at night. Truck stops, rest areas, etc. fill up so fast. I have spent a lot of time trying to find somewhere to park.

We had tried one truck stop but they were full so we went to the truck stop down the road and they had a spot so we took it but they had closed for the night and there were no bathroom facilities so we had to go in to the bush I felt very uneasy about it cause I did not know if I was going to get jumped from behind and robbed.

In general, it is frustrating when I am trying to drive the amount of time I am allotted for the day, and then I get stressed about where to park regularly and you lose time looking and if you try to drive up to your max time and pull in somewhere, what do you do when there is absolutely no parking? Then you are out of luck on your log and nowhere to go. Nobody cares and you have to just figure it out. It sucks so badly when you pull into one rest area after another, finding no parking; very stressful to be forced back on the road exhausted not sure where to go. Then I have experienced pulling into a mall area and getting kicked out and, again, nobody cared. People want their freight, but hate looking at trucks and truck drivers. I am more than a lady and very respectable, but so tired of all these rules that are ridiculous and causing more stress on top of this parking problem!!!!

I see a lot of truckers park at the end of off/on ramps near the traveled part of the interstate... they have nowhere else to park... very dangerous...

No enough parking at truck stops. I had to sit on the side of the road to do that stupid 30 min break. US highways sometimes don't have rest areas or some places are not big enough to get a truck into
WHY JUST DON'T TRY TO DRIVE A TRUCK IN NORTH AMERICA FOR A MONTH? YOU WILL HAVE AT LEAST 31 EXAMPLES ...

More than once waiting in a vacant lot in Houston with people hanging around in the area killing time

We mainly haul in Southern to Central California. Southern California has very few truck stops and rest areas and parking fills up in late afternoon. Almost every city has posted no parking on any city street. With every other company going to elogs, the trucks at the truck stops or rest areas are now parking on top of each other. It's sad when you have to go wake up a half dozen drivers to move so you can get out of the parking lot. That's if they speak English. The more rules the government comes up with the more a driver like me, who has over 30 years driving experience, wants to quit.

I-5, I drove 100 miles, no place to park, tried everywhere, and had to switch drivers. My co-driver drove until parking was found. We avoid dirt lots, unsafe places, but it shortens driving and earning time, stopping early to find parking. Longer under a load means less money.

I was at a truck stop at about 3:00 am I felt a hard bang on my truck. I jumped up and went out to the rear of my trailer where this young Spanish trucker had hit my trailer trying to fit between me and another truck. The lot was completely over full. I asked him what happened, his reply was "I'm sorry sir I'm really tired and I can't find anywhere to park." The damage wasn't that bad so instead of calling the police I pulled up and helped him park and told him don't worry about it get so rest. True story.

I drive into the North East a lot and can never find any place that feels really safe to park in that area. Sometimes I will past my driving hours and go into VA to park.

When driving past 7/8 pm and tired trying to find a spot to park without getting a ticket is impossible unless you're lucky enough to get a spot at a rest area or truck stop

I-81 South in Virginia. I needed to stop for quick bathroom break. No parking at rest area. Truck stops not close enough. I decided to park at an on ramp of a rest area for just a quick second to go inside and use the facilities. A state trooper approached me as I was walking to the facilities. He told me to leave or there would be a ticket waiting on me when I came back. All I needed to do was pee! I wasn't blocking any traffic and there were no signs that said no parking on the side of ramp. I agreed to leave and only made it a few miles before I had to stop. That same officer followed me and wrote me a ticket for parking on the side of the road for a non-emergency.

Not enough room or lighting ... I deliver gas and some areas aren't safe. They need to be monitored by police.

South Central Los Angeles around the area of Downey Coca Cola Co. They take their time to unload you and about the time they have unloaded you there are no hours left to park. City ordinance no truck parking. Pet Smart San Francisco CA. no truck parking no place to park.

Walmart always runs you out of hours and you have to move truck illegally when they are done. If you want your job you must do this. This has given me the attitude of screw the hours of service, I need to make a living and be safe if the government don't like it they can't put me in jail.

I mostly drive to the same places and know about where I can find a place and still it is a problem sometimes. When I was over the road it was a real problem that has only got worse.

There is a need for a lot more parking. It would be simple to just take the money from the IRS or NSA. They could do with a few less parties, and build more rest areas with no facilities attached.

With more and more toll roads taking out rest areas safety seems to be of little concern on the long stretches of road

2003 WENT TO BED AT GARY, IN AND WOKE UP WITH CRIME TAPE AROUND MY VEHICLE!! THE DRIVER NEXT TO ME WAS MURDERED... SINCE THEN I WILL NEVER STOP AT GARY, IN AGAIN... I WILL DRIVE ILLEGAL TO GET TO A GOOD SAFE HAVEN!!!
THE STATES WANT THEIR PRODUCTS BUT THEY WON'T MAKE IT EASY FOR A DRIVER TO FIND SAFE PARKING, THE STATES THAT HAVE CLOSED THEIR REST AREAS & CLOSE THEIR ON/OFF RAMPS ARE ASKING FOR FATIGUE DRIVERS TO RUN THEIR HIGHWAYS!!!

Well when we ran out of hours at night we park on entrance ramp, many times cops asked us to go find somewhere else. Many times I cannot find parking and we are so tired we have to drive many miles to stop. Many times ending up in any abandoned area where fuel gets stolen, or rig gets damaged.

Although I am a local driver, between Detroit and Toledo it's impossible to park. The economy is improving and Canadian freight /trucks are everywhere.

To me it is safe to park on the on/off ramp of the interstate. In 33 years I never seen an accident on one but I seen a lot of accidents for not taking a nap. I have seen a lot of fatalities because the driver didn't

stop on the onramp. Because they are afraid of the DOT to give him a ticket or mess with him.

Tractor was broken into while I slept in the bunk. Twice I scared them off. Once I was robbed at gunpoint, For all of \$11.00 in cash. Had tarps stolen from trailer box three times! Had to replace locks and pound out dents and bends of the box. Had a reefer tank drilled and emptied for fuel. Had oversize marking lights stolen off an over length load and had to replace before I could move a permitted load.

Crime in the area, no adequate services, potholes.
robbed in parking lot... constantly being bothered by panhandlers and prostitutes

Even the occasional knock on cab by a prostitute hasn't happened to me for a couple of years now. It's the time spent/lost at the ship/receiver's that blow your planned stop spot.

We parked in Cromby, TX for an emergency nap in a DOT lot. A Police Officer made the rounds and gave "every truck" a parking ticket for sleeping there. The yard does have a "No Truck parking" sign, but wasn't visible from our entry point or parking spot. He forced us all to wake up and drive tired to another place, there was nothing available for many miles.

I received a "Parking Ticket" in New York rest area. After already driving for 2 hours over my time, and unable to find a spot. The Officer screamed at me and threatened to call a tow truck if I didn't wake up and move at 3 AM. I wasn't blocking anything and was exhausted.

I was awakened by a Police Officer in a New York rest area parking spot and told to move to a different spot because he wanted to use "my spot" for DOT inspections. Ironically, he probably gave tickets to drivers who hadn't gotten adequate rest before driving.

I was parked on an on-ramp near Mojave, CA for a quick nap. My passenger was in the driver's seat on the computer. 2 men stopped in front of the truck and approached with guns. My passenger screamed, I jumped up and they took off. I carry a weapon now regardless of the law.

People ask me for money, or to chill out/rest in my truck, prostitutes knocking all night or day offering "services", people trying to get in my truck and "offering" sale of products (watches, gold chains, computers, cameras, videos, etc.)

I try to route another direction rather than go through Arkansas. I pulled off on a ramp by Brinkley, AR during an ice storm and was made to move before my break was over onto ice covered roads while still exhausted to sit in 5mph traffic for 2 hours before I could find another parking spot.

I was in Arizona near Winslow and I was parked at a fuel stop that wasn't 24hrs. A lady knocked on my door and woke me up asking me if she could use my flashlight. I had a spotlight on the side of my truck I flipped it on for her instead and when I did I looked around and seen the weeds moving beside my truck. I put the truck in gear and started pulling away; thank god I did because there were a few men that was going to attack me if I got out of my truck to give her my flashlight. I went ahead and left the parking lot and went on up the road a bit. I called 911 but they never showed up they said that the officers were on other calls. But been thinking about this for a few years, it always comes to my mind when I lay down to rest anywhere. It's best not to answer the door if someone knocks. We should have the right to carry arms if we could pass a background check to do so it could save our lives.

I run an EOBR, at which time it's like the FMCSA trying to make us run efficiently like a computer. Unfortunately this is real life, so I usually cut my day short by up to 1 hour to start looking for a safe parking spot. Since a lot if rest areas are being closed with no advance warning to us drivers and their companies, etc. even when we have planned on making our stop there. Only to roll up and find it closed makes for extra stress to find a new location. Sometimes not having enough time to find a safe location due to the inadequate parking available in some states. I've been trucking 21 years and have seen it go from good too bad in the last 8 years. If the FMCSA doesn't stop soon you will lose what remaining

experienced drivers it has left.

If find it harder to get good rest while dealing with CARB (California Air Resources Board) wanting no idling. Try sleeping 10 hrs. with no A/C or get sleep with no heat in winter when its 30 below 0

I try to find places where there are other trucks, I advise others to not park on city streets because we are seen as a revenue source to some, and the means by which they get it from selling and begging (not a lot of difference), to crimes of violence or threat of violence.

I'll take a truck stop in a bad neighborhood with lots of activity over the abandoned property I know nothing about where I would be sitting alone. Time of day matters, evenings to very early (darkness) means the most problems.

Drivers are told they must leave the lot or the police will be called or the security will be called to escort them off their property.

About lighting in the past few months Flying J's and Pilots have a lot of parking lot lights not working I sent an E-mail and no response for me to feel safe. Being able to see is good and makes it easier to get in to parking spot.

In Chicago, I pulled into a shopping center to park for my 10hr break at 3 am; a city cop woke me up move it or get a ticket.

I was forced to park on ramp MD. Because the rest area was filled up from oversize loads because they have nowhere to go and as a result I was side swiped and it totaled my trailer.

I was driving in the north west on a US highway, I had driven 150 miles from the interstate, I was over my 11 hours and finally after 150 miles there was a small picnic site. I parked there, it was pitch black with no lights, nothing around for many miles, men stopping and walking into the bushes to relieve themselves, I had 1 bar on my phone that kept fading in and out. It took me forever to fall asleep because I was frightened.

When a truck stop fills up, people become creative with parking and make it harder for the rest of us to navigate around them.

Having to park on off-ramps after making a delivery to call dispatch because there is nowhere to park without blocking local traffic.

When I started there was no problem. Now we have 50 times the trucks but very little increase in parking facilities.

Speed is a big safety issue! If we could go the speed limit when safe to do so, it would make our job a lot easier and safer!

People begging for money if you don't have a few bucks to give, you are afraid they will shoot you so I gave it a lot of thought and going to get my concealed carry permits that I need things are getting rough out here and the government cannot make money at it so they do not care.

While under a placarded Radioactive load I was not allowed onto receiver's property by security guard. They would not unload until daylight but would load outbound at any time. Schlumberger is getting real picky about this at many locations. No place to park and no hours to drive. Sure can't pull off to the side of road and catch a nap.

No known dangers, just a feeling of being vulnerable in certain rest areas, lots, ramps. There just isn't enough parking at truck stops anywhere...if you're not there by 3 or 4 pm you may as well forget it....if you tell truck stop your out of hours they say oh well you still have to move.

If you're not in a truck stop or rest area by 7 pm you have a hard time finding a parking place. By 11 or 12 pm you take a chance of getting blocked in. when some drivers are out of time and can't find a place they park in the lanes. Some states fine you for parking on ramps, and most stores don't allow trucks in their lots. So if there is a survey done, do it after hours, not during the day when most are running.

Article in newspaper several years ago. Driver stopped because out of hours on entrance ramp at rest area in Virginia (no room available in rest area). VA State Trooper woke him up and gave him a ticket for illegal parking and made him leave the rest area. A short time later the trucker fell asleep and ran over the state trooper and both killed. Ticket found in cab of truck.

Around 0500 one morning, I NEEDED a nap because I couldn't remember the entire interchange through St. Louis. It scared me; did I hit something? Someone? I didn't know. I found a packed rest area without restrooms and barriers on both sides. I was so sleepy that I cut the ramp short and clipped the barrier. I was awake then. So much for the much needed nap. I parked on the entrance ramp and inspected the trailer. It took me 20 minutes more to relax for sleep.

Having full tanks of fuel stolen while I was sleeping. Had to park in a rural town on a side road. Having DOT officer pounding on door while sleeping in rest area wanting to see my log book. I am off duty what the hay!! Having women and men knocking on the door at rest areas and truck stops asking for money or if they can polish wheels for money it's frustrating and makes it hard to get a good rest.

While in Memphis a few yrs. ago was unable to sit on the property for a delivery during night hours, so therefore I had to go down the street to an empty lot, where it had prostitutes knocking on my doors. I drive with my husband and was unable to sleep due to that and the crowds that were hanging around the area, dealing drugs.

I purposefully schedule my days just so I can find safe parking. It is my main consideration. Some states and urban areas I have had to push close to the end of my HOS just to locate semi-safe parking. Sometimes risking tickets and situations I consider unsafe and isolated.

As an oversize load driver I usually shut down early, but on occasion I will work later. Typically when I'm empty & headed for my next load and may have to park on an on-ramp as a last resort. I am concerned that I may get stuck by an inattentive motorist and that is not conducive to rest.

I have been driving 32 years. Driving and parking is dangerous. I have witnessed robbing, shooting accidents and hookers over the years. Sometimes I'll drive over an hour out of my way to get to a safe location. Some areas you can't find a safe place anytime. Other places you better be there before 2 pm. I haul very high dollar freight, sometimes many multimillion dollar loads, so being secure is a priority and can be a problem.

Having to park in areas with limited lighting and police patrols, near poor high crime neighborhoods in the open in unsecured lots where you don't know the area and must go to sleep unsure of your personal safety.

While parked at a truck stop in Kentucky, I was awakened by someone beating on my driver's side door. When I opened the window the person told me that someone has broken into my trailer and the rear doors were open. I got up and was putting my shoes on when I glanced in the mirror and saw him go between my cab and trailer. I then opened my door and told him I had a gun and he better get out of there. He took off and dropped a 2 foot piece of steel as he left. I assume he was going to do me bodily harm and steal my truck. When I reported it the police, they said I was lucky as they had the same thing happen a week ago and the driver wasn't so lucky.

Coming into Atlanta, GA with 1.5 hrs. left and could not find a place to park. I had to drive 1/2 hr. beyond my HOS to finally park at the end of the on ramp from a rest area. I didn't feel safe there but I was already

nervous about driving beyond 14 hr. rule.

I had to deliver at a grocery warehouse in Tracy, CA. I parked in their staging lot which had plenty of room. Just as I went to bed, they knocked on my door and told me I had to move because that was for inbound trucks (there was about 5 outbound trucks there, that was it) So I had no choice but to park on the side of the road and the other trucks there had to do the same. (I think the place was called "Safeway")The next time I went there(and the last) I went in the AM and I refused to deliver past PM. In the City of Industry, CA. I have been cited for parking while waiting for a load. California is really bad. They want what we haul, but don't want us.

I was in Miami FL and could not go anywhere. I parked on the side of the street where I was to load. I was scared to death but could do nothing. There were drug deals going down everywhere. I don't go to Miami anymore because of this.

In metropolitan areas there are almost always prostitutes, beggars, drug sales, sales of stolen items, hitchhikers etc. If the drivers can hear it on the CB, so can the police. But I've never seen any law enforced at a truck stop except for shoplifting.

I have been driving almost 40 years but you pretty much have to be parked somewhere by 8pm, truck stops & rest areas will be full by then, next is parking lots but you better know where one is or you could get in trouble, off ramps next if the state will allow you, then just start looking for wide spots whatever you can find. I have drove for hours past my 14 looking for a place, parked in a wide open spot one time I was so tired I just passed out, woke up and someone had broken into my trailer and stole a bunch of computer stuff.

Weather can change the parking availability drastically.

When I know I am going to park in these area, I try to get things to eat and use the restroom before I park for the night, when I park I close my curtains and lock my doors, If I have a knock at the door, I would answer through the vent or at the window with a hammer in my hand or totally ignore them but have my hammer with me.

I carry a gun legally of course because of criminals.

A security guard and 8 cop cats beat a man bad in Columbia SC, right in front of us for no reason.

As a woman driver, not always being able to find safe parking is more than just a hindrance; it can be life threatening on a regular basis. Not being safely able to go to the restroom can make it even worse.

NYC, people jumping on the truck steps trying to get you to stop. They want to "wash, clean glass and other offers. NJ stolen fuel is the worst problem. Stay in your truck, doors locked, windows up. Call for help (911)

I had my trailer padlock cut off with bolt cutter at a 10 to 20 truck stop...my load was not stolen...but it could happen if no security cameras.

Truck parking locations are few and far between, and due to that, they get very overcrowded and the dangers of being hit or hitting someone else are up there.

Tennessee and Pennsylvania DOT waking me up at rest areas requiring me to move so they could set up for inspections!

Constant knocking on my door and side of the truck. From ladies of the night to pan handlers. Breaking my sleep and fear of getting robbed or shot or both.

I feel that the truck stops discriminate against doubles when they are parked by scales or on fuel island while there are trucks not being ticketed for parking in non-parking area of the truck stop because they are

too lazy or inexperienced to back in a slot. Doubles could possibly park somewhere marked off for "doubles only"

I have sat all day waiting to get loaded/unloaded in many locations and forced into rush hour traffic even when out of hours. Most customers will not let drivers sleep on their property but have no problem leaving you sit all day while they gradually load or unload your trailer.

Disturbed when parking at a rest area where there is a high traffic volume of sex trafficking at night near Chester, PA on I 95. In Camden, NJ at the docks across street parking 9 times I was approached from prostitutes, beggars and drug dealers. The cops flying by and turning a blind eye to it.

Trucks do not have many unique keys. I've seen drivers who have locked their keys in their trucks ask other drivers to try to unlock the door for them. It usually takes less than a dozen tries to open the door. This means that drivers cannot really be safe since anyone can easily open their door.

With the new "hours of service" rules, it has made it harder to find parking. A 30 min break, and potentially longer resets have made a difficult situation worse. Taking longer and more frequent breaks may help overworked or fatigued drivers but, did regulators think about the impact of more trucks off the road looking for a place to park? Local ordinances restricting where trucks can park are a problem as well. I was in Houston at "Loves" and there were guys were walking around from truck to truck; one driver there was assaulted by three males. Broke his jaw, and other injury's. He was out of work for 6 months.

In a rest area on I-94 in Michigan the area was infested with prostitutes. Couldn't sleep, they would knock on your door every half hour. Also several times I have been approached by panhandlers in the middle of the night wanting money in rest areas and truck stops

Was stuck at a shipper where there was no restrooms in Texas by the border of Mexico, were I kept on seeing the Border Patrol fly by with their lights on

I was at a rest area when I saw a driver pull in park then went inside the facility. Then a two people broke out a window and took off with the truck.

I HAVE DRIVEN OVER AN HOUR TO FIND A SAFE PLACE TO PARK!!!!

Drivers can't back up when there is a spot in the middle of 2 rigs. Should be more training for inexperienced drivers that are OTR. Second, there seems to be more and more situations where the lots are full and many stops are closing, if you want to solve this problem, build more truck stops instead of closing them!!

In my experience, hauling oversize loads presents the biggest challenge in regard to safe parking. Most areas do not consider the extra room needed, and that often causes an unsafe situation for me, as well as other motorists.

On ramps are not legal in many states, although it is an easy out when you need to take a break. I have been ticketed for parking on a ramp in VA. Truck stops are getting smaller i.e. Loves, Pilot, are going to smaller lots with fast food making it harder to find parking.

I AM CAREFUL AND TRY TO PLAN MY STOPS I HAVE NO INCIDENTS

I was nearly out of hours in Connecticut, so I parked in the Milford plaza on I-95. I parked in a line of other trucks not in the parking area, but away from the ramp. I (and, I assume, the other drivers) received a ticket and was told to move on about 3 AM. I was still out of hours, so fortunately, I found a shopping center about a mile up the road where another truck was parked to spend the rest of the night. A few nights later, I came by the same location, and trucks were parked where I was, but there was no police presence. It sure would be nice if the enforcement was consistent.

I travel I-40 every week from North Texas to California, then I-15 down to the LA area. Truck stop parking

along this route is very inadequate. After 8 PM it is nearly impossible to find a parking spot most days. By midnight, just forget it. I have found myself tired or fatigued, or just needing a short nap on numerous occasions. No place to park. Along this route in many areas they have signs now posted that you can't park on the ramps. So "WHERE THE HECK ARE WE SUPPOSED TO PARK"? Just last night as I was driving to CA. I had to pull off beside a ramp in CA. Rest areas were full and overflowing, truck stops the same.

There are not enough rest areas and when there are there are not nearly enough spaces as there should be. Truck stops are closing all the time and limiting parking that way also.

Vagrants knocking on your door all hours of the night. You wake up disoriented and have no idea if they are going to vandalize your truck, stab or shoot you.

We pull doubles and it is very difficult to find parking anywhere due to the length. Memphis, TN at the Pilot there is so many drugs and prostitution activity you can't even sleep there you are so worried you are going to get robbed. I will not even let my wife get out of the truck after dark if we have to stay the night there.

The new laws made it harder to get parking. With rest areas shut down and most stores not wanting big trucks in there lots, make it difficult to park especially late at night.

The states with closed rest areas should not close the parking lot. Close the building and leave the parking alone, also weigh stations have parking but driver don't want to use them in worry when the wake up DOT will give them an inspection, which makes it a last choice over a dark parking lot

In Detroit I was told if I park on the street my load would be taken

The parking lots themselves. Spaces are set up in a way that you have to blind side park and are too tight to get in once the overcrowding begins. This creates a greater potential to hit something, or worse, someone. As the lot fills beyond capacity, the same problem increases when ready to leave. We need larger, more user-friendly areas to park, safely.

At truck stops I don't sleep well because of other drivers , girls selling their self , drug dealers , and crime

Just parking in general, sometimes you have to park where it is not safe just to try to get some rest!!

You never get good quality sleep because you are afraid someone will try to break into your truck so you are listening to every little noise to make sure no one is and if they are that you can protect yourself!!!

Over filled truck stops while drivers racing through them trying to find or get a parking spot.

I've had my pigtail electrical cord stolen and fuel stolen while parked at a truck stop...criminal element is everywhere you have to be aware of your surroundings and carry items that you can use to protect yourself...

Between the volumes of trucks on the road as opposed to the amount of available parking, combined with the experience level of a lot of drivers, parking can be very challenging.

I was robbed at an abandoned gas station at gun point. The rest area was full and the truck stops full. The rest area had 20 parking spaces available for big rigs. I was tired and needed rest. I admit it was a bad choice. I wish I had more options to choose from. The shipping location would not let me take my break at their location.

The new "HOS" 8 hour rule has not only forced drivers the added stress of finding parking once more each day, many of the fewer open rest areas are now full or difficult to park in during the daylight hours because of millions of trucks parking for that break. Before the change, a driver might stop for 5 - 10

minutes to use the bathroom.

Chicago is despicable. Coming from Wisconsin after 9PM, a driver can check every truck stop and rest area and not find a single available space, and then get ticketed if we find an empty shopping mall lot and park there!

I have a letter that I'm preparing for Anthony Foxx, If you'd like a copy of my draft, request it in email to me at fixxp@msn.com

Memphis TN at the Loves truck stop I have been kept up all night with prostitutes knocking on my door and that makes it tuff to get a good night's sleep!

While parked in Amarillo TX I was robbed at gun point for cash. They did not want anything else but cash. To be honest I begged for my life. I was surprised I was not shot. The man stayed calm and asked for my money quietly as to not draw attention. So I knew for sure I was going to be SHOT. I was in fear of my life. I reported this to the police, I did not right away, and I believe I was still in shock that I was still alive. Forgive me but I can't incriminate myself, I can say that it didn't end well for the other person. Thank you and I pray that you succeed in what you are trying to accomplish.

Parking on street anytime at receivers in Miami, FL - big cities are very unsafe to me. Too much traffic coming in and out OR down the street.

Have problems quite often. Deliver to Walmart DC's quite often, and have problems with finding parking nearby. Last time was in Winter Haven, FL. Was roused from sleep by local police in Haines City, could not find any suitable parking in this area. Still had to park in a no parking area after moving hoping not to get roused again.... Walmart should provide parking areas for their inbound trucks. Each DC has well over a hundred inbound loads a day, with no parking provided.....

I am somewhat routinely harassed and chased off by law enforcement, even from rest areas. CA Highway Patrol regularly does stings in California truck stops for random checks and idling compliance, at all sorts of hours. So then, even when all is otherwise well, just that anxiety is enough to routinely not be able to rest well enough.

I sleep during the day. If I sleep at night I don't like to sleep at rest areas. On a trip to North Carolina I stopped at a TA truck stop and around 10 pm somebody was knocking on my door. I just ignored them with no further problem. I still wonder who that was and what they wanted.

Parked at I-95 travel center near Milford, CT one night in a no parking zone due to all spaces being full. At about 4 AM, CT state police knocks on my cab telling me I have to leave because a car might careen off the highway cross 50 Yds. of grass, cut through the guard rail and hit my truck. Explaining I only had a couple hours left before I'd be legal, he tells me he will do me a favor. He lets me creep to the next exit 1 mile up and park on the off ramp. No fences, 10 feet of sand between me and traffic is so much safer apparently.

I parked for a quick overnight closer to a receiver near the Bronx-literally 4 hrs. 1am-5am delivery was 3 blocks away at 5:15 am. When I got to the customer I had 3 bullet holes in my trailer. I didn't hear it over my reefer and APU unit. I was pretty shaken up.

Albany, Ga Pilot has many prostitutes and druggies around. Atlanta Ga is one place that we hardly ever stay. We consider that the scariest place to stay. Laredo is the next one, then El Paso. Any border town. Had to park at an empty lot in Birmingham, Al because there was no room at the truck stop. There were other trucks there with me. I had people (i.e. prostitutes and drugs addicts) knocking on my truck door all night long wanting money. I was unable to get the rest I needed because I was in fear for my life.

Two guys had a knife and tried to rob me at a rest area. Had a woman try several excuses to get me to open my door while her male friend was squatting down besides my door hiding. Even had a guy with a hypodermic needle try to rob me at a produce market. Very scary...

I had to leave a receiver, due to no overnight parking and was out of hours. Had to park on a busy on ramp.

I recently started running a step deck and hauling some oversize loads. Since they can only run during daylight hours you have to try to maximize your productivity for the hours available to work that day. If sunset is @ 2015 it's very hard to find a spot if you run until 8. Most of the Truck stops are already filled up. Now I'm forced to stop earlier in the evening by a couple of hours to better my odds of getting a spot when it full in for the night.

Most truck stops do not provide any security. You are subjected to being constantly woken up by prostitutes. You are also subjected to your trailer being broken into and product being stolen while parked.

Once when driving across 76 in Pennsylvania at night I was falling asleep while driving. I had extra time and wanted to stop to take a nap for an hour or so but every truck stop/rest stop I came to was packed and had no parking available. I was forced to keep pushing it all the way to the customer because I could not find any place to park. Even the off ramp shoulders were too narrow to safely stop.

I was woke up while in TA in Gary, IN to a gun being stuck in my face as I looked through a rolled up driver side window. I kicked the door open and he went flying off on his ass. Same thing happened in Atlanta, GA, at the Pilot. This time my window glass got blown out via a 12 gauge shotgun. Went thru the roof as well. Security guard was inside flirting with the cashier.

This problem relates to Canada also, in particular Saskatchewan who provides no parking or facilities for trucks. They have very few rest areas ALL of which have no truck signs posted.

I have recently fallen asleep look for parking. Our company slows our trucks for better fuel. They use shortest miles, the wrong leaving stop times leaving us only to cut our rest to make on-time deliveries. Often I have found myself looking for a parking place late at night and not been able to find one and had to run over my hours. That is one of the reasons I am working for a paper log system trucking company. I last worked for a EOBR company and was constantly looking for adequate parking at late hours and had to cruise the parking lot till someone left to avoid a violation.

I refuse to drive in anywhere in New England; there is no parking available in most areas. You cannot idle. They don't want trucks, I hope they starve.

Customers taking 5 hours to unload/load truck after you drove 9 hours to get there and they want the driver to witness the loading/unloading then tell you that you cannot park on their property.

I was in the west side flying j in Oklahoma city. I had my driver side window rolled down because it was a cool night. I was not watching what was going on because I was emailing my wife. Next thing I know a woman was in my window asking what she could do for me for money. I replied nothing, leave. She said she just needed 5 dollars and she would leave. I told her no and said to get off of my truck. Her response was looking what I got. She pulled a tazer from her shirt and pressed it to my neck but nothing happened. I threw the door open and knocked her off of my truck. The cops that responded to my call found it funny.

I was in a large city and nearly out of hours. I stopped at the first available truck stop. There was a man directing traffic in the lot. When I turned the truck off I was immediately accosted by a prostitute and told to pay for her or my truck would suffer. I left and went to the next truck stop, arriving just before my time ran out. I locked my doors, closed my curtains and I didn't leave the truck till my 10 hours was up.

In Oakland California I was driving to the receiver at about 3 in the morning and had nowhere to park for a couple of hours. I could see people that were out and looking at me, watching where I was going in the mirrors so I drove out of the area and drove a little, then I went back and parked there but it was not by any means safe had I not had the hours to drive I have no idea what could have happened.

Stopped at a truck stop, 2 times awakened by beggars. Moved to next rest area on the hwy. I was

awakened by hooker and couldn't get back to sleep. Spent the rest of break cleaning

Anywhere you park and there are no lines people will park in such a way as to take up as much space as possible so they don't get hit leaving fewer spaces for others unless you crowd or block them in. This means you won't rest well because you are worried about the other driver's reaction when he wakes up and can't leave. I have been mugged. I have gone to jail for assault because I defended myself from a mugging. He lived there, I didn't. He had a record, I didn't. They dropped the felony and made it a misdemeanor because of that.

Besides the pay, parking is one of the big problems in trucking today. The most dangerous situation I've been in was actually at a Petro truck stop. I had just run down to my last 15 minutes of driving because of the laws prohibiting parking on shoulders in Arkansas; all of the open rest areas were full. While parked at Petro I had one driver back into the back of my trailer (he was parking "creatively" as I had just taken the last spot on the end of the row) and another driver in the middle of the night hit the front of my tractor with the tandems of his trailer because of how tight it was in the parking lot from all of the "creative" parking. I chalk up the creative parking to fewer safe and legal places to park (weigh stations, truck stops with adequate parking spots, and decently sized rest areas).

In my opinion, Kentucky is the leader in parking for the professional driver: massive rest areas, wide shoulders, and plenty of truck stops with big lots.

None, I never put myself in that situation. Depending on where I am headed, I plan my stop if I'm going somewhere that doesn't have parking. It does mean an earlier start though which is sometimes tough if it's a JIT load.

Pulled out of a parking spot years ago and the driver that had parked next to me was a little close but I need to fuel before I made it to my destination so I turned towards the pumps and I was watching that other truck right up to the point I hit him. I had taken enough time off but I was still tired and there for not paying attention.

I try to stay away from cities because these locations I have found to be either full, unsafe or both. More truck stops would be the best solution, then more truck parking areas on main routes.

Downtown Chicago (old meat market area) is the worst I've experienced. Black guys w/ dreadlocks routinely jump on truck to hustle & prostitutes approach truck - both brazenly! I know several drivers who've been robbed or attacked in that area. I carry spray ammonia & wasp spray because of being jumped there.

I've had many bad experiences and they are too detailed to put down at the moment. I will try to get some time where I can relate past nightmares and send them to you. By the way, Thank you for all you have done and are still doing. Mike

Dallas I-20 area. Police inside truck stop not patrolling parking area lots of crime there they care more about employees than truck drivers also west Memphis Arkansas crime there also at truck stops. I was parked on the street in Milwaukee and was approached slowly and in what he thought was my blind spot on the right side of a dimly lit street.

I was instructed to wait outside the warehouse gate past my appointment time, although I arrived on time to load that night. I was sitting in the driver's seat with the cab lights out, watching the street all around me for activity and trying to guess which people were acting like they were up to no good.

This hooded black man who had been loitering at the corner, started to look around him to see if anybody was watching, and then walked halfway up the side of my trailer while looking at me in my right side mirror. I was watching him too, and held my .45 caliber Glock handgun with night sites up into his view and turned on my cab light. He immediately turned around and quickly walked back to his corner, where

he appeared to be selling drugs to people in cars. If I had not displayed my gun, I believe he would have jumped up on the step and pointed a gun at me and demanded money, or my truck, etc. He may have even killed me. My Glock handgun and my vigilance saved my life that night. But, we can't always be that vigilant and ready with guns to defend ourselves; and we surely cannot depend on a few policemen to insure we aren't killed. We need firearms and well lit parking with ample room to make it simple to get parked without backing into other trucks.

Rockwell TX TA, place was full, I was out of hours on EOBR, parked in handicapped spot, security guard made me move, I double parked in fire lane, other driver woke me up several hours later so he could get out. I got no rest that night and resigned from that dedicated route

I try and find spots that are well lit. I do most of my driving at night so I don't have the same problems as other drivers do.

Well just recently I parked at a small truck stop because my HOS for that day had expired and the lot was so full I had to park on the end of a row of trucks, while on my ten hour break another truck ran his trailer into my cab.

There was no place to park so I made me a parking spot. About 2 hours later I awoke to gun fire beside my truck then they drove off. I guess I made somebody mad so I left.

Man tried to steal my truck, when I fought back he cut me.

Have seen improperly trained drivers creating problems for others due to lack of experience. Needs to be longer and more detailed training. Several new drivers cannot handle the varying weather and road conditions safely.

Most rest areas don't allow overnight parking or have a limit of how long you can stay there after I had been robbed before I started carrying a gun was able to stop 2 people from robbing me after that 2 times in Chicago and Philly

The biggest problems are with the EOBR's and running out of time to find available parking (now we can get a violation for trying to park).

We have said flexibility, and they say they are tired of hearing about flexibility, they say, OK, yes, we get it, and you need flexibility. Now they made their laws stricter as of July 1st. with a 30 minute break (used to take 2 or 3) and the two periods between one and 5 a.m. which in my belief doesn't fit anybody.

You get to many trucks trying to fit into a really small area or you have to keep moving to find a bathroom to stop at. Sometimes you have to stop in small unlighted areas

I run up and down the north east parking is getting so out of hand that you may see 40 -50 trucks a night on the side of the road. And if you're not parked by 1600 in some places you're going to be sitting on the side of the road. Also with the new HOS I am seeing the lots fill a little sooner

Basically the biggest issue is customers not having room to park trucks they are unloading or loading. Should be federal law, no customer allowed to ship or receive freight if they don't have room to park waiting trucks or ones on ten hr. break after unloading.

Falling asleep at the wheel around 3am, I stopped at a rest area on I-81 in VA and passed out over the wheel, unable to get back into bed. I was on the ramp leading into the rest area along with several other trucks. After about 20 minutes I was forced to leave by the State Police. I told the trooper I hoped it was his wife and kids I ran over when I fall asleep on the road.

There is a SERIOUS NEED for more truck parking. I have been kicked out of parking lots for being a

trucker when I had to stop because I was so tired.

Once in New Jersey, I was running low on hours, I tried to park at a weigh station, when a police officer came up to me and said I had to move, I explained I was low on hours, and his response was angry, and said "move it, or I will impound it". I left and ended up driving past my time (having to edit it later to not be over) only able to find an on-ramp with a very narrow shoulder, hoping I wouldn't get rammed or side swiped by a car or that same police officer (or another like him) wouldn't find me, and tow my truck or take me to jail.

There are a lot of areas that are really bad where rough people hang out all night and the rest areas are closed down nearby so we have to park in a bad situation, and not getting any sleep because we have to be awake, wondering if we are going to get robbed.

Finding safe parking is a serious issue in my day to day operations. Unless my delivery schedule and log book allow me to stop early in the day (generally before 1900), finding parking is a challenge. I am fortunate to run the same areas often, so I am familiar with the parking, but going to an unfamiliar area is always a challenge.

It is often impossible to find a parking spot after 7pm in truck stops and rest areas. I often will have to park behind a shopping center, which is isolated and often unmonitored and unsecure. I often feel at high risk of theft or assault in these areas. These areas also do not have access to restrooms or food.

When you think you have your trip planned and the place you chose to stop is dangerous or full, you have no choice but to stay there.

I drive the "night shift". As a female, pulling over at 3am for a mandatory break is scary. In many places I don't feel safe enough to get out of the truck and stretch my legs during the break so I just sit in the driver's seat and get sleepy. It's an unfortunate situation that takes away my freedom to choose when and where I want or need to stop. I am unwilling to get out of my truck at night when I am in dark areas of truck stops receivers' shipper's, etc. Truck stops have had killings, beatings robberies etc. and these are supposed to be our safe areas.

Parked at TA in Paulsboro, NJ, I was unable to get good rest due to uneasy feeling of my safety due to the area. At that location, a few of our other company drivers have been robbed at gun point. Another, southbound on I-69, started looking for a place to park south of Ft. Wayne, IN, was unable to park until just north of Jeffersonville, IN. I started at 6:30 PM to try and park as I was tired.

I have found myself starting to get tired and pulled into a rest area late at night wanting to take an hour or two nap only to find it is completely full overflowing out the on ramp and off ramp next safe place to park can be hours down the road and now I am forced to drive that far while falling asleep behind the wheel.

Driving asleep

I couldn't find a parking space at any of 3 truck stops because every nook and cranny was being used. I went down the road to a rest area and had to park on the side of the off ramp leading into the rest area. It was a dangerous spot. When I awoke I saw 8 young men smoking drugs at one of the picnic tables looking at me. It was unnerving.

Being a solo female driver I try to find well lit places to park, but this is very hard to do. Truck stops and rest areas are where I try to find parking if they have security then I find I feel safer. I try to be safety alert when selecting a spot, but this is getting harder to do. Truck stops are no longer providing security and rest areas are the same. I do not get out of my truck at night and if I have to I take extra precautions.

With elogs I have planned to stop at rest areas and truck stops only to find that they are closed down or full before dark. This means I cannot continue more than a few miles, and thus must park in dangerous or noisy locations where I get little sleep instead of going 15-30 minutes down the road to somewhere that I can get adequate rest.

I try to plan ahead and I have started running nights so I don't have a problem getting a spot in the day. Parked during daytime in large shopping center in El Paso, TX. A man jimmed the lock on my door while I was sleeping. Thank God I had a Pit Bull in my truck sleeping in the driver's seat. When he opened the door, my dog growled. His growl woke me. It also ran off the man who opened the door. I still wonder if he wanted to steal my truck or my money or rape me. Thankfully I didn't have to find out.

Now and then I have to drive nodding out, close to falling asleep, and having that drunk-like feeling because I can't find a place to park when I first need to. I have to spend too much time getting off the road, driving around and then finding no place. I have no choice but to get back on the interstate and repeat it until I find something. I always pull the brakes and thank God because I feel like I escaped possible catastrophe.

Almost every month I have problems finding a place to park if I drive past 7 pm local time, nearly all the truck stops will be full and then I have to look for other locations that are generally not desirable. You park far in the back of the truck stop to avoid noise. Noise pollution is a problem. Then the people looking for trouble arrive. You can call police. By the time they arrive the trouble is gone.

Had my truck vandalized in a closed parking lot after I was forced to leave the US post office I delivered to at in Kearney NJ to take my break. It was tagged with graffiti along with a rock being thrown through the windshield. I called the police department only to get told "well what do you expect" and no officer ever came out.

It's hard to tell how bad the parking shortage is because we have many unprofessional drivers who park where ever they want because they can't drive to begin with. So truck stops are hard to get in or out of when there is plenty of actual spots to park. Also stopping early or in a better spot can be done with some forethought on the driver's part. Also if a shipper or receiver asks me to leave because I am early I just say "No". Then they say I got to leave, I don't come back I get a different load. That's what more drivers need to do. Just refuse to be jerked around. Like I do.

A big problem is large carriers with minimal training standards for new drivers.

I won't park in a location that is not safe for me, my truck, or the other travelers on the road. I have many times been forced to drive 1-3 hours or more outside of my hours of service, to locate a SAFE and LEGAL place to park. Often this is caused by shippers or receivers that can't load or unload their freight in a timely manner, and then refuse to allow a driver to remain on their property for a required rest period. Other times it is caused by there being too few rest areas, truck parking areas, or truck stops. These states don't have to spend a fortune to make more parking! A well maintained gravel lot with a few trash cans is all it takes! Out west in the desert half that job is already done by nature!

I haven't had much happen to myself, but I have seen many trucks hit, broken into, etc. There is always a chance of something happening no matter where we are.

I had to park in Gary, in and felt very uncomfortable there so much I left and had to drive beyond my hours to get to some place safe

Many times where I can find parking, it's horribly unsafe. Many times thugs come up to the window of the truck as ask me to buy items you know are probably stolen. You feel like you have to buy the item or suffer the consequences. A lot of times, thugs will ask if you need your truck watched for a fee, if you don't pay it they will rob you. It's really bad situations in a lot of these areas where we park because there is no room in the truck stops anymore. I have had a lot of shady characters come up to the truck when I am trying to sleep. The government is trying to run our lives when they have no clue what we go through out here.

I was leaving Longview, TX heading toward Dallas and got sleepy. It was about 1am and every exit I took the truck stops was full. I ended up parking on an on ramp but could not sleep because I was afraid

someone was going to run into me.

The problems I have had have not been so much the parking, but the inability to find parking. I have driven quiet a long ways trying to secure a safe parking place that would not endanger me or someone else. Then you have to take into consideration that I did endanger myself, and others while driving in a fatigued state.

It is not one incident it is more a daily affair to find parking one must be creative and park where the space can be made.

Your survey covers it. Afraid to park in certain areas, because of be hit, or some panhandler bothering you. rest area's for a short break, but they seem to be closing them, or like Nebraska they spent more money on posts with reflector so you can't park on the shoulders of rest area's then it would cost to add wider shoulder's!

If the federal government wants to force us to take mandatory rest breaks the federal government needs to provide areas for us to park for these rest periods!

A few years back in Memphis TN. I pulled into a convenience store to get directions to a company I was delivering to and all of a sudden a half dozen prostitutes swarmed my truck. Good thing my doors were locked!!! Some guy came up to my door and told me that if I gave him 4 dollars he would give me directions. I paid him the money and departed from there. I went to my destination about a mile away to find that it was darker than dark (no lighting) I left there and went to a lighted place that felt somewhat safer after that experience.

Real hard to find spots after 6pm cause most of my time running is from 7am to 9 pm.

Just as I have said before...there are no available parking spots for semis that are larger in size and carry oversize items. It is VERY difficult when I enter a large truck stop to find a parking spot that my 84 foot long combo will fit into without having problems sticking out and potentially getting struck by crazy semi drivers in the parking lot. There are 90 degree angle parking spots for small truck combos but not very many options for those of us that haul oversize. I do not sleep well in truck stops for the fear of being hit by other crazy truck drivers desperate to find a parking spot. We need more options if the government is going to regulate us as much as they are. Truckers need more options for safe parking. We all have to stop for a half hour now during the day thus causing more parking problems. I didn't normally stop during the day to eat because I only have so many hours to drive during the daylight anyway. I always have to stop by 4-5 pm or earlier to ensure that I find a suitable parking spot instead of driving the allotted hours that I can drive that day.

I have a drop in Carson Calif. There is no place to park while waiting to deliver, and the Carson Gestapo will tag your truck or make you move in heart beat even if you are out of hours.

Parked outside receiver that closed for night in Chicago, all kinds of people walking around after dark, occasional knocks on truck, and that night about 10 pm I swore I heard gunshots down the street. One of the worst nights I have had

I found a wide shoulder next to a turn lane for a mall where I wasn't blocking the view of motorists exiting. I needed to use a ladies room. A state trooper pulled up behind me and said I was a hazard that he was going to have the truck towed after he did a DOT inspection. Luckily, another trooper came along and told him I was in a fine spot. The 1st cop then told me I needed to put out triangles, if I stopped there in the future. Really??

I HAVE FOUND THAT WHEN I HAVE TO FINALLY PARK I TRY TO FIND THE SAFEST AREA. I TRY NOT TO PARK WERE I FEEL SO UNSAFE THAT I CAN'T SLEEP.

Lack of lights if you park in the back you have to be very carefully never get out of your truck rite away

Truck stops should build on more land like they used to do before they all turned into self-serve stops.
attempt of robbery at pilot truck stop also attempted robbery at Chicago oasis

Many states will not let you park on/off ramp, if truck stop full where I am to park and be safe. I try never to get out of the truck after dark. Have had people bang on the door at all different times of the night. I do try and keep my dog with me. With the closure of a lot of rest areas it is hard to find a place to use a restroom that you can park. You cannot just pull in to a gas station or any store, you don't fit. The rest areas that are open fill very fast for parking, I have parked on the side of the shoulder at the exit to the rest area, both in and out ramps, not safe but could not stay awake any longer to try and find another open rest area.

Most Hi \$\$\$ Value loads like electronics & alcohol & tobacco will not let you park on their property like Amazon & you must park in areas with no security which puts you at risk for hi-jacking.

Since the new hour of service, more and more trucks fitted with e logs less production/pay per driver now, more trucks on road than ever before. These hypocrites that make up our rules/laws don't have a clue about how this industry works; they are making it worse out here than ever.

In Nebraska on I-80 it is difficult to park at a rest area even during the day, so you can forget about night time parking. I regular drive over HOS to park, sometimes I just drive the extra 10 hours to get home. I was parked in a rest area in Connecticut out of hours and unable to find other parking. A state trooper came along and gave me a ticket for parking too long. I was there 5 hours and there apparently was a 4 hour limit. He then inspected my truck without finding any violations, but gave me an OOS order since I was out of hours and couldn't legally move. He ordered me to leave the rest area which I refused to do since I was out of hours and now under an OOS order. I eventually took the ticket to court and the judge ruled in my favor chastising the trooper for the stupidity of his actions. However, the OOS order remains on my CSA score as another example of the DAQ system not working.

Robbed while parked in a closed station in south Memphis.

All I can say, is when hauling an oversize load, it is very hard to find a parking space, big enough for the truck and load to fit. I hate parking where someone can come by and hit the equipment. We try to put cones out, but there is always someone who is not paying attention. Or when we head out at daylight, there is usually some tired truck driver parked in a way that we cannot get out.

At the moment I am still a student, but from what I've learned parking is a major concern for all drivers for both safety and difficulty finding lots large enough for CMV's to use.

Lots of hookers and shady looking people at the TA truck stop in Ontario, CA

Out of hours, unable to cross WA state line & scale to stay at safe rest area, 15 minutes away. Slept in dangerous industrial lot by receiver, took too long to unload.

Could not find parking in the S/F Bay area and had to sleep in cab on side street by receiver in Downtown Richmond Cal. Police woke me up and said it was not safe or legal so I had to leave. Had to drive north out of Bay Area to find parking 25 miles and out of hours.

NEVER HAVE HAD THIS KIND OF PROBLEM, I WILL NOT PARK IN AN AREA THAT I DON'T FEEL SAFE.

Detroit area truck stop I-94. Only spot available was on the back line bordering an empty lot. I was in the sleeper and felt someone crawl up onto my catwalk. I jumped out with no shoes, the male jumped from the cat walk from the opposite side that I approached and ran.

Tampa FL had to park on a street in the middle of the night to deliver a heating boiler to an elementary school. While un-tarpping the load (necessary in the middle of the night do to morning traffic) I had cars with blackened windows stopping and cruising slowly by. I had to keep my winch bar handy in case of an attack.

Newark NJ, unspeakably scary in the middle of the night.

Compton CA had to park on the street next to the receiver. Thought I was safe due to a guard shack within 50 feet. Someone stole my snow chains while I slept even though I had my sleeper windows open.

Should I mention being jerked out of a sound sleep by a prostitute banging on my tractor doors in the middle of the night? Can't count the number times this has happened!

I do not get restful sleep during the instances when I have to park in an area that is not secure. I work hard delivering a very necessary service; I deserve to be treated like a human.

We were parked in a shopping center in Camden, AR and went inside a restaurant to eat lunch. We were away from our truck about 45 minutes. When we came back 2 of our tarps had been stolen from our flatbed trailer. So some places aren't safe even in the day time without security.

Just places where people knock on your door asking for money and eyeing the truck, my wife rides with me year round so when that happens I leave the area...!

People getting aggressive about begging & scamming for money & while asleep have been robbed of all bungee cords & lights on rear of the trailer

Being on elogs I have had problems not being able to park at customers and not get a full break off site before my appointment.

A group of kids thought I would be a quick buck by robbing me....2 shots in the air and they disappeared as quickly as they showed up! Shouldn't have to do that.

More recently I've where towns are restricting truck parking even though you are delivering to a customer in their town.

A beggar who "just wanted some change" tried to rob me in Atlanta GA at the Pilot. The only thing that saved me was as he was pulling his gun out 3 other drivers BS'ing, carrying on and looking over each other's trucks came around the back of the trailer parked next to me. It spooked the beggar and he took off.

Just the same ole people want money or food. That's OK for me but when they tell others it's kind of hard. Because you can't just keep giving you income away

There continues to be a problem with state run rest stop closures. This forces drivers into areas that create problems for everyone. If trucks are going to continue to be the main source of transporting the nation's products, there has to be a lot of changes made.

We are often told to plan our trips. This is sometimes out of our control due to weather or Traffic. The customers also delay picking up or dropping loads. The only work around is to take longer to do a trip and take the pay drop because of it.

Rest areas that have time limits on parking, states that do not have rest havens at scales and other inspection facilities that are funded by tax dollars. drivers being harassed by law enforcement for parking at these facilities after shutting down for the night

Distribution Centers that will not allow parking; no parking anywhere nearby; no parking allowed on any streets/roads; have to drive over hours (Electronic Logs) to find any parking.

Was parked in a rest area coming into New Jersey. There was activity at this rest area all night long; I spent the entire night being afraid. It was a "pick up" hangout. It seems New Jersey state police condone this and do nothing about it.

If I don't feel safe I keep going until I find somewhere that I do. Regardless of regulation. So far never had a problem with that.

Trucking is all about time management and planning. PARKING IS NOT A PROBLEM! ILL TRAINED OR INEXPERIENCED DRIVERS ARE! AND LEAVING PISS BOTTLES LYING AROUND WHEN COMPANIES DO LET YOU PARK IS NOT GOING TO HELP. SEVERAL WALMART STORES HAVE CLOSED THEIR LOTS TO TRUCKERS BECAUSE OF TRUCKER BEHAVIOR!

Parking in some locations say round major metro areas i.e. Chicago Dallas Detroit etc. at the end of your available hours is very dangerous. I work for a furniture company and run into these issues occasionally. All you can do is deal with it. I have advised local police of the issue Any location asking them to keep an eye on the area. Some have agreed.

Several times I drove to find rest areas and couldn't find parking I was so tired I almost put my truck in the ditch

I'm currently a student driver but as I drive around the state of Michigan I find that there are limited parking spots in the bigger cities were crime is typically higher.

I've been blessed in this regard but the fact that a driver is put in this situation lets us know that we have a huge problem with parking. No one wants a driver in there parking lot. Congress keeps passing there rules they don't have to live by, DOT enforces these rules they don't live by, everybody wants there freight the real question is, Is it worth it anymore? The risk is too great now, the pay sucks, hard to get home, can't park, rules, rules better not break any rules. Lawyer provokes people to have wrecks with CMV's the list goes on.

Michigan rest areas are somewhat iffy to park in. Sometimes your door will get knocked on by prostitutes.

Parking in areas that are crime ridden that the police won't even patrol at night
I was parked on a street waiting to deliver to a major grocery distributor in Miami, FL all of a sudden a girl knocked on my door to ask me for some change, when I reached for my wallet I seen 2 other guys crawling on my passenger side trailer coming towards my passenger door, lucky for me my door was locked and I drove off with the girl standing on my steps I spotted a police car and notified them, they proceeded to escort me to delivery site.

In Ohio I parked in one of the back corners of a truck stop that was not very well lit. I was one of four trucks that were broken into while I was sleeping.

Every day is a challenge to find a spot to spend the night and is just getting worse.

In 1994 in New Orleans I was approached by people I didn't know telling me that there was a woman over there that wanted to meet me. Could have been bad but I just told them I was not interested and hid in truck hoping all was OK and nothing happened thank god I was praying. Also I was at a marshalling yard for a trade show I believe that this type of location can be very dangerous.

**Not knowing what the weather will be like when you get up the next day or night
I parked on the ramp of a Virginia rest area I had just turned my light off and settled down with the radio low and just as I started to fall asleep I heard the door handles rattle as someone was trying to open the door. I was frozen and I just lay there listening as I heard them try the other side. Then I heard voices of more than one person. Finally I had the nerve to peek out the curtain and saw 3 guys in hoods beside my trailer. I watched as they walked off and wondered if they had gotten in would I still be here to type this!**

I was in the Port of Oakland and was told my load wouldn't be ready before my end of 14hrs. The load was Beer and was told I wasn't allowed to stay the night. And I had to drive 50 miles out of there to find Safe Parking

Never really experienced a dangerous situation yet. There are cities and places that I try very hard to avoid. St. Louis, Chicago, Memphis.

One time in N.C. I couldn't find parking ran out of hours and parked in a Walmart, after I went inside and asked the manager for permission, because of being out of hours, but some Walmart stores will let and some will not. No good truck stops east of Asheville on I-40.

I was hit over the head while in a rest area in Michigan and robbed and left for dead. I was in the hospital for three days WITH A CONCUSSION.

Lately, I am finding that a lot of people are prowling through truck stops claiming that they have run out of gas and need money. Some have even had small children with them. They come up to your truck all times of the night, waking you up and asking for money.

Never park at the end of the center rows of any truck stop-can get clipped (run into), another bad situation happens in night time construction zones: One night I was stopped in construction traffic on I-15 near Apple Valley, CA. A Farm Fresh Truck that was also stopped about 40' ahead of me began rolling backwards towards my rig, I began blasting my air horn in attempt to get the driver's attention to no avail, it rolled back into my grill damaging the front end of my truck, the driver immediately pulled back ahead to its original location. What really scared me was not for my own life, but for a small black car that pulled in between us, I was seriously afraid that the Farm Fresh truck would do it again and back over the car, luckily the car driver decided to take the off ramp that was immediately to the right within a few minutes. I couldn't have backed up away to give room due to the condition of traffic backed up behind me. Truck drivers call this type traffic scenario "a parking lot". Due to an MVA accident, I know what a big rig can do to a small black car: make a compact out of a compact, miserably speaking.

Truck Town USA-Fontana, CA, I was accosted by a security guard because he mistook me to be a "lot lizard" due to my wearing a long ankle length summer dress (I was parked for the night & I'd decided to change from my boots/jeans for comfort) as I was going into the store to buy dinner. He finally let go of me after he realized that I was a lady trucker. These types of incidents really bother me due to my being attacked years ago (1978) in LA, CA by the "Hillside Stranglers", I was 18 years old at the time & I was agile enough to escape with my life from the two men, which I'll never forget! I'm very careful to pay attention to what's going on around me!

Between the hours of 23:00 and 04:00 it is almost impossible to find a space to park in any rest area on any major interstate highway. This is the time when drivers get fatigued and need to pull off and get rest not only for their own safety but the safety of all who are traveling those interstates. The interstate highway system needs to have more parking facilities for truck drivers. This has been a major problem for as long as I have been driving (33 years).

As a female, I have to be very careful. I get harassed a lot, but I am more likely to get parking. A male driver asked the store keeper if he could park in the lot while the store was closed. "Absolutely Not" I asked the same question a few minutes later "Just be gone before we open".

Just a lack of adequate parking space and not enough square footage to safely maneuver when parking is at or near full.

I don't know so many I think truck drivers should be allow to carrier hand guns if they have the training to do so in the places where drivers have been robbed or killed.

I am all 48, and really lose drive time/money due to lack of places to stay. I am regulated where to fuel up, and the stops rarely coincide with down time. Looking for another driver opportunity because of this, **being 'blamed' for not having full clock when getting to receiver/shipper because of mandated breaks.** I like driving but it is getting old, only 2 years in.

The Walmart DC south of KC, MO needs to allow parking, the closest place {Pilot} is over 10 miles away and it fills up fast! With E-logs, 2 INCHES away is too far without violating HOS laws

Airports are a problem with parking too.

I often have to park on an off ramp because of inadequate parking in the area. Don't feel comfortable doing it, but don't have a choice.

I have had the largest issues with warehouses not being timely and burning several hours off my 14, then wanting me to leave with too few or no hours left to legally move. Now I have to run illegal, park illegal, or argue with the warehouse/dispatch. I have been banned from customers because I have refused to leave without hours.

PARKING IN SOME MALLS WHERE YOU CAN THERE ARE SOME WHO TRY TO DETERMINE WHAT YOU ARE CARRYING AND SOME IF NOT LOCKED WILL TRY AND GET IN YOUR TRAILER THIS IS GETTING REAL BAD

Name any brand truck stop, at any location across the 48 states and I can fulfill any vice you may have. From prostitution, drugs, scams, or theft it happens. These so called driver friendly truck stops could care less about our safety; it's all about the bottom line. When a driver is found dead in his truck after being @ the same stop four days that's just one example of how insecure our surroundings are (Wilco Troutdale NC) hookers knocking on doors.

I start my day early so I am able to shut down early just because of the parking issue. This would be fine if every appointment time was in the morning, and every load was ready on time, but they simply are not. It can be scary and nerve wracking to have a load that picks up in the middle of the night, or even in the late afternoon.

Even when you finally find a place where other trucks are, whether it is truck stop or rest area or Walmart or Hardees, the task of maneuvering a 72" rig into a tight spot can take 10 minutes to an hour. Sometimes because of the enormous amount of trucks circling looking for a space! Meanwhile where you just spent \$600 (for fuel) is telling you that you can't park on the side or curb and you have to leave!

Many times I must park over 200 miles from receiver in order to have safe, quiet rest.

I often have to park in isolated or illegal places like off ramps or old country stores as truck stops often do not have adequate parking or are spaced too far apart

I've been very blessed to have not had any bad experiences this far thank god. I won't park if it's not safe no matter what, my life is more important than any rule regulation fine or any load.

The long stretch of highway 101 from San Jose through Gilroy is mostly rural, and there are no truck stops or rest areas. Many of the local exit ramps are long, many with wide gravel margins. Yet the CHP in that area is very strict, and threatens any trucker who parks on those quiet margins, even for a few minutes, a major ticket.

BEEN IN CHICAGO WHERE THERE IS NO PARKING. WATCHED A TRUCK GET STRIPPED TO THE BARE BONES IN ABOUT 15 MINUTES. I GOT OUT OF THE AREA FAST.

I used to drive regionally for a large carrier. I was on a customer's property for a night delivery and they ran me out of hours. I parked in the back and 6 hours later was woken up and told to leave. Unsafe and illegal.

Prostitutes & beggars knocking on truck at rest areas, truck stops that have no security.

The one time I parked in a rest area first person I seen tried selling me drugs.

Ramp parking very good place to get hit

When I did over the road there is nowhere to park.

Urban = higher criminal activity. Rural = safe. I'm not worried about getting mugged by a cow ...

While parked outside a truck stop due to overcrowding I witnessed the murder of a prostitute in the field beside me. After searching the windows of the trucks parked along the road the murderer pocketed his gun and reentered the truck stop. I was able to identify him and the police captured him. Not only was I endangering from the initial time of the murder but due to testifying put myself in danger of ever going back to that region of the country. I changed trucking companies to one which did not force me to deliver back in that area.

Had all of my tires slashed, They made me watch. Then I got beat up.

The parking in the eastern part of the whole U.S. is terrible. If you don't stop soon after dark you're usually out of luck. The truck stops and rest areas are over filled. Trucks park in all dangerous spots. Private parking lots you're not welcome, S.C. has truck only parking areas I like, because if troopers see a car parked the officer can and will inspect.

Had a car turn around and pass me and had gone to the place I was supposed to park and was waiting on me. I drove on and called the police. It was around Christmas and I was told they were dangerous because the cops knew them.

Parking sucks nobody cares if we are safe, they just want their loads.

After driving the max hours allowed by law it is very unsafe and illegal to wander around with a big rig. Sometimes in weird places and bad hours looking for a place to sleep so I don't get fined and or get a bad mark with the company I drive for. I just try and obey the laws.

My main concern is lack of parking. Often park early because it's hard to find parking late. Being a woman I always feel a little unsafe, but have never had major problem though am very aware of my certain vulnerability. I often put seatbelt through door handle and clasp hoping that makes me a little safer. I also have dog that would alert me to danger. I've been very fortunate, but know there are real dangers out here. Thank you for your efforts

My vehicle has been approached and I have been disturbed while in the sleeper. When sleep is disrupted is results in a lack of sleep.

Seems like areas with greatest concentration of warehouses has the most restrictions on parking and truck friendly streets. Bedford Heights, Oh. Near Cleveland allows no overnight parking. Allentown, PA area near 78 & Route 100 lots of truck restricted routes only parking is at your destination if you're lucky. Have been held more than 2 hours at many delivery points only to be told I have to leave after they took way too long to unload their freight, this scenario is the one that causes me the most problems finding safe parking and is usually at receivers that require you to be there at a designated appointment time.

These types of questions would actually require more of an interview in person, the trucking industry and what we encounter every day is so diverse and so insane, what we go through day in and day out it is a wonder we have not all dropped dead of a heart attack or stroke,.... the pressures and crazy situations that can escalate into brutal fights of survival literally are over whelming,.... there has not ANYONE to go to bat for the AMERICAN trucker in a long time,... NOW we are swamped WITH MEXICAN, UKRAINIAN< RUSSIAN< ARAB DRIVERS WHO MOST OF THEM DON'T EVEN SPEAK ENGLISH, HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE, FEDERAL LAWS MANDATE, THAT THEY BE ABLE TO SPEAK< READ AND WRITE THE

ENGLISH LANGUAGE FLUENTLY,.... GET RID OF THEM AND YOU OPEN UP A LOT MORE PLACES TO PARK, HOWS THAT FOR STARTERS.

I haul fuel and with the price of fuel and terrorist issues, there are no real safe havens for us. And now with the mandatory 30 min break where do you go?

It gets tiring when looking for a spot to park and if you can't find one then you got to move on down the road and hope 30 minutes away you find a place. Hopefully you are able to make it without crashing from falling asleep.

The main thing is where I run with elogs you have to run when you have time sometimes that mean run til 2 am on the east coast just to make your delivery on time but there is never any parking. The north east consumed the most goods but have less parking then most other areas.

I couldn't begin to list the encounters that I've had over the last 25 years - BUT I will stress that this is a huge problem even on a dedicated run like I have. You are tired and stressed by the time you find any spot, and then you have to worry about your safety and the safety of your truck the whole night.

There has been a shortage of safe truck parking area for years and addressing it is long overdue. Our truck has been hit in truck stops several times over the last 38 years. My husband has been mugged in a truck stop parking lot.