



# **DRIVER DISQUALIFICATIONS:**

## **Railroad-highway Grade Crossing Violations**



Continuing with the circumstances causing disqualifications, in today's newsletter we'll discuss Railroad-highway Grade Crossing Violations. Drivers still don't understand that trying to outrace a train at a railroad crossing is a lose/lose situation. Statistics show that 94% of the collisions and 87% of the fatalities at a railroad crossing were caused by risky driving behavior or poor judgment on the part of the driver. The mistake commercial vehicle drivers make when it comes to railroad crossings are less risky than the one mentioned above. However you should still use precaution and never cross a railroad track unless you are sure there is room on the other side for your vehicle to completely clear the tracks and never shift gears while crossing a railroad track.



The disqualifications pertaining railroad-highway grade crossing include violations of a federal, state or local law or regulation to one of the following six offenses:

- Failing to stop before reaching the crossing if the tracks are not clear.
- Failing to slow down and check that the tracks are clear of an approaching train.
- Failing to stop before driving onto the crossing.
- Failing to have sufficient space to drive completely through the crossing without stopping.
- Failing to obey a traffic control device or the directions of an enforcement official at the crossing.
- Failing to get through a crossing because of insufficient undercarriage clearance.

Remember, if any of these situations happen to you, you will lose your CDL:

- For at least 60 days for your first violation.
- For at least 120 days for your second violation within a three-year period.
- For at least one year for your third violation within a three-year period.