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WILENTZ, GOLDMAN & SPITZER, P.A.

Who May Be Responsible for an Amazon Delivery Accident in New Jersey?

Tuesday, November 10, 2026

When an Amazon-branded delivery vehicle is involved in an accident, many people assume the answer to who is responsible is straightforward. However, determining liability in an Amazon delivery accident is often more complicated than it first appears.

Amazon's delivery network includes several types of drivers and companies. Depending on the circumstances, responsibility for an accident may rest with a driver, a delivery company, another motorist, or multiple parties. Understanding who may be liable requires a careful review of the facts.

Why the Amazon Name on a Vehicle Does Not Provide the Complete Answer

Amazon's delivery system relies on a network of different transportation arrangements. While a vehicle may display Amazon branding, the driver may not be a direct Amazon employee.

As a result, identifying the party responsible for injuries and damages often requires determining who owned the vehicle, who employed the driver, what company was operating the delivery route, and what insurance policies may apply.

Because of these complexities, accident victims should avoid assuming liability based solely on a vehicle's appearance.

Amazon Delivery Service Partners

Many Amazon deliveries are completed through Delivery Service Partners, commonly known as DSPs. These independently owned businesses contract with Amazon to provide delivery services using drivers and vehicles assigned to delivery routes.

In some cases, a DSP driver's employer may be an important part of the liability analysis. Questions that may arise include:

- Who employed the driver?
- Who owned or maintained the vehicle?
- Whether company policies or supervision contributed to the accident
- What insurance coverage is available

The answers can vary from one accident to another, making a detailed investigation important.

Amazon Flex Drivers

Amazon also utilizes Amazon Flex, a program that allows individuals to make deliveries using their own vehicles. Because Flex drivers generally operate personal vehicles, liability issues may differ from those involving commercial delivery vans. Determining what insurance coverage applies and what parties may be responsible often requires reviewing the specific circumstances of the crash. An accident involving an Amazon Flex driver may present different legal and insurance questions than an accident involving a DSP delivery vehicle.

Other Potentially Responsible Drivers or Companies

Not every Amazon delivery accident is caused solely by the delivery driver.

Depending on the facts, other parties may also share responsibility, including:

- Another driver involved in the collision
- A company responsible for vehicle maintenance
- The owner of a commercial vehicle involved in the crash
- A business whose actions contributed to the accident

New Jersey accident investigations frequently involve examining the conduct of multiple individuals and organizations before responsibility can be determined.

Why Responsibility Depends on the Facts

No two delivery accidents are identical. Liability may depend on factors such as:

- How the collision occurred
- Who owned the vehicle
- The driver's relationship to a delivery company
- Applicable insurance policies
- Vehicle maintenance records
- Witness statements and photographs
- Electronic delivery and route records

A thorough investigation is often necessary before conclusions can be reached about who may be legally responsible.

Information an Attorney May Review

Following an Amazon delivery accident, an attorney may review evidence such as:

- Police reports
- Photographs and video footage
- Witness statements
- Vehicle ownership information
- Insurance records
- Driver qualification and employment information
- Delivery route and dispatch records
- Communications related to the delivery

Because certain evidence may become more difficult to obtain over time, seeking legal guidance early can help preserve important information.

Contact Wilentz

If you were injured in an accident involving an Amazon delivery vehicle, determining who may be responsible is rarely as simple as identifying the logo on the side of the vehicle. A careful investigation may be necessary to identify the parties involved and evaluate potential sources of recovery.

Determining who may be responsible for an Amazon delivery accident is not always straightforward. The attorneys at Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A. can help evaluate the facts of your case and identify potentially responsible parties. Contact our Personal Injury attorney John Anzalone to discuss your situation and learn more about your legal options. **Call today for a consultation.**

Practice

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