



April 2024 Newsletter

Citations vs. CSA Points

Often times I will get the phrase “I got pulled over for xyz but he didn’t give me a ticket”. Typically, if you are pulled over they will still write up the reason or defect on your DOT inspection. They will not always issue a citation for it. With that said, just because you do not have monetary consequences, does not mean

you still did not get written up on your PSP.

A citation can be issued to the driver or the company. If it is issued

to the driver, you will see this appear on your motor vehicle report (MVR).

A DOT inspection is seen on 2 different levels

- **As a carrier-** it is on our Compliance Safety Accountability (CSA) score. Any violations, defects, or out of service for our DOT are public record and graded against peer carriers. These can be seen for the past 2 years and the points are multiplied (times 3 for 6 months, time 2 for 6 months to 1 year, single points for 1-2 years). Too many points can cause alerts which can cause more inspections or audits.

- **As a driver-** these can be seen on your Pre- Employment Screening (PSP) report. If you choose to get another job, a carrier can run this report and see all inspections/violations you have had in the last 3 years.

The best practice is to make sure you are prepared before taking off. Do a proper pre/post trip to prevent any write ups on your equipment. Most of our unsafe driving violations are speeds or left lane violations so be mindful of traffic laws along your travels. Top log violations are form and manner (forgetting to input shipping document numbers, trailer numbers, and certifying your logs).

If you need any help learning to prevent any violations, please reach out!

Keep your distance while dropping!



We are flattered you think we are that skinny, but we are not! Please be mindful of how close you are parking these trailers. I do not want to see anyone getting injured doing a duck waddle to get to dolly legs!

Solar Eclipse- April 8th

Millions of people are expected to travel to be in the path of totality for the April 8 total solar eclipse, with Ohio being one of the top states to travel to. Although it is recommended to stay off the roads, it is



a bit of a challenge when your job is being on the road from 1:55 PM- 3:10 PM on April 8th. Following the tips below will help keep

you safe.

- Drive with your headlights on
- Avoid looking at the sun without protective eyewear
- Do not watch the eclipse while driving. Do no park on the shoulder either- no sitting duck!
- Watch for pedestrians distracted by the sky
- Be extra alert for distracted drivers

Lock in your pins

When doing a pre/post trip, make sure your pins are locked in on your trailer tandems. Majority of the 51 series are engaged when you connect your air, but the 52 and 53 series are mechanical.

Some customers require you slide them to the back to drop,



but you want to make sure that pin is locked in before starting your trip.

Office Spotlight- Danielle Crawford

Danielle has been the local dispatcher at General Transport since September 2020. She has almost 30 years' experience in trucking and she said she is dispatching the finest local drivers in the biz here at GT. When she is not hard at work, she enjoys spending time with her family and spoiling her 3 perfect grandkids. She also loves Ohio sports, frost beverages, cooking, and gardening. We are proud to have you as part of the GT Family!



Spotlight Driver- Brian Mowen

Brian has been with General Transport since September 2022 starting off as an owner operator before moving to his current position as a company regional driver. Brian enjoys driving and has logged 224,348 miles in his time at GT. Brian can make talk to just about anyone

and can easily make friends.

When Brian is not behind the wheel, he enjoys visiting his family in Illinois. We are proud to have you as part of

the GT Family!



Got your supplies handy?

Do you have the required materials in your truck? CFR 393.95 requires you to carry a fire extinguisher, spare fuses, and warning devices for stopped vehicles (triangles). We also recommend carrying hooks if you need towed. These items are small to store but can be easy violations to be written up for.