

THE ROADSIDE KIT

Every DataQ is won or lost at the scene. These two pages are how you win it — before it exists.

PAGE 1 · BEFORE & DURING THE STOP

1 · THE BINDER — have these reachable in 30 seconds (Levels I–III all start here)

- CDL + medical examiner's certificate (check expirations MONTHLY, not annually)
- Registration, annual inspection report, IRP cab card + IFTA license (interstate >26k lbs)
- Insurance + operating authority docs · UCR proof · HazMat permits/placards if applicable
- ELD instruction card + blank paper logs (the required backup) · know how to TRANSFER logs to the officer
- Personal conveyance policy understood — PC misuse is a top-five falsification violation
- Load securement gear stocked — securement is a top roadside write-up, often fixable ON THE SPOT if you have straps

A clean, organized cab is evidence too: officers read mess as "what else is out of order here?"

2 · KNOW YOUR TOP-5 EXPOSURE — where roadside write-ups actually happen

- Lights — the 30-second pre-trip walk that prevents the most common write-up of all
- Brakes & tires — the heart of every Level I underside check
- Logs/HOS — falsification (incl. PC misuse) lives in the top five every year
- Securement — straps, chains, edge protection, working load limits
- Paperwork currency — expired med cert or annual inspection is a free violation you handed them

3 · DURING — conduct is strategy (this is where success rates are decided)

- Calm, professional, cooperative. You cannot talk yourself out of an inspection — you CAN talk yourself into one
- Follow instructions exactly during brake/underside checks; ask before moving anything
- Be upfront about known issues + your fix plan — inspectors sometimes waive what you clearly already caught
- ASK about anything you don't understand: "Which regulation section is that?" — write the answer down
- Ask the officer to note point-of-impact / positions / narrative fully if this is a crash scene
- NEVER argue roadside. The argument happens later, in writing, with evidence — where you can actually win

PAGE 2 · EVIDENCE, THE DVER & THE 30-DAY CLOCK

4 · EVIDENCE — sixty calm seconds with a camera (diligent-at-the-scene carriers win far more DataQs)

- Time-stamped photos: the alleged defect, multiple angles, wide + close · the placard/markings in question
- Crash: all vehicles, positions, road, signals, skid marks, weather · witness names + phone numbers
- Screenshot/record ELD state at the stop time · keep the bills of lading for THIS load
- CAPTURE THE FOUR before you roll: report # · officer name/badge · agency · citation # (if any)
- Repair anything cited and keep TIME-STAMPED work orders + receipts — attachable proof later

5 · THE DVER — the document that becomes your record

- Get your copy before you roll · read EVERY violation line + the officer's notes section
- Deliver it to your carrier (or your own file) within 24 HOURS — regulation, not suggestion
- Carrier certifies corrections + returns signed copy within 15 DAYS · retain 12 months
- No citation issued? It's still on your CSA/PSP as a warning-level violation — still DataQ-able
- Never received a copy? Request the full report (with officer notes) through DataQs — free

6 · AFTER — the 30-day clock

- Days 1–3: review the DVER against your photos; pull ELD data; order repair docs
- Anything wrong or court-bound: open the DataQ Builder — pick the RIGHT dispute type (it decides your odds)
- File within 30 days: max score-weight relief, fresh evidence, fresh memories
- Citation going to court? Fight it there FIRST — a dismissal is the single most successful DataQ there is
- Mark the next monthly SMS refresh date — that's when your win actually posts

QUICK REFERENCE — what kind of inspection is this?

Level I — the full 37-step: driver docs + complete vehicle including underneath. Pass clean → **CVSA decal**, and decaled vehicles are generally not reinspected for ~3 months.

Level II — walk-around driver/vehicle, no under-vehicle. The most common stop on the road.

Level III — driver/credentials only: CDL, med cert, logs, status. No vehicle check, no decal.

Success math, verified: data errors/duplicates win 70–90% · wrong-carrier claims usually win on paperwork · court dismissals are the #1 violation path · evidence-free “wasn’t fair” filings win ~■ and burn your credibility with the state. Small fleets win less than big fleets for ONE reason — filing quality. These two pages are the equalizer.

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