

FILING A LAWSUIT AGAINST A MOTOR CARRIER OR BROKER
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We often get questions about how to bring a lawsuit against a motor carrier or broker that is located in another state. The FMCSA maintains a website with a "Licensing & Insurance" section:

http://li-public.fmcsa.dot.gov/LIVIEW/pkg_html.prc_limain

Since all motor carriers and brokers are required to file a BOC-3 form and designate process agents in each of the states upon whom service of a complaint can be made, you can commence a suit where you are located and effectuate service on the defendant by serving the agent. If you are an individual or a small business you may be able to do this in small claims court without an attorney.

If you go to the above website, click on the drop-down box called "Choose Menu Option", then select "Carrier Search" and enter the USDOT number or MC number (or the name and state) for the company (you may need to select the company from a list). When you find the company, look for the box that says View Details and select "Report". The report will show the name of the company's "Blanket Company". Go back to the previous menu to "Choose Menu Option" and select "Blanket Companies". You will see a list of all the blanket companies. Select the one for the company and find the agent for process in your state.