



Victoria M. McLaughlin Highlights Key Employer Liability Risks in ABA

Spencer Fane attorney [Victoria M. McLaughlin](#)'s recent article, [The Company-Car Conundrum: Liability Exposure for Employee Mistakes](#), was published by the *American Bar Association*.

Victoria's article examines how employer liability for employee-driven vehicle accidents varies by state, with most jurisdictions imposing liability when an employee is acting within the course and scope of employment. She highlights Florida's Dangerous Instrumentality Doctrine, which can hold employers liable whenever they permit an employee to use a company-owned vehicle, regardless of company policies restricting that use. The article emphasizes that employers should understand the laws in every state where employees drive and regularly review their vehicle-use policies to manage risk.

"Even a company that has well-written employment agreements and clear policies may be liable for employee negligence in a company car. Internal rules for employees are considered limitations on use, but they do not eliminate liability to a third party," Victoria wrote.

At the firm, Victoria represents clients across a broad range of industries in a diverse litigation and general counsel practice, encompassing construction, business disputes, real estate, trusts and estates, general liability, and associated litigation.

Victoria has been recognized as *Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch, 2026*.

Read Victoria's full article [here](#). Please note, a subscription may be required.