

Airplane Accidents

Demand for air travel is expected to double over the next 20 years. As air traffic increases, so does the risk that passengers will be injured or involved in a fatal aviation accident or life-altering helicopter crash.

Tempus Fugit regularly handle the following types of aviation cases:

- **Commercial Airline Crashes and Accidents**
 - These large-scale tragedies often involve multiple defendants, the National Transportation Safety Board, independent investigators, commercial airline carriers, and aircraft manufacturers. Air crash litigation and multiple layers of state, federal, and international law make these cases extremely challenging to take on.
- **Private Plane Crashes**
- **International Plane Crashes**
 - Growth in low-cost airlines with transatlantic flights and new stripped-down options from traditional airlines has meant that flying internationally is easier — and cheaper — than ever before. When tragedy strikes on an international flight, passengers and their loved ones have a daunting journey ahead of them to seek compensation for catastrophic losses. Although every aviation accident claim is complex, these crashes and incidents require an even deeper knowledge base. Not only will your legal strategy need to take into account global treaties, including the Montreal and Warsaw Conventions, but your legal team will also need to evaluate a broader range of jurisdictions to determine where to try your case.
 - Aviation accidents are complex and involve many issues including air traffic control readings, witness interviews, radar readings, aircraft instrument readings and the state of the passengers and crew. In addition, aviation accidents often involve multiple jurisdictions. Our airplane accident lawyers are highly skilled and well respected in aviation law litigation. We strive to protect clients' interests, identify the truth and determine the responsibility of aviation disasters

Aviation Practice Highlights

- **AeroPeru Boeing 757:** The firm successfully concluded the international litigation and arbitration against AeroPeru and The Boeing Co. in its representation of 42 families who lost their loved ones in the crash of an AeroPeru Boeing 757 off the coast of Peru on October 2, 1996. Although the cases were initially filed in the United States federal court, they were arbitrated to a conclusion in Chile. The compensation levels in these cases were among some of the highest ever received for an aviation accident in South America.
- **American Airlines Flight 587:** On November 12, 2001, an Airbus 300, operated by American Airlines crashed shortly after takeoff in Belle Harbor, New York killing all those onboard. The firm represented several families who lost loved ones on the plane.



The firm also worked with a foundation in Bani, Dominican Republic to construct a memorial park in memory of those who died in this tragic accident.

- **Explosive Technology Corporation and McDonnell Douglas Corporation:** The firm filed a wrongful death suit against Explosive Technology Corporation and McDonnell Douglas Corporation on behalf of the young United States Air Force pilot who died when his ejection system failed. The law firm successfully handled the suit in Los Angeles, California in 1995.
- **Adam Air:** A Boeing 737-300 operated by Indonesia's Adam Air crashed in January 2007 killing 102 people. The firm played an active role in investigating safety violations by the budget carrier and handled litigation on behalf of the victims' families.
- **Kenya Airlines 737 in Cameroon:** The firm represented many families who lost loved ones in an accident involving a Boeing 737 operated by Kenya Airlines, which crashed shortly after takeoff from Douala Airport in Cameroon in 2007.
- **Gol Airlines:** The firm represented 18 families of the victims of Gol Flight 1907. The victims died on September 30, 2006 in a midair collision over the Brazilian rainforest. A collision-avoidance system on the jet was not operating at the time, according to U.S. and Brazilian investigators.
- **Chalks Ocean Airways Seaplane Crash:** The firm represented four families of loved ones killed in the tragic crash of a Chalks Ocean Airways seaplane on December 19, 2005, shortly after takeoff in Miami en route to Bimini.
- **Lion Air:** On November 30, 2004, Lion Air Flight 538 made a crash landing in Solo City, Indonesia, killing 23 of 146 passengers, the captain and a flight attendant. The firm settled the case on behalf of family members in the crash in Chicago, Illinois.
- **Austral Airlines DC-9-32:** The firm served as co-counsel for over two-thirds of the families of victims who perished when the aircraft, a McDonnell Douglas DC-9-32, crashed in Argentina on October 10, 1997.
- **ValuJet Flight 592:** The firm represented families of victims who died when the airplane crashed into the Everglades on May 11, 1996 shortly after leaving Miami International Airport, killing all aboard.