

Assignment Report Motor Carrier Safety

WASHINGTON



UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

Upload? Yes No - Reason for Not Uploading: New Entrant

1. Investigator(s): Ray Gardner 2. Assignment No.: 114084
 3. Current Date: 9/23/2014 4. Date of Activity: 9/22/2014
 5. Carrier Name: Exploration Tours and Charters LLC
 6. Permit: N/A 7. New Entrant Date of Authority: _____
 8. MOTCAR No.: 16635 9. Carrier is: Intrastate Only
 Interstate Only
 Intra and Interstate
 10. Industry Code: 232
 11. USDOT No.: 2538071 12. MC No.: _____

13. Destination Check

Copy of the Destination Check Safety Plan is attached.

- Number of Buses/Motor Coaches Inspected: 7-15 Passenger _____ 16+ Passenger _____
- Number of vehicle inspections: Level 1 _____ Level 2 _____ Level 3 _____ Level 4 _____
- Any special emphasis placed on the destination check? Yes No
- Describe Spécial Emphasis: _____
- What might we do differently to increase our success at the next destination check: _____

14. Safety Complaint

Attach a copy of the Individual Safety Complaint Plan.

- What activity did staff complete for this safety complaint:
 - Compliance Review
 - Technical Assistance
 - Number of Vehicles Inspections: Level 1 _____ Level 2 _____ Level 3 _____
 - Unannounced Terminal Visit
 - Other (Please Explain): _____

15. New Entrant - Charter/Auto Transportation

- Is this carrier referred by FMCSA, operating intra and interstate: Yes No
- Is this carrier based in another state, requesting intrastate authority: Yes No
- Is this carrier based in Washington, requesting intrastate authority: Yes No
- Did staff complete the following:
 - Inspect all vehicles between three and nine months? Yes No

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➤ Number of vehicle inspections: Level 1 1 Level 2 _____ Level 5 _____

➤ Conduct a SI/SA between three and nine months? Yes No SI SA

16. New Entrant – HHG

- Is this carrier referred by FMCSA, operating intra and interstate: Yes No
- Is this carrier based in another state, requesting intrastate authority: Yes No
- Is this carrier based in Washington, requesting intrastate authority: Yes No
- Did staff complete the following:
 - Inspect all vehicles between three and eighteen months? Yes No
 - Number of vehicle inspections: Level 1 _____ Level 2 _____ Level 5 _____
 - Conduct a SI/SA between three and nine months? Yes No SI SA
 - Conduct technical assistance within three months? Yes No

17. CSA Investigation

Full Investigation

Focused Investigation

Basic is for: Passenger Carrier HHG Carrier Solid Waste Carrier

Basic Threshold Percentile:

- Unsafe Driving _____ %
- Fatigued Driving (HOS) _____ %
- Crash _____ %
- Driver Fitness _____ %
- Drug/Alcohol _____ %
- Vehicle Maintenance _____ %

18. Individual Safety Plan Only:

What activity did staff complete for this safety complaint?

- Attach a copy of the Individual Carrier Safety Plan
- Safety Investigation
- Technical Assistance
- Number of vehicle inspections Level 1 _____ Level 2 _____ Level 5 _____
- Unannounced terminal visit
- Other (Please Explain): _____

19. Safety Investigation

Safety Audit

- SI Rating: Satisfactory Unsatisfactory Conditional
- SA Rating: Pass Fail
- Number of vehicles operated: _____
- Number of drivers operated: _____

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- Total miles for prior year: _____
- Recordable accidents for prior year: _____
- Accident Ratio: _____ %

20. **Part B Violations:**

Part	Violations	Part	Violations	Part	Violations
382/40		383		387	
390		391		392	
395		396		397	

21. **Vehicle Inspection Data:**

	MC	MB 1-15	MB 16+	SB 1-8	SB 9-15	SB 16+	VAN 1-8	VAN 9-15	TRK	TT	TRA
Inspections	1										
Defective Vehicles	0										
OOS Vehicles	0										
Level	1										

22. **Vehicle Inspection Violations:**

	MC	MB 1-15	MB 16+	SB 1-8	SB 9-15	SB 16+	VAN 1-8	VAN 9-15	TRK	TT	TRA
Brakes											
Steering											
Lights											
Tires, Wheels, Rims											
Horn											
Windshield and Wipers											
Mirrors											
Emergency Equip, Exits											
Coupling Devices											
Frame											
Suspension											
Exhaust											
Other											
Comments:											

23. **Driver Inspection Violations:**

Medical Card	Medical Waiver	Hours of Service	Driver's License
Comment:			

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24. Relevant Carrier History:

This is a new carrier that has requested authority from the UTC for Intra-State Charter. The coach is a coach that was previously owned by Discovery Tours. There is nothing in any of the paperwork that would indicate that Discovery Tours has any holdings with this new entrant. The new owner hopes to get some business going Intra-State and in time take tours to Alaska where he owns a small fishing lodge.

25. Findings:

In checking out the paperwork provided it shows a bill of sale to Exploration Tours and Charters LLC. There was a copy of a current Annual inspection. A Level 1 CVSA inspection was completed on the coach and there were no violations found and a CVSA decal was applied. On the vehicle registration it shows the previous plate on the vehicle was 44842RD, the previous title was 1332227904.

26. Recommended Action:

- No further action.
- Notify the company in writing of the findings by providing a copy of the safety investigation, vehicle inspection report, safety audit or other similar document.
- Require the company to submit a compliance plan in response to the 15-day letter requirement.
- Recheck – Safety Investigation (Date: _____)
- Revisit to recheck a specific issue (Date: _____)
- Send the company a compliance letter. Require a response: Yes No
- Issue Administrative penalties in the amount of: \$ _____
- Issue a complaint.
- Stop company operations.

27. Is this carrier considered a high risk carrier as a result of this activity?

- Carrier accident ratio is higher than aggregate ratio.
- Carrier had an out-of-service ratio 25% higher at the last vehicle inspection.
- Carrier had a defect ratio 75% or higher at the last vehicle inspection.
- Carrier received more than one conditional or unsatisfactory safety investigation rating in more than one of the last four safety investigations (or less than four if four are not completed).
- Other (please explain):

28. Additional Comments:

Send to Licensing for further action.

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[Click here to enter](#)

Investigator's Signature:

Ray Park

Date:

a Case

9/23/14

OFFICE USE ONLY

Initial Review By: John Losh Date: 9/23/14

Initial Reviewer's Recommendation: The vehicle was previously owned by Discovery Tours. The driver is a former Discovery Tours, Discovery Tours NY & Sea To Sky Charters employee. If the current owner is not affiliated with these DOT carrier - then forward to licensing for further action.

Final Review By: D PRATT Date: 9/26/14

Final Reviewer's Recommendation: I see no direct connection with previous carriers (Discovery & Sea to Sky) other the same driver and the fact that he is listed at the SOS website as the company contact. Bill of sale of BUS shows substantial investment by MR. DORR. ~~OK~~ OK to issue authority.

Internal Processing

Date Closed: 9/26/14 By: Lin Martin

Company Name: Exploration Tours & Charters LLC

Assignment #: 114084 Staff Assigned: Gardner