



STATE OF WASHINGTON

UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. S.W., P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

(360) 664-1160 • TTY (360) 586-8203

July 1, 2016

Steven V. King, Executive Director and Secretary
Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

RE: *Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v. Prisoners for Christ Outreach Ministries*

Commission Staff's Response to Application for Mitigation of Penalties TN-160666

Dear Mr. King:

On June 17, 2016, the Utilities and Transportation Commission issued a \$1,000 Penalty Assessment in Docket TN-160666 against Prisoners for Christ Outreach for ten violations of Washington Administrative Code (WAC 480-30-080), which requires nonprofit special needs transportation companies to furnish annual reports and the regulatory fee to the commission no later than May 1 each year, or in this case, May 2 as May 1 was a Sunday.

On June 23, 2016, Prisoners for Christ Outreach wrote the commission requesting mitigation of penalties. In its mitigation request, Prisoners for Christ Outreach does not dispute the violation occurred. The company states, "... We requested cancellation of the account and received a letter that it had been cancelled on March 7, 2016. We set up this account to be eligible to apply for a grant through the Washington State Department of Correction to provide transport to inmate families. The state required this account. We were not given the grant so we never conducted any operations or services under this account (certificate). We did not realize we still needed to file a report as there were never operations under this account.

It is the company's responsibility to ensure that the regulatory fee is paid and the annual report is filed by the May 1 deadline. On February 29, 2016, Annual Report packets were mailed to all regulated nonprofit transportation companies. The instructions page informs the regulated company that it must complete the annual report form and pay the regulatory fees, and return the materials by May 2, 2016, to avoid enforcement action.

Prisoners for Christ Outreach has been active since 2015. On March 7, 2016, Prisoners for Christ Outreach voluntarily cancelled their certificate in case TN-160282. Staff recommends the

UTC Annual Reports

July 1, 2016

Page 2

penalty be waived as the company is no longer regulated by the commission and Prisoners for Christ Outreach did not have regulated operations in 2015.

If you have any questions regarding this recommendation, please contact Sean Bennett, Regulatory Analyst, at (360) 664-1157, or sbennett@utc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,



Sondra Walsh, Director
Administrative Services