Service Date: February 17, 2019

## BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of Determining the Proper

**DOCKET TE-190079** 

Carrier Classification of, and Complaint

DECLARATION OF JASON HOXIT

for Penalties Against:

VICKY SANDHU D/B/A SEATTLE TOP CLASS LIMO

Jason Hoxit, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, declares as follows:

- 1. I am employed by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) as a Compliance Investigator in the Consumer Protection Division. As a Compliance Investigator, my responsibilities include conducting investigations regarding the business practices of regulated utility and transportation companies. As part of those duties, I investigate charter party and excursion carriers that may be operating without the required Commission-issued certificate.
- 2. On January 9, 2019, the Commission issued Order 01 (Corrected) in Docket TE-180773, which canceled the charter and excursion carrier certificates of five companies for failing to file annual reports and pay regulatory fees. Vicky Sandhu d/b/a Seattle Top Class Limo (Seattle Top Class Limo or Company) was one of the five companies whose certificates were canceled. Order 01 also directed Seattle Top Class Limo to cease all operations associated with the certificate.
- 3. On February 1, 2019, I observed Seattle Top Class Limo's website, www.seattletopclasslimo.com. Under the "Fleet" tab, the website advertised an 18 passenger stretch Lincoln Navigator, a 16-18 passenger stretch Cadillac Escalade, and a 24 passenger Limo Bus.<sup>2</sup> The Company's website included the telephone number (425) 786-4138.
- 4. On February 1, 2019, I searched Commission records and found that Seattle Top Class Limo is not a certificated charter and excursion carrier.<sup>3</sup> Commission records

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Attachment A for a copy of Order 01 (Corrected) in Docket TE-180773, dated January 9, 2019.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Attachment B for a copy of the Company's website, captured on February 1, 2019.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Attachment C for a copy of Commission records documenting the Company's inactive status, captured on February 1, 2019.

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reflect an address of 20120 SE 287th Street, Kent, WA 98042, and a telephone number of (425) 786-4138, both of which match Seattle Top Class Limo's application with the Commission.<sup>4</sup>

- 5. On February 1, 2019, I searched Washington Department of Revenue's Business Licensing Service, which produced records showing Seattle Top Class Limo in active status in the state of Washington. I found the governing person of Vicky Sandhu, and an address of 20120 SE 287th Street, Kent, WA 98042.<sup>5</sup> I also found that the Company has an active limousine endorsement through Washington State Department of Licensing, which allows a limousine carrier to operate an automobile with a seating capacity behind the driver of no more than 14 passengers.<sup>6</sup>
- 6. On February 1, 2019, I called telephone number (425) 786-4138 and spoke with "Vick" of Seattle Top Class Limo. I posed as a potential customer and inquired about vehicle availability and pricing to book transportation service on May 19, 2019, for 16-18 people. The Company quoted \$1,200 for eight hours to rent the stretch Cadillac Escalade, and quoted \$1,400 for eight hours to rent the Limo Bus. <sup>7</sup> The Company verified that I was calling from a cell phone, and offered to send a text message with instructions on how to reserve transportation service.
- 7. On February 1, 2019, I received a text message from Seattle Top Class Limo at (425) 786-4138, with the instructions on how to reserve transportation service.<sup>8</sup>

DATED this 13th day of February, 2019, at Olympia, Washington.

**JASON HOXIT** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Attachment D for a copy of the Company's application, dated July 3, 2017.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Attachment E for a copy of Washington State Department of Revenue's Business Licensing Service records, captured on February 1, 2019.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> WAC 308-83-010(12)(a)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See Attachment F for a copy of the phone conversation, dated February 1, 2019.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See Attachment G for a copy of the text message, dated February 1, 2019.