BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of Determining the Proper Carrier Classification of, and Complaint for Penalties against: DOCKET TV-190216

DECLARATION OF BRIAN BRAUN

IHAUL, LLC

Brian Braun, 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 Section. 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 household goods carriers that may be operating without the required Commission permit.
- 2. On Jan. 31, 2019, I received an email with a link to a Yelp page for a company called iHaul in Tacoma.
- 3. On Jan. 31, 2019, I visited the claimed Yelp webpage for iHaul. The page stated that it was a moving company, displayed the address of 1004 Martin Luther King Jr. Way Ste 145, Tacoma, WA 98405, contained the business telephone number (253) 324-3001, and mentioned a Markiss and Levoy as workers for the company.¹
- 4. On Jan. 31, 2019, I searched Commission's records and verified that iHaul did not have a household goods carrier permit.
- On Jan. 31, 2019, I searched the Washington Secretary of State's website for iHaul. The results produced a principal Office Address of 2308 Brookdale Rd. E, Tacoma, WA, 98445 and the Authorized Person as Markiss Cooper.²
- 6. On Jan. 31, 2019, I searched Facebook for iHaul LLC. The results produced a business page that listed the address of 1004 Martin Luther King Jr. Way Suite 145, Tacoma, WA 98405, contained the business telephone number (253) 327-3001, and listed Markiss Cooper-Evans as a Team Member.³

¹ See Attachment A for a screen capture of yelp.com page, printed on Jan. 31, 2019.

² See Attachment B for a copy of Sec. of State business information record, printed on Jan. 31, 2019.

³ See Attachment C, for a copy of screen shot of the facebook.com page, captured Jan. 31, 2019.

- 7. On Feb. 20, 2019, a compliance letter was sent to Markiss Cooper, at both Tacoma addresses, notifying Mr. Cooper to cease and desist operations as a household goods carrier in Washington State until he obtains the required household goods carrier permit from the Commission.⁴
- 8. On March 28, 2019, I sent a message to iHaul through Facebook Messenger, using an assumed name, to obtain a quote for moving services including workers and a truck. A representative of the company, who identified himself as Markiss Cooper, Owner/Operator, gave an estimate of \$129 per hour for two workers and a truck or \$159 per hour for three workers and a truck.⁵
- 9. On April 8, 2019, I searched the Washington State Department of Revenue's website for iHaul, LLC. The business status is active and Markiss Cooper is listed as the governing person.⁶

DATED this 15th day of April, 2019, at Olympia, Washington.

BRIAN BRAUN

⁴ See Attachment D, for a copy of compliance letters, dated Feb. 20, 2019.

⁵ See Attachment E, for a screen shot of the Facebook Messenger messages, dated March 28, 2019.

⁶ See Attachment F, for a copy of Dept. of Revenue's business lookup, printed on April 8, 2019.