## BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of Determining the Proper Carrier Classification of, and Complaint for Penalties Against:

PAULINO JOSE GONZALEZ AND VERONICA LUNA D/B/A UNIVERSAL MOVING DOCKET TG-190490

DECLARATION OF KATHRYN MCPHERSON

Kathryn McPherson, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, declares as follows:

- I am employed by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) as an investigator in the Solid Waste Enforcement program within the Transportation Safety Division. As an investigator, my responsibilities include conducting investigations regarding the business practices of transportation companies. As part of those duties, I investigate transportation companies that may be operating without the required Commission-issued certificate.
- 2. On February 6, 2019, I found that Paulino Jose Gonzalez and Veronica M. Luna, owners of Universal Moving (Universal Moving or Company), advertised on Facebook and Craigslist as a solid waste carrier and household goods mover.<sup>1</sup> The Company's telephone number listed on Craigslist is (360) 972-1348.
- On February 6, 2019, a search of Washington State Department of Revenue (DOR) records shows Universal Moving location as closed.<sup>2</sup> DOR records indicate that Universal Moving's business address is 820 Fir Street NE, Olympia, Washington, 98506.
- 4. On February 6, 2019, I reviewed Commission records to determine if Universal Moving had authority to operate as a solid waste carrier in the state of Washington. I learned that the Commission has no record of the Company.
- 5. On April 4, 2019, Commission staff sent a letter to Mr. Gonzalez and Ms. Luna stating that it believed their business was in violation of Commission rules by operating as a solid waste hauler and household goods mover without the required certificate or permit.<sup>3</sup> Mr. Gonzalez and Ms. Luna were required to respond by April 19, 2019, by either submitting a completed application for household goods moving permit and solid waste

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Attachment A for copies of online advertising on Craigslist and Facebook Business Page.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Attachment B for copy of Washington State Department of Revenue Online.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Attachment C for a copy of the compliance letter sent to Universal Moving, dated April 4, 2019.

hauling certificate, or by explaining in writing why the business does not require a solid waste certificate.

- 6. On April 5, 2019, I received a telephone call at 3:45 p.m. from Ms. Luna. She explained that she had received the compliance letter. Ms. Luna inquired about what the Company needed to do to show it had ceased operating as a solid waste or household goods company. Ms. Luna stated that Mr. Gonzalez had sold the trucks used for the business. Ms. Luna stated that Universal Moving was Mr. Gonzalez's business. I informed Ms. Luna that she could have Mr. Gonzalez respond in writing with details of how the business was closed.
- On April 12, 2019, I received a letter from Mr. Gonzalez. The letter, written in Spanish, was dated April 9, 2019.<sup>4</sup> I sent Mr. Gonzalez's letter for translation to Dynamic Language. The letter was translated and returned to me April 23, 2019, via email.<sup>5</sup>
- 8. I reviewed online advertising by Universal Moving again on April 15, 2019. The Company continued to advertise on Craigslist.<sup>6</sup> The advertising details services offered by Universal Moving, including hauling, trash removal, moving, one box truck, and two movers.
- 9. On April 16, 2019 using an assumed name on Facebook Messenger, I messaged Universal Moving between 8:19 a.m. and 9:47 a.m. Universal Moving responded to my messenger post, but did not commit to hauling services. I received a message request from Paulino Jose Gonzalez, after he requested to be "friends" on Facebook. After text messages were exchanged with Mr. Gonzalez between 8:29 a.m. and 10:23 a.m., Mr. Gonzalez agreed to transport solid waste to the landfill for a cost of \$75, plus the landfill fee.<sup>7</sup>

DATED this 9th day of July, 2019, at Lacey, Washington.

Kathryn McPherson

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Attachment D for a copy of response letter from Mr. Gonzalez, dated April 9, 2019.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Attachment F for a copy of English translation of Mr. Gonzalez's response, dated April 23, 2019.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Attachment E for a copy of Craigslist advertisement dated, April 15, 2019.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See Attachment G for a copy of Facebook Messenger agreement to transport solid waste.

## Attachment A

WHAT DO YOU NEED? HOW I CAN HELP YOU ? JUNK REMOVAL AND MOVING - labor / hauling / moving

eattle > olympia > services > labor / hauling / moving

Contact Information:

## WHAT DO YOU NEED? HOW I CAN HELP YOU ? JUNK REMOVAL ND MOVING (Olympia)



truck movers call now or text 360-972-1348

oving furniture ickups or deliveries ruck loading or unloading

arage cleanup run to dump

auling. - Trash Removal

- Construction Clean up
- Property Clean Up
- Furniture Removal
- Appliance Recycling
- Donations Pick up

2/6/2019

CL

labor

- -Estate Cleanout

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ommon junk or rubbish that we haul away

arpet Appliance Mattress

omputer monitor Television

urniture Renovations debris

E DO ROOF CLEANING AND GUTTERS CLEANING

ALL OR TEXT 360-972-1348

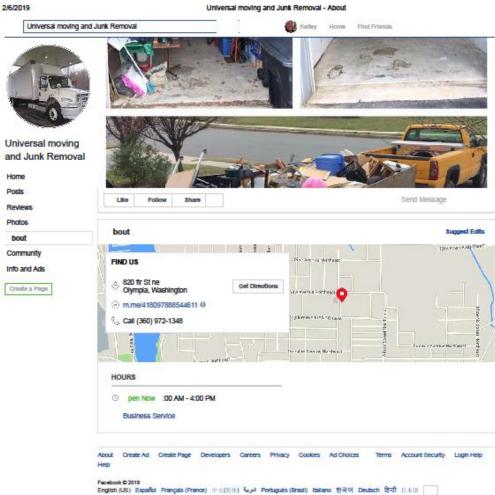
HAVE REFERENCES

AVE GREAT DAY

QR Code Link to This Post



https://seattie.craigslist.org/oly/lbs/d/olympia-whal-do-you-need-how-can-help/6798858881.html



https://www.facebook.com/pg/Universal-moving-and-Junk-Removal-418097888544611/about/

1/1

Chat

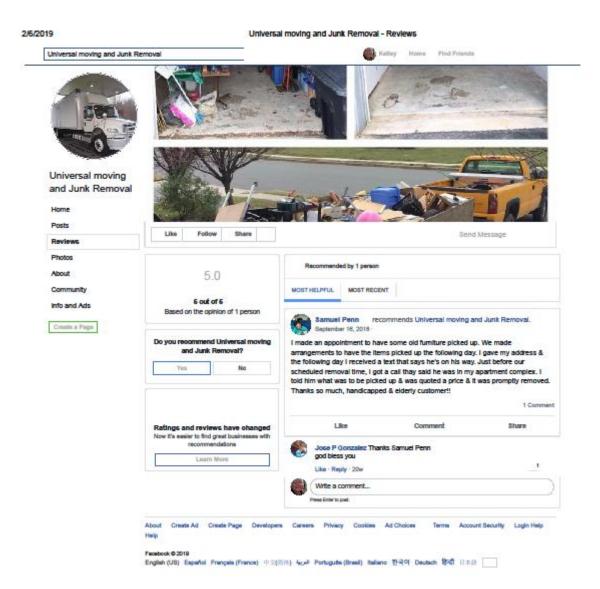
Universal moving and Junk Removal - Info and Ads

Changed name to Un September 14, 2018	ivercal moving and Junk Removal	
Changed name to Th September 2, 2018	e universal moving	
Changed name to Ju April 7, 2018	sk Removal And moving cervice	
Page created - All Ju April 13, 2017	nik Removal And Janiforial Services	

https://www.facebook.com/pg/Universal-moving-and-Junik-Removal-418097888544611/ads/?ref-page\_internal

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2/6/2019



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Chat

# Attachment B

Washington State Department of Revenue

Services Business Lo	OOKUP UNIVERSAL MOVING		
License Information:		New search Back to result	5
Entity name:	UNIVERSAL MOVING		
Business name:	UNIVERSAL MOVING		
Entity type:	Partnership		
UBI#:	604-330-807 Business ID: 001	Location ID: 0001	
Location:	Closed		
Location address:	820 FIR ST NE OFC OLYMPIA WA 98505-4515 USA		
Mailing address:	820 FIR ST NE OFC OLYMPIA WA 98506-4616 USA		
Excise tax account and receiler permit status:	None		
Governing People my name growing	people not registered with Secretary of State		
Governing people		Ttie	
GONZALEZ PAULINO JOSE		Partners	
LUNA M VERONICA		Partners	
2 Rows			

The Business Lookup Information is updated nightly. Search date and time: 2/6/2019 8:09:33 AM

Working together to fund Washington's future

https://secure.dor.wa.gov/gteunauth/\_/

#### Attachment C



#### 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

April 4, 2019

Paulino Gonzalez Veronica Luna Universal Moving 820 Fir Street NE Olympia, WA 98506

Dear Mr. Gonzalez and Ms. Luna:

The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (commission) believes you are engaged in services that require a permit from the commission. The purpose of this letter is to provide technical assistance to you with respect to Washington's household goods moving and solid waste hauling requirements.

Operating as a household goods mover without the required permit is illegal and subject to a penalty of \$5,000 per violation.<sup>1</sup> Under the law, advertising of moving services is evidence of operating as a mover. Until you obtain a household goods moving permit, you must immediately cease and desist from operating or advertising as a household goods mover in Washington State.

Operating or advertising as a solid waste hauler without the required permit also is illegal, and subject to a penalty of \$1,000 per violation.<sup>2</sup> Under the law, advertising of solid waste collection services is evidence of operating as a solid waste hauler. Solid waste collection includes residential and commercial garbage, residential recycling, yard waste, and drop box service. Until you obtain a solid waste hauling permit, you must immediately cease and desist from operating or advertising as a solid waste hauler in Washington State.

To avoid enforcement action by the commission, by April 19, 2019, you must either:

a) Submit completed applications (enclosed) for household goods moving and solid waste hauling permits, along with the required fees, proof of insurance, and supporting documents,

or,

<sup>1</sup> RCW 81.80.075 <sup>2</sup> RCW 81.04.380

Respect. Professionalism. Integrity. Accountability.

April 3, 2019 Paulino Gonzalez Veronica Luna Page 2

b) Explain in writing why you believe your operations do not require such permits from the commission. Please explain your operations in detail, in writing.

Please direct your written response, to <u>Kathryn.McPherson@utc.wa.gov</u> or by US Mail to PO Box 47250, Olympia, WA 98504. You may also reach Ms. McPherson at 360-664-1108.

Sincerely,

111 Mike Turcott

Compliance Investigations Supervisor

Enclosures (3)

Abril 9, 2019

Para Ms. Pherson

Saludos, mi nombre es José González residente de Olympia, recibi la notificación acerca de mi anuncio en internet de la compañia Universal Moving, la cual no está ya en función, hace dos meses intente comenzar mi propio negocio, durante el tiempo de nieve me quede sin empleo y la necesidad me obligo a buscar algo en que trabajar y no encontraba trabajo así que decidí empezar un negocio sin conocer muy bien el reglamento, ahora entiendo que fue un error, pero gracias a Dios pronto encontré un empleo estable y deje a un lado lo de la compañía de mudanza la cual tampoco funciono.

Quiero disculparme sinceramente por mi falta y dejar en claro que he eliminado todos los anuncios y paginas relacionadas con el negocio de Universal Moving, en estos momentos ya no tengo bajo mis pertenencias el camión que quise usar para el negocio, de igual manera dejé de anunciar lo de Junk Removal, ya no están mas en el internet. Y por el momento por cuestiones personales no puedo comenzar mi negocio por ahora, tal vez en el futuro aplicare para los permisos si cuento con lo necesario para reabrir mi negocio. Mientras tanto pido disculpas por mi ignorancia al no saber todo el reglamento acerca del negocio de mudanzas.

Pueden contactar a mi esposa para cualquier pregunta o duda, ella tiene más disponibilidad de tiempo y sabe mas ingles que yo para estos asuntos. Y dejo en claro que ella no es responsable de nada, ella ha sido mi ayuda emocional y como esposa me ha apoyado, pero no participo en mis ideas.

Su nombre es Veronica Luna y su numero de contacto es 360-972-8688

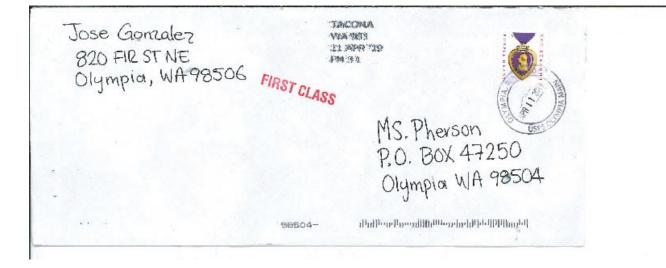
RECEIVED APR 1 2 2019 WASH. UT. & TP. COMM

Jose Gonzalez Jose Gonzalez 04-09-19.

RECEIVED

APR 1 2 2019 WASH, UT, & TP, COMM

This Letter Needs Translation Has been wrote in Spanish



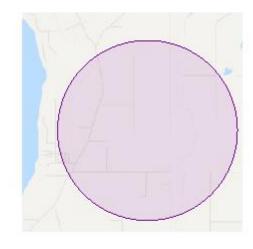
## Attachment E



Contact Information:

# JUNK REMOVAL AND MOVING DEMOLITION- ROOF CLEANING YARD WORK MOWER (Olympia)





RELAX WE GET THIS B Moving 1 box truck 2 movers call now or text 360-972-1348 YARD WORK MOWER Small tree removal branches removal ROOF CLEANING - JUNK REMOVAL - MOVING Gutter cleaning Moving furniture Piano moving Pickups or deliveries Truck loading or unloading Garage cleanup run to dump Hauling. - Trash Removal - Construction Clean up - Property Clean Up - Furniture Removal - Appliance Recycling - Donations Pick up

QR Code Link to This Post



https://seattle.craigslist.org/oly/lbs/d/olympla-junk-removal-and-moving/6866286936.html

4/15/2019 - labor - State Cleanout DEMOLITION ANY DEMOLITION Much more. Common junk or rubbish that I haul away Carpet Appliance Mattress Computer monitor Television Furniture Renovations debris I DO ROOF CLEANING AND GUTTERS CLEANING PLEASE CALL OR TEXT I RETURN THE CALL OR TEXT SOON IS POSSIBLE 360-972-1348 I HAVE REFERENCES

HAVE GREAT DAY

https://seattle.craigslist.org/oly/lbs/d/olympia-junk-removal-and-moving/6866286936.html

## Attachment F

April 9, 2019

For Ms. Pherson

Hello, my name is Jose Gonzalez, I live in Olympia. I received the notice regarding my online ad for Universal Moving company, which is no longer in existence. Two months ago I tried to start my own business. In the winter I was unemployed, and this forced me to find some kind of work. As I couldn't find any, I decided to start a business without knowing much about the regulations. I now understand that it was a mistake, and thank God I quickly found stable employment and I put aside the moving company which was not operating anyway.

I sincerely apologize for my error and want to make it clear that I have deleted all ads and pages related to Universal Moving. At this time I no longer have the truck I wanted to use for the business, and I also stopped advertising for junk removal; they are no longer online. And right now for personal reasons I cannot start my business now. Maybe in the future I'll apply for the permits if I have what is necessary to reopen my business. Until then, please excuse my ignorance for not knowing all the regulations for moving companies.

You can contact my wife for any questions or concerns, she has more availability and knows more English than I do for these matters. And I want to be clear that she is in no way responsible, she has been my emotional support and as a spouse she's supported me, but did not participate in my plans.

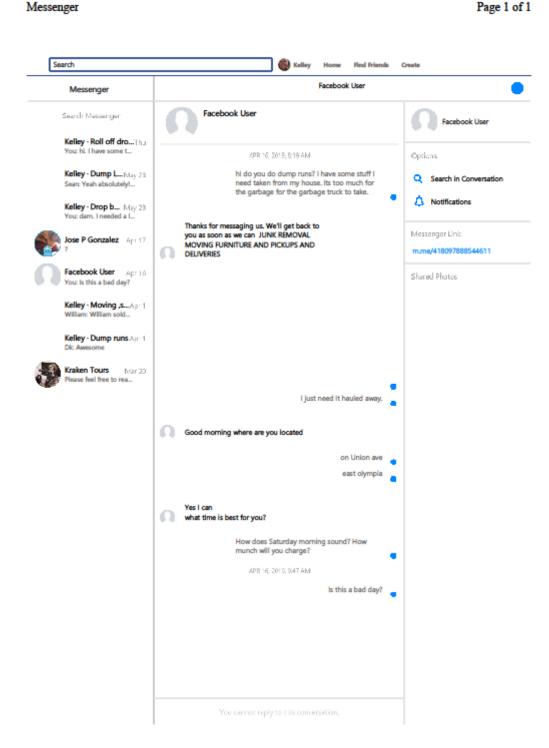
Her name is Veronica Luna and her number is 360-972-8688

[Stamp: RECEIVED APR 12 2019 WASH. UT. & TP. COMM] [signature] Jose Gonzales

04-09-19

## Attachment G

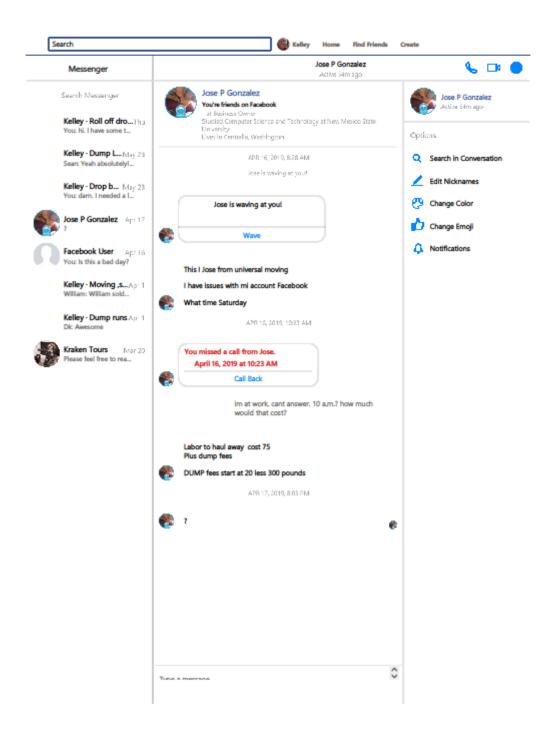
#### Page 1 of 1



https://www.facebook.com/messages/t/418097888544611

6/11/2019

#### Messenger



#### https://www.facebook.com/messages/t/paulino.gonzalez.35

6/11/2019