

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

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

SANTAMARIA TRANSPORT LLC

DOCKET TV-191056

DECLARATION OF
BRIAN BRAUN

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 October 17, 2019, I found advertisements on Thumbtack for Santamaria Transport (Santamaria), which held itself out to be a household goods moving company. The advertisement offered to provide household goods moving services in the Tacoma, Washington, area. The advertisement provided a contact name of Ricardo Henrriquez. The advertisement contained a response to a review that stated, “Thank you from all the Santamaria Transport team, we thank you, it is a pleasure to help you with your moving jobs.” The advertisement also contained a review of the company posted by “Ricardo H.” that stated,

“We are a moving company we have insurance of up to 2 million dollars \$ 100 per hour 2 person 3 people \$ 130 we have experience in more than 10 years We have excellent offers call us at 6507096162 or 2532679845 oh send us a message we have special offers all the days moving in and out of the state recently we have registered in Thumbtack we would love to have more satisfied customers with the work we do.”(sic)¹

3. On October 17, 2019, I searched the internet for (650) 709-6162. The results produced a page on Hirerush for Santamaria Transport. On that webpage was a picture of a truck with “Santamaria Transport” and “USDOT1491371” decals applied to the driver side of the cab.²

¹ See Attachment A for a copy of the Thumbtack page, printed on Oct. 17, 2019.

² See Attachment B for a copy of the Hirerush page, printed on Dec. 31, 2019.

4. On October 17, 2019, I searched USDOT's Company Snapshot website using the number "1491371" and found that it was the USDOT Number for Santamaria Transport LLC, with a physical address of 3610 104th St. E, Tacoma, WA, 98446, and a telephone number of (253) 267-9844.³
5. On October 17, 2019, I searched Commission records for Santamaria Transport. The results produced a company named Santamaria Transport LLC that has a common carrier permit (CC068694) with the commission, but was not authorized to perform household goods moving services.⁴
6. On October 17, 2019, I looked at Santamaria Transport LLC's Permit Application for Common Carrier of Property. I found on the application a contact name of LeRoy Scott and email address of leroys@sound-service.net. The application listed Ricardo Santamaria and Ricky Santamaria as governors of the company. I found on the application a physical address of 3610 104th St. E, Tacoma, WA 98446.⁵
7. On October 22, 2019, a compliance letter was mailed and emailed to notify LeRoy Scott that Santamaria must cease and desist operations as a household goods carrier in Washington state until the company obtains the required household goods carrier permit from the Commission. No response was ever received.⁶
8. On December 19, 2019, I searched Thumbtack to see if Santamaria continued to advertise. The results produced an advertisement for Alex,S(sic) and Friends Moving and storage. This advertisement displayed the same pictures as the advertisement for Santamaria. It also had the same contact name, Ricardo Henriquez, and the same review from "Ricardo H." that contained rates and telephone numbers.⁷
9. On December 19, 2019, I called (650) 709-6162, using an assumed name to obtain a quote for moving services including workers and a truck. A company representative stated that he was driving and asked if he could call me back once he reached his destination. The representative and I exchanged text messages concerning help moving my apartment belongings from Seattle to Tacoma, Washington. The representative stated that he could help me and sent me a picture of his truck. The truck had Santamaria Transport and USDOT1491371 decals applied to the driver side of the cab, and the Washington license plate number was visible (79389RP).⁸
10. On December 19, 2019, I searched Washington State Department of Licensing's database and performed a plate search. The license plate number is registered to Santamaria

³ See Attachment C for a copy of the USDOT's Company Snapshot, printed on Dec. 31, 2019.

⁴ See Attachment D for a copy of Commission's records, printed on Oct. 17, 2019.

⁵ See Attachment E for a copy Santamaria's application, dated April 24, 2019.

⁶ See Attachment F for a copy of the compliance letter and email, dated Oct. 22, 2019.

⁷ See Attachment G for a copy of the Thumbtack page, printed Dec. 19, 2019.

⁸ See Attachment H for a copy of the call log and pictures, printed on Dec. 31, 2019.

Transport LLC and Ricky B Santamaria Urbano, and a physical address of 3610 104th St. E, Tacoma, WA 98446.

DATED this 14th day of January, 2020, at Lacey, Washington.

BRIAN BRAUN