Service Date: January 21, 2019

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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

GALAXY MOVING COMPANY LLC

DOCKET TV-180519

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 Jan. 25, 2018, I re-opened a 2017 investigation concerning Galaxy Moving Company LLC (Galaxy Moving).
- 3. On Jan. 25, 2018, I visited the website of galaxymoving.org. ¹ I observed a telephone number of "(425) 954-9276," and advertisements stating "Snohomish County," and "1 Truck and 2 Movers \$85 per hour."
- 4. On Jan, 25, 2018, I searched Yelp for "Galaxy Moving." I observed a claimed Yelp page that had a web address of galaxymoving.org, a telephone number "(425) 954-9276," and several reviews that mentioned "Richard."²
- 5. On Jan. 30, 2018 I searched the Washington Secretary of State's website for "Galaxy Moving." I found business information for "Galaxy Moving Company LLC" and its governing individuals, "Hong Brooks" and "Joshua West."
- On Jan. 30, 2018, I searched Commission records and verified that Galaxy Moving Company LLC, Hong Brooks, and Joshua West are not permitted household goods carriers.

¹ See Attachment A for a copy of the website, printed on Jan. 25, 2018.

² See Attachment B for a copy of the Yelp page, printed Jan. 25, 2018.

³ See Attachment C for a copy of the Business Information from Washington Secretary of State, printed Jan. 30, 2018.

Service Date: January 21, 2019

7. On Jan. 30, 2018, I sent a compliance letter to Hong Brooks, Joshua West, and Galaxy Moving Company notifying them to cease and desist operations as a household goods carrier in Washington State until they obtained the required household goods carrier permit from the Commission.⁴ The post office returned this letter as undeliverable.

- 8. On March 6, 2018, I sent another compliance letter to Hong "Richard" Brooks and Galaxy Moving Company notifying them to cease and desist operations as a household goods carrier in Washington State until they obtained the required household goods carrier permit from the Commission.⁵
- 9. On April 23, 2018, posing as a consumer, I called the telephone number (425) 954-9276. I spoke with a person who identified himself as Rick and stated that he was the owner of Galaxy Moving. I received a quote of \$80 per hour for two guys and a truck, or \$120 per hour for three guys and a truck to move between two points in Washington State.

DATED this 9th day of January 2019, at Olympia, Washington.

BRIAN BRAUN

⁴ See Attachment D for a copy of the compliance letter, dated Jan. 30, 2018.

⁵ See Attachment E for a copy of the compliance letter, dated March 6, 2018.