Service Date: August 30, 2022

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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

JUMPIN' JOEY'S LLC d/b/a LYMELIGHT PARTY BUS **DOCKET TE-220497**

DECLARATION OF MICHAEL DOTSON

- I, Michael Dotson, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of Washington, declare as follows:
- 1. I am over 18 years of age and competent to testify to the facts contained herein.
- 2. I am employed by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) as a Compliance Investigator in the Transportation Safety Division. As a Compliance Investigator, my responsibilities include conducting investigations into the operations of regulated and unregulated transportation companies. As part of those duties, I investigate charter party or excursion service carriers that may be operating without the required Commission-issued certificate.
- 3. On January 6, 2021, I sent a compliance letter to Joey Bowers, owner of Jumpin' Joey's LLC d/b/a Lymelight Party Bus (Jumpin' Joey's or Company) at 37831 Auburn Enumclaw Rd. SE, Auburn, Washington, 98092. The compliance letter stated that Commission staff believed Jumpin' Joey's was engaging in passenger transportation services that required a Commission-issued certificate, and required Joey Bowers to respond no later than January 17, 2021, to avoid enforcement action by the Commission.
- 4. On January 13, 2021, I spoke with Joey Bowers at telephone number (253) 315-5541. Joey Bowers stated that he started advertising too early, thinking that the Covid pandemic would have been done. He explained that the pictures on his Facebook page were of his own family, which I was able to confirm based on previous videos and postings. He stated that he would work to come into compliance when the charter/excursion industry re-opened.²
- 5. On May 11, 2022, I visited the Company's Facebook photo page, and observed posted photos of a party bus in use. The photos demonstrate the Company operating the bus in violation of Commission rules.³

¹ See Attachment A for a copy of the compliance letter, dated January 6, 2021.

² See Attachment B for a copy of notes from Motor Carrier Investigations database dated January 13, 2021

³ See Attachment C for a copy of Facebook photos captured on May 11, 2022.

- 6. On May 11, 2022, I contacted Jumpin' Joey's through its Facebook page and asked if the Company could provide transportation for around 18 to 20 passengers in Seattle. Jumpin' Joey's responded immediately and suggested I follow the Instagram account "Lymelight_PartyBus" or text "Arthur" directly at phone number 253-414-2662."
- 7. On May 19, 2022, I visited the Lymelight Party Bus Instagram page at www.instagram.com/lymelight_partybus. On the Company's Instagram front page, the Company states that they provide luxury transportation in Seattle and Tacoma with a listed price of \$175 per hour.⁵
- 8. On May 19, 2022, I visited the Company's Instagram photo page, and observed posted photos of a party bus in use, one of which is identical to a photo featured on the Company's Facebook photos page. The photos demonstrate the Company operating the bus in violation of Commission rules.⁶
- 9. On May 19, 2022, I contacted the Company at (253) 414-2662 via text-message using a proxy phone number and asked if the Company could provide transportation for 18-20 passengers from Tacoma to Seattle for five to six hours on June 17 or June 24. The Company responded and suggested that we try for a Saturday date and confirmed via "Like" that the \$175 per hour price was accurate.⁷
- 10. On June 30, 2022, I searched Washington Department of Revenue's (DOR) Business Licensing Service for UBI number 604-891-355, which produced records showing that Jumpin' Joey's has an active business license. The record showed Joseph Bowers as the governing person with an address of 37831 Auburn Enumclaw Rd. SE, Auburn, Washington, 98092.8
- 11. On July 19, 2022, I visited the Company's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/jumpinjoeys1. On the Facebook page's front page, Jumpin' Joey's provided the phone number (253) 315-5541; matching Joey Bowers phone number.
- 12. On July 19, 2022, I searched Commission records, which showed that Jumpin' Joey's did not have the required authority to provide charter party or excursion carrier service in the state of Washington.¹⁰

⁴ See Attachment D for a copy of the Facebook conversation, captured on May 11, 2022.

⁵ See Attachment E for copy of the Company's Instagram "front" page, captured on July 19, 2022.

⁶ See Attachment F for a copy of Instagram photos captured on May 19, 2022.

⁷ See Attachment G for a copy of the text message conversation, captured on May 19, 2022.

⁸ See Attachment H for a copy of DOR's Business Licensing Service, captured on June 30, 2022.

⁹ See Attachment I for a copy of the Facebook "front" page, captured on July 19, 2022.

¹⁰ See Attachment J for a copy of the Commission records documenting the Company's unregulated status, captured on July 17, 2022.

- 13. On July 19, 2022, I searched the Washington Department of Licensing's DRIVES application for vehicle information on Joseph Bowers, which produced records showing ownership of a cutaway Ford Econoline registered at the physical and mailing address of 37831 Auburn Enumclaw Rd. SE, Auburn, Washington, 98092, and showed a current registration.¹¹
- 14. Based on paragraphs 3 through 13 above, Commission staff finds that Jumpin' Joey's operated as a charter party or excursion service carrier in the state of Washington without first obtaining the required certificate from the Commission.

DATED this 22nd day of August 2022, at Lacey, Washington.

<u>/s/ Michael Dotson</u> MICHAEL DOTSON

¹¹ See Attachment K for a copy of the Department of Licensing's DRIVES report, captured on July 19, 2022.

ATTACHMENT A



STATE OF WASHINGTON

UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

621 Woodland Square Loop S.E. • Lacey, Washington 98503

P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

(360) 664-1160 • TTY (360) 586-8203

January 6, 2021

Joey Bowers Jumpin' Joey's Party Rentals 37831 Auburn Enumclaw Rd. SE Auburn, WA 98092

RE: Charter and Excursion Carrier Services Second Notice

Dear Joey Bowers:

The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) believes that you are providing passenger transportation services that require charter and excursion authority from the Commission. The purpose of this letter is to learn more about the passenger transportation services your company offers and to provide technical assistance with respect to Washington's passenger transportation licensing requirements.

As defined in WAC 480-30-036, one or more of the vehicles advertised and operated by your company requires a charter and excursion certificate from the Commission. Any company that operates a "vehicle with a manufacturer's seating capacity for eight or more passengers, including the driver, used on the public highways, for the transportation of persons for compensation", requires a charter and excursion certificate from the Commission.

Commission records show that you have not obtained the **required** certificate to operate as a charter and excursion carrier. Providing these services without a certificate is illegal, considered a gross misdemeanor, and punishable as defined in RCW 81.70.220 and WAC 480-30-246. Each violation of RCW 81.70.220 is subject to a penalty of up to \$5,000 per violation.

To avoid enforcement action by the Commission, no later than January 17, 2021, please do one of the following:

 Submit a completed application, file proof of insurance, and include the application fee to the Commission. For questions about the application process, please contact our Licensing Services staff at (360) 664-1222 Joey Bowers Jumpin' Joey's Party Rentals Page 2

OR

Explain in writing why you believe your business does not require passenger transportation
authority from the Commission. Please explain the nature of your operations in detail. Direct
your written response to Michael Dotson, Compliance Investigator, by email at
michael.dotson@utc.wa.gov. Michael Dotson can be reached by phone at (360) 480-5420.

If you have any further questions or comments about our findings, please contact Mr. Dotson at the above email address.

Sincerely,

Digitally signed by Sharp, Jason (UTC) Date: 2021.01.06 12:10:14-08'00'

JASON SHARP Motor Carrier Safety Supervisor

Enclosure

ATTACHMENT B

Activity Date 1/13/2021 3:00 PM

Title Spoke with owner Joe Bowers

Activity Status Complete

Activity Due Date

Activity Type Phone call

Activity Mode

Activity Contact Name Joe Bowers

Activity Contact Email

Activity Contact Phone 253-315-5541

Activity Contact Address

Activity Contact Location

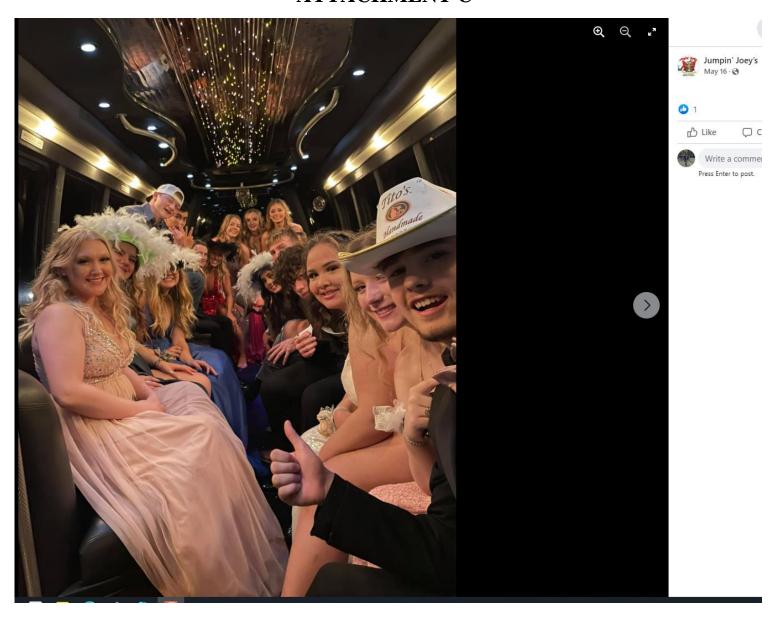
Desc Spoke with owner Joe Bowers. Says that he jumped the gun

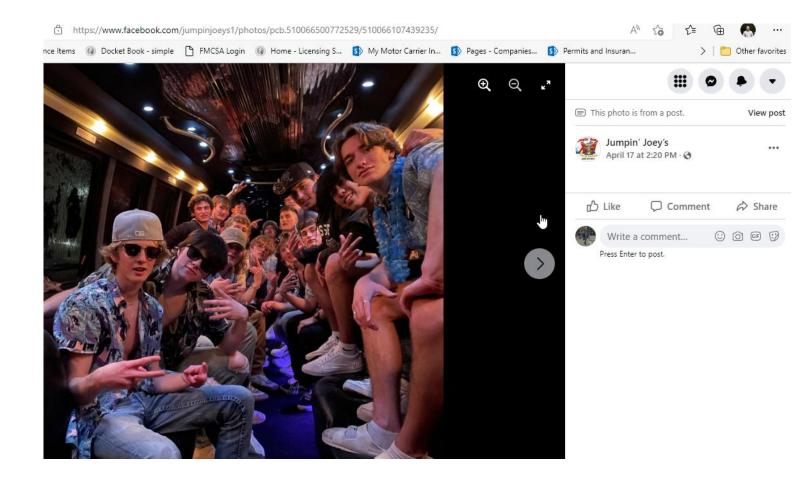
with his advertisements, thinking that Covid would be done. The most recent pictures are of he and his family going to see Christmas lights. Can confirm that the child in the front looks like his Son, referenced in a previous video from the Facebook page. He seemed interested in coming into compliance when things open up. Will follow-up with a ride request in a few weeks, and will follow-up when Covid slows

down if he hasn't registered.

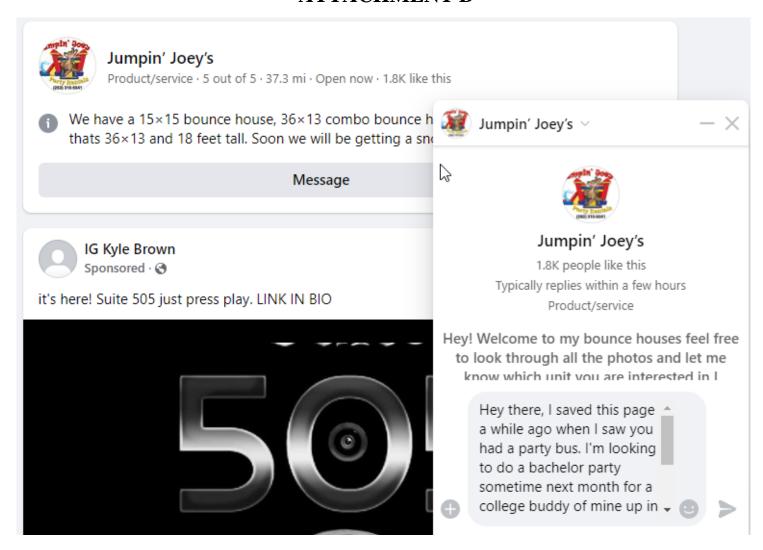
UTC Staff Members Dotson, Michael (UTC)

ATTACHMENT C





ATTACHMENT D





Jumpin' Joey's

Product/service · 5 out of 5 · 37.3 mi · Open now · 1.8K like this

We have a 15×15 bounce house, 36×13 combo bounce h thats 36×13 and 18 feet tall. Soon we will be getting a sno



pey's ∨ — ×

Message



IG Kyle Brown Sponsored ⋅ 🚱

it's here! Suite 505 just press play. LINK IN BIO







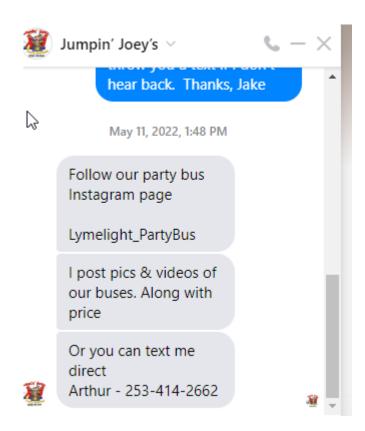
Jumpin' Joey's

1.8K people like this
Typically replies within a few hours
Product/service

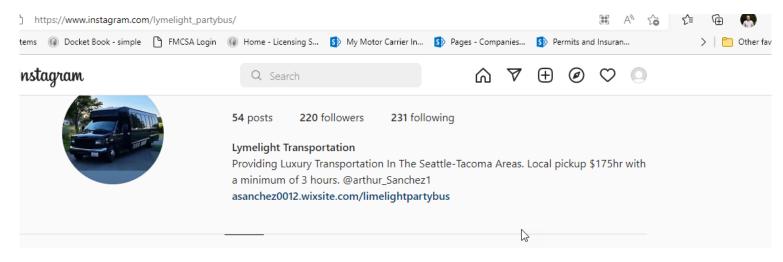
Hey! Welcome to my bounce houses feel free to look through all the photos and let me know which unit you are interested in I

college buddy of mine up in Seattle. Is that something you could help out with? Probably around 18 of it (maybe one or two more if your rig can can fit it.)

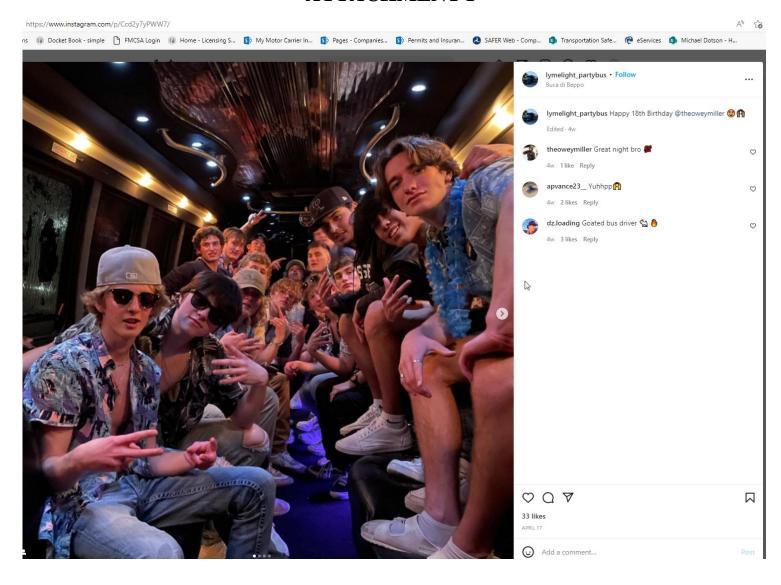


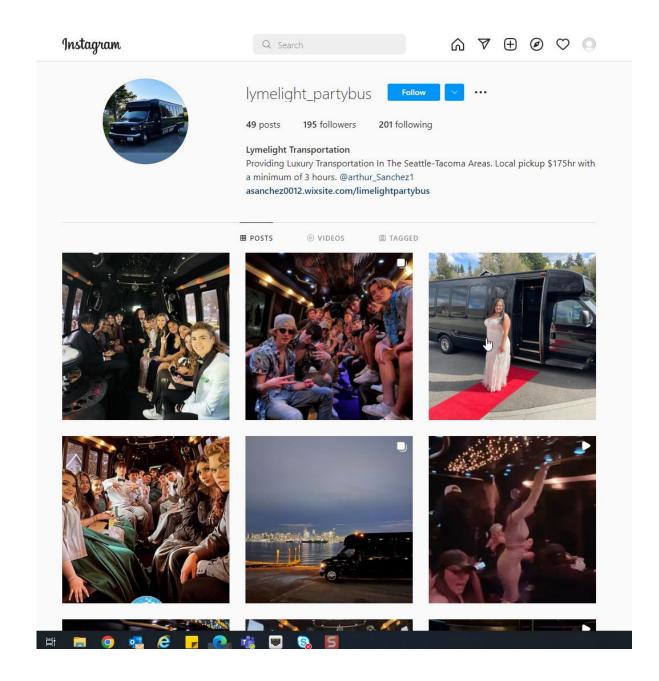


ATTACHMENT E



ATTACHMENT F





ATTACHMENT G

Hey Arthur, I was looking to book your bus next month sometime for a bachelor party.
Looking for around 18-20 of us for 5 or 6 hours on the night of June 17 or 24 if possible.

May 19, 12:24 PM

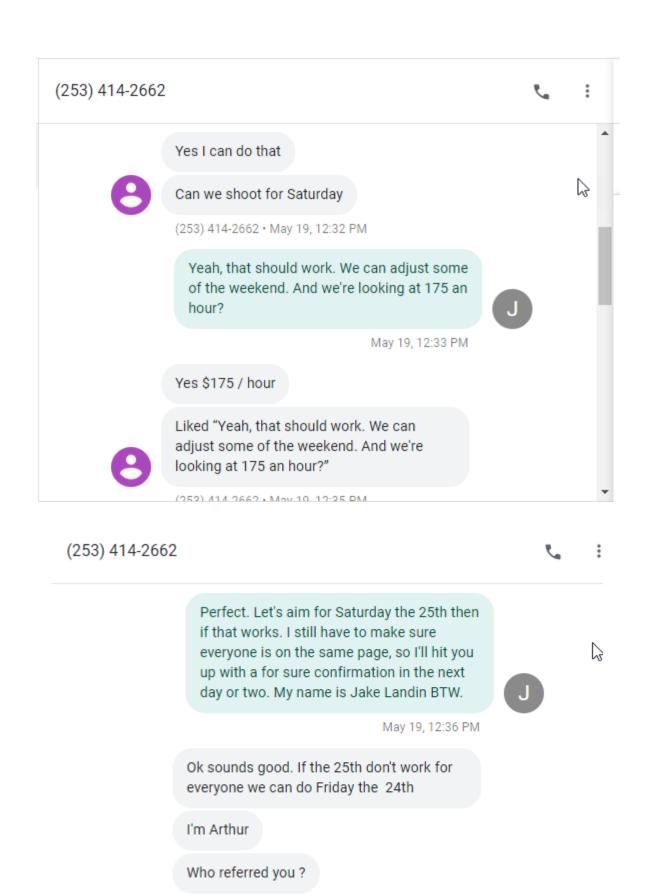
Both days are available

What time would pickup be?

(253) 414-2662 • May 19, 12:25 PM

Can you do a pick-up in Tacoma, hit some bars and stuff in Seattle and drop back in Tacoma? I'm thinking pick-up around 7?

We're old so we're not super late-night.



I randomly saw the pictures on the bouncy house page and messaged last week, you told me to check out your instagram page/text you.



May 19, 12:45 PM

Liked "I randomly saw the pictures on the bouncy house page and messaged last week, you told me to check out your instagram page/text you."

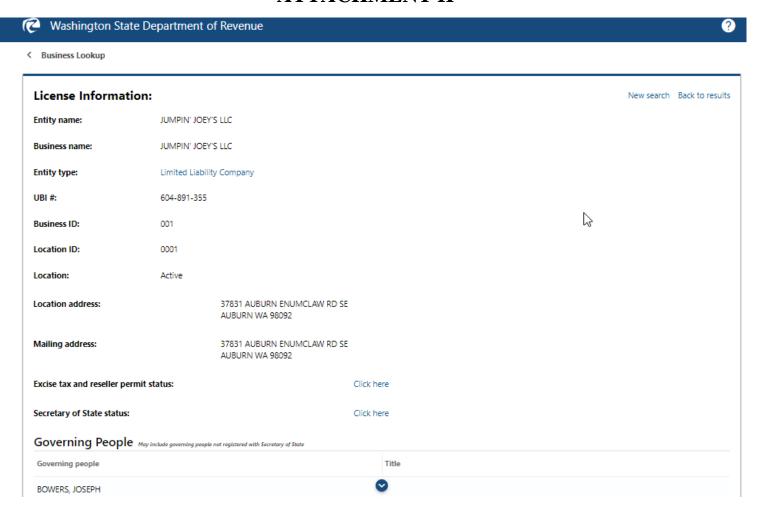
So we can do Friday if that works better for your group



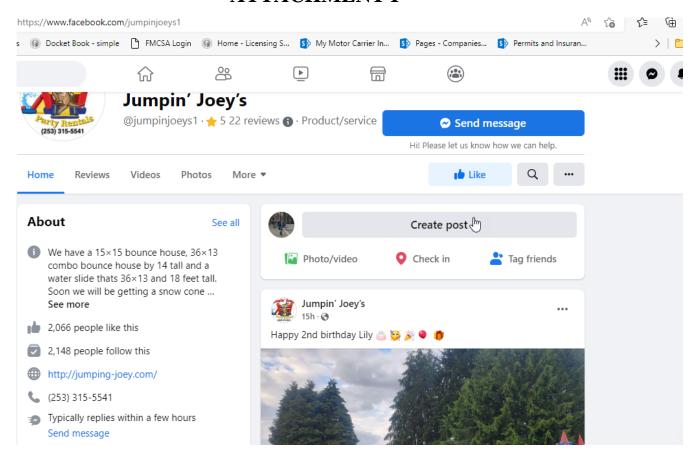
Sorry about that

(253) 414-2662 · May 19, 12:45 PM

ATTACHMENT H



ATTACHMENT I



ATTACHMENT J



ATTACHMENT K

Search for a driver or vehicle

Vehicle Information	n	
VIN	Scale Weight	GVWR
1FDWE45F33HB54235	8560	Class 3 - 10,001 - 14,00(
Model Year	Color 1	Gross Weight
2003	BLACK	12000
Make	Color 2	Equipment #
FORD		
Model	Use Type	Fleet #
ECONOLINE	Truck	
Body Style	Value Year	Value Code
Cutaway	2020	2900.0000
Current Odometer	Previous Odometer	
0	0	

ast Transaction	Last Tran Date	Country
		County
Vehicle Renewal	15-Jan-2022	17
Previous Transaction	Previous Tran Date	Status
Vehicle Renewal Notice	12-Aug-2021	Issued
Total Fees Paid	Months of Reg	
110.50	9	
Title #	Title Issued	
1796970874	06-Oct-2020	

