

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

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

JUSTIN HIGBEE D/B/A JNS MOVERS
INC.; J&S MOVERS

DOCKET TV-230496

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

I. INTRODUCTION

1 The regulatory staff (Staff) of the Washington Utilities and Transportation
Commission (Commission) and JNS Movers Inc.; J&S Movers (JNS Movers or Company),
through their authorized representatives, enter into the following settlement agreement
(Settlement) to resolve the issues raised in Docket TV-230496.

2 This Settlement is a “full multiparty settlement” as that term is defined in WAC 480-
07-730(3)(a) because it resolves all issues raised in this docket among Staff and JNS Movers
(the Parties). It is subject to review and disposition by the Commission to determine whether
it complies with the applicable legal requirements and whether approval of the Settlement is
consistent with the public interest.¹

II. BACKGROUND

3 On August 1, 2023, the Commission entered Order 01, Order Instituting Special
Proceeding; Complaint Seeking to Impose Penalties; and Notice of Mandatory Appearance
at Hearing (Complaint), pursuant to RCW 81.04.510, initiating this docket on its own

¹ WAC 480-07-740, -750.

motion. The Complaint alleges that JNS Movers violated RCW 81.80.075(1) on at least two occasions by (1) offering on at least one occasion to transport household goods within the state of Washington and (2) advertising household goods moving services within the state of Washington on at least one occasion without the necessary permit required for such operations. Specifically, on June 2, 2023, Staff discovered advertisements on jandsmovers.com for JNS Movers that offered to provide household goods moves within the state of Washington. On June 2, 2023, Staff contacted the Company using an assumed name and obtained a quote for a move in Seattle, Washington.

III. TERMS OF AGREEMENT

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The Parties have reached an agreement on the issues raised in Docket TV- 230496 and present this Settlement for the Commission's consideration and approval. The Parties therefore adopt the following Settlement, which they enter into voluntarily, to resolve the matters in dispute between them and to expedite the orderly disposition of this proceeding:

- Admission – JNS Movers admits that it violated RCW 81.80.075(1) on at least two occasions by (1) offering to transport household goods within the state of Washington and (2) advertising household goods moving services within the state of Washington without the necessary permit required for such operations.
- Classification – JNS Movers admits that it operated as a household goods carrier subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- Penalty – JNS Movers will pay a penalty of \$500. This amount will be due and payable upon the Commission's approval of the Settlement.
- Suspended Penalty – JNS Movers will accept the imposition of a \$4,500 suspended penalty. The Commission shall waive the suspended penalty after a period of two years from the effective date of this agreement, provided that JNS

Movers does not operate as a household goods carrier without authority from the Commission.

- Payment Plan – The Parties agree that JNS Movers should be allowed to pay the penalty of \$500 penalty on a payment plan. The Parties agree that JNS Movers will pay the \$500 balance immediately due and owing as a result of Settlement over five months with monthly payments of \$100, as follows:

Due Date	Amount
October 5, 2023	\$100
November 5, 2023	\$100
December 5, 2023	\$100
January 5, 2024	\$100
February 5, 2024	\$100

- The Parties agree that if a payment is missed, the entire amount of the penalty, including the suspended portion of \$4,500 will become due and payable the day after the missed penalty was due. The Parties further agree that JNS Movers may make payments in advance of the due date to discharge its payment obligation.

IV. GENERAL PROVISIONS

5 Public interest: The Parties submit that this Settlement promotes the public interest, and that it is appropriate for the Commission’s acceptance without conditions under WAC 480-07-750(2)(a).

6 Effective date: This Settlement is effective on the service date of a final Commission order approving this Settlement, or on the date that an initial order approving this Settlement becomes a final order pursuant to WAC 480-07-825(7), whichever occurs first.

7 Advocacy: The Parties agree to cooperate in submitting this Settlement promptly to the Commission for acceptance. The Parties agree to support adoption of this Settlement in proceedings before the Commission. No party to this Settlement or its agents, employees,

consultants, or attorneys will engage in advocacy contrary to the Commission's adoption of this Settlement.

8 Construction: This Settlement shall not be construed against any party solely because that party was a drafter of the Settlement.

9 Other proceedings: This Settlement shall have no precedential or preclusive effect in other proceedings except in a proceeding to enforce its terms. In the event this Settlement does not become effective, this Settlement shall be null and void, with no binding effect on the Parties and with no precedential or preclusive effect on the Parties regarding the continued litigation in Docket TV-230496. In the event that the Commission rejects all or any portion of this Settlement, or accepts the Settlement with conditions not proposed in this Settlement, each party reserves the right to withdraw from this Settlement by written notice to the other party and the Commission. Written notice must be served within 10 business days of service of the order rejecting part or all of this Settlement or imposing conditions not proposed in this Settlement. In such event, no party will be bound or prejudiced by the terms of this Settlement, and the Parties agree to cooperate in developing a procedural schedule.

10 Settlement discussions: The Parties have entered into this Settlement to avoid further expense, inconvenience, uncertainty, and delay. As such, conduct, statements, and documents disclosed during negotiations of this Settlement shall not be admissible as evidence in this or any other proceeding, except in any proceeding to enforce the terms of this Settlement or any Commission order fully adopting those terms.

11 Final agreement: The Parties have negotiated this Settlement as an integrated document to be effective upon execution. This Settlement supersedes all prior oral and written agreements on issues addressed herein.

12 Counterparts: The Parties may execute this Settlement in counterparts and as executed shall constitute one agreement. A signed signature page sent by facsimile or email is as effective as an original document.

13 Authorized representatives: Each person signing this Settlement warrants that he or she has authority to bind the party that he or she represents.

DATED this September 15, 2023.

Company Name: JNS Movers Inc.; J&S
Movers



Company Owner Signature

Justin Higbee
6721 21st Ave SW, Unit B
Seattle, WA 98106
360-522-1796
Jandsmovers1@gmail.com

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Jaquandria Ewanika Digitally signed by Jaquandria Ewanika
Date: 2023.09.15 11:07:17 -0700

Commission Staff signature

Jaquandria Ewanika, Compliance
Investigator
Consumer Protection Division
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250
(360) 664-1320
jaquandria.ewanika@utc.wa.gov