

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

July 25, 2016

Steven V. King, Executive Director and Secretary Utilities and Transportation Commission 1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW P.O. Box 47250 Olympia, WA 98504-7250

RE: Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v. Senda Intl, LLC

Commission Staff's Response to Application for Mitigation of Penalties TE-160727

Dear Mr. King:

On June 22, 2016, the Utilities and Transportation Commission issued a \$1,000 Penalty Assessment in Docket TE-160727 against Senda Intl, LLC for ten violations of Washington Administrative Code (WAC 480-30-071 and 480-30-076), which requires charter and excursion carrier companies to furnish annual reports, supporting documentation and the regulatory fee to the commission no later than May 1 each year, or in this case, May 2 as May 1 was a Sunday.

On July 6, 2016, Senda Intl, LLC wrote the commission requesting mitigation of penalties. In its mitigation request, Senda Intl, LLC does not dispute the violation occurred. The company states, "...I understand I have committed this infraction but am compelled to ask for a reduction of penalty. My company is newly started and I am learning the ropes of running a company and for a company my size, this penalty will severely affect me. I barely make enough right now to stay afloat. Please consider while making your judgement on my penalty assessment. I promise this report filing error will not occur again."

It is the company's responsibility to ensure that the regulatory fee is paid and the annual report is filed by the May 1 deadline. On February 29, 2016, Annual Report packets were mailed to all regulated charter and excursion carrier companies. The instruction page informs the regulated company that it must complete the annual report form and pay the regulatory fees, and return the materials by May 2, 2016, to avoid enforcement action.

Senda Intl, LLC submitted the complete annual report and regulatory fee on July 6, 2016.

Senda Intl, LLC has been active since 2014 and previously filed on time. It should be noted that Senda Intl, LLC's permit was cancelled in docket TE-152410 as the company did not provide

UTC Annual Reports July 25, 2016 Page 2

updated insurance documentation. Staff recommends that the penalty be reduced to \$25 per day for a total penalty assessment of \$250.

If you have any questions regarding this recommendation, please contact Sean Bennett, Regulatory Analyst, at (360) 664-1157, or <u>sbennett@utc.wa.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Sondra Walsh, Director

Smara Walsh

Administrative Services