

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of a Penalty Assessment	)	DOCKET TE-150994
Against	)	
	)	ORDER 01
A CRYSTAL COACH LIMOUSINE	)	
SERVICE, INC.	)	ORDER GRANTING MITIGATION
	)	TO \$225
in the amount of \$900	)	
.....	)	

**BACKGROUND**

- 1 Washington law requires charter and excursion carriers to file annual reports and pay regulatory fees by May 1 of each year. WAC 480-30-071. On February 27, 2015, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) mailed annual report and regulatory fee packets to all charter and excursion carriers. The forms included a reminder that companies must file their annual reports and pay their regulatory fees by May 1, 2015, or face penalties of \$100 for each violation of Commission rules. In the case of continuing violations, each day’s continuance is a separate violation. RCW 80.04.405.
- 2 A Crystal Coach Limousine Service, Inc. (Crystal Coach or Company) filed its annual report late on May 14, 2015. On June 8, the Commission assessed a penalty of \$900 against Crystal Coach, calculated as \$100 per business day from May 1 to May 14.
- 3 On June 23, Crystal Coach responded to the Commission’s penalty assessment, admitting the violations and requesting mitigation based on the written information provided. The Company explained that it believed it had satisfied all reporting requirements when it paid its regulatory fee in December.
- 4 On June 30, 2015, Commission staff (Staff) filed a response recommending a penalty reduction to \$25 per day, or \$225, because the Company has no prior violations of WAC 480-30-071.

**DISCUSSION**

- 5 WAC 480-30-071 requires charter and excursion carriers to file annual reports by May 1 of each year. Companies are responsible for complying with their legal obligations, and the Company should have ensured its annual report was timely filed.

6 The Commission nevertheless agrees with Staff's recommendation. The Commission may consider a number of factors when entertaining a request for mitigation, including a company's history of compliance, whether the violation was promptly corrected, and the likelihood the violation will recur.<sup>1</sup> This is Crystal Coach's first violation of WAC 480-30-071. The Company paid its regulatory fee and filed its annual report prior to receiving the penalty assessment. In addition, the Company has been regulated since 2011; given its history of compliance, the violations are unlikely to recur. In light of these factors, the Commission will exercise its discretion to reduce the penalty to \$225.

### ORDER

#### THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

7 (1) A Crystal Coach Limousine Service, Inc.'s request for mitigation of the \$1,000 penalty is GRANTED in part, and the penalty is reduced to \$225.

8 (2) The penalty is due and payable no later than July 13, 2015.

9 The Secretary has been delegated authority to enter this order on behalf of the Commissioners under WAC 480-07-904(1)(h).

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective July 2, 2015.

#### WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

STEVEN V. KING  
Executive Director and Secretary

**NOTICE TO PARTIES: This is an order delegated to the Executive Secretary for decision. As authorized in WAC 480-07-904(3), you must file any request for Commission review of this order no later than 14 days after the date the decision is posted on the Commission's website.**

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<sup>1</sup> Docket A-120061, Enforcement Policy for the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (January 7, 2013).