



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 14, 2017

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. Harlow's Bus Service, Inc.*

Commission Staff's Response to Request for Hearing TE-170622

Dear Mr. King:

On June 20, 2017, the Utilities and Transportation Commission issued a \$1,000 Penalty Assessment in Docket TE-170622 against Harlow's Bus Service, Inc. for 10 violations of Washington Administrative Code (WAC 480-30-071 and 480-30-076), which requires charter and excursion companies to furnish annual reports, supporting documentation and the regulatory fee to the commission no later than May 1 each year.

On June 20, 2017, Harlow's Bus Service, Inc. wrote the commission requesting a hearing disputing the violation occurred. In its hearing request, the company states, "...the annual report was filed on April 26, 2017, confirmation # 0-001-166-306. Payment was made April 26, 2017, confirmation # 243492051." Harlow's Bus Service, Inc. provided documentation showing they completed the Washington State Department of Revenue's annual report on April 26 and paid a fee to the Washington State Secretary of state of April 26. The company's annual report and associated regulatory fee are still outstanding. Commission Staff sent an email to Harlow's Bus Service, Inc. advising the company that the annual report and regulatory fee are due.

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 28, 2017, Annual Report packets were sent to all regulated charter and excursion companies. The instructions page informs the regulated company that it must complete the annual report form and pay the regulatory fees, and return the materials by May 1, 2017, to avoid enforcement action.

There are no material issues of law or fact. Staff does not support the company's request for hearing as commission staff did not receive an annual report prior to the May 1 deadline and it is the company's responsibility to file a complete and accurate annual report. The Commission will

UTC Annual Reports

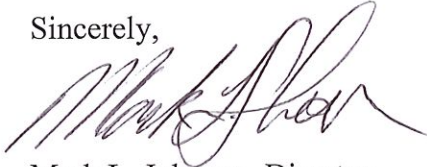
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only grant mitigation if the violations occurred due to circumstances beyond the company's control. Harlow's Bus Service, Inc. did not illustrate that they were unable to file their annual report and pay their regulatory fee due to circumstances beyond their control. Staff does not recommend mitigation nor a reduction of the penalty.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark L. Johnson', written in a cursive style.

Mark L. Johnson, Director
Administrative Services