

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

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

STAGE 7 PIANOS LLC

DOCKET TV-180843

DECLARATION OF
BRIAN BRAUN

Brian Braun, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, declares as follows:

1. I am employed by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) as a Compliance Investigator in the Consumer Protection Section. As a Compliance Investigator, my responsibilities include conducting investigations regarding the business practices of regulated utility and transportation companies. As part of those duties, I investigate household goods carriers that may be operating without the required Commission permit.
2. On May 29, 2018, I received an email concerning an alleged non-permitted household goods moving company, Stage 7 Pianos.¹
3. On June 4, 2018, I searched Commission records and verified that Stage 7 Pianos LLC is not a permitted household goods carrier.
4. On June 14, 2018, I searched Washington Secretary of State's website for Stage 7 Pianos LLC. The results produced a record which listed Kenneth Wildes as both the registered agent and the governing person, located at 11831 124th Ave. NE, Kirkland, WA 98034.²
5. On June 14, 2018, I observed the website www.stage7pianos.com. In the section "About Us" the website identifies Kenn Wildes as the business owner and provides the business telephone number (425) 968-2410, and the email address info@stage7pianos.com. In the section "Services" the website advertises piano moving services and displays a picture of a piano in the back of a moving truck. The webpage reads "Our expert movers take pride in moving your piano and demonstrate a high degree of professionalism. Please contact us for your moving needs."³

¹ See Attachment A for email dated May 29, 2018.

² See Attachment B for a copy of the Washington Secretary of State's business information related to Stage 7 Pianos.

³ See Attachment C for a copy of the website page, printed on October 8, 2018.

6. On June 14, 2018, I sent a compliance letter to Kenneth Wildes of Stage 7 Pianos LLC notifying him to cease and desist operations as a household goods carrier in Washington State until he obtains the required household goods carrier permit from the Commission.⁴

On October 4, 2018, I called (425) 968-2410 using an assumed name to obtain a quote for moving services, including workers and a truck. I asked to whom I was speaking and the person on the phone identified himself as Ken and confirmed that he was the owner of Stage 7 Pianos. At Mr. Wildes' request, I emailed him at info@stage7pianos.com with details regarding my proposed move. Mr. Wildes responded that afternoon with a base quote of \$250 for moving my piano from Seattle to Kirkland on October 22, 2018.⁵

DATED this 17th day of October, 2018, at Olympia, Washington.

BRIAN BRAUN

⁴ See Attachment D for a copy of compliance letter, dated June 14, 2018.

⁵ See Attachment E for a copy of the email, dated Oct. 4, 2018