

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In re the application of) Docket No.
) TC-160324
 SANI MAHAMA MAUROU, d/b/a SEATAC)
 AIRPORT 24)
)
 For Reinstatement of Authority to)
 Operate as an Auto Transportation)
 Company and Charter and Excursion)
 Carrier.)
)
 In the Matter of the Investigation of) Docket No.
) TC-152296
 SANI MAHAMA MAUROU d/b/a/ SeaTac) (Consolidated)
 Airport 24)
)
 For Compliance with WAC 480-30-221)
)
 In the Matter of the Penalty) Docket No.
 Assessment Against) TC-160187
) (Consolidated)
 SANI MAHAMA MAUROU d/b/a SEATAC)
 AIRPORT 24)
)
 In the amount of \$29,200)

BRIEF ADJUDICATIVE PROCEEDING, VOLUME II
PAGES 102 - 204
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE RAYNE PEARSON

1:31 p.m.
July 11, 2016

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
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A P P E A R A N C E S

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ALSO PRESENT:

Dave Pratt
Michael Turcott
Gloriose Sakubu-Rothrock, French Interpreter

* * * * *

HEARING

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1 OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON; JULY 11, 2016

2 1:31 p.m.

3
4 P R O C E E D I N G S

5
6 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. We can be on the
7 record.

8 Good afternoon. We are here today for a
9 Brief Adjudicative Proceeding on two matters. The first
10 is Docket TC-160324, which is captioned "In Re The
11 Application of Sani Mahama Maurou d/b/a SeaTac Airport
12 24 for Reinstatement of Authority to Operate as an Auto
13 Transportation Company and Charter and Excursion
14 Carrier."

15 The second is consolidated Dockets TC-160187
16 and TC-152296, which are both captioned "In the Matter
17 of the Investigation of Sani Mahama Maurou d/b/a SeaTac
18 Airport 24 for Compliance with WAC 480-30-221."

19 My name is Rayne Pearson. I'm an
20 administrative law judge presiding over today's brief
21 adjudicative proceeding, and today is Monday, July 11th,
22 2016, and the time is approximately 1:30 p.m.

23 So let's just begin by taking a brief
24 appearance from Commission Staff.

25 MR. O'CONNELL: Thank you, your Honor. My

1 name is Andrew J. O'Connell, Assistant Attorney General,
2 representing Commission Staff. Seated next to me are
3 Mr. Mike Turcott and Mr. Dave Pratt from Staff.

4 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Thank you.

5 And Mr. Maurou, if you could just state your
6 name and spell your last name and give your address and
7 your phone number. Make sure to speak into the
8 microphone, please.

9 MR. MAUROU: My first name is Sani --

10 JUDGE PEARSON: I don't think your
11 microphone's on. Will you press the button? The red
12 light should come on.

13 MR. MAUROU: My name is Sani, first name
14 S-A-N-I, middle name is Mahama, M-A-H-A-M-A, and the
15 last name is Maurou, M-A-U-R-O-U, and I am the president
16 and CEO of SeaTac Airport 24, and as well I am also the
17 owner and operator.

18 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Can you give us your
19 address and phone number?

20 MR. MAUROU: Yes. My address is 1800 South
21 Jackson Street, Apartment 211, Seattle, Washington
22 98144.

23 JUDGE PEARSON: Phone number?

24 MR. MAUROU: Sorry.

25 JUDGE PEARSON: It's okay.

1 MR. MAUROU: Phone number is (206) 319-7076.

2 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Thank you.

3 So on June 21st, 2016, the Commission issued
4 a Notice of Intent to Deny Application for Reinstatement
5 and Notice of Brief Adjudicative Proceeding, setting
6 time for oral statements in Docket TC-160324.

7 And that same day, Staff filed a motion to
8 impose suspended penalty and motion to consolidate
9 proceedings in consolidated Dockets TC-152296 and
10 TC-160187 to allow receipt of evidence necessary to
11 determine whether to impose the \$20,000 penalty
12 suspended in Order 01 in those dockets.

13 So let's first address Staff's motion to
14 consolidate Docket TC-160324 with consolidated Dockets
15 TC-160187 and TC-152296.

16 MR. O'CONNELL: Okay. Thank you,
17 your Honor. I'm wondering if I could make a request
18 before I get into that.

19 JUDGE PEARSON: Sure.

20 MR. O'CONNELL: My request is that, if we
21 could have our interpreter introduce herself on the
22 record, and we could explain the scope of the
23 interpretation for today.

24 JUDGE PEARSON: Sure.

25 THE INTERPRETER: Thank you. My name is

1 Gloriose Sakubu-Rothrock, and I am a French interpreter.

2 JUDGE PEARSON: Thank you.

3 MR. O'CONNELL: Okay. About the motion to
4 consolidate, Staff -- well, there are two issues being
5 presented today in all of these dockets. One of them is
6 whether to impose the \$20,000 suspended penalty from
7 consolidated Dockets TC-152296 and TC-160187. Then the
8 other issue is whether to deny the application for
9 reinstatement for this company in Docket TC-160324.

10 All of the issues that -- all of the facts,
11 all the evidence, all the testimony that will be
12 received today all arise from the same facts and set of
13 circumstances, and they all arise from evidence that
14 Staff will present about the Company operating after its
15 authority to operate was cancelled.

16 So I guess, from Staff's point of view, this
17 is not a pre-judgment of any of the questions of fact,
18 but simply entertaining all of the testimony at one time
19 since all the testimony applies to both issues. And
20 that's why Staff makes the motion and requests that they
21 be consolidated.

22 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Mr. Maurou?

23 MR. MAUROU: Yes, your Honor. I did -- I
24 did send a copy of my request, and Mr. O'Connell --
25 sorry I'm having an issue with your name -- so I did

1 send --

2 JUDGE PEARSON: Can you speak closer to the
3 microphone? The court reporter is having trouble
4 hearing. He was making a comment about being able to
5 pronounce Mr. O'Connell's name. It's not important.

6 MR. MAUROU: Your Honor, I made my request
7 and I did send a copy -- I did send a copy to
8 Mr. O'Connell, and I did send a copy also to the record
9 center and as well to Mr. David Pratt.

10 And on my request -- Request 6, if you
11 can -- you can read it -- in Request 6 -- in Request 6,
12 I honestly -- I was very, very concerned about that,
13 that consolidation of those two case. It does mean they
14 not advance the results --

15 JUDGE PEARSON: They what? Can you repeat
16 that?

17 MR. MAUROU: For me, my concern was those
18 two cases are different. They are not the same. And
19 when Mr. O'Connell -- Mr. O'Connell was trying to
20 consolidate those two cases, I just felt like he knows
21 in advance the result of this hearing, and it is like
22 (speaking French) --

23 JUDGE PEARSON: He's speaking in French.

24 MR. MAUROU (through interpreter): It's like
25 you have results already that are not there yet.

1 MR. MAUROU: Okay. That's why I did not
2 object -- object -- I did object that -- that
3 proposition of Mr. O'Connell. I don't want those two to
4 be consolidated.

5 When he talks about time, I don't
6 understand, but the time is not more important than my
7 life.

8 So that's another thing. I am very, very
9 concerned the way UTC is doing business. UTC has a lot
10 of good people. When you call, you see professional,
11 they answer your question, they respect you, they trying
12 to help you. But I just felt like that there are a few
13 who are doing what they want to do. So I don't want
14 those two cases to be consolidated, period.

15 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. So you're objecting
16 to --

17 MR. MAUROU: Yes.

18 JUDGE PEARSON: -- Mr. O'Connell's motion.
19 Okay. I note your objection.

20 However, I am going to grant Staff's motion
21 to consolidate these dockets because, as Mr. O'Connell
22 said, they do concern the same set of facts. There are
23 two different actions and two different decisions to be
24 made, but they all arise from the same set of facts, so
25 it doesn't make sense to hold two separate hearings to

1 go through the same set of facts. It wouldn't be a good
2 use of our time or Commission resources, so I will grant
3 that motion.

4 So we will hear from parties on both of the
5 matters before us, the Commission's notice of intent to
6 deny the Company's application for reinstatement and
7 Commission Staff's motion to impose the suspended
8 penalty, and then I will issue a written order within
9 ten days reflecting my decision on those issues.

10 So when I call -- I'm sorry. Mr. O'Connell,
11 did you have something else?

12 MR. O'CONNELL: Yes, your Honor. I would
13 like to ask a procedural question before we get started
14 any further.

15 JUDGE PEARSON: Sure.

16 MR. O'CONNELL: Will we have an opportunity
17 to address the number of requests that Mr. Maurou has
18 made of Staff before we get into testimony?

19 JUDGE PEARSON: If you would like to, we
20 could do that.

21 MR. O'CONNELL: I think it would help
22 clarify --

23 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay.

24 MR. O'CONNELL: -- Staff's position as to
25 the requests.

1 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay.

2 MR. O'CONNELL: On a number of the requests,
3 we ask for Staff to take certain actions, and I'd like
4 to present Staff's position on them.

5 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. So I'm not sure I'm
6 clear on which set of requests you're talking about. I
7 did receive on Friday a set of questions directed at
8 Mr. Pratt. Is that what you're talking about, or is
9 there something additional that I'm not privy to?

10 MR. O'CONNELL: I do not think there's
11 anything additional that you're not privy to.

12 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay.

13 MR. O'CONNELL: There was a set of six
14 requests. It was entitled to the Washington State
15 Utilities Commission with an attention to your Honor.
16 And so I think that you should have received all six of
17 the requests.

18 JUDGE PEARSON: Were they the --

19 MR. O'CONNELL: And then there was an
20 additional questionnaire, which I think you're referring
21 to.

22 JUDGE PEARSON: And I didn't see the list of
23 requests; I only saw the questionnaire.

24 MR. MAUROU: I have a copy here.

25 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. If you want to bring

1 that to me.

2 MR. O'CONNELL: Mr. Maurou, can I see to
3 make sure? This is a copy of the six requests that I'm
4 referring to.

5 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay.

6 MR. MAUROU: The six --

7 JUDGE PEARSON: And I'm sorry I didn't get a
8 copy of this in advance, but it didn't come through.

9 Okay. Okay. I've read through it. So if
10 you'd like to address those now.

11 MR. O'CONNELL: Thank you, your Honor.

12 So Brief Adjudicative Proceedings, or BAPs,
13 they're not full adjudicative proceedings here at the
14 Commission with months of discovery and numerous
15 exhibits. Discovery requests are unusual in this
16 context because discovery rules haven't been made
17 available to any party, and everything in a BAP is
18 presented at the hearing.

19 The procedures for submitting evidence and
20 exhibits in these cases is explained clearly in the
21 Commission's order setting the BAP, and the order
22 usually states that parties wishing to introduce
23 exhibits must submit an exhibit list, and usually that's
24 a week before the BAP is set.

25 In this case, the Company made a number of

1 requests of Staff last week. I received on July 6 and
2 July 8 -- and I say that because they were received
3 after hours on the day before that. So the first time
4 that Staff would have seen these requests was on
5 July 6th and then on July 8th.

6 Staff believes the best resolution is to
7 address these requests at this hearing, since the nature
8 of a BAP is to have questions presented at the BAP.

9 So the Company requested in its first
10 request and in its second, number 1 and number 2, that
11 Mr. Pratt and another staff member, that Staff believes
12 to be Mr. Turcott, be made available as witnesses.

13 As all parties in this case should know,
14 both these individuals are already listed on Staff's
15 exhibit list as witnesses that would testify today.
16 Regardless, they'll both be available for Mr. Maurou to
17 ask questions of in cross-examination.

18 His fourth request, the Company asked for
19 Mr. Pratt's educational background. Staff believes this
20 will be covered through Mr. Pratt's testimony today, and
21 so Mr. Maurou would have an opportunity to ask him
22 questions, I guess, about Mr. Pratt's educational
23 background.

24 So Staff believes it has, therefore,
25 complied with all of the Company's legitimate requests.

1 There are two others that I'd like to address, and it's
2 request number 5 in the questionnaire that Mr. Maurou
3 sent out.

4 Request number 5 requests that Staff sign a
5 consent form to allow the Company to investigate
6 Mr. Pratt and interrogate any employee of the UTC. And
7 the Company also submitted a questionnaire for Staff
8 with a number of, frankly, inappropriate questions.

9 Staff objects to both the consent form and
10 the submitted questionnaire because they are
11 inappropriate and improper and not relevant to this
12 hearing. But they are clearly meant to -- well, I'll
13 stop there about the intention of those requests because
14 I do not know the intent. But suffice it to say that
15 they are not -- they do not lead into -- aid in the
16 resolution of the issues presented before the Commission
17 as to the Company's actions.

18 Now, to the extent that any questions are
19 not inappropriate or improper, Staff's position is that
20 they could be asked of Mr. Pratt and Mr. Turcott on
21 cross-examination as long as they are relevant to the
22 case.

23 Thank you, your Honor.

24 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Thank you.

25 Mr. Maurou, do you want to respond to that?

1 MR. MAUROU: Yes. Mr. O'Connell --

2 JUDGE PEARSON: So make sure to speak into
3 the microphone, and you're going to be responding to me,
4 not to Mr. O'Connell. So just let me know what your
5 response is.

6 MR. MAUROU: Okay. Your Honor,
7 Mr. O'Connell just said that all of my requests, there
8 are some -- all my requests are not appropriate when
9 concerning relationship with this case.

10 JUDGE PEARSON: So he just said that -- hold
11 on a second. He just said that about request number 5,
12 so that's all we're talking about right now is request
13 number 5 and the list of questions. That's what he said
14 was inappropriate. He's fine with 1 through 4. Those
15 have been addressed or will be addressed.

16 MR. MAUROU: So he said number 5, right?

17 JUDGE PEARSON: Yes.

18 MR. MAUROU: Okay. All right. Why --
19 why -- I'll just stick with number 5 that he's saying is
20 not prepared.

21 Why I am requesting, because I have a high
22 doubt about Mr. Pratt, David Pratt, and I will go
23 through all what happened when it comes to Mr. Pratt,
24 David Pratt, on relationship with my person and with my
25 company. And there are a lot of bad things and I have

1 ton of proof.

2 But I am -- I am very patient person and
3 usually that help me a lot. I -- I was watching -- I
4 was, like, watching very closely, but I don't jump to
5 the conclusion easily. I am patient. I keep watching
6 until the end. And then when I jump, I know what I am
7 talking.

8 So if I request number 5, why? I don't need
9 it personally, but where we are at this stage, I will
10 need it to go through -- to be able to have what I
11 really need. That's why I did request it. I didn't do
12 it because I just want to do it.

13 We are talking about something very serious,
14 and we need things that we need. So I don't think it
15 is -- it can be called inappropriate at this time. And
16 I am having a lot of concern at this time about
17 Mr. David Pratt. That's why I'm asking even his
18 educational background, because I'm trying to know
19 who -- honestly, I'm lost. To be honest, I'm lost.

20 So I need all those informations. It's not
21 something that I'm trying to -- I need it. I need them.
22 I need them. Even this form, I have another form, and I
23 did send to Mr. Pratt to fill this form. I will bring
24 it to you, your Honor.

25 I did send this form to Mr. Pratt to fill

1 out. He did not. And then I did receive the
2 last-second e-mail from Mr. O'Connell saying that, if
3 there's anything, I need to address to him as he's
4 representing the Staff.

5 So Mr. O'Connell knows about this form and
6 he has it. Mr. Pratt didn't fill this. Even
7 Mr. O'Connell go and encouraged him to not fill it out,
8 so it is very disgusting. I'm going to give you this
9 form, your Honor.

10 JUDGE PEARSON: I have a copy of it. It's
11 okay. And --

12 MR. MAUROU: So I'm not -- I am not kidding.
13 I am serious about what I'm asking. So he should sign
14 it, if he can right now, and give it to me.

15 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Thank you,
16 Mr. Maurou.

17 Did you have anything else to say?

18 MR. O'CONNELL: Yeah. I think -- I think I
19 forgot to say one thing, and that's just that all the
20 questions Mr. Maurou asked, if they are relevant to the
21 case, I believe he can ask Mr. Pratt when Mr. Pratt
22 testifies, and we can deal with the questions that
23 Mr. Maurou asks at that time.

24 JUDGE PEARSON: I agree with you.

25 And Mr. Maurou, as Mr. O'Connell was

1 explaining, this is a Brief Adjudicative Proceeding, so
2 the discovery rules were not available to the parties.
3 That's why Mr. Pratt didn't respond to what I can only
4 label as a data request, because that type of exchange
5 wasn't available to the parties in this proceeding.

6 So Mr. O'Connell is correct that, to the
7 extent that you need those questions answered, you're
8 welcome to ask them on cross-examination, at which point
9 I expect Mr. O'Connell will object because they are not
10 relevant to the proceeding that's here before us today.

11 So I am going to agree with Mr. O'Connell
12 with respect to request number 5. It's not appropriate,
13 it's not relevant to this proceeding. This is about
14 your company and the conduct of your company, not
15 Mr. Pratt's character or background. So I'm just going
16 to put an end to that right now. Okay?

17 MR. MAUROU: Yes, your Honor. Can I say
18 something?

19 JUDGE PEARSON: Briefly.

20 MR. MAUROU: I will go through it, but I
21 don't want to rush. Why? Because Mr. David, he's here,
22 I will ask him those questions, so I'm not going to
23 rush. At this point, I do not trust Mr. David to be
24 honest and frankly. Why? Mr. David has been, since
25 last year, behind my company. We have three -- I have

1 talked to Mr. David three times on the phone. I don't
2 know him.

3 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. You'll have a chance
4 to present your testimony.

5 MR. MAUROU: I know --

6 JUDGE PEARSON: Can you stop talking,
7 please? You'll have a chance to present your
8 testimony --

9 MR. MAUROU: Okay.

10 JUDGE PEARSON: -- and we can get into that
11 a little bit later. But I want to explain how this is
12 going to proceed today. Okay? And when it's your turn
13 to talk, I want to swear you in before you give your
14 testimony so that everything that you say can be
15 considered sworn testimony.

16 MR. MAUROU: Thank you, your Honor.

17 JUDGE PEARSON: So I was going to have Staff
18 go first today because Staff initiated the enforcement
19 actions, and then once Staff is done, Mr. Maurou, you
20 can, as Mr. O'Connell noted, ask questions of Staff, and
21 after that you can present your testimony, and then
22 Mr. O'Connell will probably have questions for you as
23 well.

24 Okay?

25 MR. MAUROU: Yes.

1 JUDGE PEARSON: So did you have any other
2 questions before we get started?

3 MR. MAUROU: Yes, your Honor.

4 JUDGE PEARSON: Just about the process?

5 MR. MAUROU: Right. For procedure, this
6 exhibit (speaking French) --

7 (Through interpreter) For the procedure,
8 these papers, these documents, they came later. Then
9 when it arrived, when I received it, they said it was an
10 adding on the document they received before.

11 It is UTC that comes behind my back to
12 attack me. I am not attacking UTC. I don't think I can
13 do it. Why didn't they include this package with the
14 first one they received? Where did they receive this
15 package then? I didn't have enough time to read this.
16 I didn't have time to read this. These papers, where
17 did they got them? I don't know.

18 JUDGE PEARSON: Mr. Maurou -- Mr. O'Connell,
19 can you give me some information about when these were
20 delivered to Mr. Maurou and by what mechanism? Were
21 they sent electronically?

22 MR. O'CONNELL: Sure. The exhibit list --
23 Staff's exhibit list -- there's two copies, one for
24 Docket TC-152296 and one for Docket TC-160324 -- the
25 exhibit lists were ordered by the Commission to be

1 submitted by the end of business on July 5th. Staff
2 complied with that order submitting an exhibit list
3 describing the exhibits that it would present today at
4 hearing.

5 Staff followed that order, and this morning
6 Staff presented those exhibits to your Honor and
7 Mr. Maurou in accordance with the order that the
8 Commission sent out requesting that Staff bring an
9 original and three copies to the hearing.

10 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. So Mr. Maurou, what
11 we'll do is, as Mr. O'Connell introduces each exhibit,
12 I'll give you a moment to look it over to see if you
13 have any objection, and then we'll move forward. So
14 I'll make sure you have adequate time to look over each
15 exhibit when we get to that.

16 Okay?

17 MR. MAUROU: Yes, your Honor. But my
18 concern was that they did not submit this on time.

19 JUDGE PEARSON: But they weren't required
20 to. Did you hear what Mr. O'Connell said? What they
21 did submit on time was a list describing the exhibits,
22 and he was not required to do anything other than that.

23 MR. MAUROU: Yes, your Honor. Even the
24 list, when you look at my e-mail, my e-mail, it did come
25 after 5th, so they did send it, I think, 6 -- 6 of July,

1 so it is after 6 -- after 5th. So I do not want this
2 list to be considered.

3 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. I'm going to take the
4 exhibits up one at a time, like I said, and I will rule
5 on them individually as they're offered into evidence,
6 and I will make sure to give you adequate time to look
7 each one over.

8 So with that, Mr. O'Connell, you can proceed
9 when you're ready.

10 MR. O'CONNELL: Thank you, your Honor. If I
11 could, I'd like to make a very brief opening statement
12 to give context --

13 JUDGE PEARSON: Sure.

14 MR. O'CONNELL: -- for the evidence
15 presented today.

16 JUDGE PEARSON: Sure.

17 MR. O'CONNELL: This case today is not
18 overly complicated. The Company's authority to operate
19 was cancelled. The Company continued to operate. We're
20 here because of the Company's action.

21 The Company's authority was cancelled on
22 March 8th, 2016, for safety reasons. Staff will present
23 evidence today of trips after March 8, 2016, trips to
24 the airport, continued advertising, and an offer that
25 was made to Staff.

1 The Company has not been forthcoming with
2 the Commission in Staff's opinion. Staff will present
3 evidence that the Company has multiple drivers that were
4 undisclosed to Staff during its compliance investigation
5 earlier this year. This raises a host of concerns
6 regarding the Company. Ultimately, it appears the
7 Company is either unable or unwilling to abide by the
8 Commission's rules and orders.

9 Now, I expect that the Company is going to
10 try to shift some of this blame to Staff for essentially
11 doing its job and discovering the Company's bad actions.
12 This hearing is not for attacking Staff. It's for
13 determining whether the Company continued to operate
14 after having its authority cancelled, and whether the
15 Company's application for reinstatement should be
16 denied. Everything outside of that scope is irrelevant.

17 Staff would ask at this time that your Honor
18 take official notice of Commission Orders 01 and 02 in
19 the consolidated Dockets TC-152296 and TC-160187. I
20 also have copies of those orders. They've been marked
21 for identification as Exhibits MT-1 and MT-2.

22 Thank you, your Honor.

23 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. I will take official
24 notice of both of those orders.

25 And Mr. Maurou, those were the orders that

1 were issued in the previous dockets back in March, and
2 then the subsequent order that was the final order that
3 adopted the payment plan, I believe, for the penalty
4 amount.

5 MR. MAUROU: Um-hmm.

6 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Go ahead.

7 MR. O'CONNELL: With that, your Honor, Staff
8 would like to call Mr. Turcott to testify.

9 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Mr. Turcott, if you
10 could please stand and raise your right hand.

11
12 MICHAEL TURCOTT, witness herein, having been
13 first duly sworn on oath,
14 was examined and testified
15 as follows:
16

17 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Go ahead and be
18 seated.

19 *** DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. O'CONNELL ***

20 BY MR. O'CONNELL:

21 **Q. Would you please state your name and spell it**
22 **for the record?**

23 A. Yes. Michael Turcott, T-U-R-C-O-T-T.

24 **Q. And what is your occupation?**

25 A. I am a compliance investigator with the

1 Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
2 working in the transportation safety unit.

3 **Q. And how long have you been employed by the**
4 **Commission?**

5 A. For approximately nine months.

6 **Q. What did you do before your employment with the**
7 **Commission?**

8 A. I worked for 28 years as a commissioned officer
9 with the Washington State Patrol, holding a variety of
10 assignments. After retiring from the State Patrol, I
11 worked at the Department of Licensing for a year and a
12 half managing the fraud investigation unit before coming
13 to work at the Commission.

14 **Q. So are you familiar with conducting**
15 **investigations and investigation techniques?**

16 A. Yes, I am.

17 **Q. What are your duties here at the Commission?**

18 A. Two primary duties, one of which is to identify
19 transportation companies that we believe may be
20 operating without the required UTC authority, to provide
21 technical assistance to those companies, encourage them
22 to become compliant and licensed for the benefit of all,
23 particularly the traveling public, and in some cases
24 follow up with those companies with further
25 investigation or enforcement action. And the other part

1 of my job is to work with field staff, follow-up
2 compliance reviews and draft documents related to
3 penalty assessments.

4 **Q. How were you involved in the matters concerning**
5 **SeaTac Airport 24?**

6 A. I was initially involved with drafting the
7 penalty assessment at the beginning of this year
8 following the compliance review in December.

9 **Q. Are you familiar with both the investigation of**
10 **the Company's safety rating and its application for**
11 **reinstatement?**

12 A. Yes, I am.

13 **Q. And are you familiar with both Order 01 and**
14 **Order 02 from Docket TC-152296?**

15 A. Yes.

16 **Q. Have you read both of those orders?**

17 A. I have.

18 **Q. So are you aware of the cancellation of the**
19 **Company's certificate as an auto transportation and**
20 **charter and excursion carrier?**

21 A. Yes.

22 **Q. When was the Company's certificate cancelled?**

23 A. March 8, 2016.

24 **Q. And are you familiar with the suspended penalty**
25 **contained in the final order, Order 02, from that case?**

1 A. Yes, I am.

2 **Q. What was the amount of the suspended penalty?**

3 A. The amount of the suspended penalty is \$20,000.

4 **Q. After March 8th, 2016, did you investigate**
5 **whether this company abided by the Commission's cease**
6 **and desist order?**

7 A. Yes, I did.

8 **Q. What did you do as part of your investigation?**

9 A. As in all investigations, we cover a variety of
10 areas, one of which was to monitor internet advertising
11 of the Company, to communicate with other regulatory
12 entities, SeaTac Airport or the City of Seattle or King
13 County, and finally to attempt to book a trip with the
14 Company.

15 **Q. And did you attempt to -- you did attempt to**
16 **book a trip with this company?**

17 A. Yes, I did.

18 **Q. Okay. I want to come back to that in just a**
19 **moment.**

20 **You mentioned that there were a number of**
21 **entities in the community that you communicated with.**

22 **Who contacted Staff with information about the**
23 **operations of this company?**

24 A. We were contacted both by SeaTac Airport Ground
25 Transportation Enforcement, as well as the City of

1 Seattle Consumer Protection Unit that handles for-hire
2 transportation within the city limits.

3 **Q. Okay. I'd like to direct your attention to the**
4 **document that has been marked as Exhibit MT-3 for**
5 **identification.**

6 **Will you please identify this document?**

7 A. Yes. This is an e-mail that originated from
8 Steve Brown, Senior Ground Transportation Enforcement
9 Agent at SeaTac Airport, asking Commission Staff about
10 the certificate authority -- current authority held by
11 SeaTac Airport 24.

12 **Q. And have you reviewed this document as part of**
13 **your investigation?**

14 A. Yes.

15 **Q. Is this copy a true and accurate reproduction of**
16 **the document that you viewed?**

17 A. Yes, it is.

18 **Q. How does this document relate to your**
19 **investigation?**

20 A. Well, this was the first -- the first time Staff
21 had been alerted that the Company actually was operating
22 during its period of suspension.

23 **Q. Okay. What about this e-mail raised a red flag**
24 **to you when you read it?**

25 A. Well, the -- Mr. Brown states that one of his

1 staff members responded to a verbal dispute between a
2 passenger and a driver for SeaTac Airport 24 concerning
3 the fare. And they were not to be operating, and
4 Mr. Brown was inquiring if their authority had been
5 reinstated.

6 And he also indicated that he checked their
7 electronic tracking system they have at the airport. It
8 tracks for-hire vehicles through transponders that come
9 and go, and he indicated that it appeared that they
10 started operating again in April.

11 **Q. Okay. I'd like to come back to that.**

12 MR. O'CONNELL: Your Honor, at this time
13 Staff offers Exhibit MT-3.

14 JUDGE PEARSON: Mr. Maurou, have you had a
15 chance to look that over? I can give you a moment. It
16 will be the third document. I think you're almost
17 there. Is that an e-mail right there?

18 MR. MAUROU: Yes.

19 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. So that's what you'll
20 want to take a look at.

21 MR. MAUROU: So can I ask questions or do I
22 have to wait?

23 JUDGE PEARSON: You can ask a clarifying
24 question if you're not clear about what the document is
25 showing, but you can't ask questions about the content

1 just yet.

2 MR. MAUROU: Okay. Mr. Mark -- so Mark, you
3 said --

4 JUDGE PEARSON: So --

5 MR. O'CONNELL: Your Honor --

6 JUDGE PEARSON: Mr. Maurou, do you have a
7 question about the document? You can't ask him a
8 cross-examination question at this time. His name is
9 Mr. Turcott.

10 MR. MAUROU: Mr. Turcott. Okay.

11 JUDGE PEARSON: So do you have a question
12 about the document?

13 MR. MAUROU: Yes. It came from Michael,
14 UTC. Okay. Okay. So if I understand, Mr. Michael was
15 contacted by Airport SeaTac -- by SeaTac Airport, right?

16 JUDGE PEARSON: A different Mike, Mike
17 Dotson.

18 MR. MAUROU: Mike Dotson?

19 JUDGE PEARSON: Not this Mike. Our former
20 licensing division.

21 MR. MAUROU: Okay. And why I'm asking that
22 question, they've been telling me SeaTac Airport
23 contacted them or they contact SeaTac Airport? I don't
24 really know what's going on.

25 JUDGE PEARSON: So this is showing that

1 SeaTac Airport contacted UTC staff to inquire about the
2 status of your permit.

3 And what I need to know is if you have any
4 objection to admitting this into evidence.

5 MR. MAUROU: For now, no, your Honor.

6 JUDGE PEARSON: You don't have any
7 objection?

8 MR. MAUROU: No. No. For now.

9 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Well, this is your
10 only opportunity to, and you can certainly ask questions
11 about it later, but --

12 MR. MAUROU: My concern here is UTC has
13 called SeaTac Airport to get information, or SeaTac
14 Airport called UTC to get information, and when --

15 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Well, you will have
16 an opportunity to answer that question -- to ask that
17 question later when it's your turn for
18 cross-examination. I just need to know about this
19 document. It sounds like you don't have any objection.

20 MR. MAUROU: No, I don't, your Honor. This
21 e-mail --

22 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay.

23 MR. MAUROU: -- I don't -- I have nothing to
24 say about it.

25 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. So I will admit that

1 and mark it as Exhibit MT-3.

2 (Exhibit No. MT-3 was marked and
3 admitted into evidence.)

4 MR. O'CONNELL: Thank you, your Honor. May
5 I continue with Mr. Turcott?

6 JUDGE PEARSON: Absolutely.

7 BY MR. O'CONNELL:

8 **Q. Mr. Turcott, did SeaTac Airport Ground**
9 **Transportation Enforcement send you any more**
10 **documentation of the Company making trips to the**
11 **airport?**

12 A. Yes, they did.

13 **Q. What documentation did they provide?**

14 A. They provided a four-page printout of dates and
15 times describing the traffic of the Company's vehicles
16 into the airport area.

17 **Q. Okay. To make sure that we're all on the same**
18 **page, I'd like to direct your attention to the document**
19 **that has been marked as Exhibit MT-4 for identification.**

20 MR. O'CONNELL: I believe Mr. Maurou has
21 that in his packet as well so that we can all be looking
22 at it as you explain.

23 BY MR. O'CONNELL:

24 **Q. Mr. Turcott, will you please identify this**
25 **document?**

1 A. This was -- yes, this was an e-mail attachment
2 received from SeaTac. It says Seattle-Tacoma
3 International Airport Transactions by Date, Account
4 SeaTac Airport 24. It lists dates and times and vehicle
5 descriptions, either SeaTac Airport 24 1 or 2, referring
6 to vehicles 1 or 2 on the account, dates and times that
7 they were checked in by transponder on the upper drive,
8 or in one case attempted access to the south gated lot,
9 which we're not able to get into. I believe there are
10 24 trips within this time period.

11 **Q. And have you reviewed this document as part of**
12 **your investigation?**

13 A. Yes.

14 **Q. Is this copy a true and accurate representation**
15 **of the document that you viewed?**

16 A. Yes, it is.

17 **Q. Now, what did you learn from these records that**
18 **SeaTac Airport Ground Transportation Enforcement sent**
19 **you?**

20 A. I learned not only was the Company operating,
21 but it was operating on a consistent basis. The first
22 entry is April 9th all the way through -- well, the date
23 that they e-mailed us, May 24th, 24 trips.

24 **Q. And why are all of these trips concerning to**
25 **Staff?**

1 A. Well, they're concerning because the Company was
2 not to be operating, it did not have operating
3 authority, and that raises all sorts of issues and
4 concerns with the safety to the traveling public. We
5 know that a company that operates within regulation has
6 all sorts of compliance in place with safety
7 regulations, and that everyone benefits from that,
8 especially the traveling public.

9 **Q. After you received these records -- let me pause**
10 **and come back to that.**

11 MR. O'CONNELL: Your Honor, at this time
12 Staff offers Exhibit MT-4.

13 JUDGE PEARSON: And Mr. Maurou?

14 MR. MAUROU: I do not accept this document.
15 This document is garbage. It's garbage. Anybody can --
16 anybody can write this. And I will have to explain, and
17 I don't know how to explain everything because of time
18 and all those thing, you know.

19 JUDGE PEARSON: Mr. Maurou, I just need to
20 know --

21 MR. MAUROU: Yes.

22 JUDGE PEARSON: I hear your objection, so
23 you'll have an opportunity to -- you need to stop
24 talking while I'm talking.

25 MR. MAUROU: Okay.

1 JUDGE PEARSON: You'll have an opportunity
2 to present your testimony and tell your side of the
3 story.

4 MR. MAUROU: Because --

5 JUDGE PEARSON: It's just not now.

6 MR. MAUROU: Okay. Because I just want to
7 make sure I don't miss the opportunity.

8 JUDGE PEARSON: You will not.

9 MR. MAUROU: I object. First, they do not
10 have legal authority to do that. Mr. O'Connell, you
11 know that. You went to law school. You cannot do that.
12 This is serial murder. It's not criminal -- it not
13 criminal. Why you doing this -- all these things? It's
14 illegal. You know that --

15 JUDGE PEARSON: Mr. Maurou --

16 MR. MAUROU: -- more than me. You cannot do
17 this.

18 JUDGE PEARSON: Mr. Maurou, I will note your
19 objection. However, I am going to overrule it --

20 MR. MAUROU: Okay.

21 JUDGE PEARSON: -- and I'm going to admit
22 this and mark it as Exhibit MT-4.

23 (Exhibit No. MT-4 was marked and
24 admitted into evidence.)

25 JUDGE PEARSON: And Mr. O'Connell, you can

1 proceed.

2 MR. O'CONNELL: Thank you.

3 BY MR. O'CONNELL:

4 Q. Mr. Turcott, did you have any more interaction
5 with Ground Transportation Enforcement about this
6 company?

7 A. I received -- yes, I did. I received two more
8 communications from the company.

9 Q. When did they communicate with you and how did
10 they communicate with you?

11 A. It was by e-mail. I received a second e-mail
12 from Mr. Brown on June 20th.

13 Q. Okay. I'd like to direct your attention to the
14 exhibit that's been marked as Exhibit MT-6 for
15 identification. That is MT-6 for identification.

16 Will you please identify that document?

17 A. Yes. This is an e-mail from Steve Brown at
18 SeaTac Ground Transportation to myself, dated June 20th.

19 Q. And were there pictures attached to this e-mail?

20 A. Yes, and two pictures attached.

21 Q. Are the pictures included here with this
22 document those same pictures that were attached to the
23 e-mail?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. And have you reviewed this e-mail and pictures

1 **as part of your investigation?**

2 A. Yes.

3 **Q. Is this a true and accurate copy of the e-mail**
4 **and the pictures that you viewed?**

5 A. Yes, it is.

6 **Q. What, if anything, in this e-mail raised a red**
7 **flag to Staff?**

8 A. Well, in addition to the trips documented by the
9 transponder, this is another report -- the e-mail reads,
10 referring to SeaTac Airport 24, "Dropped off one woman
11 passenger at door 12. I did see her thank and tip
12 Sani." And then there's a photo, virtually the same
13 photo, and they're not very clear on the black and white
14 copy that I have, but there's two people behind the van,
15 one person walking away with a suitcase headed to a
16 light, and just, again, it appears that the Company's
17 transporting passengers.

18 MR. O'CONNELL: Your Honor, Staff offers
19 Exhibit MT-6.

20 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Mr. Maurou, do you
21 have any objection to this exhibit?

22 MR. MAUROU: What about the MT-5?

23 JUDGE PEARSON: We'll come back to that. I
24 think that Mr. O'Connell's not at that point yet.

25 MR. MAUROU: MT-6. You see all the

1 pictures? I don't know what to see. I don't think how
2 this will be acceptable. I don't accept those pictures.

3 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. So I'm going to
4 overrule your objection and admit MT-6 into evidence.

5 (Exhibit No. MT-6 was marked and
6 admitted into evidence.)

7 JUDGE PEARSON: And Mr. Maurou, you will
8 again have an opportunity to address those photos and
9 say anything that you want to about them when it's your
10 turn. Okay?

11 MR. MAUROU: Okay.

12 JUDGE PEARSON: Go ahead, Mr. O'Connell.

13 MR. O'CONNELL: Thank you, your Honor.

14 BY MR. O'CONNELL:

15 Q. I'd like to direct your attention, Mr. Turcott,
16 to the document that's been marked as Exhibit MT-8 for
17 identification. And I apologize for jumping around on
18 the exhibit list. The exhibit list is arranged
19 chronologically, and I believe it's more effective to
20 deal with them on the topics.

21 So if I could direct your attention to the
22 exhibit that's been marked as Exhibit MT-8. Will you
23 please identify this document?

24 A. Yes. This is the third e-mail to me from Steve
25 Brown at SeaTac Ground Transportation Enforcement.

1 Q. And were there pictures attached to this e-mail?

2 A. Yes, two pictures attached.

3 Q. And are the pictures included here with this
4 document those same pictures that were attached to the
5 e-mail?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Have you reviewed these e-mail pictures as part
8 of your investigation?

9 A. Yes, I have.

10 Q. Are these true and accurate copies of the e-mail
11 and pictures that you viewed?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. So looking at the pictures contained in Exhibit
14 MT-8, were you able to make out the license plate
15 numbers of the vans?

16 A. Yes, I was.

17 Q. And what is the license plate number?

18 A. They're a little blurry, B24445Y and B, I
19 believe it's 56765Y [sic].

20 Q. Did you look up these license plate numbers?

21 A. Yes, I did.

22 Q. How did you look them up?

23 A. Through the Department of Licensing records.

24 Q. And who are these vans registered to?

25 A. B66765Y and B24445Y are both registered to Sani

1 Maurou.

2 **Q. Can you see any markings on the vans in these**
3 **pictures?**

4 A. Yes.

5 **Q. And what do they say?**

6 A. SeaTac Airport 24 on the hood and on the sides
7 and company phone numbers and web addresses.

8 **Q. So does the e-mail and attached pictures cause**
9 **concern to Staff?**

10 A. Yes.

11 **Q. Why?**

12 A. Well, again, here's, on the same day, two
13 additional trips, two vans operating. In addition, the
14 SeaTac Ground Transportation staff visited with the
15 drivers and learned their names, and provided the names
16 in the e-mail, Ahmed Adam and Hafton Tafere, and these
17 are not drivers we're familiar with.

18 And of concern to Staff is the previous
19 compliance review and penalty assessment with the
20 Company that documented drivers operating without
21 medical certificates, without driver qualification
22 files, et cetera. All of these violations put the
23 traveling public at risk, and now here's the Company
24 operating during a period of suspension with drivers
25 about whom we know nothing.

1 **Q. During the compliance review that Staff**
2 **conducted, did Mr. Maurou or the Company -- did the**
3 **Company produce a driver file for either of these**
4 **drivers?**

5 A. Going from memory, I don't believe they did.

6 **Q. Would Staff have expected the Company to have a**
7 **driver file for each driver that it employs?**

8 A. Yes, it's a requirement.

9 **Q. And is that required by Commission rule?**

10 A. Yes, it is.

11 **Q. Do you recall whether the Commission's final**
12 **order, that's Order 02 in Docket TC-152296, required the**
13 **Company to have no more safety violations as a condition**
14 **for the suspension of the \$20,000 penalty?**

15 A. That's correct, it did.

16 MR. O'CONNELL: Your Honor, at this time
17 Staff offers Exhibit MT-8.

18 JUDGE PEARSON: Mr. Maurou, have you had an
19 opportunity to look at that second e-mail and set of
20 photos? I don't know if that's -- it doesn't look
21 like -- it might be one past that. I assume you have
22 the same objection as you did to the others?

23 MR. MAUROU: Honestly, frankly, your Honor,
24 I don't know what to say about these pictures and all
25 the -- what -- or what they're giving me here. And I

1 give them all my paperwork. I am -- I have all the
2 paperwork you requested, your Honor, to give them. I
3 give them. Mr. David is here. He has all my paperwork.
4 I have everything. So why -- why he's -- I want to
5 know.

6 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Mr. Maurou, you'll
7 have an opportunity to ask that. I just need to rule on
8 this particular exhibit, and I assume that you object to
9 it --

10 MR. MAUROU: Okay.

11 JUDGE PEARSON: -- just like you --

12 MR. MAUROU: I accept nothing here. Once
13 again, this is kind of garbage.

14 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay.

15 MR. MAUROU: I'm sorry. I'm sorry.

16 JUDGE PEARSON: Mr. Maurou, I'm going to
17 overrule your objection, and I will admit that into
18 evidence and mark it as Exhibit MT-8.

19 (Exhibit No. MT-8 was marked and
20 admitted into evidence.)

21 JUDGE PEARSON: And you can go ahead,
22 Mr. O'Connell.

23 BY MR. O'CONNELL:

24 Q. Mr. Turcott, besides SeaTac Ground
25 Transportation Enforcement, did any other entity contact

1 **Staff with information about the operations of this**
2 **company?**

3 A. Yes.

4 **Q. Who?**

5 A. The City of Seattle Regulatory Compliance and
6 Consumer Protection Unit, Street Enforcement Team, they
7 handle for-hire vehicles within the City of Seattle.

8 **Q. And what information did the Seattle Regulatory**
9 **Compliance and Consumer Protection Department share with**
10 **Staff?**

11 A. Well, initially it was an inquiry about SeaTac
12 Airport's auto transportation authority. The vehicle
13 had been seen on Alaskan Way in front of the Victorian
14 Clipper soliciting transportation. And the question
15 posed to Staff was, is this within their certificate of
16 authority? Because the assumption was that there were
17 three distinct routes that the Company was allowed to
18 run, the Westin Hotel and a couple other hotels or
19 casinos in the Puget Sound area, directly to SeaTac, and
20 this would have been outside of their certificate.

21 **Q. Okay. So that we're all talking about the same**
22 **thing, I'd like to direct your attention to the exhibit**
23 **that's been marked for identification as Exhibit MT-7.**

24 **MT-7.**

25 **Will you please identify this document?**

1 A. Yes. This is the e-mail from Tolley Sualoa with
2 the City of Seattle to me, dated June 25th.

3 **Q. Is this the communication that you were just**
4 **referencing?**

5 A. Yes.

6 **Q. And have you reviewed these e-mails as part of**
7 **your investigation?**

8 A. Yes.

9 **Q. Is this a true and accurate copy of the e-mail**
10 **that you received?**

11 A. Yes, it is.

12 **Q. What did Mr. Sualoa convey to Staff?**

13 A. That the Company had a van in the area of the
14 Victoria Clipper on the waterfront soliciting passengers
15 for the airport. The Company was able to round up ten
16 passengers, including two of the City's undercover
17 inspectors. It made a number of stops at various
18 airports [sic], eventually going to -- a number of stops
19 at hotels on the way to the airport, eventually
20 delivering the group to the airport.

21 **Q. Okay. So what, if anything, in the e-mail**
22 **raises a red flag to Staff?**

23 A. Well, a number of things. Not only was the
24 Company operating during a period of cancellation, it
25 was -- if the certificate had been in effect, the

1 Company was operating outside of its auto transportation
2 authority.

3 Q. Okay. I want to ask particularly about these
4 trips from the waterfront.

5 What was the scope of the Company's authority to
6 operate prior to the Company's cancellation of its
7 authority?

8 A. Under its auto transportation certificate, the
9 Company was allowed to provide non-stop scheduled
10 passenger service between the Westin Hotel and SeaTac
11 Airport; also allowed to provide the same transportation
12 between the Snoqualmie Casino and SeaTac Airport; and
13 finally, the same transportation between the Best
14 Western Sky Valley Inn in Monroe and SeaTac Airport --

15 Q. So --

16 A. -- not to park on the waterfront and solicit
17 transportation.

18 Q. So even if the Company had had its certificate
19 when it was conducting these trips from the waterfront,
20 what are Staff's thoughts on these trips?

21 A. Well, simply, they're illegal.

22 MR. O'CONNELL: Your Honor, at this time
23 Staff offers Exhibit MT-7.

24 JUDGE PEARSON: Thank you.

25 And Mr. Maurou, do you have the same

1 objection to this exhibit?

2 MR. MAUROU: Yes. Yeah, I have an
3 objection. First, I want to explain that --

4 JUDGE PEARSON: So you will have an
5 opportunity to explain when it's your turn.

6 MR. MAUROU: Okay. Okay. Okay. Okay.

7 JUDGE PEARSON: I just am verifying with you
8 that you continue to object to these exhibits; is that
9 correct?

10 MR. MAUROU: Yes. I -- no, I continue to
11 object all those things. Why? I will have to explain
12 later.

13 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Well, I'm, going to
14 overrule your objection, and I will admit that exhibit
15 and mark it as -- that was MT-7; is that correct?

16 MR. O'CONNELL: Yes, your Honor. Thank you.

17 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay.

18 (Exhibit No. MT-7 was marked and
19 admitted into evidence.)

20 JUDGE PEARSON: And you can proceed,
21 Mr. O'Connell.

22 BY MR. O'CONNELL:

23 Q. Mr. Turcott, I'd like to direct your attention
24 to the document that has been marked for identification
25 as MT-9.

1 **Will you please identify this document?**

2 A. Yes. This is a continuation of the e-mail chain
3 from Mr. Sualoa to myself regarding SeaTac Airport 24.

4 **Q. Were there pictures attached to this e-mail?**

5 A. Yes.

6 **Q. Are the pictures included here with this**
7 **document those same pictures that were attached to the**
8 **e-mail?**

9 A. Yes.

10 **Q. And have you reviewed these pictures and the**
11 **e-mail as part of your investigation?**

12 A. Yes, I have.

13 **Q. Is this a true and accurate copy of the e-mail**
14 **and the pictures that you received?**

15 A. Yes, it is.

16 **Q. Okay. I'd like to direct your attention to the**
17 **pictures contained in Exhibit MT-9.**

18 **Were you able to make out the license plate**
19 **numbers of the vans in these pictures?**

20 A. Yes.

21 **Q. And what are the license plate numbers?**

22 A. Well, it's the same van, it appears, in both
23 photos. The license is B66765Y, and that's one of the
24 vans that we know is owned by Mr. Maurou.

25 **Q. And is that because it's the same number that**

1 **you previously checked with Department of Licensing?**

2 A. Yes, it is.

3 **Q. Can you see any markings on the vans in these**
4 **pictures?**

5 A. Yes.

6 **Q. What do they say?**

7 A. SeaTac Airport 24 with a phone number and a
8 website address.

9 **Q. What did Mr. Sualoa convey to Staff in this**
10 **e-mail?**

11 A. That the vehicle was parked in the area of the
12 Victoria Clipper, and when the driver was able to get a
13 full load of passengers, it departed for the airport.
14 Two of the passengers were City of Seattle employees,
15 undercover investigators who were charged \$18 for the
16 transportation from the Victoria Clipper to SeaTac
17 Airport.

18 **Q. And what is concerning to Staff about this**
19 **e-mail and the pictures attached to it?**

20 A. Well, once again, it shows that the Company is
21 providing transportation for hire while its certificate
22 is cancelled.

23 MR. O'CONNELL: Your Honor, Staff offers
24 Exhibit MT-9.

25 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay.

1 And Mr. Maurou, I assume that you object to
2 this as well?

3 MR. MAUROU: Yes, your Honor. I do object
4 to this also.

5 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. I will --

6 MR. MAUROU: I do object all the package --
7 to be straight and simple, I do object all these papers.

8 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay.

9 MR. MAUROU: Why, I will have to explain.

10 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. I will note your
11 objection. I'm going to overrule it, and I will admit
12 that exhibit and mark it as Exhibit MT-9.

13 (Exhibit No. MT-9 was marked and
14 admitted into evidence.)

15 BY MR. O'CONNELL:

16 **Q. Mr. Turcott, as part of your investigation, did**
17 **you research whether the Company has a website?**

18 A. Yes, I did.

19 **Q. Did you visit that website?**

20 A. Yes, I did.

21 **Q. Okay. I'd like to direct your attention to the**
22 **document that has been marked as Exhibit MT-5 for**
23 **identification.**

24 **Will you please identify this document?**

25 A. This is a screen image of seatacairport24.com

1 captured May 26th, 2016, 9:24 a.m.

2 **Q. Now, as part of your investigation, did you view**
3 **this website?**

4 A. Yes, I did.

5 **Q. Did it look like this when you viewed it?**

6 A. Yes, it did.

7 **Q. So is this a true and accurate reproduction of**
8 **the website that you viewed?**

9 A. Yes, it is.

10 **Q. What did you notice on the Company's website**
11 **that drew your attention?**

12 A. Well, I noticed the Company is advertising
13 charter and excursion service as well as auto
14 transportation service.

15 **Q. Can you turn to the last page, page 6 of that**
16 **document? Does it indicate what service the Company**
17 **offers?**

18 A. Yes. It offers SeaTac Airport service and it
19 offers charter service.

20 **Q. Does this raise a red flag to Staff?**

21 A. Yes, it does.

22 **Q. Why?**

23 A. Well, for two reasons. The Company -- this was
24 captured from the internet during a period that the
25 certificate had been cancelled, so the Company had no

1 authority to operate.

2 And advertising is considering operations of
3 charter service, so the website should not have had this
4 information up and available to the public. The public
5 sees the website, or it sees the phone number on the van
6 and assumes that it's a legitimate transportation
7 company and calls and books trips. And as we know,
8 there were many trips made.

9 So by itself, the advertisement is a concern.
10 And simply the fact that the charter service by itself
11 is -- stands alone as a violation.

12 **Q. If I can have you look at the front page of that**
13 **document, does the website show a contact telephone**
14 **number for the Company?**

15 A. Yes, it does.

16 **Q. What is that telephone number?**

17 A. (206) 356-7664.

18 MR. O'CONNELL: Your Honor, Staff offers
19 Exhibit MT-5 at this time.

20 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. And I will note
21 Mr. Maurou's ongoing objection to each of Staff's
22 exhibits, and I will overrule it and admit this exhibit
23 and mark it as MT-5.

24 (Exhibit No. MT-5 was marked and
25 admitted into evidence.)

1 BY MR. O'CONNELL:

2 Q. And Mr. Turcott, this telephone number that's on
3 the website, did you -- as part of your investigation,
4 did you call this phone number?

5 A. Yes, I did.

6 Q. Tell us about that.

7 A. On June 8th, 2016, at approximately 1:00 p.m., I
8 called that number to arrange to book transportation
9 from the Westin Hotel to SeaTac Airport for four people
10 for the following Sunday afternoon -- or I'm sorry --
11 Sunday morning.

12 Q. And what response did you get?

13 A. I got a confirmation number, I was quoted \$60
14 for the trip for all four of us, and we terminated the
15 call. And about five minutes later, I received a call
16 back from the same number, again confirming the
17 transportation arrangements and my room number at the
18 Westin.

19 Q. And when did you make this telephone call?

20 A. June 8th, 2016.

21 Q. And that's also the same date you received the
22 call back, correct?

23 A. Yes, it is.

24 Q. As a result of your investigation, what
25 conclusions did you make?

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1 A. Well, I concluded that the Company was operating
2 during its period of cancellation. The advertisements
3 were still up, I was able to call and book a trip, and
4 we had numerous, numerous sightings of the vehicles in
5 various transportation hubs with passengers on board or
6 disembarking, et cetera, so it was fairly conclusive
7 that the Company was operating while its certificate was
8 cancelled.

9 MR. O'CONNELL: Your Honor, I have no more
10 questions for Mr. Turcott, and I guess that means that
11 he's available for questions from your Honor and from
12 Mr. Maurou.

13 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. I don't have any
14 questions.

15 Mr. Maurou, do you have any questions for
16 Mr. Turcott?

17 MR. MAUROU: Yes.

18 *** CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. MAUROU ***

19 BY MR. MAUROU:

20 **Q. Mr. Turcott, thanks for coming here. I have --**
21 **this is the first time I meet you, and thanks for your**
22 **service.**

23 I appreciate what you did, but can you tell me
24 how long it took you -- the amount of time it took you
25 to do all this? Can you tell me?

CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. MAUROU / TURCOTT 156

1 JUDGE PEARSON: Mr. Maurou, can you speak
2 closer to the microphone?

3 BY MR. MAUROU:

4 Q. Yes. Mr. Turcott, this is the first time I'm
5 meeting you, and I am very impressed about your
6 background, and thanks for your service.

7 I just want to know, can you tell me what amount
8 of time it took you to do all this job? Just -- I'm not
9 asking you to give me an exact amount, just --

10 A. The Commission employees have a time tracking
11 system where we record investigative time to a docket
12 number, so yes, we could tell you that.

13 MR. O'CONNELL: And Your Honor, if I can, I
14 object. I don't see the relevance of asking Mr. Turcott
15 how long his investigation took.

16 JUDGE PEARSON: Yeah. I'm going to sustain
17 that objection, so you need to move on to your next
18 question.

19 BY MR. MAUROU:

20 Q. Okay. You say you called June 1st. I don't
21 even recall the time, but when you called, you talked to
22 me personally, because I am the one doing all the
23 things, I'm taking my calls, and I do almost everything.

24 When you called, I knew what you were doing. I
25 knew. I will tell you right now. Why? I have been

CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. MAUROU / TURCOTT 157

1 doing that for many years. I have a lot of
2 experience --

3 MR. O'CONNELL: Your Honor --

4 JUDGE PEARSON: Mr. Maurou --

5 MR. O'CONNELL: -- objection.

6 MR. MAUROU: So --

7 JUDGE PEARSON: Mr. Maurou, hold on a
8 second. This is not the time for you to be providing
9 testimony. If you have a question, you need to ask a
10 question.

11 BY MR. MAUROU:

12 Q. Okay. You called -- you called me. This
13 service -- this business, you call me and you
14 misrepresent yourself. And do you know you can go to
15 jail for that, for doing that? Are you aware of it?
16 You calling a Company, you misrepresent yourself?

17 MR. O'CONNELL: Objection.

18 JUDGE PEARSON: And I'll sustain your
19 objection.

20 Move on to your next question, Mr. Maurou.

21 BY MR. MAUROU:

22 Q. So I'm going to go back to their -- what's
23 called -- the package. I will do my best -- I will do
24 my best to be short. Okay. I don't know who I have to
25 answer [sic] the question to, general attorney or

CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. MAUROU / TURCOTT**158**

1 Mr. Pratt or Mr. -- Mr. --

2 JUDGE PEARSON: Turcott.

3 MR. MAUROU: Yeah, Turcott.

4 BY MR. MAUROU:

5 Q. All these communications, phone, electronics,
6 with Port of Seattle, with the City of Seattle that I
7 have seen here, and the pictures that you are not even
8 allowed to take, somebody very busy. So you're the one
9 who asked the City to send you all these electronics, or
10 how did you get all those things?

11 A. No. We didn't ask them. They voluntarily
12 contacted us when they saw your vehicles operating.
13 They had concerns and they thought that we might have
14 concerns as well, so they -- they reached out to us.

15 Q. So when was that, the first time they reach you?

16 A. Well, it's on the e-mail, what I testified to,
17 the e-mail here that we're talking about, May 24th.

18 Q. Okay. So you're telling me they reach you May
19 24th, that day they are concerned. How -- how come they
20 are concerned? Everybody is doing his business there.
21 Everybody is going and work hard. So how they are
22 concerned about singling me out, my vehicle, can you
23 tell me?

24 MR. O'CONNELL: Objection.

25 BY MR. MAUROU:

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1 **Q. Do you have any idea?**

2 MR. O'CONNELL: I think it calls for
3 speculative interpretation by Mr. Turcott.

4 JUDGE PEARSON: I agree. I'm going to
5 sustain the objection.

6 Move on to your next question, please.

7 MR. MAUROU: Okay. That's fine.

8 BY MR. MAUROU:

9 **Q. So at this point, I am seeing things which**
10 **are -- which are (speaking French) -- I mean, which are**
11 **not clear. Sometimes they are the one contacting City**
12 **of Seattle, SeaTac Airport, and then they say they are**
13 **SeaTac, you contacted them, so I don't see honest**
14 **dialogue here.**

15 MR. O'CONNELL: Objection.

16 JUDGE PEARSON: Yeah, I don't hear a
17 question. Do you have a question?

18 MR. MAUROU: Yes, your Honor.

19 BY MR. MAUROU:

20 **Q. Sometimes they say City of Seattle is contacting**
21 **them, and sometimes they say they are contacting the**
22 **City of Seattle --**

23 MR. O'CONNELL: Objection.

24 BY MR. MAUROU:

25 **Q. -- or same thing with SeaTac Airport. I**

CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. MAUROU / TURCOTT 160

1 don't -- I don't know -- I don't understand -- I don't
2 see honest dialogue.

3 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Listen, Mr. Maurou.
4 Mr. Turcott addressed in his testimony who contacted who
5 and how the back and forth of the communication went,
6 and he already answered your question.

7 So if you have another question on another
8 topic, you're welcome to ask it, but we're going to move
9 on from that.

10 MR. MAUROU: Okay.

11 BY MR. MAUROU:

12 Q. And for -- for those are -- for -- you're saying
13 24 trips.

14 So can you tell me when was the first trip,
15 Mr. Turcott?

16 A. Just so I'm clear, the first trip listed here?

17 Q. Yes, sir.

18 A. It's up in the upper left. It's April 9th --

19 Q. April 9th?

20 A. -- at 3:30 -- just let me finish.

21 Q. Okay.

22 A. April 9th at 3:33 p.m.

23 Q. April 9th. And when was the last one?

24 A. And just to be clear, that was the first trip
25 listed within the date parameters reported. There may

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1 have been other trips that weren't reported, but
2 simply -- and the last trip within this spreadsheet is
3 May 24th at 9:53 a.m.

4 **Q. Okay. And when was my license or my permit**
5 **revoked?**

6 A. Your certificate was cancelled on March 8th,
7 2016.

8 **Q. March -- March -- did you say March 8th?**

9 A. March 8th.

10 **Q. Eighth. Okay.**

11 **So what is between -- from March 8th and**
12 **April 9th, how many days have passed?**

13 A. About 31 days.

14 **Q. And how many trips have been made?**

15 A. I don't understand.

16 **Q. And how many -- how many trips have been made**
17 **from March 8th and April 9th?**

18 A. We don't know.

19 **Q. There you go.**

20 MR. MAUROU: So from that point, your Honor,
21 those trips will not be considered.

22 MR. O'CONNELL: Objection.

23 JUDGE PEARSON: Yeah.

24 MR. MAUROU: Why --

25 JUDGE PEARSON: Mr. Maurou --

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1 MR. MAUROU: Why -- I will keep explaining.

2 JUDGE PEARSON: When you have an
3 opportunity, you can explain that part. Right now, it's
4 your opportunity to ask Mr. Turcott questions. If you
5 don't have any questions, then Staff will move on with
6 its presentation and then you'll have a turn.

7 MR. MAUROU: Okay.

8 JUDGE PEARSON: So you need to reserve that
9 for your turn.

10 MR. MAUROU: Okay. Thank you, your Honor.
11 Thank you.

12 JUDGE PEARSON: No more questions?

13 MR. MAUROU: I have a lot of questions for
14 Mr. David.

15 JUDGE PEARSON: Well -- well, it will be his
16 turn in a moment.

17 So go ahead, Mr. O'Connell.

18 MR. O'CONNELL: Staff would call Mr. David
19 Pratt to testify.

20 JUDGE PEARSON: Mr. Pratt, if you could
21 please stand and raise your right hand?

22 / / /

23 / / /

24 / / /

25 DAVID PRATT, witness herein, having been

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1 first duly sworn on oath,
2 was examined and testified
3 as follows:
4

5 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. You may be seated.
6 And Mr. O'Connell, you can proceed when
7 you're ready.

8 MR. O'CONNELL: Thank you, your Honor.

9 *** DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. O'CONNELL ***

10 BY MR. O'CONNELL:

11 **Q. Mr. Pratt, would you please state your name and**
12 **spell it for the record?**

13 A. Yes. My name is David Pratt, P-R-A-T-T.

14 **Q. And what is your occupation?**

15 A. I'm the Assistant Director for Transportation
16 Safety here at the UTC.

17 **Q. How long have you been employed by the UTC?**

18 A. Eleven years.

19 **Q. What are your responsibilities with the UTC?**

20 A. I oversee the transportation safety program.
21 That includes motor carrier safety and rail safety. I
22 also oversee the licensing services program.

23 **Q. What is your education and background as it**
24 **relates to your position?**

25 A. I have a bachelor's degree from the Evergreen

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1 State College in public administration.

2 Q. Are you familiar with the Company SeaTac Airport
3 24 and its owner, Mr. Sani Maurou?

4 A. Yes, I am.

5 Q. How were you involved in the matters concerning
6 this Company's application for reinstatement and its
7 safety compliance review?

8 A. Well, as part of my overall duties, I oversee
9 the safety staff, where this case started, when the
10 safety investigation was conducted and Mr. Maurou
11 received an unsatisfactory safety rating. So I've been
12 observing this case ever since as it evolved through
13 that to cancellation, penalty, and then during the
14 suspension or the cancellation period, as Mr. Maurou has
15 applied for reinstatement, and then Mr. Turcott's
16 investigation.

17 Q. Are you familiar with Order 01 and Order 02 from
18 Docket TC-152296?

19 A. Yes, I am.

20 Q. Are you familiar with the cancellation of this
21 Company's authority to operate on March 8, 2016?

22 A. Yes, I am.

23 Q. Are you also familiar with Staff's investigation
24 into whether the Company had violated the conditions of
25 the Commission's cease and desist order?

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1 A. Yes, I'm very familiar.

2 Q. What is Staff's recommendation regarding the
3 suspended penalty amount of \$20,000 that was included in
4 Order 02 from Docket TC-152296?

5 A. My recommendation today, as part of this case,
6 would be that that -- conditions of that order were
7 violated, and that, therefore, the \$20,000 suspended
8 penalty should be assessed against the Company.

9 Q. And is that based upon the investigation that
10 Mr. Turcott has testified to?

11 A. Yes. It's based on the fact that we discovered
12 evidence that the Company was operating during the
13 period of time that their permit was cancelled.

14 Q. Now, are you familiar with the Company's
15 application for reinstatement?

16 A. Yes, I am.

17 Q. Okay. I'd like to direct your attention to the
18 document that's been marked as Exhibit DP-10 for
19 identification. DP-10 is the last document in the
20 packet that was handed out.

21 Will you please identify this document?

22 A. It's actually marked MT-10. I changed it.

23 Q. I apologize. The document has inadvertently
24 been marked as MT-10. It remains the tenth exhibit, but
25 the initials in front should be DP for Mr. Pratt.

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1 Can you please identify this document?

2 A. Yes. This is the application Mr. Maurou
3 submitted for reinstatement of his permit.

4 **Q. And have you reviewed this document?**

5 A. Yes, I have.

6 **Q. Is this a true and accurate reproduction of the**
7 **document that you viewed?**

8 A. Yes, it is.

9 **Q. When did the Company -- or when did the Company**
10 **submit this application for reinstatement?**

11 A. It's dated March 20, 2016.

12 **Q. And are you familiar with all the conditions for**
13 **reinstatement that the Commission imposed upon the**
14 **Company?**

15 A. Yes, I am.

16 **Q. When did the Company meet all of those**
17 **conditions for its reinstatement?**

18 A. There was a number of conditions that the
19 Company needed to meet that they started making some
20 progress on. The final condition was that Mr. Maurou
21 had to provide us documentation that he had made
22 arrangements with AllianceOne, the credit collections
23 company that had an overdue penalty from the Commission,
24 and he had to provide evidence that he had made
25 arrangements to pay that penalty off. I received

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1 documentation from AllianceOne on June 2nd.

2 Q. So would that be the date when Staff would
3 consider all of the conditions having been met?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Okay. I want to ask you a little bit more about
6 the timeline of the Company's cancellation and
7 application for reinstatement.

8 Can you please explain the timeline and how
9 Staff went about evaluating the Company's application?

10 A. Sure. Just to summarize, I guess we'll begin
11 on -- March 8th was the date of the hearing when the
12 Company's certificate was cancelled verbally by the
13 judge.

14 On March 15th, the Company -- or the Commission
15 issued Order 01, which reaffirmed that verbal
16 cancellation of the certificate. They also issued a
17 cease and desist order with that.

18 There was a \$25,000 -- \$25,200 penalty. The
19 Commission suspended 20,000 of that for two years, based
20 on conditions. The conditions were that he had to
21 maintain a satisfactory safety rating, there were no
22 repeat violations, and that the penalty was either paid
23 or had a payment plan established by March 25th of 2016,
24 and then finally, that the Company had established a
25 payment plan with AllianceOne credit collections

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1 company.

2 After that, Mr. Maurou did get in touch with us
3 on April 25th. We agreed with him on a payment plan of
4 \$200 per month for 24 months to pay this off.

5 Shortly after that, in March [sic], he submitted
6 his reinstatement application which came into the
7 Commission.

8 On May 12th is when the Commission issued Order
9 No. 02, which was the final order upholding the penalty,
10 also reaffirming that the Company needed to file its
11 2015 annual report and pay the fees, that it must pay
12 the -- either make the payments and also make
13 arrangements with AllianceOne credit card company. Also
14 instructed Staff to do a follow-up investigation before
15 June 2018 to check the status of his safety program.

16 Shortly after that, May 24th is when Mr. Turcott
17 received the first e-mail from SeaTac Airport sharing
18 some information with us that was concerning, so we
19 started looking at that information.

20 I will say, on May 28th, Mr. Maurou did make a
21 payment of \$200. Shortly after that, on June 2nd is
22 when I received confirmation from AllianceOne that he
23 had made arrangements with the collections company,
24 which would be the date I believe he was compliant with
25 the order, and had met the conditions.

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1 At that point, I was faced with making a
2 decision about reinstating the application. And based
3 on the fact that we had received evidence of numerous
4 trips, the 24 trips into SeaTac Airport, the offers that
5 he had made to Mr. Turcott to provide service, I felt I
6 had no choice at that point but to recommend denying the
7 reinstatement application because he violated the order
8 and continued to operate.

9 Which brings us to me filing the notice of
10 intent to deny, which was June 20th, and then the
11 Commission scheduling this hearing here today.

12 **Q. Had Staff discovered any evidence that the**
13 **Company had been operating before the conditions for**
14 **being reinstated were met?**

15 A. Yes. Again, as I mentioned, June 2nd, 2016, was
16 the date that the -- all the conditions were met. We
17 had evidence back as far as May 24th that the Company
18 was operating.

19 **Q. Now, you talked about Order 02 and the**
20 **conditions that it presented, and one of those**
21 **conditions I think you mentioned was the Company was not**
22 **to violate the Commission's safety regulations. I have**
23 **a question about that.**

24 **Is keeping driver files on all drivers required**
25 **by the safety regulations?**

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1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Okay. What is Staff's recommendation regarding
3 the Company's application for reinstatement of its
4 authority to operate?

5 A. Staff recommends that the application for
6 reinstatement be denied based on the fact that the
7 Company operated during the cancellation period and
8 violated Commission Order 02 in this docket.

9 MR. O'CONNELL: I have no more questions for
10 Mr. Pratt. Thank you, your Honor.

11 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Mr. Maurou?

12 MR. MAUROU: Yes, your Honor.

13 JUDGE PEARSON: Just to remind you of the
14 discussion that we had earlier about the scope of
15 questions that you are allowed to ask, they should not
16 be the questions on that list that you submitted on
17 Friday. They should just be relevant to this
18 proceeding.

19 MR. MAUROU: Um, frankly I don't know what
20 to say, but I will do my best, as any question, as I
21 said at the beginning, I will be asking, I'm not asking
22 for fun. I am asking to get more info and then make my
23 case. If that opportunity is not given to me, I may
24 accept it. If -- with your permission your Honor, if I
25 can start asking questioning Mr. David, because I have a

CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. MAUROU / PRATT

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1 lot of questions.

2 JUDGE PEARSON: You can start.

3 MR. MAUROU: Okay.

4 *** CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. MAUROU ***

5 BY MR. MAUROU:

6 Q. Mr. David, as I said at the beginning, this
7 company has been created in 1999 by me after college, so
8 I have been in business with this company for 17 years.
9 No accidents in the file. Zero accident, once again, in
10 17 years. Zero breakdown on freeway or city streets.
11 Zero -- no major complaints. Zero. So safety is not
12 just about me, it's not just about my driver, it's not
13 just about my vehicle, it's not about just the customer,
14 it is for the public. We know that. And we don't need
15 UTC --

16 MR. O'CONNELL: Objection.

17 BY MR. MAUROU:

18 Q. -- coming behind --

19 JUDGE PEARSON: Mr. Maurou, if you're going
20 to ask a question, you need to ask a question, not give
21 testimony. You're not sworn in --

22 MR. MAUROU: Okay.

23 JUDGE PEARSON: -- and it's not time for
24 that.

25 MR. MAUROU: Okay.

CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. MAUROU / PRATT

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1 BY MR. MAUROU:

2 Q. So that was a break of SeaTac Airport, for those
3 who don't know about SeaTac Airport.

4 Mr. David Pratt, can you recall -- do you recall
5 when was the first time you talked to me on the phone?

6 MR. O'CONNELL: Objection. Relevance.

7 But --

8 MR. MAUROU: No, I want to know. I want to
9 know. He need to talk. I want to know, and I want
10 everybody -- the judge is here, your Honor, you're the
11 one -- I will say that you're the one that give me these
12 payments after hard decision, and I will never, never,
13 never forget it.

14 Plus attorney general, I have his name
15 somewhere, it was a hard decision. But they allow me,
16 and after checking my record, so honestly, I'm proud of
17 my own record, and I'm not interesting -- I don't have
18 time to fight. My problem is to solve problems.

19 JUDGE PEARSON: I'm sorry. What was the
20 last thing you said?

21 MR. MAUROU: I said, I don't have time to
22 fight. My problem is to solve problems.

23 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. If you --

24 / / /

25 BY MR. MAUROU:

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1 Q. So Mr. David, you need to tell me, I want you to
2 tell me and everybody, when was the last time or the
3 first time you talked to me on the phone? If you don't
4 recall, don't worry, I will remind you and remind
5 everybody. Just say no or give approximately dates.

6 MR. O'CONNELL: I repeat my objection,
7 your Honor.

8 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. And Mr. O'Connell has
9 objected to the relevance of the question, and I'm not
10 sure where you're going with this.

11 MR. MAUROU: Yeah, you're not sure. That's
12 why I need to go there. Yeah, everybody will -- we are
13 here for a hearing. Why I go from -- I will stay at
14 home. I will stay at home. I need to -- I need
15 everybody to hear and see, and thank you for coming.
16 You came to the hearing, and honestly, I have to thank
17 you for that.

18 But I didn't want to do that, but you have
19 to be here because I have a lot of questions. He cannot
20 answer my questions. He doesn't know nothing. Even the
21 judge, the honorable judge, Rayne Pearson, doesn't know
22 nothing. But you know, I know you're not a kid, you are
23 a grown man. I am a grown man, too.

24 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Mr. Maurou --

25 BY MR. MAUROU:

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1 Q. When was the first time we talk on the phone?

2 JUDGE PEARSON: Mr. Maurou, Mr. O'Connell
3 has objected to the question. I'm going to sustain the
4 objection because I don't understand the relevance.

5 MR. MAUROU: That's why -- once again,
6 your Honor, that's why I am asking.

7 JUDGE PEARSON: I'll remind you, though,
8 Mr. Maurou -- okay. Stop speaking. I'll remind you
9 that I am very familiar with this case, and I have heard
10 testimony from Mr. Pratt before about the nature of your
11 interactions with him and the phone conversations that
12 you've had and the technical assistance that you've been
13 given. So I've been the judge on this case from the
14 very beginning. I'm familiar with the story.

15 I agree with Mr. O'Connell that it's not
16 relevant when the first time that you and Mr. Pratt
17 spoke. So if you have another question, let's move on
18 to your next question.

19 MR. MAUROU: Okay. I take it back. I don't
20 feel good, to be honest, and I cannot ask the first
21 time -- I'm going to go straight in that case, because I
22 talked to Mr. David --

23 BY MR. MAUROU:

24 Q. I talked to you -- the first time I talked to
25 you was regarding -- you called me, and under the fraud,

CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. MAUROU / PRATT**175**

1 you said, he's willing to talk to Sani Maurou. I say, I
2 am Sani Maurou.

3 MR. O'CONNELL: Your Honor, I have to
4 object. It sounds a lot like testimony that
5 Mr. Maurou --

6 JUDGE PEARSON: Yes, I agree.

7 MR. O'CONNELL: -- is providing and not
8 questioning.

9 JUDGE PEARSON: We need questions. If you
10 have questions --

11 MR. MAUROU: I just --

12 JUDGE PEARSON: You have to not speak when
13 I'm speaking.

14 MR. MAUROU: Sorry.

15 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay.

16 MR. MAUROU: Sorry, your Honor.

17 JUDGE PEARSON: So if you have a question,
18 without providing all the background, just go ahead and
19 ask the question. And I'm just going to give you a
20 couple more chances and then I'm going to just put an
21 end to it if you can't ask questions. Okay?

22 MR. MAUROU: Okay.

23 BY MR. MAUROU:

24 Q. So okay. Can you -- when was -- what day was my
25 permanent revoke?

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1 A. That would be March 8, 2016.

2 Q. Okay. Do you recall that day when I came to the
3 hearing, I have ton of pile here, and I brought all
4 requested documents, and the only thing that was missing
5 was my own certificate that I brought, but you were not
6 sure if it was from a registered doctor.

7 So Mr. -- what's he called -- the young man, he
8 tried to go and check it just in two weeks, and then
9 come back and then reconsider my permit, and then you
10 did refuse? Do you remember, you did refuse?

11 Because the day I came when -- the last hearing
12 I came here trying to concern my permit, right, when I
13 came, I brought all my paperwork here? And then that
14 day, I did request -- I did request to Judge Rayne
15 Pearson that -- to reconsider that I brought all
16 required documents.

17 Do you recall you're the one who refused?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Do you recall?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Can you tell us why you refused?

22 A. Because the papers were incomplete, and they
23 were not what was required to comply with the law.

24 Q. They was complete. The only thing was the --
25 what's called -- as I said, recertificate, and I have

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1 it. The only thing you were looking --

2 MR. O'CONNELL: Objection.

3 MR. MAUROU: -- is to make sure --

4 JUDGE PEARSON: Mr. Maurou, you can't argue
5 with Mr. Pratt. Okay?

6 MR. MAUROU: Okay. Yeah. Okay. So that's
7 the first thing.

8 BY MR. MAUROU:

9 Q. And do you recall in our conversation -- I
10 recalled three conversations, but the third one was
11 very -- you thought I was asking -- you were asking me
12 to shut down my website.

13 And then I asked you if -- do you have any piece
14 of legislation that you can direct me that will help me
15 understand? And you did not -- you never get back to
16 me, and then you get upset.

17 Do you remember that conversation?

18 A. No.

19 Q. Okay. I do remember I have it, the last
20 conversation I had with you was about my website, and
21 you were asking me to shut down my website. And I told
22 you you cannot do that. I told you that on the phone --

23 JUDGE PEARSON: Mr. Maurou --

24 MR. MAUROU: I said, you cannot do that.

25 JUDGE PEARSON: Mr. Maurou --

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1 MR. MAUROU: I asked you --

2 JUDGE PEARSON: Mr. Maurou, do you have a
3 question? You're not asking questions. You're just
4 giving testimony, which you're not under oath, so it's
5 not time for you to do that. I'm going to give you one
6 more chance.

7 MR. MAUROU: Okay, your Honor, because I'm
8 having -- my conclusion, if you want me to go straight,
9 I will.

10 JUDGE PEARSON: Please.

11 MR. MAUROU: My conclusion, if you want me
12 to go straight, is Dave has been overusing the power
13 given to him by UTC, by the State, to retaliate through
14 my person and to my Company. And from that point --

15 MR. O'CONNELL: Your Honor, I have to
16 object.

17 MR. MAUROU: From that point --

18 MR. O'CONNELL: This is --

19 MR. MAUROU: Let me talk.

20 JUDGE PEARSON: If you want -- if you want
21 to testify, that's fine. I can swear you in.

22 MR. MAUROU: Yes.

23 JUDGE PEARSON: This is cross-examination.
24 I don't think you have any questions at this point.

25 MR. MAUROU: No, I have. I have.

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1 JUDGE PEARSON: But you haven't asked any
2 questions.

3 MR. MAUROU: Okay.

4 JUDGE PEARSON: You've been trying to give
5 testimony.

6 MR. MAUROU: My last question --

7 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Stop. Stop talking
8 for a second.

9 MR. MAUROU: Okay.

10 JUDGE PEARSON: You have one more question?

11 MR. MAUROU: Okay. Yes.

12 JUDGE PEARSON: And it better be a question.

13 MR. MAUROU: Yes, my last question.

14 BY MR. MAUROU:

15 **Q. Dave, when Judge Rayne --**

16 **JUDGE PEARSON: What are you saying?**

17 **MR. MAUROU: I say, when Judge Rayne**
18 **Pearson --**

19 **JUDGE PEARSON: Oh, me.**

20 BY MR. MAUROU:

21 **Q. -- cancelled my permits and requested all**
22 **documents need to be reinstated, I gave you all those**
23 **permit. Why it took so long to get me on track? What**
24 **did you do to help? Can you tell us?**

25 **A. Yes, I can. You did not provide all the**

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1 paperwork that was required to meet the conditions until
2 June 2nd. We had received information in May that you
3 were operating.

4 And so while I was waiting for Mr. Maurou to
5 provide all the information so I could make a decision
6 about reinstating the document or the permit, I received
7 information that you were operating, which led me to
8 have to make the conclusion that I had to deny the
9 permit.

10 And so shortly after June 2nd, I asked the
11 Commission to deny your permit for reinstatement. So I
12 did it after I received -- or I'm sorry -- you provided
13 the information after we had already received
14 information you were operating.

15 **Q. Okay. And if I want to ask you, or say that the**
16 **day I came here the last hearing, and then my permit was**
17 **cancelled, that day, when I went home, when you saying**
18 **that it was incomplete, when I went home, I just went to**
19 **the website, it's not two minutes, get to the document,**
20 **and then e-mail right away that night.**

21 So why you didn't give me my permit next day?

22 A. Because you had not met the conditions of the
23 order yet.

24 **Q. What conditions?**

25 A. At that point, you had not agreed to payment

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1 arrangements, you had not provided evidence that you had
2 made arrangements with AllianceOne, the credit company,
3 and you had not filed your 2015 annual report.

4 Q. And I filed -- I filed it right away, too. The
5 next day, I did file, and then I did call Alliance, make
6 arrangement, call you back, and I have one of your
7 check, and I call you and e-mail you back the same time.

8 JUDGE PEARSON: Mr. Maurou --

9 BY MR. MAUROU:

10 Q. But why did you wait so long? And why -- I
11 mean, the same night, I did it. Next day I called --
12 what's called -- Alliance. And even when you saying
13 about payments, when am I going to get money if I'm not
14 working? Are you paying my bill? I want to know, are
15 you paying my bill?

16 MR. O'CONNELL: Objection.

17 JUDGE PEARSON: Yeah. Mr. Maurou, we're
18 going to be done with the questions now because
19 Mr. Pratt --

20 MR. MAUROU: I'm done.

21 JUDGE PEARSON: -- answered --

22 MR. MAUROU: I have a lot of questions, but
23 I'm done.

24 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. So I want to take a
25 brief recess right now and then we'll come back and,

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1 Mr. Maurou, it will be your turn. I'll swear you in and
2 then you can give your side of everything. Okay?

3 MR. MAUROU: No problem, your Honor. No
4 problem, your Honor.

5 JUDGE PEARSON: So we will be off the record
6 for ten minutes. We'll come back at 3:25.

7 MR. MAUROU: Thank you, your Honor.

8 (A break was taken from
9 3:15 p.m. to 3:25 p.m.)

10 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. We will be back on
11 the record at 3:25.

12 And Mr. Maurou, if you would please stand
13 and raise your right hand, I will swear you in.

14
15 SANI MAHAMA MAUROU, witness herein, having been
16 first duly sworn on oath,
17 was examined and testified
18 as follows:

19
20 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. You may be seated,
21 and I'll just remind you to make sure to speak slowly
22 and clearly into the microphone, and you can go ahead
23 and present your case

24 / / /

25 / / /

DIRECT TESTIMONY BY MR. MAUROU

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1 *** DIRECT TESTIMONY BY MR. MAUROU ***

2 MR. MAUROU (through interpreter): Your
3 Honor, thank you for giving me this chance to come to
4 hearing my case. I thank Mr. O'Connell and General --
5 and for the first time, I just met Mr. Turcott, too,
6 that I see today. And for sure, Mr. David Pratt.

7 It is really tiresome when you give
8 everything -- when you give everything, and you see that
9 it is not working. Frankly, it is -- it is not good.
10 And then when you are portrayed the way you are not,
11 that is even more.

12 This case, if I have to talk about this
13 case, we can talk about it for a month and will not
14 finish. But as I said, I will try to be brief.

15 For the first time I had an occasion to talk
16 to Mr. Dave Pratt on the phone last year, he called me,
17 it was a Thursday, and it was very nice.

18 He asked me, are you Mr. Sani?

19 I said, yes.

20 And he presented himself, I'm Mr. David
21 Pratt. I'm the director assistant of UTC.

22 I did learn that he worked at the
23 transportation. Is it true?

24 I said, yes, but I take client from the
25 Westin and I bring them to there. But I don't have a

DIRECT TESTIMONY BY MR. MAUROU

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1 time setting for that, for there.

2 When those people I deposit there, they call
3 me back to pick them up, and then I go to pick them up.

4 Then it is true? Then it is true? I do
5 have a calendar. And I do work under the authority of
6 charter. The conversation went well.

7 The second time Mr. David Pratt called me,
8 again, I did learn that he work at cruise [sic].

9 I told him exactly the same thing. There
10 are people from Westin that call me to bring them to
11 cruise. And then after a week, they come back. And
12 when they come back, they call me again to go -- to pick
13 them up to bring back to -- or to Westin, or to the
14 airport, or to another hotel, and it went well also.

15 The third time, he called me again,
16 Mr. David, he called me, he saw my website, that I put
17 things that product I don't have, then to close my
18 website or to change it. I told him, the product I have
19 are not only based on Washington state. It is
20 international. And then the product that I have, I do
21 dispatch them to people also. That is how I explained
22 to him.

23 He insisted, what I told you to do, you have
24 to do it. I gave him an example of Costco. I told him
25 Costco sells product that they don't have. Costco have

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1 no product at all.

2 I give him example of Microsoft. Microsoft
3 sell also houses, but whereas they do product software
4 only.

5 I did give him another example, too. I told
6 him, frankly, honestly, I don't understand what you are
7 asking me. I don't understand what you are talking to
8 me, but it is not that I'm angry. I told him that.

9 I asked him, does he have part of
10 legislative that authorize him to come and to close my
11 website, the website that I -- it took me five years to
12 put up, without counting the money that I invested in?
13 If there is a legislative paper that he has that he can
14 send me, it will help me to understand.

15 Mr. David Pratt never sent me a message of
16 what I have asked him. And I think 100 percent in my
17 heart that Mr. David was angry.

18 JUDGE PEARSON: Mr. Maurou --

19 MR. MAUROU (through interpreter): And as I
20 said, at the very beginning, I am very patient. I am
21 like maybe this -- maybe yes, maybe not. I don't want
22 to fell down. I don't want to be angry. And I don't
23 want to jump and say what somebody has not done, and
24 have a conclusion saying that the person has done that.
25 I don't want to do it, until I see with my eyes. But

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1 when I will see with my eyes, then that will be very
2 hard.

3 The third time I talked to him, the third
4 time I talked with Mr. David, after two weeks, UTC send
5 me letters that I didn't do it, the annual report. Then
6 they did not send me a letter to remind me to do that
7 annual report, and I didn't do it, and it was later.
8 Then now they tell me to pay \$1,000. Then they -- then
9 where would I get \$1,000?

10 MR. O'CONNELL: Objection, your Honor. I
11 don't think this is about this case, so I'm questioning
12 the relevance of the testimony that's being presented.

13 JUDGE PEARSON: So that's true, Mr. Maurou.
14 You're talking about a different docket related to the
15 annual report penalty assessment.

16 MR. MAUROU: No, no, no, no, no, no. Oh, it
17 is -- it's -- I'm not talking about it, but it's part
18 of -- but if Mr. O'Connell want, we can --

19 JUDGE PEARSON: Just move on from that.

20 MR. MAUROU: Right.

21 (Through interpreter) Now, I paid -- I paid
22 the money. It is paid. But after the two weeks, they
23 send me another letter that next week, they will come to
24 do an investigation, or whereas they have made -- during
25 the year, they have made two investigations already.

DIRECT TESTIMONY BY MR. MAUROU

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1 Normally after the first investigation, they have to
2 wait for three years. It is written in their
3 legislative.

4 Yeah, I asked myself a lot of questions,
5 because it was in the papers that I sent and they come
6 to ask me. Why me?

7 MR. O'CONNELL: Your Honor, objection.
8 Your Honor, I'm questioning the relevance again. I
9 think the current testimony being offered is about the
10 case that was already resolved in Docket TC-152296.

11 JUDGE PEARSON: I agree. And Mr. Maurou,
12 just to be clear, what I want to hear from you today --

13 MR. MAUROU: Okay.

14 JUDGE PEARSON: -- is your response to the
15 case that Staff put on today. So I want your --

16 MR. MAUROU: Thank you so much.

17 JUDGE PEARSON: -- explanations for why you
18 were operating -- stop talking. I want to hear
19 explanations about why you were operating without a
20 permit, what --

21 MR. MAUROU: Okay.

22 JUDGE PEARSON: -- what you were doing at
23 the airport, et cetera, et cetera. You need to respond
24 to what Staff talked about today. That's all that's
25 relevant at this point.

DIRECT TESTIMONY BY MR. MAUROU

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1 MR. MAUROU: Okay.

2 JUDGE PEARSON: So do you have an
3 explanation for --

4 MR. MAUROU: Yeah. If you can allow me to
5 conclude this subject --

6 JUDGE PEARSON: I'm not going to allow you
7 to conclude the subject because it's not relevant. I
8 want you to talk about what was talked about today by
9 Mr. Turcott and Mr. Pratt. I want you to speak to those
10 allegations, because that's the basis for Staff's
11 recommendation that the Commission deny your application
12 for reinstatement.

13 That's what matters right now is --

14 MR. MAUROU: Okay.

15 JUDGE PEARSON: -- the non-permitted
16 transportation that occurred after your permit was
17 cancelled on March 8th up until today. So that's all I
18 want to hear about is what happened between March 8th
19 and today.

20 MR. MAUROU: Okay. Your Honor, I was
21 trying -- I was trying to demonstrate that there was a
22 personal retaliation from --

23 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay.

24 MR. MAUROU: -- Mr. David Pratt.

25 JUDGE PEARSON: So I'm going to stop you

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1 right now and tell you that I'm not going to entertain
2 that argument.

3 MR. MAUROU: Okay. So -- and so -- and
4 when --

5 (Through interpreter) When the judge
6 cancelled my drive, my certificate, my permit, I have
7 given all the papers to UTC. They talk about safety. I
8 gave all the paper of safety to UTC. Then following
9 day, they should have allowed me to go to work. But
10 they failed -- UTC failed. Then the UTC did fail their
11 work because they would have let me --

12 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Mr. Maurou, enough.
13 I want to hear about your response to Staff's
14 allegation.

15 MR. MAUROU: Okay.

16 JUDGE PEARSON: That's what your opportunity
17 is here today.

18 MR. MAUROU: Okay. For those 24, I'm going
19 to start with those 24 visits that they said.

20 JUDGE PEARSON: Right.

21 MR. MAUROU: Okay.

22 JUDGE PEARSON: So you're referring to
23 Exhibit MT-4 --

24 MR. MAUROU: Yeah.

25 JUDGE PEARSON: -- which is the SeaTac

DIRECT TESTIMONY BY MR. MAUROU

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1 record --

2 MR. MAUROU: Right.

3 JUDGE PEARSON: -- of you coming in and out
4 of the airport 24 times?

5 MR. MAUROU: Right. Through -- all of you
6 here know, even everybody maybe -- I met Mr. Turcott,
7 maybe he has access to all the information. I gave all
8 information.

9 My vehicle, I have loan that I pay, and
10 everybody's informed here, I went and discover -- I went
11 and did -- I went and discover all those things.

12 (Through interpreter) After when you
13 cancelled, Madam, the judge, that is the question I
14 asked of Mr. Turcott. I asked them, between March and
15 April 18th, what did they see? Did they see me working?

16 But after in April, the Company first
17 started to send me letter that they wanted to repossess
18 my truck. Then I had to take my cars and move them
19 every day, because they know where I live. They know
20 where I park my truck.

21 Then I moved my cars, my truck to the
22 airport. I have a cousin who lives near the airport.
23 That is -- that is where my trucks go around every day.
24 I don't know that that is what you saw that time. That
25 is the 24 visits.

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1 Then the record machine, I don't know when
2 that machine had been verified. Up to now, we don't
3 know really where we are.

4 JUDGE PEARSON: Hold on, Mr. Maurou. Are
5 you denying that those were your vehicles entering the
6 airport?

7 MR. MAUROU: Yes.

8 JUDGE PEARSON: So you're denying that you
9 operated without a certificate?

10 MR. MAUROU: Yes, I'm denying.

11 JUDGE PEARSON: You're saying you never
12 operated without a certificate?

13 MR. MAUROU: From what it's called -- from
14 April to what's called --

15 (Through interpreter) Let me see the dates.
16 From April to -- yeah, from April to June.

17 JUDGE PEARSON: So you're saying you didn't
18 operate from the time -- from the time your permit was
19 cancelled, you haven't operated this entire time?

20 MR. MAUROU: (Through interpreter) From
21 March to June, I didn't move. But when they started
22 sending me letters, I did move my cars to the airport.
23 But -- I don't know if that is what happened, but I
24 didn't do operation at all. That is the truthful [sic].

25 That's why I asked Mr. Turcott, what did he

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1 see between March up to April.

2 And he said, no, he saw nothing.

3 Then that is the 24. I finish with that.

4 Thank you very much.

5 Now, I don't know if it is mixed, but I will
6 do it quickly. For the e-mail, I don't know what he's
7 talking about it. That is why I asked again to
8 Mr. Turcott, how many -- how long does it take him to do
9 all this?

10 When I asked Mr. UTC to call Alliance to
11 verify if I paid, or I have made an arrangement, they
12 didn't do it, whereas it takes two minutes. People like
13 to accuse others in this world, but they don't accuse
14 themselves. It is sad.

15 Then now I talk about my website. That's
16 mine. Who authorized Mr. Turcott to go on my website?
17 Who authorized Mr. David to go into my website? They
18 got authorization from who? That is incredible. I did
19 that for my clients.

20 Then once again, I -- my business is not
21 Washington. Although I'm proud to be from Washington,
22 my business is international.

23 Then I finish with website program. All
24 that, I don't think it is -- you can consider it, the
25 e-mails. You have time, and we -- they have time --

DIRECT TESTIMONY BY MR. MAUROU

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1 e-mails with the man we pay for the taxes -- I pay my
2 taxes -- I pay my taxes every year. I have workers, I
3 pay them money, too. They have money and they are
4 happy. I am very proud because I'm also helping
5 Washington state. I am very proud because I'm also
6 helping my country, US. I finished with the program of
7 e-mail.

8 Now -- now I want to have some comment on
9 the pictures. These pictures there, I don't know even
10 what they mean. Everybody can use Photoshop to do this.
11 It is nothing. Suppose they took the pictures, real
12 pictures, do they have reason to do this? It's not a
13 criminal case. It is a civil case. We have serious
14 problems criminal. We have to use that time to go then.

15 MR. O'CONNELL: Objection.

16 JUDGE PEARSON: I think he's done.

17 MR. O'CONNELL: I object to -- go ahead.

18 MR. MAUROU (through interpreter): I
19 finished with the pictures. Thank you.

20 You included this paper, and I'm proud of
21 it. It is my paper reinsertment [sic]. Everything is
22 in there. But UTC decided to do other things by going
23 around the law --

24 MR. O'CONNELL: Objection.

25 JUDGE PEARSON: Mr. Maurou --

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1 MR. MAUROU (through interpreter): -- and
2 coming back to me.

3 JUDGE PEARSON: Mr. Maurou -- Mr. Maurou,
4 Mr. O'Connell had an objection, so I want to hear from
5 him.

6 MR. O'CONNELL: Your Honor, I object to the
7 accusations that Staff acted illegally or improperly. I
8 don't believe, first of all, that's relevant, because
9 we're here because of the Company's actions.

10 JUDGE PEARSON: I agree. So Mr. Maurou --

11 MR. MAUROU (through interpreter): Then I
12 think I finish with the problem of my petition.

13 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay.

14 MR. MAUROU (through interpreter): As I
15 said, UTC, they fail their responsibility. I gave them
16 all the necessary papers. Then I think -- then I think
17 I am safe to go to work. And once more, I don't know.

18 If you -- if you take into account
19 financially consequences, if I'm talking about them, I
20 talk about UTC, the workers, there are good people that
21 I talk on the phone. When I'm talking about UTC, I'm
22 not talking about all of them. There are people who
23 want to help. When I talk about that, I'm not putting
24 it in general.

25 MR. O'CONNELL: Objection.

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1 JUDGE PEARSON: Yeah. And I got your point,
2 Mr. Maurou. Are you almost done? Because I have
3 questions for you.

4 MR. MAUROU (through interpreter): Then I
5 ask that all the papers I have in front of me, first it
6 came late; legally, it is not acceptable.

7 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. You already made this
8 argument and I rejected it, so you need to move on.

9 MR. MAUROU (through interpreter): Okay.
10 Secondly, all these papers I have, I did ask the
11 questions -- the machine that read -- took pictures of
12 all this, if it was verified. I didn't get a response.
13 Then I think I almost finished.

14 Thank you, your Honor. I thank everybody
15 who is here, without exception. Thank you all again.

16 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. So Mr. Maurou, just
17 to be clear, your testimony is that you did not operate
18 at all between March and June? The information that
19 Staff presented is incorrect; that's what you're saying?

20 MR. MAUROU: Yes, your Honor.

21 JUDGE PEARSON: But you do admit that you
22 operated in June?

23 MR. MAUROU: After June, I'm not sure -- I'm
24 not sure, to be honest. I'm not sure. It's not like
25 I'm -- I'm not somebody who hides. You can keep

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1 running, hide, somebody will find you. I don't hide.

2 It's after June, I did -- but I'm not sure
3 when. Why I did it? I'm going to explain to you
4 myself, or to you, your Honor, why I did it.

5 When I found out UTC were not willing -- as
6 I gave them everything, they are not willing to give me
7 my permit, why am I going to stay home? Who's paying my
8 bills? I have family of five people, and that's all the
9 things I cannot say here. That's why I say people don't
10 understand. The law blaming other, and they not blame
11 themselves [sic]. They never blame themselves. I'm not
12 going to sit at home. Somebody's paying my bill?

13 After June, I did operate. Why? UTC, they
14 fail to give me my permit, and I gave them all the
15 required paper. So I'm led to work, and I have
16 federal -- federal permit that allow me to work at
17 least. So I did it, so I'm not hiding. I don't like
18 hiding.

19 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay.

20 MR. MAUROU: I don't like that. It's not
21 good.

22 JUDGE PEARSON: I just wanted to clarify.
23 So you are admitting --

24 MR. MAUROU: After June, after June, I did
25 operate it. But when, I'm not sure, because I don't

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1 have all the record.

2 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. You're just not
3 sure --

4 MR. MAUROU: Why I did it? That's why I had
5 said, I have -- they are following me to come repossess.
6 I have to hide, keep circling the car, all those things.
7 Who's paying my bill? And I have -- and I have all
8 legal papers. I gave to UTC.

9 And I have federal permit that allow me to
10 work, at least temporary, until UTC decides to come to
11 me and help. And so I'm not going to sit down at home.
12 I did work after -- I think after June --

13 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay.

14 MR. MAUROU: -- I did work.

15 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay.

16 MR. MAUROU: But before that, I did not. I
17 have followed your rule --

18 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay.

19 MR. MAUROU: -- and I have followed UTC
20 rule.

21 JUDGE PEARSON: Thank you.

22 MR. MAUROU: And but honestly, it was a hard
23 decision.

24 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. That answers my
25 question. Thank you.

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1 MR. MAUROU: Yeah, your Honor. Yeah.

2 JUDGE PEARSON: Mr. O'Connell, do you have
3 any questions for Mr. Maurou?

4 MR. O'CONNELL: I do, your Honor.

5 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay.

6 *** CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. O'CONNELL ***

7 BY MR. O'CONNELL:

8 **Q. Mr. Maurou --**

9 A. Yes, your Honor -- sorry -- Mr. O'Connell.

10 **Q. -- how many workers do you employ?**

11 A. Right now I have two, and they are new. You
12 know, they just start working. They are brand new.
13 There are two.

14 **Q. Is that in addition to yourself?**

15 A. Yes, but I don't -- I'm -- mostly what I do is I
16 take calls because you cannot drive taking calls.

17 **Q. Okay.**

18 A. So I take calls and dispatch.

19 **Q. Are -- Ahmed Adam and Hafton Tafere are drivers
20 for you, correct?**

21 A. Yes, they are brand new.

22 **Q. Okay. How long have they been driving for you?**

23 A. They've been driving for a couple of weeks.

24 **Q. Couple weeks?**

25 A. Yeah.

CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. O'CONNELL / MAUROU 199

1 Q. How many vans do you have?

2 A. Right now I have four brand new vans, and all
3 those vans, four brand new, are on the loan. And --

4 Q. How many do you operate?

5 A. I operate two.

6 Q. You're aware that your certificate of authority
7 to operate was cancelled March 8th, correct?

8 A. Yeah, I'm aware of it.

9 Q. But you continued to send your vans to the
10 airport, correct?

11 A. No. That's what I just explained to the
12 honorable. I did not operate when it was cancelled
13 until June, so -- but I have to move them around. I
14 have to move them from my house, because that's where I
15 park them, and Ford knows that.

16 When I did -- they know my address. When I did
17 the application, they asked me, where do you park your
18 car, all those things, so they have everything on file.
19 So when they send me intent to repossess those vehicles,
20 so I decide to move them to my cousin who lives very,
21 very close to the airport --

22 Q. Okay.

23 A. -- so --

24 Q. Thank you. You also sent your vans to the
25 waterfront to pick up passengers, correct?

CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. O'CONNELL / MAUROU 200

1 A. Yes, sir.

2 Q. Now, even before your authority was cancelled,
3 so before March 8th, you weren't supposed to pick up
4 people at the waterfront, were you?

5 A. When they call me, when they call me, I go and
6 pick up.

7 Q. No matter where they are?

8 A. Yeah, no matter where they are. But I don't --
9 I don't have a scheduled departure, because I use those
10 calls on the charter, on my -- under my charter
11 certificate.

12 Q. So if someone calls you from the city of Everett
13 and they need to go to the airport, will you take them
14 from Everett to the airport?

15 A. Yes. When they call me and make an arrangement.

16 Q. How long have you been doing such service where
17 they call you, and wherever they are, you take them?

18 A. I've been doing this for almost -- since 1999.
19 Since 1999.

20 Q. And since then, you go wherever they call you
21 from?

22 A. Yes. When they call, sometimes -- because some
23 customer call you to take them to Vancouver, BC, to take
24 them to Vancouver, Washington, or Portland. So when
25 they call you, or when they call me, I go and take.

1 Q. Have you taken anyone to Spokane?

2 A. Oh, yes, I did, sir.

3 Q. Okay.

4 A. But on-call. On-call.

5 Q. You're aware that your certificate for authority
6 to operate was a limited certificate, correct?

7 A. Yes, sir.

8 Q. So your certificate was only to -- or only from
9 and to three places, and I think the Westin, two
10 casinos, to and from the airport?

11 A. Yes, but those are -- if I can say something,
12 Mr. O'Connell -- O'Connell -- these are scheduled
13 departures, which means I have certain time that I
14 leave. So I operate under what's called on those -- on
15 that permit which allows me to pick up those three
16 places.

17 MR. O'CONNELL: I think those are all of my
18 questions, your Honor. Thank you.

19 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay.

20 MR. O'CONNELL: Thank you, Mr. Maurou.

21 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Thank you.

22 So Staff, do you have anything further
23 before we conclude today? And I think it was -- I
24 understand what Staff's recommendation is, and it's up
25 to you whether you have anything additional to say now

1 that Mr. Maurou has presented his case, or if you --

2 MR. O'CONNELL: Understanding that
3 your Honor has already been presented with a
4 recommendation of Staff, I did have one clarifying
5 statement to make as closing.

6 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay.

7 MR. O'CONNELL: And that is to address a
8 certain part of the timeline that Mr. Pratt touched
9 upon, but to help explain Staff's position on that
10 timeline, especially concerning the time between
11 March 8th and April 9th.

12 As your Honor is aware, because it's ordered
13 in this docket, the Order 01 in TC-152296 was appealed
14 by Mr. Maurou, and that administrative appeal took some
15 time, and Order 02 was issued by the Commission on
16 May 12th.

17 So until May 12th, Staff didn't know whether
18 the cancellation would be upheld by the Commission. At
19 that time, there was -- so there was a delay caused by
20 the necessity of giving due process to Mr. Maurou's
21 request for administrative appeal.

22 Shortly thereafter, Staff considered the
23 conditions included in that Order 02, which required
24 certain things to be given by the Company before their
25 reinstatement application could be processed. So in

1 between the time of March 8th and the time of the Order
2 02 being issued, Staff didn't know what those
3 requirements were of the reinstatement application that
4 the -- you know, the Commission only issued on May 12th.

5 And with that clarification, I think
6 your Honor has all of the information and evidence
7 before her.

8 Thank you.

9 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Thank you.

10 And Mr. Maurou, thank you for coming here
11 today.

12 MR. MAUROU: No problem.

13 JUDGE PEARSON: I appreciate you coming and
14 explaining your side of the story, and I also appreciate
15 all of the work that Staff did.

16 So if we don't have anything further, then
17 as I explained, I will take everything under advisement
18 and issue an order within the next ten days explaining
19 my decision.

20 MR. MAUROU: Okay.

21 JUDGE PEARSON: All right. Thank you then.
22 We are adjourned.

23 MR. O'CONNELL: Thank you, your Honor.

24 MR. MAUROU: Thank you, your Honor.

25 (Hearing concluded at 4:10 p.m.)

C E R T I F I C A T E

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3 STATE OF WASHINGTON)

4 COUNTY OF KING) ss.

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7 I, ANITA W. SELF, a Certified Shorthand Reporter

8 in and for the State of Washington, do hereby certify

9 that the foregoing transcript is true and accurate to

10 the best of my knowledge, skill and ability.

11 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand

12 and seal this 25th day of July, 2016.

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18 ANITA W. SELF, RPR, CCR #3032

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