

STATE OF WASHINGTON

UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. S.W., P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250 (360) 664-1160 • TTY (360) 586-8203

November 3, 2014

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

RE: Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v. Heidi Bergman d/b/a Alice the Mover

Commission Staff's Response to Application for Mitigation of Penalties

Docket TV-143549

Dear Mr. King:

On September 29, 2014, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (commission) issued Penalty Assessment TV-143549 against Heidi Bergman d/b/a Alice the Mover (Alice the Mover) in the amount of \$2,900 for 29 violations of Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 480-15-570, which requires household goods carriers to comply with parts of Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), including Part 391 - Qualification of drivers as follows:

• \$2,900 for 29 violations of WAC 480-15-570 – Using a driver not medically examined and certified. Driver Mark Rice drove a total of 29 days over a six-month period without medical certification.

On October 14, 2014, Alice the Mover filed with the commission its application for mitigation of penalties (Mitigation Request). Heidi Bergman, owner of Alice the Mover, admitted the violations but asked that the penalty amount be reduced for the reasons set out in the response. On October 17, 2014, commission staff submitted its response to the Mitigation Request, recommending no mitigation, but indicating that it supported an extended payment plan.

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On October 23, 2014, the commission issued an Order Denying Mitigation, informing Ms. Bergman that she must either pay the penalty or file jointly with staff a proposed payment plan no later than November 6, 2014.

Ms. Bergman requests payment arrangements of \$362.50 per month until the \$2,900 penalty assessment is paid in full, as follows:

- 1. The first payment is due no later than November 20, 2014.
- 2. The following payments are due no later than the 20th of each month, with the final payment due no later than June 20, 2015.
- 3. Ms. Bergman may pay the penalty in full or make a lump sum payment at any point.

Commission staff supports Ms. Bergman's request. If Ms. Bergman does not pay the entire penalty in full by June 20, 2015, the commission may refer the matter to the Office of the Attorney General and the company may be subject to interest and collection fees.

If you have any questions, please contact Betty Young, Compliance Investigator, Transportation Safety, at 360-664-1202, or by e-mail at byoung@utc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

David Pratt

Assistant Director, Transportation Safety