BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Investigation of

DOCKET TV-220417

MR. MUSCLES MOVING COMPANY LLC

DECLARATION OF TRACY COBILE

For Compliance with WAC 480-15-530, WAC 480-15-550, WAC 480-15-555, WAC 480-15-560, and WAC 480-15-570

- I, Tracy Cobile, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of Washington, declare as follows.
- I am over 18 years of age and competent to testify to the facts contained herein.
- I am employed by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) as a Special Investigator in the Motor Carrier Safety section, I have been in this position for one year and four months. As a Special Investigator with the Motor Carrier Safety section for the Commission, I conduct compliance investigations on regulated transportation companies, which includes inspecting applicable company records and commercial motor vehicles.
- 4 On April 18, 2022, as part of my 2022 Motor Carrier Safety workplan, I initiated a routine safety investigation of Mr. Muscles Moving Co. LLC (Mr. Muscles or Company). As part of my investigation, I utilized the Commission's Companies SharePoint site to view the current permit status and history details for Mr. Muscles. The initial permit for the Company was issued on June 15, 2020, in Docket TV-200443.
- During the course of my investigation, I discovered that on November 5, 2021, Mr. Muscles' permit was canceled for lack of insurance on file with the Commission in Docket TV-210846. The Company was notified to immediately cease all operations associated with its permit.¹
- During the course of my investigation, I discovered that on January 10, 2022, the provisional permit for Mr. Muscles was reinstated in Docket TV-210917. The Company submitted proof of insurance, effective November 28, 2021, for review and consideration by the Commission prior to being reinstated.
- During the investigation, I discovered that between November 6, 2021 and January 9, 2022, the Company operated a total of five times without a valid permit. The sample period for purposes of my investigation was from October 18, 2021 through April 18, 2022. Based on the records provided during the six months preceding the start to this investigation as

¹ THG-069221.

identified, the Company operated commercial motor vehicles in commerce conducting household goods moves without auto liability and property damage insurance on five occasions. The Company's bills of lading, true and correct copies of which are attached to my declaration as Exhibit A, were provided by the carrier to determine when the Company conducted household goods moves while unpermitted.

- 8 During the course of my investigation, I found that the following violations occurred while the carrier was operating under its reissued permit, (these violations are documented in Staff's Investigation Report, a true and correct copy of which is attached to my declaration as Exhibit B):
 - Three critical violations of WAC 480-15-555;²
 - Thirty critical violations of 395.8(a)(1);³
 - One critical-type violation of 391.51(a);⁴
 - Two violations of WAC 480-15-590;⁵
 - One violation of 391.45(a) with 23 occurrences identified;⁶
 - One violation of WAC 480-15-480(4);⁷
 - One violation of 396.3(b);⁸ and,
 - One violation of 396.17(a).9

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 16th day of June 2022.

<u>/s/ Tracy Cobile</u> TRACY COBILE

² Exh. B, Staff Investigation Report, Part B Violations, at 3.

 $^{^3}$ Id.

⁴ *Id*. at 4.

⁵ *Id*. at 3.

⁶ *Id*. at 4.

⁷ *Id*.

⁸ *Id.* at 5.

⁹ *Id*.

r. Muscles Move	rs- BILL OF	LADING			0		age of
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have read and understand	this contract and	I release my		Balance Due	16	600	
household goods to the car				Customer acknowledges	carrier delive	ered goods: YES	NO
conditions of this contract.	12-1-			Bey	gerell	P	
Customer Signature	Date		1 1	CUSTOMER SIGNAT	URE	DATE	

Muscles Movers - BILL OF LADING

Lex Conner | 206-406-0920| mrmusclesmovingco@gmail.com

<u>Customer:</u> This bill of lading establishes a contract between you and the household goods carrier. It confirms instructions and authorizes the carrier to move, pack, store and perform services shown, before you sigh this document it is important that you fist read it. Please ask for an explanation of anything that is not clear or is different from any previous information received from the carrier or the carrier's representatives.



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Email Address:	Alternate Phone #:
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Additional Stop:	
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hich includes a \$300 deductible paid by me. This option will	at per unit
ost \$1.15 per \$100 of declared value, the value I declare must	at per unit
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otal Valuation Charges:	Total Charges
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istimates: This shipment is moving under a non-binding estimate. If the	Transportation Charges
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on-binding estimate, the customer will not be required to pay	Materials and services
nore than 125% of the estimate (plus any supplemental)	Total Moving Charges
Customer Release:	Total Amount Paid
have read and understand this contract and release my	Balance Due 5790.00
ousehold goods to the carrier subject to the terms and	Customer acknowledges carrier delivered goods: YES N
conditions of this contract	

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and the same of th	contract.	er subject to t	ne terms and		Customer ac	knowledges carner	delivered goods:	TES IN

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Customer: Megan H.	Phone #: 266-45LJ - 9685
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Finish Address: 9409 SIN FINKY S	E Scattle was 98136
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	Total Transportation Charges: 18620
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	Grand Total:
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stimates:	Moving. Packing and Materials Charges
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harges shown on the bill of lading exceed the charges on the	Valuation
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	Total Amount Paid
ustomer Release:	1/2 3
have read and understand this contract and release my	Balance Due
Outselbold monde to the neglige subject to the same and	
ousehold goods to the carrier subject to the terms and onditions of this contract.	Customer acknowledges cerrier delivered goods: YES NO

Mr. Muscles Movers - BILL OF LADING

Lex Conner | 206-406-0920| mrmusclesmovingco@gmail.com

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UTC

US DOT # 3427558

Legal: MR MUSCLES MOVING CO LLC

Operating (DBA):

MC/MX #: Federal Tax ID:

Review Type: Compliance Review (CR)

Scope: Principal Office Location of Review/Audit: Company facility in the U. S. Territory:

Operation Types Interstate Intrastate

Carrier: N/A Non-HM Business: Corporation

Shipper: N/A N/A Gross Revenue: \$47,000.00 for year ending: 12/31/2021

Cargo Tank: N/A

Company Physical Address:

1050 SW 151ST STREET BURIEN, WA 98166

Contact Name: ALEXANDER CONNER

Phone numbers: (1) 206-406-0920 (2) Fax

E-Mail Address: AJCONNER99@HOTMAIL.COM

Company Mailing Address:

9440 OLSON PL SW

SEATTLE, WA 98106-3123

Carrier Classification

Authorized for Hire

Cargo Classification

Household Goods

Equipment

Owned Term Leased Trip Leased Owned Term Leased Trip Leased

Truck 1
Power units used in the U.S.:1

Percentage of time used in the U.S.:100

Does carrier transport placardable quantities of HM? $_{NO}$ Is an HM Permit required? $_{N/A}$

Driver Information

Inter Intra Average trip leased drivers/month: 0

< 100 Miles: Total Drivers: 1 >= 100 Miles: 1 CDL Drivers: 0



U.S. DOT #: 3427558

Review Date: 06/01/2022

Part A

QUESTIONS regarding this report or the Federal Motor Carrier Safety or Hazardous Materials rules may be addressed to the Office of Motor Carriers at:

Tracy Cobile
P.O. Box 47250 Olympia, WA 98504-7250
Phone: (360) 790-0653 Email: tracy.cobile@utc.wa.gov

This report will be used to assess your safety compliance.

Person(s) Interviewed

Name: ALEXANDER CONNER Title: OWNER

Name: Title:



U.S. DOT #: 3427558

Review Date: 06/01/2022

Part B Violations

1	Primary: WAC 480-15-555			Drivers/V	ehicles
STATE	Secondary: RCW 81-80-132	Discovered	Checked	In Violation	Checked
CRITICAL	CFR Equivalent: 392.2	3	3	3	3

Description

Failing to conduct/retain paperwork containing criminal background checks or hiring an individual with a disqualifying conviction for a household goods carrier in the state of Washington.

Example

Driver Name: Alexander Conner Trip Date: April 14, 2022

Description of violation: The carrier failed to conduct the required criminal background checks.

Also in violation:

Employee Name: George Edwards

Date of Hire: March 2021

First Day Worked: March 28, 2021

Employee Name: Gino Ricco Quintero

Date of Hire: November 2021

First Day Worked: December 9, 2021

2	Primary: 395.8(a)(1)			Drivers/V	ehicles
STATE		Discovered	Checked	In Violation	Checked
CRITICAL	CFR Equivalent: 395.8(a)(1)	30	30	1	1

Description

Failing to require driver to make a record of duty status.

Example

Driver Name: Alexander Conner

Trip Date: April 14, 2022

Description of violation: The carrier failed to require the driver to make a record of duty status.

3	Primary: WAC 480-15-590			Drivers/V	ehicles
STATE	·	Discovered	Checked	In Violation	Checked
	CFR Equivalent: 376.12(I)	2	3	2	3

Description

The carrier must ensure that all of the conditions of WAC 480-15-590 are met when leasing vehicles.

Example

Vehicle: U-Haul Truck #JH2941D

Trip Date: October 23, 2021 (Customer: Kevin & Cara)

Description of violation: The carrier failed to present a valid original lease agreement for review at the time of investigation and no copies of the lease agreements are being kept on board the leased equipment currently operating. Violation occurred when the carrier had operating authority/was permitted with the commission.

Also in violation:

U-Haul Truck Rental #TT5811D

Trip Date: November 5, 2021 (Customer: Grace Chapman)



U.S. DOT #: 3427558

Review Date: 06/01/2022

Part B Violations

4	Primary: 391.45(a)			Drivers/V	ehicles
STATE	Secondary: 391.11(a)	Discovered	Checked	In Violation	Checked
	CFR Equivalent: 391.45(a)	1	1	1	1

Description

Using a driver not medically examined and certified.

Driver Name: Alexander Conner

Trip Date: April 14, 2022

Description of violation: The carrier allowed this driver to drive a commercial motor vehicle on a total of 23 occasions without a valid medical examiners certificate (MEC) on the following dates:

October (2021) 23, 25 (2 occasions)

November (2021) 5

January (2022) 10, 14, 19, 28, 29, 30 (6 occasions) February (2022) 2, 5, 7, 16, 19, 21 (6 occasions) March (2022) 2, 9, 15, 19, 20, 23, 24 (7 occasions)

April (2022) 14 (1 occasion)

5	Primary: 391.51(a)			Drivers/Vehicles	
STATE	. ,	Discovered	Checked	In Violation	Checked
	CFR Equivalent: 391.51(a)	1	1	1	1

Description

Failing to maintain driver qualification file on each driver employed.

Example

Driver Name: Alexander Conner Trip Date: April 14, 2022

Description of violation: The carrier failed to maintain a driver qualification file for this driver.

6	Primary: WAC 480-15-480(4)			Drivers/Vehicles	
STATE	, ,	Discovered	Checked	In Violation	Checked
	CFR Equivalent: 392.2	1	1	1	1

Description

HHG Carrier/Mover failing to provide annual report and pay regulatory fees to UTC by May 1 of each year.

Example

Driver Name: Alexander Conner

Trip Date: April 14, 2022

Description of violation: The carrier failed to file a completed annual report, pay regulatory fees, and submit to UTC by May 1

of each year for 2020 and 2021.

7	Primary: RCW 81.80.075(1)			Drivers/V	ehicles
STATE	, ,	Discovered	Checked	In Violation	Checked
	CFR Equivalent: 392.9a(a)(1)	5	5	1	1

Description

Household goods carrier operating in and engaging in business as a household goods carrier in commerce without a valid permit issued by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC).

Example

Driver name: Alexander Conner Trip date: January 2, 2022

Description of violation: The carrier operated and engaged in HHG moves from November 6, 2021 through January 9, 2022 without a valid permit issued by the commission. The sample period for this investigation is October 18, 2021 through April 18, 2022. The company operated commercial motor vehicles and conducted HHG moves on a total of five occasions without a valid permit within the sample period on:

December (2021) 1 (job: Ben & Naomi), 3, (job: Jenette Peterson), 24 (job: Sheehan) - (3 occasions)

January (2022) 2 (job: Megan H.), 3 (job: Corin M.) - (2 occasions)





U.S. DOT #: 3427558

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Part B Violations

8	Primary: 396.3(b)			Drivers/Vehicles	
STATE	• , ,	Discovered	Checked	In Violation	Checked
	CFR Equivalent: 396.3(b)	1	1	1	1

Description

Failing to keep minimum records of inspection and vehicle maintenance.

Example

Vehicle: VIN: 1HTSCNKM8MH364626 License #C16057X

Trip Date: April 14, 2022

Description of violaton: The carrier failed to maintain a vehicle maintenance file.

9	Primary: 396.17(a)			Drivers/Vehicles	
STATE	, ,	Discovered	Checked	In Violation	Checked
	CFR Equivalent: 396.17(a)	1	1	1	1

Description

Using a commercial motor vehicle not periodically inspected.

Example

Vehicle: 1HTSCNKM8MH364626

Trip date: April 14, 2022

Description of violation: The carrier operated a commercial motor vehicle not periodically inspected.

Safety Fitness Rating Information:			oos	Vehicle (CF	R): 0
Total Miles Operated Recordable Accidents	6,000 0	Number of	Number of Vehicle Inspected (CR): 1 OOS Vehicle (MCMIS): 0		
Recordable Accidents/Million	n Miles 0.00	Number of Vehicles Inspected (MCMIS): 0			
our proposed safety rating is :		Rating Factors		Acute	Critical
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		Factor 1:	S	0	0
		Factor 2:	S	0	0
CONDITIONAL		Factor 3:	U	0	3
OONDIII	VIIAL	Factor 4:	S	0	0
		Factor 5:	N	0	0
		Factor 6:	S		_



U.S. DOT #: 3427558

Review Date: 06/01/2022

Part B Requirements and/or Recommendations

- 1. Criminal background checks for prospective employees.
 - (1) Each carrier must complete a criminal background check for every person the carrier intends to hire.
 - (2) The carrier must keep evidence that it has completed a criminal background check for every person the carrier intends to hire for as long as that person is employed and for three years thereafter.
 - (3) No carrier may hire a person who has been convicted of any crime involving theft, burglary, assault, sexual misconduct, identity theft, fraud, false statements, or the manufacture, sale, or distribution of a controlled substance within the past five years.

2. HOS COMPLIANCE BASIC PROCESS BREAKDOWN: Policies and Procedures

DESCRIPTION OF PROCESS BREAKDOWN: Company Owner, Alexander Conner failed to have a system in place for tracking HOS which resulted in failing to monitor driver hours of service causing the potential for unsafe driving due to fatigue.

BASIC SPECIFIC RECOMMENDED REMEDIES

Implement Safety Improvement Practices: The following are recommended practices related to Policies and Procedures

- · Develop a policy and procedure describing how management will monitor and track logs for falsification.
- Establish a policy that prohibits dispatchers from assigning a load to drivers without hours available to complete the load on time.
- Develop a policy stating that drivers should not violate their Hours-of-Service (HOS) Out-of-Service (OOS) order under any circumstances, and immediately contact the carrier when a driver is placed OOS.
- Develop a policy requiring drivers to report their available hours to dispatch during "check-in" calls.
- Develop policies and procedures for ensuring proper retention of Record of Duty Status (RODS) according to regulations.
- Establish a policy requiring drivers to submit copies of all roadside inspections to carrier management within 24 hours
- Develop a policy stating that drivers are required to submit all Records of Duty Status (RODS) and supporting documentation, such as expense receipts, within 13 days of the end of the trip.
- Establish a policy stating that drivers are required to check with their supervisor, manager, or dispatcher to review their "fit-for-duty" status before starting a job, and that drivers who are ill to the extent that their ability and/or alertness is impaired are prohibited from working on safety-sensitive assignments.
- Develop a written and progressive disciplinary policy focused on taking corrective action to ensure drivers comply with regulations and policies. A progressive disciplinary policy could include, among other things, written warnings, suspensions, or work restrictions, monetary penalties, and termination. This policy should also specify consequences for any carrier official who knowingly and willfully allows Hours-of-Service (HOS) violations.

3. WAC 480-15-590

Leasing vehicles.

A carrier must enter into an equipment lease agreement before operating a leased motor vehicle. The carrier must ensure that all of the following conditions are met:

- (1) The carrier signs the form and ensures the lessor signs the form.
- (2) The carrier marks "master lease" if the carrier intends to use a master lease instead of individual leases.
- (3) A copy of the lease is carried in all leased motor vehicles.
- (4) Copies of all leases are kept in the carrier's permanent files for at least one year after the lease expires.
- (5) The carrier gives a copy of the lease to the owner of the leased motor vehicle.
- (6) The carrier takes possession, control and use of the motor vehicle during the period of the lease agreement.



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- (7) The leased motor vehicle is properly insured as specified in WAC 480-15-530 and 480-15-550.
- (8) The carrier properly identifies the motor vehicle as specified in RCW 81.80.305.
- (9) The carrier charges appropriate tariff rates and charges.
- (10) The driver of the leased motor vehicle is on the carrier's payroll during the leased period.
- (11) The leased motor vehicle is operated in compliance with laws and rules as specified in WAC 480-15-560 and 480-15-570.
- (12) The driver of the leased motor vehicle is subject to the company's alcohol and controlled substance policies.
- (13) The carrier and the owner of the leased motor vehicle specify on the lease form who is responsible for all expenses relating to the leased motor vehicles.
- (14) The carrier complies with the terms of the lease.
- **4.** DESCRIPTION OF PROCESS BREAKDOWN: Company Owner Alexander Conner knowingly operated without a valid permit from November 5, 2021 through January 10, 2022.

Household goods carrier operating in and engaging in business as a household goods carrier in commerce without a valid permit issued by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC).

Household goods carriers—Permit required, penalty, cease and desist orders.

- (1) No person shall engage in business as a household goods carrier without first obtaining a household goods carrier permit from the commission.
- (2) Permits issued to any household goods carrier must be exercised by the carrier to the fullest extent to render reasonable service to the public. Applications for household goods carrier permits or permit extensions must be on file for a period of at least thirty days before issuance unless the commission finds that special conditions require earlier issuance.
- (3) The commission must issue a permit or permit extension to any qualified applicant, authorizing the whole or any part of the operations covered by the application, if it is found that: The applicant is fit, willing, and able to perform the services proposed and conform to this chapter and the requirements, rules, and regulations of the commission; the operations are consistent with the public interest; and, in the case of common carriers, they are required by the present or future public convenience and necessity; otherwise, the application must be denied.
- (4) Any person who engages in business as a household goods carrier in violation of subsection (1) of this section is subject to a penalty of up to five thousand dollars per violation.
- (a) If the basis for the violation is advertising, each advertisement reproduced, broadcast, or displayed via a particular medium constitutes a separate violation.
- (b) In deciding the amount of penalty to be imposed per violation, the commission shall consider the following factors:
- (i) The carrier's willingness to comply with the requirements of RCW 81.80.070 and the commission's rules under this chapter; and
- (ii) The carrier's history with respect to compliance with this section.
- (5) Any person who engages in business as a household goods carrier in violation of a cease and desist order issued by the commission under RCW 81.04.510 is subject to a penalty of up to ten thousand dollars per violation.
- 5. Drivers may not drive intrastate unless they are physically qualified.

Implement Safety Improvement Practices: The following are recommended practices related to Policies and Procedures.

- Develop a policy for the periodic review (at least twice per year) of driver qualification files. The motor carrier should not rely on third-party sources, such as insurance agencies. The procedure should include controls to ensure that documents requiring renewals are in place, to remind drivers of expiration dates on medical certificates, so they can schedule another physical examination in advance, and to prevent falsification of documents related to driver qualification.
- Establish a policy requiring drivers to submit copies of all vehicle and roadside inspections and moving violations to carrier management within 24 hours, and to notify management of suspended or revoked Commercial Driver's Licenses (CDLs) immediately following notification of suspension/revocation.
- Establish a policy requiring all new (since 2003) Commercial Driver's License (CDL) drivers to submit



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documentation of entry-level driver training in - for example, driver qualification requirements, Hours of Service (HOS), driver wellness, and whistleblower protection - or to take entry-level training provided by the carrier.

- Develop a policy for document retention and recordkeeping, including documents that are to be in the possession of the driver as proof of credentials.
- Develop a process to ensure that operations will always have the proper amount of fit drivers. This process would address how to deal with issues such as sick leave, vacation, training, suspension, and termination.
- Develop a written and progressive disciplinary policy focused on taking corrective action to ensure drivers comply with regulations and policies. A progressive disciplinary policy could include, among other things, written warnings, suspensions, or work restrictions, monetary penalties, and termination. This policy should also specify consequences for any carrier official who knowingly and willfully allows Driver Fitness Violations.
- 6. Establish a systematic maintenance records program for all vehicles. Maintain a complete file for each subject vehicle, recording all repair, maintenance and inspection operations performed.
- 7. Maintain complete driver qualification files on each driver employed. File must contain the drivers employment application, employment history investigation, inquiry into drivers driving record obtained within 30 days of hire date, certificate of annual review of driving record, annual copy of driving record, drivers annual certificate of traffic convictions, certificate of road test or equivalent and current medical certificate.
- 8. Understand Why Compliance Saves Time and Money: Compliance with FMCSRs will not only save lives, but also saves your business time and money. Tracking how much your business spends on non-compliance activities can help you understand the many benefits of compliance to your business and why safety is good business.

Document and Follow Through on Action Plans: Document and follow through on action plans to ensure the actions you are taking are creating improvement in safety management and compliance.

This free online guide provides simple explanations and templates to help companies that operate CMVs understand and comply with Federal safety regulations: https://csa.fmcsa.dot.gov/SafetyPlanner/Default.asp

NOTICE: A pattern and/or repeated violations of the same or related acute or critical regulations (violations of the same Part in Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations) will cause the maximum penalties allowed by law to be assessed under Section 222 of the Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999 (MCSIA). A pattern of violations means two or more violations of acute and/or critical regulations in three or more Parts of Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations discovered during any eligible investigation. Repeated violations mean violation(s) of an acute regulation of the same Part of Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations discovered in an investigation after one or more closed enforcement actions within a six-year period and/or violation(s) of a critical regulation in the same Part of Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations discovered in an investigation after two or more closed enforcement actions within a six-year period.

The Pre-Employment Screening Program (PSP) is a screening tool that assists motor carriers in investigating crash history and roadside safety performance of prospective drivers. The PSP allows motor carriers to purchase 5 years of crash data and 3 years of roadside inspection data from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) Motor Carrier Management Information System (MCMIS). Records are available 24 hours a day via Web request. Motor carriers should visit the following website or more information: http://www.psp.fmcsa.dot.gov/Pages/default.aspx

All motor carriers and truck drivers are needed to fight against terrorism and hijacking. You could be a target. Protect yourself, your trucks, your cargo, and your facilities. Discuss with your employees/drivers the "Security Measures for Truck Drivers and Companies" which were provided and reviewed with motor carrier official. Motor carriers should visit the following website for more information:

http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/documents/Hijacking-Brochure.pdf

PLEASE NOTE: The violations discovered during this compliance review may affect the civil penalty proposed in any subsequent Notice of Claim. In addition, your history of prior violations of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety



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Regulations, Federal Hazardous Material Regulations or the Federal Motor Carrier Commercial Regulations may also affect the civil penalty proposed in any subsequent Notice of Claim. Your signature for receipt of this report acknowledges your understanding that the violations discovered by the UTC during this review may be used to calculate any civil penalty proposed because of this review.

9. Safety Management Plan (SMP) Requirement

You have been assessed a proposed safety rating of CONDITIONAL, within 60 days, send and have approved, a safety management plan to the UTC describing what actions you have taken in response to this review to ensure that you are complying with the Motor Carrier Safety Regulations.

The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) allows motor carriers to request an upgrade of its safety rating based on corrective action as defined in 49 CFR, section 385.17. The request for an upgrade must include a written description of correction actions taken, documentation of these corrective actions, and an explanation of how its operations meet the safety standards and factors specified in 49 CFR sections 385.5 and 385.7.

Within 60 days from the receipt of your proposed rating, you may request, in writing, a change to your safety rating based on corrective actions. You should do so as soon as possible so the UTC has the opportunity to review and evaluate your safety management plan before the effective date of the final safety rating. If you fail to obtain an improved rating within 60 days from the receipt of your proposed rating, the unsatisfactory rating will become final and you must cease operations.

You must develop a safety management plan:

- 1. The plan must address all violations on the most recent Compliance Review. Corrective actions to address other violations noted on your review must also be included.
- 2. Identify why the violations were permitted to occur.
- 3. Discuss the actions taken to correct the deficiency or deficiencies that allowed the violations to occur. Include actual documentation of this corrective action. (For example: documentation may include items such as new policies and procedures, training programs and sign-in lists, or copies of new forms.
- 4. Outline actions taken to ensure that similar violations do not reoccur in the future. YOU MUST DEMONSTRATE THAT YOUR OPERATIONS CURRENTLY MEET THE SAFETY STANDARD AND FACTORS SPECIFIED IN 49 CFR 385.5 and 385.7. To do so, you must demonstrate that you now have adequate safety management controls in place which function effectively to ensure acceptable compliance with applicable safety requirements.
- 5. If your request includes actions that will be conducted in the near future, such as training, reorganization of departments, purchasing of computer programs, etc, include a detailed description of the activity or training and a schedule of when that activity will commence and when it will be completed.
- 6. Include any additional documentation relating to motor carrier safety and the prevention of crashes that you believe supports your request.
- 7. Include a written statement certifying the carrier will operate within federal and state regulations and the carrier's operation currently meets the safety standard and factors specific in 49 CFR 385.5 and 385.7. A corporate officer; partner, or the owner of the company must sign the statement.

You must submit your request to:

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission Attention: Jason Sharp, Motor Carrier Safety Supervisor jason.sharp@utc.wa.gov





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Reason for Review: Compliance Review Planned Action: Compliance Monitoring

Parts Reviewed Certification:

325 382 383 387 390 391 392 393 395 396 397 398 399 171 172 173 177 178 180

✓

Prior Reviews Prior Prosecutions

Unsat/Unfit Information

Is the motor carrier of passengers subject to the safety fitness procedures contained in 49 CFR part 385 subpart A, AND does it transport passengers in a commercial motor vehicle?

Does carrier transport placardable quantities of hazardous materials?

Unsat/Unfit rule: Not Applicable

Corporate Contact: ALEXANDER CONNER **Special Study Information:**

Corporate Contact Title: OWNER

Remarks:

INVESTIGATIVE REPORT RECEIVED BY:

Name: Alexander Conner

Title: Owner

Carrier Name: Mr. Muscles Moving Co LLC

USDOT: 3427558 UTC Assignment: 122051 Date: June 1, 2022

REASON FOR THE INVESTIGATION:

As part of the 2022 Motor Carrier Safety routine safety investigation work plan, this investigation was assigned to Tracy Cobile, Special Investigator of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (commission). The carrier operates in intrastate commerce. This is the carrier's initial review with the commission.

SCOPE OF THE INVESTIGATION:

This investigation is a comprehensive intrastate investigation and was assigned to Special Investigator Tracy Cobile on April 18, 2022. The carrier was contacted on April 18, via email and telephone, and a full investigation was set to begin April 27, as an on-site investigation. Investigator Cobile corresponded with Alexander "Lex" Conner (Owner) via email (ajconner99@hotmail.com <mailto:ajconner99@hotmail.com>) and telephone (206-406-0920) during this investigation. Present at the start of the review was Special Investigator Cobile along with Conner.

SMS was checked on April 18, and it was noted that no BASIC was in alert status.

CARRIER OPERATION DESCRIPTION:

Mr. Muscles Moving Co LLC (carrier) is a household goods carrier operating out of Burien, Washington. The carrier is a provisional household goods company that began operations in April 2020 and received temporary operating authority on June 15, 2020, the permit was cancelled on November 5, 2021, for no insurance and reinstated on January 10, 2022. The carrier currently owns and operates one straight truck classified as a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) operating under the



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UTC permit. The carrier currently employs one driver operating within the state of Washington within the past 365 days. Mr. Muscles Moving Co LLC recorded a gross revenue of \$47,000 for the calendar year ending December 31, 2021. The carrier is not and has not been involved in any emergency relief efforts in the last 365-days. Conner is responsible for the carrier's safety program.

PRE-INVESTIGATION:

On April 18, a carrier information packet was emailed to the carrier requesting investigation information, the records that would need to be reviewed, and the information the carrier would need to make available for review. The carrier was requested to fill-out and return the carrier information packet with a list of all commercial motor vehicle drivers utilized in the past 12 months, a list of all commercial motor vehicles utilized in the last 12 months and an all-employee list prior to the start of this investigation. The carrier packet was returned incomplete via email on April 21. The documents requested at the time of review were a list of all accidents for the past 365 days from the date of review, driver qualification files for all drivers used within the past 12 months, insurance documentation, all records of duty status (logbooks/timecards) for the previous six months with supporting documents, all maintenance files and records for each commission regulated vehicles. A copy of the carrier's profile and MCS-150 were originally obtained through MCMIS on April 18.

Commission records show that Conner attended the initial Household Goods Training orientation provided by commission staff on May 20, 2020 and Household Good Training on January 22, 2022. This is an in-depth training that covers compliance responsibilities and requirements of household goods carriers for consumer protection and safety.

CDLIS (DRIVER LICENSE) CHECK:

In accordance with the eFOTM, all driver license status/histories were required to be checked based on the current number of drivers. The driver license statuses were checked through CDLIS on April 21, 2022. Secure Access Washington (SAW) was checked for Washington licensed drivers. See Part 383 below for details.

AUTHORITY:

Mr. Muscles Moving Co LLC is an authorized for-hire carrier of household goods operating in intrastate commerce and is required to have operating authority. The carrier operates under the USDOT number 3427558. The carrier has intrastate operating authority through the commission under permit number THG069221. See Part 392 for details.

INSURANCE:

Mr. Muscles Moving Co LLC is required to maintain a minimum level of public liability of \$750,000 Auto Liability and \$20,000 Cargo insurance. A check with the carrier's insurance shows a \$75,000 liability insurance and \$25,000 cargo insurance with Progressive - United Financial Casualty Company. See Part 387.

RED FLAG DRIVERS:

A&I (SMS) was checked through Portal on April 18, and no red flag violations were discovered in the last 365 days.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL SUPPLEMENTAL REVIEW:

This is a full comprehensive investigation therefore a Drug and Alcohol Supplemental Review was not required.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SUPPLEMENTAL REVIEW:

Mr. Muscles Moving Co LLC does not transport any hazardous materials. A Hazardous Materials Supplemental Review is not required.

INVESTIGATION:

This is a full comprehensive investigation that checked Parts 376, 380, 382, 383, 387, 390, 391, 392, 393, 395 and 396.

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Part 376 Lease and Interchange of Vehicles:



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The carrier has trip leased vehicles in the previous 365 days.

Conner states the company trip leased over 20 U-Haul rental trucks prior to the investigation review period. Investigator Cobile was able to determine that U-Haul trip lease rentals were used on three occasions during the review period for this investigation. Investigator Cobile spoke with the carrier in detail about the retention requirements of the original lease agreements and the minimum insurance requirements on trip leased vehicles. It was explained to Conner that the carrier must not trip lease trucks from U-Haul due to the lack of adequate liability and cargo coverage required for HHG moving companies.

Two violations of WAC 480-15-590 occurred when the carrier failed to maintain the original lease agreement for a term leased vehicle the company operated in the previous 365 days and had operating authority.

Based on the records provided during the six months preceding the start to this investigation and when the carrier did not have operating authority, the carrier used a trip leased vehicle on November 30, 2021 while unpermitted (no operating authority) in violation of RCW 81.80.075(1) and did not maintain an original lease agreement for the following vehicle: November 30, 2021, U-Haul Truck Rental #TT6436D, job/(customer) Malikia

Part 380 Special Training:

Mr. Muscles Moving Co LLC does not operate long combination vehicles (LCVs). The carrier has not employed drivers that meet the definition of entry level driver.

Part 40 and Part 382

Mr. Muscles Moving Co LLC does not operate vehicles with a GVWR of 26,001 lbs. or more and is not required to have a controlled substance and alcohol testing program.

Part 383 Commercial Drivers' License:

Mr. Muscles Moving Co LLC does not operate vehicles over 26,001 lbs. and are not required to have commercial driver licenses. (See CDLIS).

Part 387 Financial Responsibility:

The carrier's vehicle is insured with Earley Insurance Solutions/Collective Innovative Solutions, LLC, a broker for United Financial Casualty Company-Progressive Commercial Insurance, policy number 02877240-0 and 72MTS028832 for liability and cargo insurance. The insurance agent is, Sondra Earley, contact number is 425-681-3253 and email sondraear@hotmail.com. Investigator Cobile verified the carrier maintained \$750,000 in Auto Liability coverage and \$25,000 in cargo insurance. Investigator Cobile determined based on the insurance policy records on file that there was a lapse in liability insurance coverage from November 4, 2021 through November 27, 2021. The current insurance policy matches the Form E on file with the commission.

Based on the records provided during the six months preceding the start to this investigation, the carrier operated commercial motor vehicles in commerce conducting HHG moves using trip leased/rented U-Hauls without auto liability and property damage insurance (WAC 480-15-530) on two occasions from November 6, 2021 through January 9, 2022 while unpermitted (no operating authority) in violation of RCW 81.80.075(1) on the following days:

October 23, 2021 (Customer: Kevin & Cara - U-Haul truck #JH2941D) November 30, 2021 (Customer: Malika - U-Haul truck #TT6436D)

Based on the records provided during the six months preceding the start to this investigation, the carrier operated commercial motor vehicles in commerce conducting HHG moves using trip leased/rented U-Hauls without cargo insurance coverage (WAC 480-15-550) on two occasions from November 6, 2021 through January 9, 2022 while unpermitted (no operating authority) in violation of RCW 81.80.075(1) on the following days:

October 23, 2021 (Customer: Kevin & Cara - U-Haul truck #JH2941D) November 30, 2021 (Customer: Malika - U-Haul truck #TT6436D)

Part 390 General FMCSR:





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The carrier has not been involved in any Department of Transportation recordable accidents in the last 365 days.

Mr. Muscles Moving Co LLC last updated the MCS-150 on April 25, 2022, and the miles travelled (VMT) for calendar year 2021 was 4.000 miles.

Part 391 Qualification of Drivers:

The carrier currently employs one driver that operated in intrastate commerce during the previous 365 days. Per eFOTM guidelines, a sample size of one Driver Qualification File was to be inspected. The driver file requested to be reviewed was for driver Alexander Conner.

One critical-type violation of 391.51(a) occurred when the carrier failed to maintain a driver qualification file for each driver employed.

One critical-type violation of 391.45(a) occurred when the carrier allowed drivers to operate a commercial motor vehicle who had not been medically certified by a medical examiner listed on the National Registry of Medical Examiners.

Based on the records provided during the six months preceding the start of this investigation, the carrier used a driver that was not medically examined and certified on 23 occasions when the carrier had a valid permit (operating authority).

Alexander Conner operated a total of 23 times without a valid medical examiners certificate (MEC) on the following days: October (2021) 23, 25 (2 occasions)

November (2021) 5

January (2022) 10, 14, 19, 28, 29, 30 (6 occasions)

February (2022) 2, 5, 7, 16, 19, 21 (6 occasions)

March (2022) 2, 9, 15, 19, 20, 23, 24 (7 occasions)

April (2022) 14

Based on the records provided during the six months preceding the start of this investigation and when the carrier did not have operating authority, the carrier used drivers that were not medically examined and certified on six occasions from November 6, 2021 through January 9, 2022 in violation of 81.80.075(1) as follows:

November (2021) 30 (2 occasions)

December (2021) 1, 3, 24 (3 occasions)

January (2022) 2, 3 (2 occasions)

In accordance with FMCSA Memorandum MC-ECS-2012-0004 medical certificates for 25 percent of the driver qualification file sample size (one) were to be selected for verification. The carrier did not have a medical card at the time of this investigation; therefore, no medical card was checked.

Part 392 - Driving of Commercial Motor Vehicles:

Mr. Muscles Moving Co LLC is an intrastate carrier and at the time of this investigation the carrier has not met the annual reporting requirements for 2020 and 2021.

The carrier's principal place of business (PPOB) is located at 1050 151st Street, Burien, Washington 98166. The carrier also states he has conducted business and kept his vehicle at 9440 Olson Place SW, Seattle, Washington 98106. Currently, all household goods moves start and stop from the carrier's PPOB in Burien.

Alexander Conner was informed that using radar detectors and handheld devices while driving is prohibited.

Three critical violations of WAC 480-15-555 occurred when the carrier failed to conduct/retain paperwork containing criminal background checks or hiring an individual with a disqualifying conviction for a household goods carrier in the state of Washington.

One violation of WAC 480-15-480(4) occurred when the carrier failed to provide annual reporting and pay regulatory fees to UTC by May 1 of each year.

Five violations of RCW 81.80.075(1) occurred when the carrier operated and engaged in business conducting household



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goods moves without a valid permit issued by the commission.

Part 395 - Hours of Service:

Mr. Muscles Moving Co LLC employed one driver during the previous 365 days, one driver has driven during the last six months. In accordance with eFOTM procedures, a sample size of one Record of Duty Status (RODS) were required to be checked for a 30-day period. Mr. Muscles Moving Co LLC operated all services under the short-haul exemption in Part 395.1(e) within the last 365 days and does not require an ELD.

For this investigation, a 30-day period was requested to be reviewed for April 1 through April 30, 2022, for driver Alexander Conner. This required that 30 RODS be checked. As part of the investigation, supporting documents were also requested. Owner, Alexander Conner acknowledges the carrier failed to require driver Alexander Conner to make a RODS for the review period requested.

Thirty critical violations of 395.8(a)(1) occurred when the carrier failed to require drivers to make a record of duty status.

Part 393 & 396 - Maintenance and Inspection:

The carrier owned and operated two straight trucks that are classified as commercial motor vehicles in intrastate commerce during the previous 365-days, with one straight truck (VIN 1HTSCNKM8MH364626) currently operating. Conner states the 2004 Ford F350 VIN 1FDWE35L0YHA66783 was stolen in June 2021. The carrier states the major vehicle maintenance is conducted primarily with Burien Truck Repair, 14600 Ambaum Blvd. SW, Burien, Washington 98166 (206-763-9100).

Vehicle Maintenance Records:

In accordance with the eFOTM, a sample size of two vehicle maintenance files were to be reviewed.

Investigator Cobile requested the maintenance file for vehicle VIN: 1HTSCNKM8MH364626.

One violation of 396.3(b) occurred when the carrier failed to maintain vehicle maintenance files.

One critical-type violation of 396.17(a) occurred when the carrier operated commercial motor vehicles that were not periodically inspected.

Driver Vehicle Inspection Reports (DVIRs):

The carrier only operates one vehicle. DVIRs are not required to be kept.

Vehicle Inspections:

In accordance with eFOTM, a sample size of one vehicle was to be inspected. The vehicle was inspected at the carrier's

The vehicle inspected is as follows:

VIN: 1HTSCNKM8MH364626

See attached Aspen report.

CLOSING INTERVIEW:

The closing interview was conducted on June 1, 2022, via telephone. Present at the closing interview was Investigator Cobile and company owner Conner. This investigation resulted in a proposed conditional safety rating.

During the on-site interview Conner was forthcoming and honest with the information being requested and provided documentation following the onsite review to correct some of the identified violations. Technical assistance was also provided to the carrier during the process of this review.



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DOCUMENTS PROVIDED TO THE CARRIER:

The carrier was provided with one copy of the review, Parts A and B with requirements and recommendations to include the Safety Management Plan (SMP) guidance and Safety Fitness Rating. The carrier was also provided with an electronic copy of the guide "Achieving a Satisfactory Motor Carrier Safety Record."

FOLLOW-ON ACTION:

Continued compliance monitoring. Recommend imposing administrative penalties for critical violations WAC 480-15-555 and 395.8(a)(1), and critical-type violations 391.45(a), 391.51(a) and 396.17(a) consistent with the enforcement policy. Recommend the carrier complete and have approved a safety management plan (SMP) and perform compliance inspections within six months to one year after SMP is approved. Recommend forwarding to the Consumer Protection section for an investigation into the carrier operating without a valid permit (permit cancelled TV210846) between November 6, 2021 and January 9, 2022 (RCW 81.80.075(1)). Recommend no issuance of permanent permit until penalties are satisfied and the carrier achieves a satisfactory safety rating. Work with AAG to issue Notice of Intent to Cancel (NOIC).

Upload Authorized: Yes No

Authorized by: Date:

Uploaded: Yes No Failure Code:

Verified by: Date:



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Safety Fitness Rating Explanation

This report lists the facts which were used to determine the Safety Fitness Rating for the above motor carrier. Federal and State violations are combined for rating purposes. However, only the federal or federal equivalent section number is shown below. A check mark identifies the range within which the data fell when determining the Safety Fitness Rating. All information within a FACTOR block relates only to that FACTOR.

FACTOR 1 VIOLATIONS AFFECTII NONE		0 Point = Satisfactory 1 Point = Conditional >1 Point = Unsatisfactory
FACTOR 2 VIOLATIONS AFFECTI NONE	Driver Qualification (CFR Parts 382	2, 383, 391) û 0 Point = Satisfactory 1 Point = Conditional >1 Point = Unsatisfactory
	TOTAL POINTS: 0 = SATIS	SFACTORY
FACTOR 3 VIOLATIONS AFFECTING S 392.2 S 395.8(a)(1) FACTOR 4 VIOLATIONS AFFECTING NONE	1 (C) 2 (C) TOTAL POINTS: 3 = UNSA /ehicle/Maintenance (CFR Parts 393, 396, F	1 Point = Conditional û >1 Point = Unsatisfactory
Fewer than 3 Inspections		e Inspections
Rate same as other Regulatory Factors 1, 2, and 3	OOS Less than 34% Satisfactory Conditional If a pattern of Non-Compliance with a Critical or an Acute Violation OOS 34% or Hig Conditional Unsatisfactory If a pattern of Non-Compliance with a Critical or or an Acute Violation	
	azardous Material (CFR Parts 397, 171, 172 carrier of Hazardous Material	2, 173, 177, 180)

FACTOR 6 Accident (Recordable Accident Rate)

((Recordable Accidents) \times (1 million)) \div (Total Miles) = Rate (0 \times 1,000,000) \div 6,000 = 0 = SATISFACTORY



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Safety Fitness Rating Explanation

OVERALL SAFETY FITNESS RATING

Number of Factors (1-6) shown above as less than satisfactory
Unsatisfactory
Conditional

1 0 = CONDITIONAL

FORMULA TO CALCULATE THE OVERALL SAFETY FITNESS RATING

Number of Factors

	Unsatisfactory	Conditional	OVERALL RATING
	0	2 or fewer	Satisfactory
	0	3 or more	Conditional
û	1	2 or fewer	Conditional
	1	3 or more	Unsatisfactory
	2	0 or more	Unsatisfactory