

Christopher T. Wall Direct: (253) 620-6522 E-mail: cwall@gth-law.com

May 7, 2015

VIA EMAIL and U.S. MAIL records@utc.wa.gov

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W. P.O. Box 47250 Olympia, WA 98504-7250

RE:

Five Star Moving & Storage, LLC

Docket No. TV-150223

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am an attorney at Gordon Thomas Honeywell LLP, and I represent Five Star Moving & Storage, LLC with regard to Docket No. TV-150223. My mailing address is P.O. Box 1157, Tacoma, WA 98401-1157. My phone number is (253) 620-6522. My fax number is (253) 620-6565 and my email address is <a href="mailto:cwall@gth-law.com">cwall@gth-law.com</a>. I offer this letter as a cover letter to the Motion to Disqualify I submitted on or about May 5, 2015.

Please contact me if you need any further information.

Sincerely,

Christopher T. Wall

CTW:bf

Reply to: Tacoma Office 1201 Pacific Ave., Suite 2100 Tacoma, WA 98402

(253) 620-6500 (253) 620-6565 (fax) Seattle Office 600 University, Suite 2100 Seattle, WA 98101

(206) 676-7500 (206) 676-7575 (fax)

## BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In Re Application of:

FIVE STARS MOVING & STORAGE, LLC,

for a permit to operate as a motor carrier of household goods.

NO. TV-150223

MOTION TO DISQUALIFY

TO: WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Applicant Five Stars Moving LLC ("Five Stars") has the utmost respect for Judge Rayne Pearson; however, applicant respectfully submits that Judge Pearson cannot be unbiased, unprejudiced and impartial in this matter. Applicant believes that it cannot obtain a fair and impartial hearing before Judge Pearson. Applicant moves to disqualify Judge Pearson under RCW 34.05.425.

"Due process, the appearance of fairness, and Canon 3(D)(1) of the Code of Judicial Conduct (CJC) require that a judge disqualify from hearing a case if that judge is biased against a party or if his or her impartiality may be reasonably questioned." In re Marriage of Meredith, 148 Wn. App. 887, 903, 201 P.3d 1056, 1064 (2009).

Mr. William Trick is one of the owners of Five Stars Moving & Storage, LLC. More than 15 years ago, Mr. Trick was convicted of a sexual offense.

In 2013, Mr. Trick was involved in an application for a permit for B&Z Moving LLC. Judge Pearson was then employed as a Consumer Protection Manager for the Utilities

MOT. TO DISQUALIFY- 1 of 3 (TV-150223) [4820-0683-6003]

GORDON THOMAS HONEYWELL LLP 1201 PACIFIC AVENUE, SUITE 2100 POST OFFICE BOX 1157 TACOMA, WASHINGTON 98401-1157 (253) 620-6500 - FACSIMILE (253) 620-6565

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and Transportation Commission. Then-Manager Pearson advocated that the permit be denied to B&Z Moving because of Mr. Trick's involvement in the business. Then-manager Pearson took the bright-line position that Mr. Trick's conviction prevented him from participating in the business *in any way*.

In this case, the sole basis for the Commission's intent to deny is Mr. Trick's 15-year old conviction. Given Judge Pearson's bright-line stance on the sole dispositive issue in this matter and her advocacy against Mr. Trick's ability to participate in this same type of business, applicant reasonably questions Judge Pearson's impartiality. Applicant respectfully requests that Judge Pearson recuse or disqualify herself.

Respectfully submitted this 4th day of May, 2015 at Tacoma, Washington.

GORDON JHOMAS HONEYWELL LLP

Christopher T. Wall, WSBA No. 45873

cwall@gth-law.com Attorneys for Applicant

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

2	I hereby certify, under penalty of perjury, that on the day of May, 2015, I deposited in the U.S. mail a properly stamped and addressed envelope directed to all parties of record as noted below, containing a copy of the document to which this certification is attached.	
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5	Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission	[ ] Via ABC-Legal Messenger [X] Via U.S. Mail
6	P.O. Box 47250 Olympia, WA 98504-7250	[ ] Via Facsimile: [ ] Via Email
7		•
	Andrew O'Connell	[ ] Via ABC-Legal Messenger
8	Assistant Attorney General	[X] Via U.S. Mail
9	1400 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW P.O. Box 40128	[ ] Via Facsimile: [ ] Via Email
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Jennifer Misten-Holder, Legal Assistant of GORDON THOMAS HONEYWELL LLP