



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

July 10, 2018

Mark L. Johnson, Executive Director and Secretary  
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW  
P.O. Box 47250  
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

RE: *Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v. Wise Choice Movers, LLC*  
Commission Staff's Response to Request for Payment Arrangements  
Docket TV-180287

Dear Mr. Johnson:

On April 24, 2018, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) issued a penalty assessment under Docket TV-180287 against Wise Choice Movers, LLC (Wise Choice or company) in the amount of \$22,900 for 235 critical violations of Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 480-15-555, Criminal Background Checks for Prospective Employees, and WAC 480-15-560, Equipment Safety Requirements, which require household goods carriers to comply with Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 393 – Parts and Accessories Necessary for Safe Operation, and Part 396 – Inspection, Repair, and Maintenance; and WAC 480-15-570, Driver Safety Requirements, which requires household goods carriers to comply with Title 49 CFR Part 391 – Qualifications of Drivers.

On May 7, 2018, Wise Choice filed with the Commission its application for mitigation of penalties. Brandon Wise, owner of Wise Choice, admitted the violations, offered explanations for the violations that occurred, provided the corrective action steps taken by the company, and asked that the penalties be reduced for reasons set out in his response.

On May 15, 2018, Commission staff (Staff) filed a response recommending the Commission grant the company's request for mitigation, in part, reducing the assessed penalty from \$22,900 to \$11,950. Staff further recommended that \$6,700 of the reduced penalty be suspended for a period of two years before being waived, subject to conditions.

On July 6, 2018, the Commission issued an order granting, in part, the company's request for mitigation of the \$22,900 penalty; reducing the penalty to \$11,950. In addition, the Commission suspended a \$6,700 portion of the penalty for a period of two years before being waived, subject

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to the conditions that: (1) Wise Choice must either pay the \$5,250 portion of the penalty that is not suspended or file jointly with Staff a proposed payment arrangement within 10 days of the order; and (2) Wise Choice may not incur any repeat violations of critical regulations.

On July 10, 2018, Wise Choice contacted Staff and proposed payment arrangements on the \$5,250 portion of the penalty that is not suspended. Staff supports the company's proposed monthly payments as follows:

Payment Plan		
Installment	Due Date	Amount
1	Aug. 1, 2018	\$1,000
2	Sept. 4, 2018	\$1,000
3	Oct. 1, 2018	\$1,000
4	Nov. 1, 2018	\$1,000
5	Dec. 3, 2018	\$1,250
	Total:	\$5,250

Wise Choice is aware that if it fails to pay any installment by the due date, or fails to pay at least the minimum monthly installment by the due date, the entire remaining balance will become immediately due and payable without further Commission order.

If you have any questions, please contact Jason Hoxit, Compliance Investigator, Consumer Protection, at 360-664-1320, or by email at [jason.hoxit@utc.wa.gov](mailto:jason.hoxit@utc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,



Bridgit Feeser  
Assistant Director, Consumer Protection