

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

April 12, 2019

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. Renzenberger, Inc., d/b/a

Hallcon

Commission Staff's Response to Request for Documents

Docket TH-190073

Dear Mr. Johnson:

On March 13, 2019, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (commission) issued a penalty assessment against Renzenberger, Inc., d/b/a Hallcon (Hallcon or company) in the amount of \$200 for violations of Washington Administrative Code 480-62-278, Contract Crew Transportation Vehicle and Driver Safety Requirements, which adopts Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 395 – Hours of Service of Drivers, as follows:

- Thirty violations of Title 49 CFR Part 395.8(a) Failing to require driver to make a record of duty status. Hallcon allowed its driver Lue Gene Florence to drive without making a record of duty status on 30 occasions between July 18, 2018, and August 16, 2018.¹
- Seventeen violations of Title 49 CFR Part 395.5(b)(2) Requiring or permitting a passenger-carrying motor vehicle driver to drive after having been on-duty more than 70 hours in eight consecutive days. Hallcon allowed its driver Lue Gene Florence to drive in violation of the 70-hour rule on 17 occasions between July 25, 2018, and August 16, 2018.²

¹ The driver, Mr. Florence, failed to record hours on-duty working for another employer.

² Mr. Florence exceeded the 70-hour rule by working for another employer.

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On March 26, 2019, Hallcon filed a response contesting the violations outlined in the penalty assessment. In its response, the company provided a table documenting Mr. Florence's hours of service between July 18, 2018, and August 16, 2018. The hours recorded in the table suggested that Mr. Florence's total hours worked for Hallcon did not exceed the 70-hour rule, in CFR Part 395.5(b)(2); however, the company failed to provide any evidence pertaining to the driver's hours worked for another employer.

On April 3, 2019, commission staff (staff) filed its response recommending that the commission uphold the violations and penalties against Hallcon. In the response, staff stated that the company failed to document Mr. Florence's hours worked for another employer in its contest.

On April 9, 2019, the commission issued a notice of document request, asking staff to provide documentation showing that Mr. Florence was also driving for another motor carrier, other than Hallcon, between July 18, 2018, and August 16, 2018, and the hours that Mr. Florence drove for all motor carriers during that period. Staff's response to the commission's request is below.

The violations of Title 49 CFR Part 395.5(b)(2) do not require Mr. Florence to drive for another motor carrier, but rather that Mr. Florence was on-duty working for another employer. Title 49 CFR Part 395.2 defines "on-duty time," which includes "[p]erforming any other work in the capacity, employ, or service of, a motor carrier; and [p]erforming any compensated work for a person who is not a motor carrier."

To calculate on-duty time, staff utilized an email from Lon Ingram, Corporate Safety Manager for Hallcon.³ Mr. Ingram's email included Mr. Florence's timecards for Hallcon, and the result of Hallcon's investigation into Mr. Florence, in which the company admitted the hours of service violations. The email acknowledged that:

"The driver in question divulged that he works another job Monday through Friday from 1530 until 2200 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. On Wednesday he works a small 3 hour shift. For Hallcon he works a scheduled 8 hrs from 2300 until 0700 Sunday through Friday, having off Friday at 0700 until Sunday at 2300 For Hallcon. Working these hours makes violations Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday."

On Oct. 8, 2018, staff completed its focused safety investigation of Hallcon, which included a memorandum formalizing staff's findings for the passenger complaint,⁴ as well as a spreadsheet identifying the 70-hour rule violations of Title 49 CFR Part 395.5(b)(2).⁵

³ See Attachment A for a copy of Hallcon's email, dated Sept. 8, 2018.

⁴ See Attachment B for a copy of staff's memorandum, dated Oct. 2, 2018.

⁵ See Attachment C for a copy of the spreadsheet identifying violations of Title 49 CFR Part 395.5(b)(2).

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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.

Sincerely,

Bridgit Feeser

Assistant Director, Consumer Protection

Attachment A

From: To: Lon Ingram Jr.

Cc:

Auderer, Robert (UTC)

<u>Drew Jones; Shane Flack; Josef Smith</u>

Subject:

HOS in Washington Lue gene Florence

Date: Attachments: Saturday, September 8, 2018 8:02:15 AM

LFlorence 8-04-18.pdf LFlorence 8-18-18.pdf

LFlorence 7-21-18.pdf

Good Morning

After doing some research we have come up with multiple issues. The driver in question divulged that he works another job Monday through Friday from 1530 until 2200 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. On Wednesday he works a small 3 hour shift. For Hallcon he works a scheduled 8 hrs from 2300 until 0700 Sunday through Friday, having off Friday at 0700 until Sunday at 2300 For Hallcon. Working these hours makes violations Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. Hallcon takes hours of service extremely serious and will be scheduling this employee differently to avoid this going forward. Also going forward we will be asking each current Employee in the state of Washington to disclose any other employment outside of Hallcon. New hires will be asked to fill out a form with all other paperwork disclosing other employment. Both of these items will be in place immediately. Let us know if any other information will be needed for this inquiry.

Thank you,

Lon Ingram, SMS
Corporate Safety Manager
Hallcon Corporation
M: 720-435-1361
Lingram@hallcon.com

Attachment A (continued)

Employee # Employee Nar			782 ENCE, LUE GI 3.0000	ENE		Renzenberger, P.O. Box 14610 14325 W 95th Lenexa, KS 66 800-878-0450x7) 215				Hir Paj Paj	pt. Name ed y Period y Group ysheet / I	Dates	07/0 TUE	6/2017 8/2018 ti SDA	COMA, WA Jarough 07/21/20	bb YARD 018
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07/10/2018 23:04	07/11/2018	07:14	Yard	C002025168	TACOMA, WA	K51 Rate:13.00				8.17	8.17		\$	106.21			
07/11/2018 22:58	07/12/2018	06:52	Yard	C002025763	TACOMA, WA	K51 Rate:13.00				7.90	7.90		\$	102.70			
07/12/2018 22:57	07/13/2018	06:55	Yard	C002026461	TACOMA, WA	K51 Rate:13.00				7.97	7.97		\$	103.61			
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						Total Due for Week						\$	512	1.59			
07/15/2018 through	07/21/2018													_			
07/15/2018 23:00	07/16/2018	06:51	Yard	C002028484	TACOMA, WA	K51 Rate:13.00				7.85	7.85		\$	102.05			
07/16/2018 23:00	07/17/2018	06:56	Yard	C002029180	TACOMA, WA	K51 Rate:13.00				7.93	7.93		\$	103.09			
07/17/2018 22:58	07/18/2018	06:50	Yard	C002029859	TACOMA WA	K51 Rate:13.00				7.87	7.87		\$	102.31			
07/19/2018 22:56	07/20/2018	06:51	Yard	C002031284	TACOMA WA	K51 Rate:13.00				7.92	7.92		\$	102.96			
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						Total Due for Week							410	.41			

Total Due \$ 923.00

Pay Period Total

Attachment A (continued)

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(07/24/2018 22:59	07/25/2018 06:	50 Yard	C002034719	TACOMA, WA	K51 Rate:13.00					7.85	7.85		\$ 102.05			
(07/25/2018 23:00	07/26/2018 07:	02 Yard	C002035405	TACOMA, WA	K51 Rate:13.00					8.03	8.03		\$ 104.39			
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(C002038166 C002038809	TACOMA WA	Total Due for Week					39.50	13.0		513.50 513.50	1		
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(07/29/2018 23:04 07/30/2018 22:56	07/30/2018 07: 07/31/2018 06:	50 Yard 51 Yard	C002038809	TACOMA, WA	K51 Rate:13.00				(8)	39.50 8.03 7.90	8.03 7.90		\$ 104.39 \$ 102.70	9		
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 Pay Period Total
 \$ Total

 Total Weekly Yard Trips
 1,027.26

 Total Due
 \$ 1,027.26

Attachment A (continued)

Employee # 90083782 Renzenberger, Inc. Dept. Name K51 TACOMA, WA Employee Name FLORENCE, LUE GENE P.O. Box 14610 Job YARD 11/16/2017 Hired 14325 W 95th Pay Period Dates 08/05/2018 through 08/18/2018 Lenexa, KS 66215 Pay Group TUESDA 800-878-0450x709 Yard Rate \$ / Hour 13.0000 Paysheet / PayRun#046900 053307 Road Rate \$ / Hour 15.0000 REPRINT Miles Miles Walt Walt Hours Hours Dispatch # Min Worked **End Time Drop Location** Paid Paid \$ Time Paid \$ Worked Log# Start Location Comments Adj. \$ Total Adj 08/05/2018 through 08/11/2018 08/05/2018 23:06 08/06/2018 06:51 C002043061 TACOMA WA K51 Rate:13.00 7.75 7.75 \$ 100.75 08/06/2018 23:00 08/07/2018 06:50 C002043587 Yard TACOMA WA K51 Rate:13.00 7.83 7.83 \$ 101.79 08/07/2018 23:00 08/08/2018 06:51 C002044263 TACOMA, WA K51 Rate:13.00 7.85 7.85 \$ 102.05 08/08/2018 23:00 08/09/2018 06:52 Yard C002044976 TACOMA WA K51 Rate:13.00 7.87 7.87 \$ 102.31 08/09/2018 23:01 08/10/2018 06:52 Yard C002045685 TACOMA WA K51 Rate:13.00 7.85 7.85 \$ 102.05 Effective Rate \$ / Hour 13.00 Pay Week Hours 39.15 39.15 \$ 508.95 \$ Total Hours Rate Total Weekly Yard Trips 508.95 39,15 13.00 Total Due for Week \$ 508.95 08/12/2018 through 08/18/2018 08/12/2018 23:14 08/13/2018 06:50 C002047712 K51 Rate:13.00 \$ 98.80 TACOMA, WA 7.60 7.60 08/13/2018 23:02 08/14/2018 06:50 Yard C002048423 TACOMA, WA K51 Rate:13.00 7.80 7.80 \$ 101.40 08/14/2018 22:56 08/15/2018 06:52 C002049072 K51 Rate:13.00 Yard TACOMA WA 7.93 7.93 \$ 103.09 08/15/2018 22:59 08/16/2018 06:50 C002049718 TACOMA, WA K51 Rate:13.00 7.85 7.85 \$ 102.05 08/16/2018 22:58 08/17/2018 06:54 C002050614 TACOMA, WA K51 Rate:13.00 7.93 7.93 \$ 103.09 Effective Rate \$ / Hour 13.00 Pay Week Hours 39.11 39.11 0.00 \$ 508.43 0.00 Hours Rate \$ Total Total Weekly Yard Trips 39.11 13.00 508.43 Total Due for Week \$ 508.43

 Pay Period Total
 \$ Total

 Total Weekly Yard Trips
 1,017.38

 Total Due
 \$ 1,017.38

Attachment B



TO

Mathew Perkinson, Motor Carrier Safety Manager

FROM

Jason Sharp, Motor Carrier Supervisor

Robert Auderer, MCS Special Investigator

DATE

October 2, 2018

SUBJECT

Assignment 118140 - Renzenberger Passenger Complaint

Company: Renzenberger, Inc.

USDOT: 210768

Service: Contract Crew Carrier

Date/Time of Complaint: August 30, 2018

Company Contact: Lon Ingram, Corporate Safety Manager, (720) 435-1361

Relevant Carrier History

Renzenberger received charter and excursion authority in November of 2014. In July of 2018 Renzenberger was provided technical assistance pertaining to the new regulations governing the transportation of railroad crews in Washington State. Part of the technical assistance provided included driver hours of service regulations detailed in WAC 480-62-278.

Description of Complaint

On August 30, 2018, a complaint was submitted by Michael Svedberg, an employee of Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF). Mr. Svedberg voiced concern about one of Renzenberger's drivers (Lue Gene Florence) and how he always appears fatigued. Mr. Svedberg stated he is often found in a "daze" and misses calls and misinterprets instruction in the yard. He states that Mr. Florence has been found sleeping on duty. He believes Mr. Florence works an additional job to the work he does with Renzenberger.

Mr. Svedberg complained that Lue Gene Florence listened to the vehicle AM-FM radio while driving in the rail yard. Mr. Svedberg was concerned that the AM-FM radio being on, in combination with the BNSF yard radio, and the dispatch radio of the driver created an "added layer of distraction."

Mr. Svedberg accused another driver of using a hand held electronic device while driving. The driver's name was not provided, nor any other evidence. Mr. Ingram was notified of the allegation and stated that if the violation were proven, then it is a terminable offense of company safety rules.

Attachment B (continued)

Driver Information

Driver Name: Lue Gene Florence

License number: FLORELG397K4, verified valid
 Medical Certificate: Verified October 8, 2018

· Hours of service records for 30 days preceding complaint

Findings

It was determined that the use of the AM/FM radio while driving in the rail yard was not a violation of State law and the company verified it is not in violation with its safety procedures.

Mr. Ingram stated that the company was made aware that Mr. Florence had additional employment outside of Renzenberger and was brought to light as a result of this complaint inquiry. After verifying Mr. Florence's driver qualifications and confirming his additional employment outside of Renzenberger, a 30 day sample of timecards was requested and provided. The 30 day sample reviewed was from July 18, 2018, through August 16, 2018. It was determined that Renzenberger did not account for Mr. Florence's time records from his employment outside of the company. This disqualified Mr. Florence's eligibility under the short haul provision detailed in 395.1(e) as the timesheets driver were not accurate. Renzenberger failed to require Mr. Florence to produce a Record of Duty Status (RODS). Mr. Florence also was required to use an Electronic Logging Device as part of this requirement.

Thirty critical violations of 395.8(a) occurred when the carrier failed to require the driver to prepare a record of duty status.

After learning the work schedule that Mr. Florence maintained outside of Renzenberger and adding those hours to his recorded hours on his Renzenberger time sheet, it was discovered that Mr. Florence drove in violation of the 70 hour rule on 17 occurrences as follows:

Lue Gene Florence (17 occurrences): July 25, 26, 27, 30, 31; August 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15 and 16.

Seventeen critical violations of 395.5(b)(2) for requiring or permitting a passenger-carrying motor vehicle driver to drive after having been on duty more than 70 hours in eight consecutive days.

Recommendation

Close with the carrier, contact the complainant and issue administrative penalties.

Attachment C

Month/Year:							Driver's Name:	Vame:								
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I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.) under p	enalty of perjury u	nder the lav	ws of the State	of Washingto	in that the for	ecoing is true	and correct.								
Signed at (city)																
2			(state)	on (date)	6											