## Docket No. TV-190395 - Vol. I

## Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v. GBU Enterprises GRP., Inc.

July 24, 2019



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BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND DOCKET NO. TV-190395 TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,) Complainant, ) vs. ) GBU ENTERPRISES GRP, INC, ) D/B/A GOLDEN VALLEY VAN ) LINES, ) Respondent. )  BRIEF ADJUDICATIVE PROCEEDING, VOLUME I Pages 1-15 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE LAURA CHARTOFF  July 24, 2019 1:33 p.m.  Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission 621 Woodland Square Loop Southeast Lacey, Washington 98503  REPORTED BY: TAYLER GARLINGHOUSE, CCR 3358 Buell Realtime Reporting, LLC 1325 Fourth Avenue, Suite 1840 Seattle, Washington 98101 (206) 287-9066   Seattle (360) 534-9066   Olympia (800) 846-6989   National www.buellrealtime.com	1 EXAMINATION INDEX 2 JASON SHARP PAGE 3 By Mr. Fukano
Page 2  A P P E A R A N C E S  ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:  LAURA CHARTOFF Utilities and Transportation Commission  4 621 Woodland Square Loop Southeast Lacey, Washington 98503 (360) 664-1160 laura.chartoff@utc.wa.gov  FOR COMMISSION STAFF: HARRY FUKANO Assistant Attorney General PO Box 40128 Olympia, Washington 98504 (360) 664-1225 harry.fukano@utc.wa.gov  ALSO PRESENT:  JASON SHARP Motor Carrier Safety Supervisor  * * * * * * *  Motor Carrier Safety Supervisor  * * * * * * *	LACEY, WASHINGTON; JULY 24, 2019  1:33 P.M000 PROCEEDINGS  JUDGE CHARTOFF: Let's be on the record. Good afternoon. This is Docket TV-190395, which is captioned Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, complainant, versus GBU Enterprises Group, Inc., doing business as Golden Valley Van Lines, respondent. My name is Laura Chartoff. I am the administrative law judge presiding over today's brief adjudicative proceeding. So today is Wednesday, July 24th, 2019, and the time is 1:33 p.m. So let's start by taking appearances starting with short appearance from Staff. MR. FUKANO: Good afternoon, Judge Chartoff. I am Harry Fukano, Assistant Attorney General, with the Utilities and Transportation Commission division, and I am here today on behalf of Commission Staff. JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. And for the Company? Is the Company present? Okay. Hearing nothing, the Company has

1 (Pages 1 to 4)

	Page 5		Page 7
1	failed to appear, how would you like to proceed?	1	investigations and reviewing the work of the motor
2	MR. FUKANO: Staff would ask that the	2	carrier safety investigations team here at the
3	Commission find the Company, GBU, in default under	3	Commission.
4	RCW 34.05.440 and WAC 480-07-450 for failure to appear	4	Q. How long have you been in this position?
5	at the time and place set for the hearing, and Staff	5	A. I've been the motor carrier supervisor for over
6	would request that the Commission proceed with the	6	a year and a half now.
7	hearing and resolve the issues before it.	7	Q. I'd like to talk about the matter at issue in
8	JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. And have you had any	8	today's hearing.
9	recent contact with the Company?	9	Are you familiar with GBU?
10	MR. FUKANO: No.	10	A. Yes, I am.
11	JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. All right. I find	11	Q. And how did you become aware of the present
12	GBU Enterprises Group, Inc., doing business as Golden	12	matter involving GBU?
13	Valley Van Lines in default and will issue a written	13	A. I received email notification from Jeff James,
14	order reflecting this finding. We will proceed without	14	the Washington District Administrator of the Federal
15	the Company.	15	Motor Carrier Safety Administration, that an
16	So, Mr. Fukano, you may proceed when you're	16	investigator under his supervision had recently placed
17	ready.	17	GBU Enterprises out of service following an
18	MR. FUKANO: Thank you. And I have placed	18	unsatisfactory safety rating.
19	two copies of proposed Exhibit JS-1 on the bench.	19	Q. And I am or I'm showing you what has been
20	JUDGE CHARTOFF: Thank you.	20	labeled as proposed Exhibit JS-1. What is this exhibit?
21	MR. FUKANO: Commission WACs 480-15-560 and	21	<ol> <li>This exhibit is my declaration into this matter.</li> </ol>
22	480-15-570 require household goods carriers to comply	22	Q. And you are familiar with it?
23	with various safety requirements including standards	23	A. Yes, I am.
24	adopted from 49 Code of Federal Regulations.	24	Q. Did you create this exhibit?
25	Staff intends to introduce evidence that	25	A. Yes.
	Page 6		Page 8
1	Page 6	1	Page 8
1 2	shows that GBU has violated Commission safety	1 2	Q. Do you have any changes that you would like to
2	shows that GBU has violated Commission safety requirements based on the results of a prior inspection	2	Q. Do you have any changes that you would like to make to this exhibit?
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Page 9 Page 11 provisional household goods permit that the Company 1 types of critical violations identified ranging from 1 2 2 using drivers prior to receiving a negative currently holds with the Commission. 3 3 preemployment controlled substance test; failing to MR. FUKANO: Thank you. No further 4 maintain inquiries into a driver's driving record and 4 questions. 5 5 the qualification file; failing to require drivers to JUDGE CHARTOFF: Thank you. I have a 6 prepare a record of duty status using the appropriate 6 question. 7 7 method, and also using commercial motor vehicles that So is -- is the Company still allowed to or 8 had not been periodically inspected. 8 eligible to request an upgrade to their safety rating? 9 Q. Who conduced the investigation detailed in the 9 MR. SHARP: My understanding is yes, through 10 February report? 10 the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. 11 A. Federal Investigator Chad Liderway [phonetic]. 11 JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. Okay. I think 12 Q. Are the safety standards enforced by FMCSA in 12 that's all I have. Okay. respect to -- different from the safety standards 13 13 MR. FUKANO: Can I ask a brief follow-up enforced by the Commission? 14 14 auestion? 15 A. No, they are not. The Commission adopts the 15 JUDGE CHARTOFF: Sure. 16 standards and processes. 16 MR. FUKANO: Thank you. Q. Would the critical and acute violations found in 17 17 18 the report also constitute violation of the Commission's 18 EXAMINATION 19 motor carrier safety standards? 19 BY MR. FUKANO: 20 20 Q. For the purpose of the investigation detailed in A. Yes, they would. 21 Q. In your experience, does the -- does Commission the February report, has the proposed safety rating 21 motor carrier safety staff rely on information gathered 22 become final? 22 23 23 by FMCSA? A. It has, and identified in Exhibit B, the Company A. Yes. 24 24 was also notified of its right to appeal any of the 25 Q. Would you please turn to Attachment B. What is 25 violations discovered or to request administrative Page 12 Page 10 1 Attachment B? 1 review of the report and did not do so. 2 2 JUDGE CHARTOFF: Thank you. A. Attachment B is the letter that was sent to GBU 3 3 MR. FUKANO: Thank you. Nothing further Enterprises from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety 4 Administration notifying them that it had 60 days to 4 from Staff. 5 JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. Thank you for your receive an upgrade to its proposed unsatisfactory safety 5 6 rating following the safety investigation. Within this 6 testimony. You are excused. 7 notice, it also notifies the Company that, under 49 CFR 7 Okay. Is -- is there anything else before 8 8 385.13, that when a motor carrier receives a final we go off the record? 9 safety rating of unsatisfactory, that it is prohibited 9 MR. FUKANO: No, unless you would care for a 10 from operating a commercial motor vehicle in interstate 10 brief closing? 11 and intrastate commerce. 11 JUDGE CHARTOFF: If you would like to make a 12 MR. FUKANO: At this time, I would move to 12 closing, you can. 13 admit Exhibit JS-1 and its attachments into evidence. 13 MR. FUKANO: Sure. I will just summarize JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. The exhibit marked 14 14 the argument. 15 JS-1 and its attachments are admitted into evidence. 15 JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. MR. FUKANO: On February 6th, 2019, the 16 (Exhibit JS-1 admitted.) 16 17 MR. FUKANO: Thank you. 17 FMCSA investigated GBU and found several critical --18 BY MR. FUKANO: 18 several critical violations and one acute violation, 19 Q. Does Staff have a recommendation as to what 19 which include violations of 49 CFR 382, 49 CFR 391, 49 20 action the Commission should take in response to the 20 CFR 395, and 49 CFR 396 as described in the declaration 21 violations detailed in its report? 21 of Jason Sharp. 22 A. Yes, Staff's recommendation is to recognize the 22 Under WAC 480-15-450(1)(e), the Commission 23 out-of-service rating put in place by the Federal Motor 23 may involuntarily cancel a household goods carrier's 24 Carrier Safety Administration effectively putting the 24 permit for failing to comply with applicable safety laws 25 25 USDOT number out of service and to cancel the and Commission rules pertaining to the operation of

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	Page 13		Page 15
1	household goods carriers, including safety requirements	1	CERTIFICATE
2	set in law or rule.	2	
3	Through WAC 480-15-999, the Commission	3	STATE OF WASHINGTON
4	adopted 49 CFR. WAC 480-15-350(3)(b), which relates to	4	COUNTY OF THURSTON
5	equipment safety equipment safety requirements	5	
6	requires household goods carrier to comply with 49 CFR	6	I, Tayler Garlinghouse, a Certified Shorthand
7	parts 385, 392, and 396. Similarly, WAC	7	Reporter in and for the State of Washington, do hereby
8	480-15-570(1)(c), which relates to driver safety	8	certify that the foregoing transcript is true and
9	requirements, requires a household goods carrier to	9	accurate to the best of my knowledge, skill and ability.
10	comply with 49 CFR parts 382, 385, 391 and 395.	10	
11	Therefore, insofar as the violations found	11	
12	in the FMCSA report would constitute violations of WAC	12	Tayler Garlinghouse, CCR 3358
13	480-15-560 and 480-15-570 pertaining to safety	13	Tayler Garlinghouse, CCR 3358
14	requirements. Those violations provide the Commission a	14	
15	basis to involuntarily cancel the Commission's operating authority. Consequently, Commission Staff requests that	15 16	
16 17	the Commission cancel GBU's operating authority. Thank	17	
18	you.	18	
19	JUDGE CHARTOFF: Thank you. Thank you for	19	
20	coming here today, and I will take this under advisement	20	
21	and make a decision within ten days.	21	
22	MR. FUKANO: Thank you.	22	
23	JUDGE CHARTOFF: Anything else?	23	
24	MR. FUKANO: None from Staff.	24	
25	JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. We are adjourned.	25	
	,		
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1	(Adjourned at 1:45 p.m.)		
2	(Adjourned at 1.40 p.m.)		
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23 24			
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