Docket No. TE-190052 - Vol. I

In the Matter of: Kim Jones d/b/a Desert Wave

June 4, 2019



206.287.9066 I 800.846.6989

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email: info@buellrealtime.com



Page	1	Page 3
BEFORE THE WASHINGTON	1	OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON; JUNE 4, 2019
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION	2	9:05 A.M.
In the Matter of Determining)DOCKET TE-190052	3	000
the Proper Carrier Classification) of, and Complaint for Penalties)	4	PROCEEDINGS
Against:)	5	
KIM JONES)	6	JUDGE CHARTOFF: We are on the record. Good
D/B/A DESERT WAVE)	7	morning. My name is Laura Chartoff. I am an
TRANSPORTATION COURT VOLUME	8	administrative law judge with the Washington Utilities
TRANSPORTATION COURT, VOLUME I	9	and Transportation Commission.
Pages 1-20	10	Today is June 4th, 2019, and the time is
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE LAURA CHARTOFF	11	approximately 9:05.
	12	So there are two charter party or excursion
June 4, 2019	13	services carriers who should be here or on the phone
9:05 a.m.	14	today. So the first thing I'll do is see who's here.
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission	15	There is a court reporter who is recording everything we
1300 South Evergreen Park Drive Southwest	16 17	say, so when I call your name, please raise your hand and also say "here" or "present."
Olympia, Washington 98504	18	So the first docket is TE-190052, Kim Jones,
	19	doing business as Desert Wave?
	20	MR. JONES: Present.
REPORTED BY: TAYLER GARLINGHOUSE, CCR 3358	21	JUDGE CHARTOFF: Thank you.
Buell Realtime Reporting, LLC	22	And the next docket is TE-190303, Black Tie
1325 Fourth Avenue, Suite 1840 Seattle, Washington 98101	23	Limousine, Inc., doing business as Black Tie Wine Tours,
(206) 287-9066 Seattle (360) 534-9066 Olympia	24	Black Tie, Black Tie Transportation, and Walla Walla
(800) 846-6989 National	25	Wine Tours.
www.buellrealtime.com		
Page	2	Page 4
1 APPEARANCES	1	Hearing nothing, okay. So okay. So you
2 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: 3 LAURA CHARTOFF	2	are here because the Commission has information that
Utilities and Transportation	3	your business is operating or advertising as a charter
4 Commission 1300 South Evergreen Park Drive SW	4	party or excursion services carrier without a permit.
5 Olympia, Washington 98504	5	If proven, the Commission can order you to stop
(360) 664-1160 6 laura.chartoff@utc.wa.gov	6	operating and can impose a penalty of up to \$5,000 per
7	7	violation. The Commission has initiated an enforcement
FOR COMMISSION STAFF:	8	action against your business, and at this preliminary
8 KATHRYN MCPHERSON	9	hearing, I'm going to ask how you choose to proceed.
 Compliance Investigator Utilities and Transportation 	10	You have two options. Option A is to agree
10 Commission	11	to cease and desist operating as an unpermitted charter
1300 South Evergreen Park Drive SW Olympia, Washington 98504	12	or excursion carrier. So if you choose this option, you
(360) 664-1107	13 14	must agree to stop providing, offering, or advertising unpermitted charter or excursion services unless or
12 kmcpherson@utc.wa.gov	15	until you receive a permit from the Commission.
FOR DESERT WAVE:	16	You will also need to show what you have
14	17	done to shut down your business either completely or
15 WILLIAM JONES 16	18	partially so that you are no longer advertising,
* * * *	19	offering, or providing unpermitted charter and excursion
17 18	20	services in this state. For example, you would need to
19	21	prove that you have taken down or changed your website
20 21	22	or other online advertisements for your business. If
22	23	you have obtained a permit in advance of this hearing,
23 24	24	please let me know that when I call you up.
25	25	So option B is to ask for a classification

Page 5 Page 7 1 hearing, and you would choose option B if you are 1 are unable to agree, Staff will explain the 2 2 recommendation, but the Commission will make the final denying that you advertise, offer, or provide 3 unpermitted charter and excursion services. I see 3 decision about the penalty. 4 the -- our IT person in the back so --4 Finally, if you choose option B, that is, if 5 5 Off the record for a second. you deny you're operating as a charter and excursion 6 (Pause in the proceedings.) 6 carrier, we will schedule another hearing. And in that 7 7 JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. We are back on the case, it would help if you have your schedule for July 8 record. So option B is to ask for a classification 8 and August so we can set a hearing date. 9 hearing, and you would choose option B if you are 9 So I'll call up Kim Jones, doing business as 10 10 denying that you advertise, offer, or provide Desert Wave. Please come forward. 11 unpermitted charter and excursion carrier services. 11 And, Ms. McPherson. 12 So if you choose this option, we will 12 So you can take a seat right there. Please 13 check your microphone. You need to hit the button and a 13 schedule a formal evidentiary hearing where you will be 14 required to present proof that your business is not 14 red light should come on. 15 subject to regulation by the Commission. The hearing 15 MR. JONES: Yes, it's on. Can you hear me? 16 will be set in about two months from now with a deadline 16 JUDGE CHARTOFF: Yes. Okay. I am going to 17 a week before the hearing for both you and Commission 17 start by swearing you both in, so can I have you both 18 Staff to list your witnesses and file any exhibits. 18 stand and raise your right hand. 19 So Kathryn McPherson and Jason Hoxit will be 19 (Kathryn McPherson and William Jones sworn.) 20 20 speaking for Commission Staff this morning. They will JUDGE CHARTOFF: Thank you. 21 21 be seated at the table to my right, and they are Okay. So please state your first and last 22 22 Commission compliance investigators. name. 23 23 Now that we've gone over your options, I MR. JONES: William Jones. 24 will explain what else will happen today. So in a few 24 JUDGE CHARTOFF: Oh, can you repeat that? 25 minutes, I will call each of you up to make your choice. 2.5 MR. JONES: William Jones. Page 6 Page 8 1 At that time, I will swear you in so anything you tell 1 JUDGE CHARTOFF: Can you please state your 2 2 the Court will be under oath. And once you are sworn business address? 3 3 MR. JONES: 3217 -- I'm sorry. That's past. in, I will ask you to state -- I will ask if you 4 understand your choices for today's hearing and then ask 4 I apologize. 2569 North Columbia Center Boulevard, 5 5 Richland, Washington, ZIP 99352. you to state your choice. If there's anything else you 6 want to explain to me, you will have a chance to do 6 JUDGE CHARTOFF: And what is your -- oh, 7 7 looks like -- are you the owner of Desert Wave? 8 8 And if you choose option A, to testify about MR. JONES: Yes. 9 9 how you're getting out of the charter and excursion JUDGE CHARTOFF: And did you understand the 10 business, you can explain how you plan to do that. 10 choices I laid out earlier? 11 Depending on what proof you can provide, you may be 11 MR. JONES: Yes, I do. 12 given an opportunity to speak -- to meet with Staff 12 JUDGE CHARTOFF: Do you know how you want to 13 13 during a break in the hearing to negotiate an agreed proceed? 14 14 cease and desist order. MR. JONES: Yes, with A. 15 If you have recently applied for or received 15 JUDGE CHARTOFF: And are you going to cease 16 operating or are you interested in applying for a 16 a permit, you also will be given an opportunity to meet 17 17 with Staff to negotiate an agreed order to resolve this permit? 18 matter. The agreed order will also deal with the 18 MR. JONES: Actually, I have ceased 19 penalty. 19 operating as far as charter, and I have applied as a 20 So you were each served with a complaint 20 limousine operator through the State. And that's what I 21 that asked the Commission to penalize you for engaging 21 actually did prior to getting into a charter, and it ran 22 in business without a permit, and the law sets a maximum 22 into difficulties operating as a charter because I'm 23 penalty for each violation at \$5,000. Staff will 23 just a small business and insurance basically kind of 24 24 recommend a penalty and you will have a chance to reach messed me up on operating, even though I had no claims.

Never had any claims throughout the years, but still

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agreement with Staff about the penalty amount. If you

Page 9 Page 11 1 it's -- it's -- it was a financial burden. 1 JUDGE CHARTOFF: Do you have any questions? 2 2 MR. JONES: No, I do not. Anyhow, so that's when I stopped operating 3 JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. Then we are in as charter, but I did get a call and that did happen. I 3 4 distinctly remember that telephone conversation because 4 recess. 5 I -- and anyhow. So I'd like to go with A, if I may, 5 (Recess taken from 9:20 a.m. 6 option A. 6 until 10:03 a.m.) 7 7 JUDGE CHARTOFF: Let's be back on the JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. And do you 8 understand the differences between the limousine license 8 record. So I understand the cease and desist order has 9 and the charter license? 9 been explained. 10 10 MR. JONES: Basically it's a matter of So, Mr. Jones, can you come back up to the 11 passenger occupancy. 11 front and take a seat. Thank you. Okay. I'm just 12 JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. 12 going to go over, go through the order on the record and 13 make sure that you understand everything. 13 MR. JONES: And I think that's where they So did you have a chance to read the whole 14 got me. They said 16, I wasn't paying attention on the 14 15 15 order? 16 JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. Ms. McPherson, do 16 MR. JONES: Yes. 17 you have anything to add? 17 JUDGE CHARTOFF: And do you have any MS. MCPHERSON: No, no, Judge. 18 18 questions about it? 19 JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. Okay. So when we 19 MR. JONES: No, I do not. 20 take a break, which it seems like will be now because I 20 JUDGE CHARTOFF: And I see that you both 21 21 signed it. Okay. It looks like there's two violations don't think they have the phone line up yet, you can 22 talk with Ms. McPherson and see if you can sign an 22 in this case; one for conducting operations after 23 23 agreed order. So that order will say that you agree you cancellation of a certificate and one for advertising to 24 were operating without a permit and that you agree to 24 conduct operations after the cancellation of the 25 stop operating until you get a permit if you decide to 2.5 certificate. And a \$10,000 penalty will be imposed, a Page 10 Page 12 1 apply for one, which you are not. 1 \$9,000 portion of the penalty is suspended for a period 2 Once you feel comfortable that you 2 of two years; is that correct? 3 understand the order, you will both sign it. It will 3 MR. JONES: Yes. 4 also include most likely an agreed penalty amount, but 4 JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. And for the record, 5 5 you're agreeing to shut down your charter and excursion if not, you can explain why the penalty should be 6 different than what Staff is recommending. And the 6 business? 7 recommended penalty may be small or there may be a 7 MR. JONES: Yes. 8 8 JUDGE CHARTOFF: So the 9,000 is suspended reason why Staff asks for a larger penalty, for example, if you've been in front of a judge here before or if you 9 9 for two years from today's date. That means that if 10 used to have a permit with the Commission that was 10 Staff finds an advertisement or you offer charter party 11 11 cancelled. or excursion carrier services during this time, you will 12 Usually part of the penalty is suspended and 12 have to pay the \$9,000 penalty; do you understand that? 13 you will not have to pay it until you break -- unless 13 MR. JONES: I -- yes, I do. you break the law again. So you will pay the 14 JUDGE CHARTOFF: And also, the order to 14 15 unsuspended part of the penalty today, and you would 15 cease and desist is permanent, it never expires. So if 16 Staff discovers you are still operating even after the 16 only have to pay the rest of it if you violate the 17 17 two years, Staff can go straight to Superior Court and order. Do you have any questions? 18 ask for higher penalties. So it's very important that MR. JONES: No, I don't. 18 19 JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. So at this point, 19 you follow the law.

Okay. And there is a payment schedule. We

have \$200 due today and \$200 due July 5th, August 5th,

do you understand that if you miss a penalty, you will

have to pay the entire amount including the suspended

September 5th, and the last payment on October 4th. And

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penalty?

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copy.

we'll take a break, and as soon as you've had a chance

we'll call you back up to make sure you understand the

to review the order with Staff and it's signed, you --

order and then I'll sign it and you will leave with a

MR. JONES: Okay. Thank you.

	D 12	l	D 15
	Page 13		Page 15
1	MR. JONES: Yes, I do.	1	JUDGE CHARTOFF: Thank you.
2	JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. So if for some	2	Off the record.
3	reason you're going to be late making a payment, you	3	(Pause in the proceedings.)
4	must contact contact Staff and make arrangements so	4	JUDGE CHARTOFF: So, Ms. Maldonado, can you
5	you don't end up having to pay the entire penalty.	5	state your full name, spelling your last name for the
6	MR. JONES: Okay.	6	court reporter.
7	JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. And you understand	7	MS. MALDONADO: Yes, it's Leah, L-e-a-h, the
8	legally what you can and can't do?	8	last name's Maldonado, M-a-I-d-o-n-a-d-o.
9	MR. JONES: Yes, I do.	9	JUDGE CHARTOFF: And can you give your
10	JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. And remember that	10	business address?
11	Commission Staff are always available to assist you if	11	MS. MALDONADO: 1650 Reser, R-e-s-e-r, Road,
12	you have any questions.	12	Walla Walla, Washington 99362.
13	MR. JONES: Okay.	13	JUDGE CHARTOFF: And what is your
14	JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. So I will go ahead	14	relationship to the company?
15	and sign this. So I will hand this to Staff, Staff will	15	MS. MALDONADO: Partial owner with my
16	make you a copy, and once you receive your copy, you'll	16	husband.
17	be free to go.	17	JUDGE CHARTOFF: Thank you.
18	MR. JONES: Okay. Thank you.	18	Okay. So I'm going to go through the order.
19	JUDGE CHARTOFF: Thank you.	19	Did you have a chance to read the whole order?
20	Okay. And we will take a short recess to	20	MS. MALDONADO: Yes.
21	get the other company on the phone.	21	JUDGE CHARTOFF: And do you understand it?
22	(Pause in the proceedings.)	22	MS. MALDONADO: Yes.
23	JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. So we are back on	23	JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. And I see that
24	the record. My name is Laura Chartoff. I am the	24	Mr. Hoxit and you have both signed it. It
25	administrative law judge hearing this proceeding. So we	25	MS. MALDONADO: What's that?
	Page 14		Page 16
1	Page 14 were having technical difficulties with the bridge line,	1	Page 16 JUDGE CHARTOFF: Oh, I see that you have
1 2		1 2	
	were having technical difficulties with the bridge line,		JUDGE CHARTOFF: Oh, I see that you have signed it. MS. MALDONADO: Oh, yes.
2	were having technical difficulties with the bridge line, and I appreciate your patience. I'm sorry for the	2	JUDGE CHARTOFF: Oh, I see that you have signed it.
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	Page 17		Page 19
1	advertisement or you offer charter party or excursion	1	JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. I have signed it.
2	carrier services during that time, you will have to pay	2	Is there any other business we need to take care of
3	the \$9,500 penalty.	3	today?
4	MS. MALDONADO: Right. We're going to	4	MR. HOXIT: No, Your Honor.
5	license differently, so that shouldn't apply.	5	JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. So we are in
6	JUDGE CHARTOFF: Oh, okay. How are you	6	recess or we are adjourned. Thank you very much for
7	going to be licensed?	7	coming.
8	MS. MALDONADO: As a limousine company	8	MS. MALDONADO: Yes, thank you.
9	through the Department of Transportation.	9	(Adjourned at 10:16 a.m.)
10	JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. Okay. And so I also	10	
11	need to tell you that the order to cease and desist is	11	
12	permanent.	12	
13	MS. MALDONADO: Okay.	13	
14	JUDGE CHARTOFF: It never expires. So if	14	
15	Staff discovers you still operating as a charter and	15	
16	excursion carrier even after two years, Staff can	16	
17	MS. MALDONADO: Okay.	17	
18	JUDGE CHARTOFF: Staff can go straight to	18	
19	Superior Court and ask for much higher penalties, so	19	
20	it's important	20	
21	MS. MALDONADO: Okay.	21	
22	JUDGE CHARTOFF: that you follow the law.	22	
23	MS. MALDONADO: Okay.	23	
24	JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. So do you understand	24	
25	legally what you can and can't do?	25	
	Page 18		Page 20
1	MO MALBONADO V		
	MS. MALDONADO: Yes, as far as I understand	1	CERTIFICATE
2	MS. MALDONADO: Yes, as far as I understand if we license as a limousine company, then we will not	1 2	CERTIFICATE
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2	if we license as a limousine company, then we will not be under the UTC laws and rules under the charter.	2	CERTIFICATE STATE OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF THURSTON
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	if we license as a limousine company, then we will not be under the UTC laws and rules under the charter. JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. And remember that Commission Staff is always available to assist you if you have any questions. MS. MALDONADO: Yes, we've been communicating a lot, and I feel like I understand what we need to do. JUDGE CHARTOFF: Okay. Okay. So I will go ahead and sign this order, and we will we will need to serve it to you. Do do we have her email address? MR. HOXIT: Yes, but can we confirm it for the record? JUDGE CHARTOFF: Sure. Can we get your email address for service of this order? MS. MALDONADO: Sure. Yes, it's Black, B-l-a-c-k-t-i-e-w-w@gmail.com. JUDGE CHARTOFF: So that was B-l-a-c-k-t-i-e-w-w@gmail.com?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	STATE OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF THURSTON I, Tayler Garlinghouse, a Certified Shorthand Reporter in and for the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, skill and ability.

A	August 7:8 12:21	certificate 11:23,25	5:22 6:21 7:2	14:1,3		
a.m 1:13 3:2 11:5,6	available 13:11	16:6,7	10:10 13:11 18:5	discovers 12:16		
19:9	18:5	Certified 20:6	communicating	17:15		
ability 20:9	Avenue 1:22	certify 20:8	18:8	dispute 14:15		
accurate 20:9		chance 6:6,24	company 13:21	distinctly 9:4		
action 4:8	B	10:20 11:14 15:19	15:14 16:13 17:8	docket 1:4 3:18,22		
add 9:17	B 4:25 5:1,8,9 7:4	changed 4:21	18:2	doing 3:19,23 7:9		
address 8:2 15:10	B-l-a-c-k-t-i-e-w	charter 3:12 4:3,11	complaint 1:5 6:20	Drive 1:15 2:4,10		
18:13,17	18:20,22	4:14,19 5:3,11 6:9	completely 4:17	due 12:21,21		
adjourned 19:6,9	back 5:4,7 10:22	7:5 8:19,21,22 9:3	compliance 2:9			
administrative	11:7,10 13:23	9:9 12:5,10 16:17	5:22	E		
1:10 2:2 3:8	basically 8:23 9:10	16:19 17:1,15	conduct 11:24	E 2:1,1 3:4,4 20:1,1		
13:25	best 20:9	18:3	conducting 11:22	earlier 8:10		
advance 4:23	Black 3:22,23,24	Chartoff 1:10 2:3	16:5	either 4:17		
	3:24 18:19	3:6,7,21 5:7 7:16	confirm 18:14	email 18:13,17		
advertise 5:2,10	Boulevard 8:4	7:20,24 8:1,6,9,12	contact 13:4,4	enforcement 4:7		
advertisement	break 6:13 9:20	8:15 9:7,12,16,19	conversation 9:4	engaging 6:21		
12:10 17:1	10:13,14,20	10:19 11:1,3,7,17	copy 10:24 13:16	enter 14:13		
advertisements	bridge 14:1	11:20 12:4,8,14	13:16	entire 12:24 13:5		
4:22	Buell 1:21	13:2,7,10,14,19	correct 12:2 18:23	Evergreen 1:15 2:4		
advertising 4:3,13	burden 9:1	13:23,24 14:5,8	COUNTY 20:4	2:10		
4:18 11:23 16:7	business 3:19,23			evidentiary 5:13		
agree 4:10,13 7:1	4:3,8,17,22 5:14	14:11,17,20,22	court 1:8 3:15 6:2	example 4:20 10:8		
9:23,24	6:10,22 7:9 8:2,23	15:1,4,9,13,17,21	12:17 15:6 17:19	excursion 3:12 4:4		
agreed 6:13,17,18	12:6 15:10 19:2	15:23 16:1,4,9,13		4:12,14,19 5:3,11		
9:23 10:4 14:14	button 7:13	16:16,21,25 17:6	$\overline{\mathbf{D}}$ 3:4	6:9 7:5 12:5,11		
14:18	button 7.13	17:10,14,18,22,24	D/B/A 1:7	16:18,20 17:1,16		
agreeing 12:5	$\overline{\mathbf{C}}$	18:4,10,16,21,24	date 7:8 12:9 16:22	exhibits 5:18		
16:17	C 2:1 3:4 20:1,1	19:1,5				
agreement 6:25	call 3:16 4:24 5:25	check 7:13	deadline 5:16	expires 12:15 17:14		
ahead 13:14 18:11	7:9 9:3 10:22	checking 16:14	deal 6:18	explain 5:24 6:6,10		
allegations 14:15	cancellation 11:23	choice 5:25 6:5	decide 9:25	7:1 10:5 14:13		
amount 6:25 10:4	11:24	choices 6:4 8:10	decision 7:3	explained 11:9		
12:24	cancelled 10:11	choose 4:9,12 5:1,9	deny 7:5	$oxed{\mathbf{F}}$		
apologize 8:4		5:12 6:8 7:4	denying 5:2,10	$\left \frac{\mathbf{F}}{\mathbf{F}} = \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{F} \right $		
appendix 16:14	care 19:2	chosen 14:17	Department 17:9			
applied 6:15 8:19	carrier 1:4 4:4,12	claims 8:24,25	Depending 6:11	far 8:19 18:1		
apply 10:1 17:5	5:11 7:6 12:11	classification 1:4	Desert 1:7 2:13	feel 10:2 18:8		
applying 8:16	16:18,20 17:2,16	4:25 5:8	3:19 7:10 8:7	file 5:18		
appreciate 14:2	carriers 3:13	Columbia 8:4	desist 4:11 6:14	final 7:2		
approximately 3:11	case 7:7 11:22 16:5	come 7:10,14 11:10	11:8 12:15 14:6	Finally 7:4		
arrangements 13:4	CCR 1:20 20:13	comfortable 10:2	17:11	financial 9:1		
asked 6:21	cease 4:11 6:14	coming 19:7	Determining 1:4	finds 12:10 16:25		
asks 10:8	8:15 11:8 12:15	Commission 1:2,15	differences 9:8	first 3:14,18 7:21		
assist 13:11 18:5	14:6 17:11	2:4,7,10 3:9 4:2,5	different 10:6	follow 12:19 17:22		
assist 13:11 18:3 attention 9:14	ceased 8:18	4:7,15 5:15,17,20	differently 17:5	foregoing 20:8		
auchuon 7.14	Center 8:4	,15 5.15,17,20	difficulties 8:22	formal 5:13		
				l		

				raye 22
forward 7:10	including 12:24	T	matter 1:4 6:18	9:19 10:19,25
Fourth 1:22	information 4:2	L L	9:10	11:3,11,21 12:4
free 13:17	initiated 4:7	L-e-a-h 15:7	maximum 6:22	12:20 13:2,6,7,10
· ·	insurance 8:23	laid 8:10	McPherson 2:8	
front 10:9 11:11		larger 10:8		13:13,14,18,20,23
full 15:5	interested 8:16	late 13:3	5:19 7:11,19 9:16	14:4,5,11,11,17
G	Investigator 2:9	Laura 1:10 2:3 3:7	9:18,22	14:20,22,24 15:18
$\overline{\mathbf{G}}$ 3:4	investigators 5:22	13:24	means 12:9 16:22	15:23 16:4,12,16
Garlinghouse 1:20	J	laura.chartoff@	meet 6:12,16	16:21,24 17:6,10
20:6,13	Jason 5:19 14:25	2:6	messed 8:24	17:10,13,17,21,23
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Jones 1:6 2:15 3:18	law 1:10 2:2 3:8	microphone 7:13	17:24 18:4,10,10
getting 6:9 8:21		6:22 10:14 12:19	minutes 5:25	18:24 19:1,5
give 15:9	3:20 7:9,15,19,23	13:25 17:22	Mm-hmm 16:8,15	Olympia 1:16,23
given 6:12,16	7:23,25,25 8:3,8	laws 18:3	18:25	2:5,11 3:1
go 9:5 11:12,12	8:11,14,18 9:10	Leah 14:25 15:7	months 5:16	once 6:2 10:2 13:16
12:17 13:14,17	9:13 10:18,25	leave 10:23	morning 3:7 5:20	online 4:22
14:12 15:18 17:18	11:2,10,16,19	legally 13:8 17:25		operating 4:3,6,11
18:10	12:3,7,13 13:1,6,9	Let's 11:7	N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N	7:5 8:16,19,22,24
going 4:9 7:16 8:15	13:13,18	license 9:8,9 17:5	N 2:1 3:4	9:2,24,25 12:16
11:12 13:3 14:22	judge 1:10 2:2 3:6	18:2	name 3:7,16 7:22	16:17 17:15
15:18 17:4,7	3:8,21 5:7 7:16,20	licensed 17:7	13:24 15:5,5	operations 11:22
Good 3:6	7:24 8:1,6,9,12,15	light 7:14	name's 15:8	11:24 16:6,7
H	9:7,12,16,18,19	limousine 3:23 8:20	National 1:24	operator 8:20
hand 3:16 7:18	10:9,19 11:1,3,7	9:8 17:8 18:2	need 4:16,20 7:13	opportunity 6:12
13:15	11:17,20 12:4,8	line 9:21 14:1	17:11 18:9,11	6:16
	12:14 13:2,7,10	list 5:18	19:2	option 4:10,12,25
happen 5:24 9:3 hear 7:15	13:14,19,23,25	LLC 1:21	negotiate 6:13,17	5:1,8,9,12 6:8 7:4
	14:5,8,11,17,20	long 14:12	never 8:25 12:15	9:6 14:13
hearing 4:1,9,23	14:22 15:1,4,9,13	longer 4:18	17:14	options 4:10 5:23
5:1,9,13,15,17 6:4	15:17,21,23 16:1	looks 8:7 11:21	normally 14:11	14:9
6:13 7:6,8 13:25	16:4,9,13,16,21	16:4	North 8:4	order 4:5 6:14,17
14:14	16:25 17:6,10,14	lot 18:8	number 9:15	6:18 9:23,23 10:3
help 7:7	17:18,22,24 18:4		0	10:17,21,23 11:8
higher 12:18 17:19	18:10,16,21,24	M		11:12,15 12:14
hit 7:13	19:1,5	M-a-l-d-o-n-a-d-o	O 3:4	14:6,14,18 15:18
Honor 19:4	July 7:7 12:21	15:8	000 3:3	15:19 17:11 18:11
Hoxit 5:19 14:25	June 1:12 3:1,10	making 13:3	oath 6:2	18:18
15:24 18:14 19:4	K	Maldonado 14:4,7	obtained 4:23	owner 8:7 15:15
husband 15:16		14:10,16,19,21,24	occupancy 9:11	
I	Kathryn 2:8 5:19	14:25 15:4,7,8,11	October 12:22	P
important 12:18	7:19	15:15,20,22,25	offer 5:2,10 12:10	P 2:1,1 3:4
17:20	Kim 1:6 3:18 7:9	16:3,8,12,15,19	17:1	Pages 1:9
impose 4:6	kind 8:23	16:24 17:4,8,13	offering 4:13,19	Park 1:15 2:4,10
imposed 11:25	kmcpherson@ut	17:17,21,23 18:1	oh 7:24 8:6 16:1,3	part 10:12,15
16:10	2:12	18:7,19,23,25	17:6	Partial 15:15
include 10:4	know 4:24 8:12	19:8	okay 4:1,1 5:7 7:16	partially 4:18
IIICIUUC IV.T	knowledge 20:9		7:21 9:7,12,16,19	party 3:12 4:4
	I	I	ı	1

				1 age 20
12:10 17:1	prove 4:21	resolve 6:17	spelling 15:5	tell 6:1 17:11
passenger 9:11	proven 4:5	rest 10:16	Staff 2:7 5:18,20	testify 6:8
patience 14:2	provide 5:2,10 6:11	review 10:21	6:12,17,23,25 7:1	thank 3:21 7:20
Pause 5:6 13:22	providing 4:13,19	Richland 8:5	10:6,8,21 12:10	10:25 11:11 13:18
15:3		right 5:21 7:12,18	12:16,17 13:4,11	13:19 15:1,17
pay 10:13,14,16	Q	14:16 17:4	13:15,15 16:25	18:24 19:6,8
12:12,24 13:5	questions 10:17	Road 15:11	17:15,16,18 18:5	thing 3:14
16:13 17:2	11:1,18 13:12	rules 18:3	stand 7:18	think 9:13,21 14:10
paying 9:14	14:8 18:6		start 7:17	THURSTON 20:4
payment 12:20,22		S	state 4:20 6:3,5	Tie 3:22,23,24,24
13:3	R	S 2:1 3:4	7:21 8:1,20 15:5	time 3:10 6:1 12:11
penalize 6:21	R 2:1 3:4 20:1	schedule 5:13 7:6,7	20:3,7	14:23 17:2
penalties 1:5 12:18	R-e-s-e-r 15:11	12:20	stop 4:5,13 9:25	today 3:10,14 5:24
17:19	raise 3:16 7:18	script 14:12	16:17	10:15 12:21 16:14
penalty 4:6 6:19,23	ran 8:21	seat 7:12 11:11	stopped 9:2	19:3
6:24,25 7:3 10:4,5	reach 6:24	seated 5:21	straight 12:17	today's 6:4 12:9
10:7,8,12,15	read 11:14 15:19	Seattle 1:22,23	17:18	16:22
11:25 12:1,12,23	Realtime 1:21	second 5:5	subject 5:15	Tours 3:23,25
12:25 13:5 16:10	reason 10:8 13:3	see 3:14 5:3 9:22	Suite 1:22	transcript 20:8
16:11 17:3	receive 4:15 13:16	11:20 15:23 16:1	Superior 12:17	Transportation 1:2
period 12:1	received 6:15	September 12:22	17:19	1:8,15 2:3,9 3:9
permanent 12:15	recess 11:4,5 13:20	serve 18:12	sure 10:22 11:13	3:24 17:9
17:12	19:6	served 6:20	18:16,19	true 20:8
permit 4:4,15,23	recommend 6:24	service 18:17	suspended 10:12	two 3:12 4:10 5:16
6:16,22 8:17 9:24	recommendation	services 3:13 4:4,14	12:1,8,24 16:11	11:21 12:2,9,17
9:25 10:10	7:2	4:20 5:3,11 12:11	16:22	16:5,22 17:16
person 5:4	recommended 10:7	17:2	SW 2:4,10	
phone 3:13 9:21	recommending	set 5:16 7:8	swear 6:1 14:23	U
13:21	10:6	sets 6:22	swearing 7:17	unable 7:1
plan 6:10	record 3:6 5:5,8	short 13:20	sworn 6:2 7:19	understand 6:4 8:9
please 3:16 4:24	11:8,12 12:4	Shorthand 20:6	14:25	9:8 10:3,22 11:8
7:10,12,21 8:1	13:24 15:2 16:16	show 4:16		11:13 12:12,23
point 10:19	18:15	shut 4:17 12:5	T	13:7 14:5 15:21
portion 12:1 16:10	recording 3:15	sign 9:22 10:3,23	T 20:1,1	17:24 18:1,8
preliminary 4:8	red 7:14	13:15 18:11	table 5:21	unpermitted 4:11
present 3:17,20	regulation 5:15	signed 10:21 11:21	take 7:12 9:20	4:14,19 5:3,11
5:14	relationship 15:14	14:6 15:24 16:2	10:20 11:11 13:20	unsuspended 10:15
prior 8:21	remember 9:4	19:1	19:2	Usually 10:12
proceed 4:9 8:13	13:10 18:4	skill 20:9	taken 4:21 11:5	UTC 18:3
proceeding 13:25	repeat 7:24	small 8:23 10:7	talk 9:22	Utilities 1:2,15 2:3
14:9,9,12	REPORTED 1:20	soon 10:20	Tayler 1:20 20:6,13	2:9 3:8
proceedings 5:6	reporter 3:15 15:6	sorry 8:3 14:2	TE-190052 1:4	
13:22 15:3	20:7	South 1:15 2:4,10	3:18	·
proof 5:14 6:11	Reporting 1:21	Southwest 1:15	TE-190303 3:22	violate 10:16
Proper 1:4	required 5:14 16:6	speak 6:12	technical 14:1,3	violation 4:7 6:23
	Reser 15:11	speaking 5:20	telephone 9:4	violations 11:21
	l	<u> </u>	l .	I

Page 24

			Page 24
16:5	1650 15:11		
VOLUME 1:8	1840 1:22		
W	2		
Walla 3:24,24	200 12:21,21		
15:12,12	2019 1:12 3:1,10		
want 6:6 8:12	206 1:23		
14:14	2569 8:4		
Washington 1:1,15	287-9066 1:23		
1:16,22 2:5,11 3:1			
3:8 8:5 15:12	3		
20:3,7	3217 8:3		
wasn't 9:14	3358 1:20 20:13		
Wave 1:7 2:13 3:19	360 1:23 2:5,11		
7:10 8:7	4		
we'll 10:20,22	4 1:12 3:1		
We're 17:4	4th 3:10 12:22		
we've 5:23 18:7	7th 3.10 12.22		
website 4:21	5		
week 5:17	5,000 4:6 6:23		
William 2:15 7:19	500 16:14,14		
7:23,25	534-9066 1:23		
Wine 3:23,25	5th 12:21,21,22		
witnesses 5:18			
www.buellrealti	6		
1:25	664-1107 2:11		
X	664-1160 2:5		
	7		
Y	— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —		
yeah 14:4,21	8		
years 8:25 12:2,9	800 1:24		
12:17 16:22 17:16	846-6989 1:24		
Z	9		
ZIP 8:5	9,000 12:1,8,12		
0	9,500 16:10,21 17:3		
	9:05 1:13 3:2,11		
1	9:20 11:5		
1-20 1:9	98101 1:22		
10,000 11:25 16:9	98504 1:16 2:5,11		
10:03 11:6	99352 8:5		
10:16 19:9	99362 15:12		
1300 1:15 2:4,10			
1325 1:22			
16 9:14			