## Docket TV-220417 - Vol. II

# In the Matter of: Mr. Muscles Moving Company, LLC

July 22, 2022



206.287.9066 | 800.846.6989

COURT REPORTING AND LEGAL VIDEO

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In the Matter of the )DOCKET TV-220417 Investigation of )	3 By Mr. Teimouri 16
MR. MUSCLES MOVING COMPANY ) LLC )	JASON SHARP
) For Compliance with ) WAC 480-15-530, WAC 480-15-550,)	By Mr. Teimouri 37
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July 22, 2022	13 14
9:30 a.m.	15
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission	16
621 Woodland Square Loop Southeast Lacey, Washington 98503	18
REPORTED BY: TAYLER GARLINGHOUSE, CCR 3358	19 20
	20 21
Buell Realtime Reporting, LLC 1325 Fourth Avenue, Suite 1840	22
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1 APPEARANCES	1 LACEY, WASHINGTON; JULY 22, 2022
	1 LACEY, WASHINGTON; JULY 22, 2022 2 9:30 A.M.
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1 (Pages 9 to 12)

	Page 13		Page 15
1	name is Daniel Teimouri. I'm an assistant attorney	1	testimony of Jason Sharp, as well as through documentary
2	general, representing Commission Staff. I use he/him	2	evidence that we have provided to the record.
3	pronouns. The last name is T-e-i-m, as in Mary,	3	However, before I call Special Investigator
4	o-u-r-i.	4	Cobile, I wanted to address one issue. We filed
5	JUDGE PEARSON: Great. Thank you.	5	Staff I think Staff three documents as proposed
6	And for the company?	6	exhibits last Friday, but they were inadvertently filed
7	MR. CONNER: My name is Alexander Conner. I	7	as one exhibit. So it's just TC-1 as a proposed
8	represent Mr. Muscles Moving Company. I'm sorry; what	8	exhibit.
9	was the other things that I had to say?	9	For the sake of clarity and for the record,
10	JUDGE PEARSON: Spell your last name, and if	10	I'm going to provide the pagination ranges for each
11	you wish to share your pronouns, you may.	11	document. So if you have a pen handy, it might be
12	MR. CONNER: Oh, C-o-n-n-e-r is my last	12	useful to write that down. But and then Staff would
13	name. That's how it spelled. And then I use he	13	also be happy to refile these exhibits, if the ALJ so
14	pronouns, he/him.	14	desires, with different labeling.
15	JUDGE PEARSON: Great. Thank you.	15	So pages 1 and 2 are the declaration of
16	MR. CONNER: Yes, ma'am.	16	Tracy Cobile, dated June 16th, 2022. Pages 3 to 7 are
17	JUDGE PEARSON: All right. And it doesn't	17	bills of lading. Pages 8 to 25 comprise Commission
18	look like there is anyone else who wishes to enter an	18	Staff's investigation report in this matter. And that
19	appearance because I can see everyone who is on the	19	will be that's the entirety of proposed Exhibit TC-1.
20	call, so we can go ahead and get started.	20	So we'll get into more depth and explain
21	We convened a prehearing conference on	21	these documents through questioning, but just wanted to
22	July 8th, at which time the company had not yet obtained	22	flag that at the top.
23	approval of a safety management plan.	23	So thank you and apologies for any
24	So we will hear from Staff first this	24	confusion. At this time, we'd like to Staff would
25	morning, and then we'll hear from the company. Once we	25	like to call Tracy Cobile as a witness.
	Page 14		Page 16
1	hear from the company, I will check back with Staff	1	JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Thank you.
2	about its final recommendations.	2	Ms. Cobile, if you could raise your right
3	Mr. Teimouri, you may begin when you're	3	hand.
4	ready.	4	(Tracy Cobile sworn.)
5	MR. TEIMOURI: Thank you, Judge. I'm going	5	JUDGE PEARSON: All right. Thank you.
6	to offer a quick opening statement, if that's	6	You can go ahead.
7	acceptable.	7	MR. TEIMOURI: Thank you.
8	JUDGE PEARSON: Sure.	8	
9	MR. TEIMOURI: So good morning, again. I'm	9	EXAMINATION
10	Daniel Teimouri, Assistant Attorney General,	10	BY MR. TEIMOURI:
11	representing the Utilities and Transportation	11	Q. Would you please state your name and spell your
12	Commission, and I'm here on behalf of the Commission	12	last name for the record.
13	Staff.	13	A. Tracy Cobile, C-o-b, as in boy, i-l-e, and I use
14	We're here today for a proceeding involving	14	she/her pronouns.
15	Mr. Muscles Moving Company, LLC. RCW Chapter 81.80 and	15	Q. Thank you.
16	Commission WAC 480-15-560 require carriers to comply	16	And what is your current position?
17	with various operational and safety requirements, including standards adopted from 49 CFR.	17	A. Special investigator with the motor carrier
	Incidence standards adopted from 49 CER	18	safety program for the UTC.
18	<b>o</b>	10	
19	Staff intends to introduce evidence that	19	Q. And what are your responsibilities in that
19 20	Staff intends to introduce evidence that shows that Mr. Muscles Moving Company, LLC, has violated	20	position?
19 20 21	Staff intends to introduce evidence that shows that Mr. Muscles Moving Company, LLC, has violated Commission operating and safety requirements based on	20 21	<b>position?</b> A. As a special investigator with the motor carrier
19 20 21 22	Staff intends to introduce evidence that shows that Mr. Muscles Moving Company, LLC, has violated Commission operating and safety requirements based on the results of a prior investigation conducted by	20 21 22	<b>position?</b> A. As a special investigator with the motor carrier safety program for the Commission, I conduct compliance
19 20 21 22 23	Staff intends to introduce evidence that shows that Mr. Muscles Moving Company, LLC, has violated Commission operating and safety requirements based on the results of a prior investigation conducted by Special Investigator Tracy Cobile.	20 21 22 23	<b>position?</b> A. As a special investigator with the motor carrier safety program for the Commission, I conduct compliance investigations on regulated transportation companies,
19 20 21 22 23 24	Staff intends to introduce evidence that shows that Mr. Muscles Moving Company, LLC, has violated Commission operating and safety requirements based on the results of a prior investigation conducted by Special Investigator Tracy Cobile. Staff will now will shortly introduce	20 21 22 23 24	<b>position?</b> A. As a special investigator with the motor carrier safety program for the Commission, I conduct compliance investigations on regulated transportation companies, which includes inspecting commercial motor vehicles and
19 20 21 22 23	Staff intends to introduce evidence that shows that Mr. Muscles Moving Company, LLC, has violated Commission operating and safety requirements based on the results of a prior investigation conducted by Special Investigator Tracy Cobile.	20 21 22 23	<b>position?</b> A. As a special investigator with the motor carrier safety program for the Commission, I conduct compliance investigations on regulated transportation companies,

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1	Q. And what kind of training have you received for	1 you the exhibit, but since we're in the virtual world	
2	your role as an investigator with the Commission?	2 it's been provided in advance. So I would like to	-,
3	A. I obtained an investigative safety analysis	3 direct you to Exhibit proposed Exhibit TC-1.	
4	certification from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety	4 A. Yes, sir.	
5	Administration. I am also certified through the	5 Q. Let's turn to pages 1 and 2 of the proposed	
6	Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance to conduct commercial	6 exhibit, which actually, what is this first docume	ent?
7	vehicle inspections.	7 A. This is my declaration.	
8	And prior to working for the UTC, I served as a	8 Q. Thank you.	
9	commercial vehicle enforcement officer with the	9 And did you prepare and sign this declaration	1?
10	Washington State Patrol for a period of seven years, and	10 A. Yes.	
11	four of those years in conjunction with my regular	11 Q. What is the signature date of this declaration	1?
12	enforcement duties were spent conducting federal safety	12 A. June 16th, 2022.	
13	audits.	13 Q. And in general, what is this what does you	ır
14	Q. And how long have you been in your current	14 declaration document?	
15	position with the Commission?	15 A. The declaration documents my investigation	
16	A. One and a half years as a special investigator	16 findings of the company's regulatory compliance with	1 the
17	with the UTC.	17 Commission's rules and standards. It discusses sor	ne
18	Q. All right. Thank you.	18 context around the opening of the investigation. I also	SO
19	I'd now like to ask you questions about the	19 summarized the findings of my investigation with	
20	matter at issue in today's hearing.	20 reference to my comprehensive investigation report.	
21	Are you familiar with the company, Mr. Muscles	21 Q. Okay. And I'd like to hone in on one one	
22	Moving Company, LLC?	22 paragraph discussing your findings.	
23	A. Yes.	23 Could you please summarize, for the record h	ere,
24	Q. And how did you become aware of the present	24 your findings in paragraph 7 of the declaration?	
25	matter today involving that company?	A. Yes. In so during the investigation, I	
	Page 18	Page	2.0
	1030 10	1000	
1	A As part of my work on April 19th 2022	1 discovered that between Nevember 6th 2021 and	20
1	A. As part of my work, on April 18th, 2022, Mr. Muscles Maving Company, LLC, a provisional bauschold	discovered that, between November 6th, 2021, and	20
2	Mr. Muscles Moving Company, LLC, a provisional household	2 January 9th, 2022, the company operated a total of five	
2 3	Mr. Muscles Moving Company, LLC, a provisional household goods company, was assigned to me to conduct a	<ul> <li>January 9th, 2022, the company operated a total of five</li> <li>times without a valid permit. The company bills of</li> </ul>	
2 3 4	Mr. Muscles Moving Company, LLC, a provisional household goods company, was assigned to me to conduct a comprehensive compliance review. And I met with the	<ul> <li>January 9th, 2022, the company operated a total of five</li> <li>times without a valid permit. The company bills of</li> <li>ladings were provided by the carrier to determine when</li> </ul>	
2 3 4 5	Mr. Muscles Moving Company, LLC, a provisional household goods company, was assigned to me to conduct a comprehensive compliance review. And I met with the carrier for an on-site investigation on	<ul> <li>January 9th, 2022, the company operated a total of five</li> <li>times without a valid permit. The company bills of</li> <li>ladings were provided by the carrier to determine when</li> <li>the company conducted those household goods moves</li> </ul>	
2 3 4 5 6	Mr. Muscles Moving Company, LLC, a provisional household goods company, was assigned to me to conduct a comprehensive compliance review. And I met with the carrier for an on-site investigation on April 27th, 2022.	<ul> <li>January 9th, 2022, the company operated a total of five</li> <li>times without a valid permit. The company bills of</li> <li>ladings were provided by the carrier to determine when</li> <li>the company conducted those household goods moves</li> <li>unpermitted.</li> </ul>	while
2 3 4 5 6 7	Mr. Muscles Moving Company, LLC, a provisional household goods company, was assigned to me to conduct a comprehensive compliance review. And I met with the carrier for an on-site investigation on April 27th, 2022. <b>Q. Thank you.</b>	<ul> <li>January 9th, 2022, the company operated a total of five</li> <li>times without a valid permit. The company bills of</li> <li>ladings were provided by the carrier to determine when</li> <li>the company conducted those household goods moves</li> <li>unpermitted.</li> <li><b>Q. Are there any changes you would like to make to</b></li> </ul>	while
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	<ul> <li>Mr. Muscles Moving Company, LLC, a provisional household goods company, was assigned to me to conduct a comprehensive compliance review. And I met with the carrier for an on-site investigation on April 27th, 2022.</li> <li>Q. Thank you. And when you review a carrier's operations, do you review its status and history at the Commission? A. Yes.</li></ul>	<ul> <li>January 9th, 2022, the company operated a total of five</li> <li>times without a valid permit. The company bills of</li> <li>ladings were provided by the carrier to determine when</li> <li>the company conducted those household goods moves of</li> <li>unpermitted.</li> <li>Q. Are there any changes you would like to make to</li> <li>your declaration?</li> <li>A. No.</li> <li>Q. And do you stand by all the statements you made</li> </ul>	while D
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<sup>3 (</sup>Pages 17 to 20)

	Page 21	Page	23
1	A. They were provided to me in response to a	1 Q. And did you look for criminal background chec	k
2	document request.	2 records here?	
3	Q. And when were they obtained from the company?	3 A. Yes.	
4	A. On April 27th, 2022, during the on-site with the	4 Q. And did Mr. Muscles Moving Company have the	se
5	company.	5 records for all of its employees?	
6	Q. Are the images contained in pages 3 to 7 of	6 A. No.	
7	proposed Exhibit TC-1 true and correct copies of the	7 Q. How many instances were there of Mr. Muscles	
8	bills of lading you obtained from the company during	8 Moving Company lacking records or other evidence t	hat it
9	your investigation?	9 had performed criminal background checks on its	
10	A. Yes.	10 employees?	
11	Q. And what do these bills of lading document?	11 A. Three.	
12	A. The bills of lading document the company	12 Q. And when you review operational records, do y	ou
13	operated without Commission authority and while its	<ul> <li>look at records look for records of duty status?</li> <li>A. Yes.</li> </ul>	
14	permit was cancelled. The dates of the unpermitted		<b>。</b>
15 16	household goods moves, based on the bills of lading provided by the company, were December 1st, 2021;	<ul> <li>Q. Can you explain what a record of duty status is</li> <li>A. A record of duty status is a means of recording</li> </ul>	ſ
17	December 3rd, 2021; December 24th, 2021; and	17 and maintaining commercial drivers' hours of service to	
18	January 2nd, 2022; and January 3rd, 2022.	18 track the maximum amount of time drivers are permitted	
19	Q. Thank you.	19 to be on duty, which includes driving time.	4
20	Let's now move to the final proposed document	20 Q. Do you use a specific sample size when looking	a
21	in proposed Exhibit TC-1, comprising pages 8 to 25 of	21 at records of duty status?	
22	that document.	22 A. Yes.	
23	What is contained in these pages?	23 Q. What is that sample size?	
24	A. This contains my the report of my	A. In this case, at the time of my investigation,	
25	investigation. So this is the report of my	the company had one driver, so the sample size was or	ne
	Page 22	Page	24
1	investigation into Mr. Muscles Moving Company.	1 driver. And the review period was 30 days of RODS or	21
2	Q. And did you complete this report?	2 hours of service.	
3	A. Yes.	3 <b>Q.</b> And did you look for records of duty status	
4	Q. What is the review date associated with this	4 during this review?	
5	report?	5 A. Yes.	
6	A. June 1st, 2022.	6 Q. Did you find that Mr. Muscles Moving Company	was
7	Q. And what does the report document?	7 missing records of duty status?	
8	A. The report documents my investigation of the	8 A. Yes.	
9	company's regulatory compliance with the Commission	9 Q. How many records of duty status were missing	in
10	rules and standards and the findings of my	10 the sample you examined?	
11	investigation.	11 A. Thirty days.	
12	Q. Thank you.	12 <b>Q. Thank you.</b>	
13	So we've already covered the five violations	13 When you review driver records, do you also loo	k
14	that are alleged in the complaint of RCW 81.80.075,	14 at driver qualification files?	
15	sub 1, that you discovered, but I would now like to walk	15 A. Yes.	
16	through the other violations you found, which are also	16 Q. Did you look for driver qualification files for	
17	referenced in the complaint.	17 this company?	
18	So when you review a carrier, do you look to see	18 A. Yes.	
19 20	if it has performed criminal background checks on each of its employees?	<ul><li>19 Q. Did the company have driver qualification files</li><li>20 for all of its drivers?</li></ul>	
20	A. Yes.	21 A. No, they did not.	
22	Q. And how do you do that?	22 <b>Q.</b> How many current drivers lacked a driver	
23	A. Through a document request of the company	<ul> <li>qualification file when you investigated?</li> </ul>	
24	records in relation to those required criminal	24 A. One.	
25	background checks.	25 Q. When you review company records, do you loo	k to

4 (Pages 21 to 24)

	Page 25		Page 27
1	see if a carrier has maintained the original lease	1	A. Yes.
2	agreements for their term leased vehicles?	2	Q. Do you look to see whether the carrier is using
3	A. Yes.	3	vehicles that are periodically inspected?
4	Q. Did you look for those records in here?	4	A. Yes.
5	A. Yes.	5	Q. Did you look to see if Mr. Muscles Moving
6	Q. Did you find any violations of this requirement	6	Company's vehicles were periodically inspected?
7	to maintain the original lease agreement for term leased	7	A. Yes.
8	vehicles?	8	Q. Were any of the company's vehicles not
9	A. Yes.	9	periodically inspected?
10	Q. How many such violations did you discover?	10	A. Not yes.
11	A. Two.	11	Q. And how many vehicles were were not so
12	Q. Now I want to ask you some questions about	12	inspected?
13	medical certification.	13	A. One truck.
14	When you look at driver records, do you look at	14	Q. Okay. Last violation here.
15	medical records?	15	When you review a carrier's operations, do you
16	A. Yes.	16	look to see if it keeps the minimum records of
17	Q. What medical records do you review as a	17	inspection and vehicle maintenance?
18	during the course?	18	A. Yes.
19	A. I am reviewing the required medical examiner's	19	Q. Did you look for those records here?
20	certificates. These medical cards are required to be	20	A. Yes.
21	obtained as proof that the company drivers are	21	Q. Was Mr. Muscles Moving Company missing
22	physically qualified to drive commercial motor vehicles.	22	maintenance files for any of its vehicles?
23	Q. And did you look for those records here?	23	A. Yes.
24	A. Yes.	24	Q. And how many?
25	Q. Did you find the necessary medical certificates	25	A. One.
	Page 26		Page 28
1	for all of Mr. Muscles Moving Moving Company's	1	Q. Thank you.
2	drivers? Sorry.	2	Now, did your investigation result in a proposed
3	A. No.	3	safety rating?
4	Q. How many drivers operated commercial motor	4	A. Yes.
5	vehicles without the requisite certificate?	5	Q. What was that rating?
6	A. One.	6	A. Proposed conditional based on the critical
7	Q. And how many trips did those drivers make during	7	violations identified.
8	the sample period?	8	Q. And what violations so when you tallied up
9	A. There were 23 occasions that the driver drove a	9	the violations, which violations led to the conditional
10	commercial motor vehicle without a valid medical	10	rating?
11	examiner's certificate.	11	A. There were two violations identified in the
12	Q. When you review company records, do you look to	12	report: one critical violation of 395.8(a)(1) and one
13	see if the carrier has filed the required annual reports	13	critical violation of WAC 480-15-555 that has a CFR
14	by the required date of May 1st of each year?	14	equivalent of 392.2.
15	A. Yes.	15	Q. And in your assessment, what is the significance
16	Q. Did you look for such records here?	16	of these critical violations?
17	A. Yes.	17	A. Critical violations are those identified where
18	Q. Did you find any violations of this requirement	18	noncompliance is indicative of breakdowns in a company's
19	to file annual reports with the Commission?	19	safety management controls and demonstrate a pattern of
20	A. Yes.	20	noncompliance. These violations are serious and are
21	Q. For which years did the company fail to file its	21	linked to higher than average accident rates.
22	annual reports by the required date?	22	Q. And how were the results of your investigation
23	A. For the years 2020 and 2021.	23 24	communicated to the company?
24 25	Q. When you review a carrier's files, do you look at vehicle maintenance records?	24	A. On June 1st, 2022, I held a closing interview with the owner of the company, Alexander Conner, where I

5 (Pages 25 to 28)

	Page 29		Page 31
1	provided him a copy of the final report. We went over	1	-
2	the entire report in detail to include parts A, B, the	2	JUDGE PEARSON: Oh, typically, you do it after, to give the final recommendation once you've
3	recommendations and requirements, the safety fitness	3	heard from the company.
4	rating, the safety management plan, or the SMP, was also	4	MR. TEIMOURI: Thank you. Sorry again for
5	provided to Mr. Conner and discussed in detail with him.	5	interrupting.
6	Q. Do you have any changes you would like to make	6	JUDGE PEARSON: That's okay.
7	to your report?	7	Mr. Conner, you can go ahead.
8	A. No.	8	MR. CONNER: So all the I admit to all
9	Q. Thank you.	9	the violations that Tracy found. You know, obviously, I
10	MR. TEIMOURI: Your Honor, at this time, I	10	did I don't dispute any of those.
11	would like to move to admit proposed Exhibit TC-1,	11	I would like to say that I never had a
12	including Tracy Cobile's declaration dated June 16th,	12	business before. This is you know, I I wasn't in
13	2022, again, pages 1 to 2, the bills of lading indicated	13	business I wasn't in the moving business before
14	on pages 3 to 7, as well as Staff's investigation report	14	COVID. Once COVID started, I kind of started helping
15	in this matter, comprising pages 8 to 25, into evidence.	15	people move. It started as a thing of because it's
16	JUDGE PEARSON: Mr. Conner, do you have any	16	something that I've done in the past, and I know people
17	objection to admitting these exhibits into evidence?	17	were still needing to move during COVID.
18	MR. CONNER: No, Your Honor.	18	So it's something that I kind of started to
19	JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Thank you.	19	help people out, and because both my industries that I
20	Then those are admitted into the record and	20	was in, I was personal training and bartending at the
21	marked as Exhibit TC-1.	21	time, and both of those industries got hit really hard,
22	(Exhibit TC-1 admitted.)	22	and I wasn't working.
23	MR. TEIMOURI: Thank you, Your Honor. Staff	23	So I started the moving company. What I
24	has no further questions of Special Investigator Cobile	24	didn't know is, there's a big difference of, you know,
25	at this time.	25	just doing jobs for people, you know, donation-based and
	Page 30		Page 32
-			
1	JUDGE PEARSON: Great. Thank you.	1	then running a real company.
2	Mr. Conner, did you have any questions for Staff's witness?	2	I'm doing it by myself. That's not an
3	Sidii S Williess?		ovouce I don't I don't I take full
	MP CONNER: Cap you say that and more time?	1	excuse. I don't I don't I take full
4	MR. CONNER: Can you say that one more time?	4	accountability for all the violations. But it is
5	Did you ask if I have any objection?	4 5	accountability for all the violations. But it is something that I am really working towards, is getting
5 6	Did you ask if I have any objection? JUDGE PEARSON: No. Do you have any	4 5 6	accountability for all the violations. But it is something that I am really working towards, is getting my paperwork right and getting my books right because
5	Did you ask if I have any objection? JUDGE PEARSON: No. Do you have any questions for Ms. Cobile?	4 5 6 7	accountability for all the violations. But it is something that I am really working towards, is getting my paperwork right and getting my books right because one thing that I noticed that it's it's enough to do
5 6 7	Did you ask if I have any objection? JUDGE PEARSON: No. Do you have any questions for Ms. Cobile? MR. CONNER: No questions at the moment.	4 5 6	accountability for all the violations. But it is something that I am really working towards, is getting my paperwork right and getting my books right because one thing that I noticed that it's it's enough to do the job, you know, but doing the job a good job for
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6 (Pages 29 to 32)

	Page 33		Page 35
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1	I'm more than willing to try to get my	1	that answers your question, you have until 5:00 p.m.
2	driver qualification profile was the thing that I was	2	next Thursday, July 28th, to continue working with Staff
3	kind of struggling with you know, for the past day	3	and submit an acceptable safety management plan.
4	that I wasn't able to get.	4	MR. CONNER: Yes, ma'am.
5	And yeah, so I don't know if there's any	5	JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Is there anything
6	leniency with still providing the safety management	6	else that you'd like to add before we move on?
7	plan. I don't know if that has anything to do at this	7	MR. CONNER: No, nothing at the moment.
8	point or if it's beating a dead horse. But if there was	8	Well, there is one more thing. I was talking to Tracy,
9	something that I can correct, I would be more than	9	and she was saying she was talking about how serious
10	willing to correct it, and if there was a time frame	10 11	it was that I operated without without the permit,
11	given.		when my permit got cancelled.
12	JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Thank you.	12	And that's one thing that I just really wanted to clear up as well, is and this is not an
13	I will just ask, Mr. Teimouri, can you	13 14	
14 15	remind me what our deadline is in this case?	15	excuse. I'm not making an excuse, but my truck was
16	MR. TEIMOURI: For for cancellation? JUDGE PEARSON: Yes.	16	stolen July prior, in July 2021. And when the truck was stolen, you know, I
17	MR. TEIMOURI: I believe it's August 1st.	17	didn't have the means to go out and buy another truck
18	JUDGE PEARSON: August 1st.	18	right away. I had to kind of go through the insurance
19	MR. TEIMOURI: Yeah.	19	process.
20	JUDGE PEARSON: Which is a Monday.	20	They you know, because they were in
20	MR. TEIMOURI: Yes. And Staff would need to	21	COVID, it took a little bit longer. So I ended up
22	receive and approve it by July 29th, have it	22	working for, actually, a friend who has another moving
23	realistically be available for the 1st before the	23	company. And during that time, the only thing that I
24	cancellation takes place.	24	was really focused on was, you know, trying to get
25	JUDGE PEARSON: Right.	25	another truck and getting the truck insured.
		1	
	Page 34		Page 36
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1 2	Page 34 MR. TEIMOURI: July 29th is kind of the informal deadline for that.	1	I was aware that my permit was going to
	MR. TEIMOURI: July 29th is kind of the informal deadline for that.		I was aware that my permit was going to cancel, but because I had the proper insurance and it
2	MR. TEIMOURI: July 29th is kind of the	2	I was aware that my permit was going to
2 3	MR. TEIMOURI: July 29th is kind of the informal deadline for that. JUDGE PEARSON: Right. And that but	2 3	I was aware that my permit was going to cancel, but because I had the proper insurance and it was getting cancelled because I didn't have the proper
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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 23	MR. TEIMOURI: July 29th is kind of the informal deadline for that. JUDGE PEARSON: Right. And that but there would still have to be time for me to draft an order as well. MR. TEIMOURI: As well, yeah. JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. So, Mr. Conner, to answer your question, you have almost a week left to get that finished. If you could get it filed by the close of business on the 28th, that would give Staff time to review it and me time to prepare an order. Because we have until close of business on August 1st, correct, Mr. Teimouri? MR. TEIMOURI: That's correct. JUDGE PEARSON: And I would assume that Staff's review would be expeditious because they've been working with the company, going back and forth, so that should be sufficient time, you think? MR. TEIMOURI: Yeah. Staff has stated to me that July 29th would be workable for it. So if the Court needs one day prior to that, then that should still work. And my understanding is that midnight August 1st is when the technical cancellation would take	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	I was aware that my permit was going to cancel, but because I had the proper insurance and it was getting cancelled because I didn't have the proper insurance. But because I had bought a truck, I still had my cargo insurance, and I had I had my my insurance for the truck, I thought that I was going to be okay to operate under those conditions. But I learned you know, ignorance in law is no excuse, but I just wanted to say that I didn't intentionally operate without a permit. JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Thank you. I appreciate that. Mr. Teimouri, do you have any questions for Mr. Conner? MR. TEIMOURI: Not at this time. Thank you. JUDGE PEARSON: One moment. Sorry about that. My dogs got excited. All right. Mr. Teimouri, if you would like to call Mr. Sharp, we can do that at this time. MR. TEIMOURI: Yes. That would be great that would be great, Your Honor. Thank you. JUDGE PEARSON: Good morning, Mr. Sharp. If

7 (Pages 33 to 36)

	Page 37		Page 39
1	JUDGE PEARSON: All right. Go ahead,	1	conditional safety rating, as Investigator Cobile
2	Mr. Teimouri.	2	testified to. And the way that the Commission
3	MR. TEIMOURI: Thank you.	3	determines safety fitness rating for the performance
4		4	that our the motor carriers have is based off of
5	EXAMINATION	5	adopting the safety fitness standards through the
6	BY MR. TEIMOURI:	6	Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and USDOT.
7	Q. Mr. Sharp, would you please state your name and	7	Those are adopted through reference in Title 49,
8	spell your last name for the record.	8	parts 385. And the way that an overall determination of
9	A. Jason Sharp, S-h-a-r-p.	9	safety fitness is determined is based off of the motor
10	Q. And what is your current position?	10	carrier's performance through six different factors.
11	A. I'm the motor carrier safety supervisor at the	11	So to kind of clarify, an ease of reference to
12	Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission.	12	those that are on this call, if we look at pages 24 and
13	Q. And what are your responsibilities in that	13	25 of Exhibit TC-1, that that page is titled "Safety
14	position?	14	Fitness Rating Explanation." And so it highlights the
15	A. I supervise or I assign safety investigations to	15	six factors that are reviewed.
16	our investigations team. I review the investigative	16	So in general factor one is general, which
17	reports, and issue recommendations based on the findings	17	includes insurance requirements; factor two is driver
18	of those reports, consistent with Federal and State	18	qualifications; factor three is operational and driving,
19	rules and the Commission's enforcement policy.	19	which contains drivers' hours of service rules; factor
20	Q. And what kind of training have you received for	20	four is related to vehicle maintenance; factor five is
21	your role as motor carrier safety supervisor?	21	for hazardous materials, which in this case is not
22	A. So prior to becoming the supervisor, I was also	22	applicable because the carrier does not haul hazardous
23	a safety investigator, similar to Tracy Cobile,	23	materials; and then factor six is the accident ratio for
24	receiving training through the Federal Motor Carrier	24	the carrier.
25	Safety Administration as well as the Commercial Vehicle	25	And if we look at that page on 24, you'll see
	Page 38		Page 40
1	Safety Alliance to conduct commercial vehicle	1	that factor three has two separate violations listed,
2	inspections.	2	which gave that factor an overall rating of
3	So I've been at this for nearly five years in	3	unsatisfactory. Okay? The remaining of the six factors
4	the commercial vehicle enforcement business.	4	are in an either nonapplicable or satisfactory rating.
5	Q. And how long have you been in your current	5	And so when you look at the six factors all
6	position?	6	together, there's a formula on page 25. So the next
7	A. Near five years.	7	page, which shows the overall safety fitness rate and
8	Q. About five years. Okay.	8	how that falls in.
9	I would now like to discuss the safety rating	9	So with one factor receiving an unsatisfactory
10	determination in this case.	10	rating, no additional factors were negatively affected.
11	Are you familiar with Mr. Muscles Moving	11	The overall rating of the carrier is determined to be
12	Company, LLC?	12	conditional.
13	A. Yes, I am.	13	Q. And so that that was thank you for that
14	Q. And how did you become aware of the present	14	helpful explanation. That process that you outlined was
15	matter today involving that company?	15	followed, then, in making that determination through
16	A. I had assigned the compliance investigation to	16	FMCSA adopting UTC, those factors?
17	Investigator Cobile and reviewed the report and issued	17	A. Yes.
18	the follow-on recommendations as a result.	18	Q. And since the date the company received a
19 20	Q. And have you reviewed what's been labeled and entered into evidence as Exhibit TC-1 in this matter?	19 20	notification of that proposed conditional rating, has
20 21		20	the company requested an upgrade to its safety rating by
21	<ul> <li>A. TC-1, yes. I have it pulled up here.</li> <li>Q. Okay. Great.</li> </ul>	21	way of submitting a safety management plan? A. Yes. Mr. Conner has submitted a couple of
22	And are you familiar with how the safety rating	22	drafts of his plan, and as recently as Tuesday, he and I
23 24	was determined in this case?	23	had a technical assistance call, going over the
25	A. Yes. The company received a proposed	25	materials, to give him some clarity and pointing him to
25			

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	Page 41		Page 43
1	some additional resources that he could utilize while	1	a record of duty status, Staff recommends a \$100 per
2	he's putting his plan together.	2	category penalty of these critical violations.
3	Q. And based on the testimony you provided, what is	3	For one violation of Title 49 CFR,
4	the status recommendation as it relates to the company's	4	part 396.3(b), for failing to maintain a vehicle
5	permit at this time?	5	maintenance file, Staff recommends a \$100 penalty for
6	A. At this time, Staff would recommend that the	6	this critical-type violation.
7	Commission continue on with the cancellation process.	7	And finally, for one violation of Title 49 CFR,
8	We are under a strict guideline of 60 days from the	8	part 396.17(a), for using a commercial motor vehicle not
9	notice of the proposed rating to cancel the operating	9	periodically inspected, Staff recommends a \$100 penalty
10	authority without that is the rule.	10	for this critical-type violation.
11	So we don't have any flexibility to wiggle	11	So between the recommended \$5,000 for the
12	beyond that window. But Staff will continue to be	12	violations of RCW 81.80.075(1) and the safety violations
13	available and make timely responses to the company's	13	identified during the compliance review, that totals
14	request for upgrade and acceptance of its safety plan.	14	\$8,000.
15	Q. Thank you.	15	And so Staff would recommend that, if the
16	I'd now like to move to ask you some questions	16	Commission were to cancel the company's permit due to
17	about penalties in this case.	17	the company not submitting an acceptable safety
18	Does Staff have any recommendations about	18	management plan, then Staff would recommend that the
19	whether the Commission should assess penalties against	19	entire \$8,000 penalty be suspended for a period of two
20	Mr. Muscles Moving Company for the violations documented	20	years and then waived, on condition that the company
21	by Special Investigator Cobile?	21	cease and desist operations as a household goods moving
22	A. Yes.	22	company without first obtaining a permit from the
23	Q. And what is that recommendation?	23	Commission.
24	A. Let me look here, just so I don't try to shoot	24	However, should the company submit an acceptable
25	from memory. So overall, Staff recommends that the	25	safety management plan prior to its cancellation or have
	Page 42		Page 44
1	Commission impose a penalty of \$8,000, which is	1	its provisional authority cancelled and then reapply
2	consistent with the Commission's enforcement policy	2	for or apply for reinstatement after the fact within
3	broken down as follows:	3	the two-year period, then Staff would recommend that the
4	There were five violations of RCW 81.80.075(1)	4	company would need to submit an acceptable safety
5	that were identified for operating as a household goods	5	management plan still and pay 3,000 of the recommended
6	mover after having its permit cancelled. Staff could	6	\$8,000 penalty, with a remaining \$5,000 suspended for
7	seek up to \$5,000 per occurrence; however, we will	7	the remainder of the two-year period and then waived, on
8	recommend a \$1,000 per occurrence penalty, for a total	8	the conditions that Staff perform a comprehensive safety
9	of 5,000 for the five identified violations.	9	investigation at least six months after the date of the
10	For the safety violations associated with this	10	order or the company's reinstatement; two, the company
11	report, the company had three violations of	11	maintains a conditional safety rating; or three, the
12	WAC 480-15-555 for failing to retain or maintain	12	company does not receive any repeat critical violations
13	criminal background checks for prospective employees.	13	upon reinspection.
14	Staff recommends a \$100 per occurrence penalty for these	14	Q. Thank you for that detailed explanation.
15 16	critical-type violations, for a total of \$300.	15	Why does Staff recommend that the Commission
16 17	For the 23 violations of 49 CFR, part 391.45(a),	16 17	impose penalties in the manner you just described? A. Staff recommends, you know, should the company
	for using a driver not medically certified, Staff		
18 19	recommends a \$100 per occurrence penalty for these critical-type violations, for a total of \$2,300.	18 19	be cancelled, that there be a suspended penalty to incentivize the company to to cease and desist and
20	For one violations, for a total of \$2,500.	20	not operate without a permit.
20	failing to maintain a driver qualification file on its	20	You know, we're looking for compliance, and we
22	commercial driver, Staff recommends a \$100 penalty for	22	feel that a penalty of that magnitude would incentivize
23	this critical-type violation.	23	the company to comply with Commission regulations.
24	For the 30 violations of Title 49 CFR	24	And then also, you know, considering if the
25	395.8(a)(1), for failing to require a driver to prepare	25	company is is able to maintain its provisional
	· · · · · ·		

9 (Pages 41 to 44)

	Page 45		Page 47
1	permit, you know, we with still a large suspended	1 fac	t that it did not possess operating authority on the
2	penalty of \$5,000, we think that that is, again, another		es it operated as alleged in the complaint?
3	incentive to to the company to comply with our rules.	3 A	. What I see is that there was an application to
4	Q. And you mentioned that that if the company	4 rein	state that was submitted through that time frame;
5	were to get a safety management plan because they	5 hov	vever, the company was not granted authority to
6	don't currently have a safety management plan accepted	б оре	rate at that time. And the company should have known
7	prior to cancellation, does Staff continue to be working	7 that	it was, you know, not eligible to operate as a
8	with the company between now and August 1st towards	8 hou	sehold goods company during that time.
9	reaching an acceptable plan?	9 <b>Q</b>	. Thank you very much.
10	A. Yes.	10	MR. TEIMOURI: I have no more questions for
11	Q. Okay. And I'd like to ask you just a few	11 Mr.	Sharp at this time, Your Honor.
12	questions quickly on the company's in your view, the	12	JUDGE PEARSON: Mr. Conner, do you have any
13	company's awareness that it was operating without a	13 que	stions for Mr. Sharp?
14	permit.	14	MR. CONNER: No questions. No, Your Honor.
15	Have you reviewed the documents in the company's	15	JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. Thank you. And I
16	reinstatement docket, which is TV-210917?	16 <b>wo</b> u	Ild just ask, as with the last time we had a hearing
17	A. Yes.		his nature, Mr. Sharp, if you could send me an email
18	Q. And these are not in the record, but I believe		contains your recommendation unless you would
19	they were just raised by some of the company's		er wait until the 28th to see if the company is able
20	statements.		ome into compliance and also filing a memo in the
21	When was the company's permit cancelled for lack		ket on the 29th.
22	of insurance?	22	MR. SHARP: Yes, Judge Pearson. I would
23	A. The permit was cancelled, I believe, on	23 Iwo	ould ask that I just be able to file one evaluation
24	November 5th. That was in a separate docket, however.		recommendation to the docket for your review at the
25	The cancellation for insurance was in Docket TV-210846	25 end	-
	Page 46		Page 48
1	Page 46 and	1	Page 48 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. That sounds great.
1 2			
	and	2 The 3 or b	JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. That sounds great. on we will do that. I will hold off taking any action beginning to for my decision until after the close
2	and <b>Q. And when</b> A the date of that cancellation was the 5th of yeah, November, 2021.	2 The 3 or b	JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. That sounds great. on we will do that. I will hold off taking any action
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2 3 4	<ul> <li>and</li> <li>Q. And when</li> <li>A the date of that cancellation was the</li> <li>5th of yeah, November, 2021.</li> <li>Q. Okay. And when did the company apply for</li> <li>reinstatement in Docket 210917? TV-210917?</li> </ul>	2 The 3 or b 4 of b 5 opp 6	JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. That sounds great. en we will do that. I will hold off taking any action beginning to for my decision until after the close business on July 28th, to give the company an bortunity to come into compliance. So, Mr. Conner, the expectation is that you
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10 (Pages 45 to 48)

	Page 49	
1	JUDGE PEARSON: Yes, we encourage small	
2	businesses to work with Staff to set up payment plans	
3	that will work with them.	
4	MR. CONNER: Yes, ma'am.	
5	JUDGE PEARSON: All right. Anything from	
6	Staff?	
7	MR. TEIMOURI: Nothing further from Staff.	
8	If you would like a closing argument, but I don't think	
9	we need to make that at this time unless you want it.	
10	JUDGE PEARSON: No, that's okay. I	
11	appreciate that, though.	
12	All right. Well, thanks again, and we are	
13	adjourned. Have a great day, everyone.	
14	(Adjourned at 10:44 a.m.)	
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	Page 50	
	Page 50	
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1	CERTIFICATE	
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2 3	C E R T I F I C A T E STATE OF WASHINGTON	
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