1	BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE
2	UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
3	
4	In the Matter of the Application of)
5	ORACLE MARKETING, INC. d/b/a) Docket TV-120766
6	GREAT AMERICAN MOVING &) Page 1-81 STORAGE)
7	for a permit to operate as a motor) carrier of household goods.)
8	
9	BRIEF ADJUDICATIVE PROCEEDING, VOLUME I
10	Pages 1-81
11	ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE ADAM E. TOREM
12	ADMINISTRATIVE DAW OUDGE ADAM E. TOREM
13	
14	1:33 P.M.
15	OCTOBER 8, 2012
16	Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
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1	OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 8, 2012
2	1:33 P.M.
3	
4	PROCEEDINGS
5	
6	JUDGE TOREM: Well, let's be on the record, then.
7	It is Monday afternoon, October the 8th, 2012. It's
8	a little after 1:30 in the afternoon.
9	This is Docket TV-120766. This is about the
10	application of Oracle Marketing, Incorporated, and they do
11	business as Great American Moving & Storage.
12	Appearing for Commission Staff?
13	MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: Jennifer Cameron-Rulkowski,
14	Assistant Attorney General. My address is 1400 South Evergreen
15	Park Drive Southwest, Olympia, 98504-7250. My telephone number
16	is 360.664.1186; my fax number is 360.586.5522; and my e-mail
17	address is jcameron@utc.wa.gov.
18	JUDGE TOREM: All right. And also present
19	representing the Respondent, Oracle Marketing, is Ms. Chana
20	Green; is that right?
21	MS. GREEN: Yes.
22	JUDGE TOREM: And if you can go ahead and provide
23	contact information so we have it in the record.
24	MS. GREEN: Yeah. The address is 1826 112th Street

East, Suite D, Tacoma, Washington 98445. And telephone number

- is 206.855.5479, and my e-mail address is chanigreen --
- 2 c-h-a-n-i-g-r-e-e-n -- at yahoo.com.
- JUDGE TOREM: Okay. So let me explain how today's
- 4 proceeding is going to work. My understanding is this is all
- 5 before me based on a notice that was sent out July the 19th by
- 6 the Commission of an intention to deny Ms. Green's application
- 7 for permanent authority as a household goods carrier. She
- 8 responded to that notice, which laid out a number of
- 9 allegations, which I'm sure the witness testimony will get into
- 10 today, indicated that she would like to dispute some of the
- 11 references to her company history, and have an opportunity to
- 12 state why she should be eligible to get this permit.
- 13 So the question for me today is going to be what does
- 14 the evidence show? We'll see what you have to say about the
- 15 Commission's notice.
- 16 If you call any witnesses, you'll have an opportunity
- 17 to have them testify or yourself.
- 18 Ms. Cameron-Rulkowski is the attorney who will
- 19 cross-examine, or at least have the opportunity to cross-examine
- 20 any testimony you put forward.
- 21 This is a brief adjudication, so it's sort of formal
- 22 like a hearing. And it will have most of trappings of a full
- 23 hearing today, but it's designed to really just get to the heart
- 24 of the matter and not have a parade of witnesses or documents.
- 25 Now, you can turn in documents. There was a deadline

- 1 to do that, and Ms. Cameron-Rulkowski put together a set of
- 2 documents.
- 3 Do you have those in front of you?
- 4 MS. GREEN: Yeah, I looked at them.
- 5 JUDGE TOREM: Okay. So she'll be offering those
- 6 through witnesses.
- What I want to do today is go over the documents,
- 8 make sure I understand, and that you have each one of them.
- 9 Then I'll have Ms. Cameron-Rulkowski state the factual basis for
- 10 the notice that went out just in summary form, and that will
- 11 make sure we're all on the same page.
- 12 Then I'll take your sworn testimony, and any other
- 13 witnesses that you might be calling. And then we'll get to the
- 14 Staff witnesses, which I think will be Ms. Pearson and Mr. Iljas
- 15 on the telephone.
- MS. GREEN: Okay.
- JUDGE TOREM: When we get done with that --
- 18 hopefully, take about an hour's time -- I'll give you both an
- 19 opportunity for any closing comments. Then I have ten days to
- 20 issue a written decision, so, hopefully, I'll have that done
- 21 shorter than that and by this time next week, you should be
- 22 reading a decision that tells you whether the Commission is
- 23 being upheld or overturned and being directed to further process
- 24 your case.
- MS. GREEN: Okay.

- 1 JUDGE TOREM: Any questions about the agenda?
- 2 MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: No, Your Honor.
- 3 JUDGE TOREM: Okay. Then let's go through the
- 4 documents.
- 5 Ms. Cameron-Rulkowski, if you can identify them for
- 6 the record?
- 7 MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: The first document -- do you
- 8 want me to give -- the description is written here.
- 9 What would you like to hear about them?
- 10 JUDGE TOREM: Well, let me just go quickly through
- 11 them.
- 12 You've identified the first seven without a witness,
- 13 so I anticipate those are documents the Commission already has
- 14 in its file?
- 15 MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: That is correct, with the
- 16 exception of the printout of the California Public Utility Code
- 17 Section 5135, which is printed out from an official California
- 18 State legislative information website, and I'll -- we'll be
- 19 asking to have that document admitted. I'll be asking you to
- 20 take official notice of that document.
- JUDGE TOREM: All right.
- 22 What that means, Ms. Green, is that this document,
- No. 6, from the California PUC, is a code or something that
- 24 someone need not testify to. It's been an adopted law, or in
- 25 this case, a rule, apparently, in some other jurisdiction, and

- 1 I'm being asked to take a look at that.
- 2 If you object in some way, you should let me know
- 3 now.
- 4 MS. GREEN: I didn't really read through this rule.
- 5 I do -- when my turn comes to, you know, testify and tell you
- 6 what I have about this whole situation, I'm going to probably
- 7 also mention this, not specifically in words, but the whole
- 8 situation.
- 9 JUDGE TOREM: Okay. Well, it appears that these
- 10 other documents -- your application, the order dismissing it,
- 11 the actual permit that you filed in another docket, and an
- 12 amended application and then its dismissal -- are all within the
- 13 Commission's files, and I would be able to reference those. The
- 14 PUC printout is the sort of thing that we can take official
- 15 notice of under our administrative code provisions.
- 16 And the notice that I referred to, the July 19th
- 17 notice, of course, is the basis for the case, so I'll admit all
- 18 of those at this time. I think what we'll have to do is
- 19 renumber them as exhibits.
- 20 Are you going to be submitting any documentary
- 21 exhibits?
- MS. GREEN: No, I don't have any --
- JUDGE TOREM: And you don't have to.
- 24 MS. GREEN: -- documents to submit. No, I know.
- JUDGE TOREM: Your application very well may be what

- 1 you would have submitted --
- MS. GREEN: Yeah.
- JUDGE TOREM: -- and we've covered that.
- 4 So, Ms. Cameron-Rulkowski, what I'll recommend is we
- 5 keep those documents as Exhibits 1 through 7, and just start
- 6 numbering in order thereafter. Rather than attaching any of the
- 7 formal witness initials and things, we'll just keep going in a
- 8 numerical sequence.
- 9 So the next one that would be No. 8 and 9 and 10
- 10 appear already to be introduced through your witness
- 11 Ms. Pearson?
- 12 MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: That's correct, Your Honor.
- 13 JUDGE TOREM: Okay. So, Ms. Green, have you had a
- 14 chance to look at those three exhibits as well?
- 15 MS. GREEN: I didn't have a chance to look at this.
- 16 Wait. Yeah, I did. I did get it in my e-mail, and I did read
- 17 it, yes.
- 18 JUDGE TOREM: Okay. For these kinds of documents,
- 19 you can object if they're -- if you think they're irrelevant or
- 20 if they contain material that just shouldn't be considered in
- 21 your case. It's something -- the best way to put it is it's
- 22 unfair for the Commission to be putting this forward.
- MS. GREEN: So would this be my time to respond to
- 24 any of the --
- 25 JUDGE TOREM: I just -- I wonder if --

- 1 MS. GREEN: -- allegations that are...
- 2 JUDGE TOREM: No. You don't have to tell me why. It
- 3 may be that I need to consider them --
- 4 MS. GREEN: Oh, okay.
- 5 JUDGE TOREM: -- and then hear your side of the
- 6 story.
- 7 MS. GREEN: Yeah. Okay. So I do have my side of the
- 8 story for you.
- 9 JUDGE TOREM: Okay. But as the documents, per se, I
- 10 know you might object to their contents.
- 11 Do you object to me admitting them for consideration
- 12 so I can hear the Commission's side of the story?
- MS. GREEN: Oh, no.
- JUDGE TOREM: Okay.
- MS. GREEN: I don't.
- JUDGE TOREM: So I anticipate those will be admitted,
- 17 and we'll have Ms. Pearson introduce each of those. That will
- 18 be Exhibits 8, 9, and 10.
- MS. GREEN: Sure.
- 20 JUDGE TOREM: And Mr. Iljas will have Exhibits, it
- 21 looks like, 11 and 12. And those are the last two on the list,
- 22 and I think that looks like all of the exhibits.
- 23 Have you had a chance to look at those as well?
- MS. GREEN: Yes, I did.
- JUDGE TOREM: Okay. Well, at this time, then, I'm

- 1 going to admit just 1 through 7. Those are the Commission's
- 2 documents and this one printout from the public utility code
- 3 section of the -- their regulations. And we'll have the
- 4 witnesses explain how they know this document and its contents
- 5 and then offer it in that more formalistic way.
- 6 (Exhibit Nos. 1 7 were admitted into the record.)
- 7 JUDGE TOREM: I think at this time, then, I want to
- 8 hear a brief summary of the case, and then we'll turn it over to
- 9 you be sworn in as a witness and tell me your side of things.
- 10 MS. GREEN: Okay.
- 11 JUDGE TOREM: Ms. Cameron-Rulkowski?
- 12 MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 13 Based on the information that Staff has gathered,
- 14 Ms. Green appears to be and appears to have been associated with
- 15 moving companies that have been the subject of troubling
- 16 consumer complaints.
- 17 Specifically, Ms. Green is the president of Oral
- 18 [sic] Marketing, which does business as Great American Moving &
- 19 Storage. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's
- 20 Household Goods Program received 16 complaints for interstate
- 21 moves conducted by Great American Moving & Storage, and lists
- 22 issues, such as taking a customer's good hostage, that greatly
- 23 concerned Commission Staff.
- 24 Ms. Green's corporation also does or did business as
- 25 Olympic Van Lines. Commission Staff is aware of four Washington

- 1 consumers who hired the company for interstate moves and were
- 2 informed midmove that they would need to pay an additional
- 3 amount to receive their belongings.
- 4 The Better Business Bureau reports that it has
- 5 received complaints from customers of Olympic Van Lines. The
- 6 business practices of the company, as described by the Better
- 7 Business Bureau, also are of serious concern to Commission
- 8 Staff.
- 9 Ms. Green was designated as the expert on regulatory
- 10 compliance at a company called "City Transport" in California.
- 11 This moving company did business as Mayflower Moving & Storage.
- 12 The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's Household
- 13 Goods Program received 13 complaints for interstate moves
- 14 conducted by Mayflower Moving & Storage. Seven of the
- 15 complaints contained allegations that the company held the
- 16 customers' belongings hostage.
- 17 The California Public Utility Commission investigated
- 18 this company in 2009. As a result of the investigation, which
- 19 identified multiple violations of various state, statute, and
- 20 tariff provisions, the California Public Utility Commission
- 21 fined City Transport \$10,000 and directed the company to refund
- 22 approximately \$19,000 in overcharges to customers.
- 23 The California Public Utilities Commission ultimately
- 24 revoked City Transport's household goods permit November 20,
- 25 2010. Ms. Green stated on her permit application that she had

- 1 never had a business-related legal proceeding against her in
- 2 Washington or any other state.
- 3 Given her position of responsibility with City
- 4 Transport, this statement appears to be disingenuous. These
- 5 allegations are set out with more detail in the notice of intent
- 6 to deny. Ms. Green has the burden to rebut these allegations.
- 7 JUDGE TOREM: All right. Thank you for the summary.
- 8 Ms. Green, I'm going to swear you in to give your
- 9 testimony.
- 10 Do you know: Are you calling anyone else?
- MS. GREEN: No, it's just me.
- 12 JUDGE TOREM: Okay. I'm going to have you stand and
- 13 raise your right hand.

- 15 CHANA E. GREEN,
- 16 witness herein, having been first duly sworn on oath, was
- 17 examined and testified as follows:

- JUDGE TOREM: All right. And you've already stated
- 20 your name. For the record, it's C-h-a-n-a; Green, G-r-e-e-n,
- 21 right?
- THE WITNESS: E-e-n, yeah.
- JUDGE TOREM: Okay. I'll just let you tell me things
- in the best way you've got them organized.
- THE WITNESS: Okay. I want to focus on a few. First

- 1 of all, I just -- I want to say thank you for giving me the
- 2 opportunity to give my side of the story, and I want to talk
- 3 about the past -- what has happened when I was working with City
- 4 Transport -- I want to talk about what happened since, and what
- 5 I'm doing today with my company that's working in -- in
- 6 Washington now.
- 7 I'm not going to deny anything that was with City
- 8 Transport. I was the responsibile -- you know, I had the
- 9 licenses and everything, but I could -- I want to say this:
- 10 When I started working with City Transport, I was young. I did
- 11 get their license. That's true. I was not fully aware. I
- 12 didn't really understand what -- the whole thing of the license
- 13 and the moving and everything that comes with it. I didn't
- 14 really fully understand it. I could tell you that.
- 15 And I also wasn't fully aware until Joe Iljas -- he
- 16 was one of the three people from the PUC -- got involved in the
- 17 whole situation what was happening with City Transport and the
- 18 complaints that they were getting and everything. I was not
- 19 fully aware of what was happening because I was working in the
- 20 office. I wasn't in charge of what was happening with the
- 21 customers, charging customers, all the con -- I wasn't doing
- 22 that part. It wasn't my company, and it wasn't my place to do
- 23 that.
- 24 And I guess I was just young and stupid to take that
- 25 responsibility on me without fully understanding it, and when

- 1 the PUC started getting involved in the whole situation of the
- 2 company, I started getting more involved in what was really
- 3 going on because, apparently, there were a lot of complaints.
- 4 There was overcharges. There was complaints with the DOT, you
- 5 know, and then I started getting involved.
- Joe would -- I was a lot in touch with Joe Iljas, and
- 7 he would explain to me what was happening with them, some of the
- 8 customers, what we were supposed to do, and stuff like that.
- 9 And then what happened with City Transport, they decided to go
- 10 their ways. And, you know, they were getting all these fines,
- 11 and they had all these complaints that they had to take care of,
- 12 and at that time, I decided that I wanted to open my own moving
- 13 company.
- 14 And this is after a lot of not only complaints, but a
- 15 lot of things that were -- I was supposed to take care of,
- 16 because it was my responsibility suddenly, and I -- it just fell
- 17 on me because there was nobody else to take that responsibility
- 18 on taking care of the customers.
- 19 And they closed the company. They stopped working.
- 20 And I decided already a few months before that that I wanted to
- 21 open my own moving company with a different partner, with
- 22 somebody else, nobody that has to do anything with, you know,
- 23 the owners of City Transport or anything like that. I just saw
- 24 a good opportunity because I have the -- you know, some
- 25 experience, although some of it wasn't such good experience, but

- 1 I had some, and I saw an opportunity of opening, you know, my
- 2 own moving company.
- And we started out in California. Our plan from the
- 4 beginning was to go up to Washington, and the reason being was
- 5 because it was just very hard in California -- a lot of
- 6 competition over there, a lot of companies -- and I just saw a
- 7 good opportunity in coming up to here. And I had a great
- 8 partner that, you know, was willing to come on the journey with
- 9 me, but we started out when we were in California. So we were
- 10 still booking a little bit of jobs over there, and the plan was
- 11 like, within a few months, to come up to here.
- 12 So all of that whole thing with City Transport, I
- 13 finished that chapter with them once I decided to move out and
- 14 do my own thing. And I don't remember how long after I started
- 15 doing, you know, long-distance moves from Washington. I don't
- 16 remember how long after that I -- I submitted an application. I
- 17 wasn't really aware of all the rules and laws about the, you
- 18 know, local moves. I was aware of what was happening in
- 19 California. I know there, there was the PUC. I wasn't really
- 20 aware of what was going on over here.
- 21 And at the time I was -- I opened my corporation in
- 22 California as C.E.G. Marketing, d/b/a Olympic Van Lines, and
- 23 because of the whole bad association that I was getting with
- 24 City Transport -- because they're -- you know, there was reviews
- 25 about Olympic Van Lines doings with C.E.G. Marketing, they

- 1 connected me with City Transport. There was a few last
- 2 customers of City Transport at the time, and that was the time
- 3 when I opened my -- my corporation. And I guess there -- I
- 4 think there was one or two customers that associated them,
- 5 because I worked for that company. And my name is on the
- 6 corporation, it's out in the open, it's nowhere to be hidden, so
- 7 that association was made, and there was a lot of reviews put up
- 8 online.
- 9 And I was in Washington already. It was very hard
- 10 for me to get out of that association with that company. I
- 11 mean, I was trying to start my own thing and doing things
- 12 correctly and doing things, you know, in the right way, and it
- 13 was always going back to that City Transport and of the fine
- 14 that they have and everything that's on the website about
- 15 them -- on a few websites, PUC and reviews and that kind of
- 16 stuff -- and I decided to change my corporation name. I decided
- 17 to change my corporation name, and I decided to change my
- 18 company name not to get bad association with -- you know, and I
- 19 started doing work.
- 20 Before that you were saying that there was four --
- 21 there was -- I don't remember -- two customers or something from
- 22 Washington that we did a local move for, and that was before I
- 23 was aware that there was a special license for local moves in
- 24 Washington. And then I got a notice from the UTC that I'm not
- 25 supposed to do that, and I immediately -- you know, immediately

- 1 I just, you know, cut that off. I did not know. And that's --
- 2 oh, and that was the time that I submitted my first application.
- Now, the time that I submitted my first application
- 4 was when I was under C.E.G. Marketing, I wasn't aware exactly
- 5 how the licensing departments over here work because there's one
- 6 division that said C.E.G. Marketing, another division that I was
- 7 with my d/b/a. And when I got my letters of incorporation --
- 8 because I signed up here as a foreign corporation because I was
- 9 originally incorporated in California -- when I signed up over
- 10 here, I -- I guess it works over here you have a tradename, not
- 11 a d/b/a. And when I put it in, I put it in as C.E.G. Marketing.
- 12 And the first time it was -- it wasn't even -- it was rejected
- 13 because of the name. It wasn't even rejected because any of
- 14 these reasons. I just didn't submit the application correctly.
- 15 And this was right in the beginning, pretty much right in the
- 16 beginning when we just started to work in 2010.
- 17 So that was the first application that I submitted.
- 18 It was rejected. And I spoke to Tina from the licensing
- 19 department. She tried to explain to me how to change the
- 20 tradename, you know, to add the tradename on to the corporation,
- 21 and she tried to, you know, explain to me who to go to so I
- 22 could submit it again. And then I did. I submitted another
- 23 application maybe a few months later. And then I understood
- 24 that I -- I was still with the old name, with C.E.G. Marketing
- 25 and Olympic Van Lines, so I understood I had to put C.E.G.

- 1 Marketing and Olympic Van Lines, and it still didn't work. She
- 2 did reject it again. And this is already at the time that we
- 3 moved up to Washington. We moved up to Washington. We got a
- 4 warehouse here in Tacoma. We were starting to get settled in
- 5 here, and, no, she told me it's still not good. You have to
- 6 resubmit it.
- 7 It's funny, because basically it all started with
- 8 just a mistake in how I, you know, submitted my application.
- 9 And then, you know, you guys went into depth of everything and
- 10 were like, Well, why C.E.G. Marketing, and why it was Olympic
- 11 Van Lines, and you found that I was actually a company from
- 12 California, not that I would ever try to hide it or anything
- 13 like that. I'm actually a foreign corporation here.
- So -- and when you mentioned that I put "no" on
- 15 having legal -- I don't know what you called it, but like legal
- 16 actions against me or associated -- I wasn't aware there was any
- 17 legal actions taken against -- I know that the PUC was involved
- 18 with City Transport, but this wasn't, you know, personally to
- 19 me, so I didn't -- it wasn't that I was trying to deny it. I
- 20 mean, everything's out in the open. It's not -- I was not
- 21 trying to hide it. I was not trying to deny it. I was just
- 22 trying to -- when I did the name change, I was trying for my
- 23 sake in the business, you know, not to be associated with that
- 24 company because I knew they were having a lot of issues. And
- 25 that was towards the end when I was working with them. I don't

- 1 know. It was like the last ten months or something before I
- 2 decided to open my company.
- 3 Now, I want to mention -- so that's what happened
- 4 basically. That's my history with the moving company. I -- you
- 5 know, I know that they weren't doing -- they weren't practicing
- 6 the moving business as they were supposed to. They're not
- 7 involved with me anymore. I'm not involved with them anymore.
- 8 And I -- I wish I knew better then. I really did. I wish I
- 9 knew better then. I learned a lot since then, and I learned a
- 10 lot since, you know, when I was going into my own moving
- 11 company.
- 12 And I'm just going to mention what is going on today
- 13 with our company. We do have complaints at the DOT. If we want
- 14 to go into the details of every complaint and speak about every
- 15 customer, I'm not. There's some -- some things that they're --
- 16 you know, that they're right about. There are some things that
- 17 they're not. It's not a place, you know, to argue about it,
- 18 whether they're right or not.
- 19 I can just say that if I do go into detail -- for
- 20 instance, one of the -- one of the last complaints that I got on
- 21 the DOT was from a customer that we moved from Washington to
- 22 Mississippi. The job was in transit, okay? It was in transit.
- 23 It already left. It was supposed to arrive in Mississippi in
- 24 three days.
- 25 She calls me hysterical telling me that her daughter

- 1 is in the hospital and she can't have the things delivered to
- 2 Mississippi. If I could bring them back to Tacoma. Now,
- 3 really, that's a whole -- another move.
- I told her, You know what? I'm going to do
- 5 everything I could to help you. I understand your situation.
- 6 I'm going to have the driver -- I'm going to make the driver
- 7 take it off in Texas, because he's there right now, to make it
- 8 cheaper for you, because we usually charge like \$800 for a
- 9 redelivery. I told her we're going to leave it down in Texas to
- 10 make it cheaper, and I told her we're going to charge you \$500
- 11 for that.
- 12 And I told her it's going to take some time till I
- 13 have another driver go into Texas, because we dropped it in the
- 14 middle of the way. And it took us another almost -- I'd say a
- 15 week and a half to two weeks to have another driver go past
- 16 there and come and deliver it to Washington.
- In the meantime, she was having a fit because she
- 18 wanted her stuff, and she went to the DOT. She complained.
- 19 She complained about me, about things that had nothing to do
- 20 with the -- you know, with the move. She was just having a fit
- 21 that she didn't get her stuff when she wanted them.
- 22 And, listen. I don't have any control over that. I
- 23 have another complaint of a customer that got a binding quote
- 24 for \$5400. He paid half off of it and decided that he doesn't
- 25 want to pay the other half.

- 1 Now, I put his stuff in a storage unit in North
- 2 Carolina. I can't deliver it to him for free.
- 3 Well, that customer goes ahead to the DOT website and
- 4 chooses the option that he has on the site to make a complaint.
- 5 One of the options is hostage.
- 6 Do I have control over what the customer is going to
- 7 put in the complaint, or that -- did he put all the information
- 8 of what actually happened in the move? No, I don't, but I could
- 9 say that any customer that went to the DOT, any customer that
- 10 went to the BBB, whatever complaint that I had, I took care of
- 11 every single customer. Every one of them. There's not one
- 12 complaint that's open.
- 13 You know what? And not even moneywise. Like, of
- 14 course, I did -- there's a lot of situations where I negotiated
- 15 and, you know, sometimes give money back. I gave this customer
- 16 practically a move for free going back and forth from Tacoma to
- 17 Mississippi and back for like \$1600. I lost money. But you
- 18 know what? I tried to make a -- you know, I tried to do
- 19 everything that that customer won't go ahead and complain, but
- 20 she did, and I have no control over that. But I did take care
- 21 of her. I did make sure to not have any of the complaints that
- 22 were submitted to the DOT or to the BBB. I answered every one
- 23 of them. I have paper proof for them. I -- you know, phone
- 24 calls, refunds, whatever it takes to make it right, but I really
- 25 don't have control over what customers do.

- 1 Like -- I mean, customers that submitted complaints
- 2 as hostage, I never held a customer's stuff hostage. The most I
- 3 ever did was deliver a job into a Public Storage without getting
- 4 the balance paid, and the customer was then responsible to go
- 5 pick it up themselves. I never ever had a situation where I did
- 6 not deliver a customer's stuff, okay?
- 7 And, really, if we want to go into detail, there's a
- 8 lot for me to say about, you know, certain customers. There's
- 9 another complaint on the DOT site that's a customer that I never
- 10 even picked up. It was a customer that I delivered for a
- 11 company in California. I have no control over that.
- 12 There's many different things over there that I could
- 13 really, you know, point out and be -- it's a company that's
- 14 under investigation, I believe, in California. I just delivered
- 15 the customer, but she complained and -- because I was involved
- in the move. I don't really have control over that.
- But, again, I'm going to say -- and I'm emphasizing
- 18 it. I take care of all the customers, and I make sure -- and I
- 19 do everything to make it right. I can't satisfy everybody. The
- 20 BBB is something -- is another thing, you know, is another
- 21 platform for customers to put out their thoughts and their
- 22 feelings about their experiences.
- 23 Again, you know, I can't satisfy a hundred percent of
- 24 my customers. I try. I try very hard. I struggle a lot with
- 25 it. It's just a very hard industry. But I respond to

- 1 everybody, and I try to get to negotiation with anybody.
- 2 You know, if it's damaged goods, you know, I'll try
- 3 to go out of my way and not only go with the, you know, the
- 4 simple claims department of returning 60 cents per pound per
- 5 article, you know, which is kind of a joke in a lot of
- 6 situations. I go out of my way, and a lot of times I return
- 7 money from the move. That stuff about the BBB.
- 8 And really that's -- that's basically what I'm
- 9 focusing on now is really giving good service to my customers.
- 10 I have -- I do so many moves. I only do long-distance moves
- 11 now, and -- I mean, the percentage of the -- if you look at the
- 12 percentage of the complaints compared to the amount of jobs that
- 13 I do, it's -- it's minor. It's not -- it's not nothing. I
- 14 mean -- and it's very, very important. That's why I do give a
- 15 lot of -- it's important to me, and I do -- I do take care of
- 16 it. And I forgot the word that I wanted to use in English.
- I don't remember the word in English, but anyways,
- 18 what I'm saying is I'm not taking away from the complaints.
- 19 It's not that I'm saying, "Well, oh, look. You know, I'm doing
- 20 so many jobs. That's nothing."
- 21 It's not true, because if you look at all the BBB
- 22 complaints and if you go onto the site and see that every
- 23 complaint was responded to and -- you know, except for the site.
- 24 It's also taken care of in the office and phone calls and all
- 25 that kind of stuff. And also the DOT. All the complaints were

- 1 answered. All the customers got their service. You know, if it
- 2 was that I had to lose money in some situations, unfortunately,
- 3 because the law is not -- is not there to protect me. It's
- 4 there to protect the consumer.
- 5 And you know what? Since then I -- I really practice
- 6 this a lot when I run into a situation where a customer --
- 7 because the customer sometimes uses this as a threat like, "Oh,
- 8 I'm going to go to the DOT, " or "I'm going to the BBB, " and
- 9 you -- and, unfortunately, you know, businesses run on website
- 10 reviews, and it's just like that today. And a lot of times
- 11 they'll keep that as a threat, and then I'm like, You know,
- 12 well, what could I do so you don't do that, and a lot of
- 13 situations that don't need the DOT involved. They don't need
- 14 the BBB involved. It's just because the customer wants to get
- 15 their way in some situation.
- 16 And, again, it's not all my complaints. I'm not
- 17 saying that that's all my complaints. There's some complaints
- 18 that I was really, you know, at fault, and I, you know, took
- 19 full responsibility for that.
- 20 And I had an audit. I had actually a few audits with
- 21 the DOT. They came, they checked my paperwork, they checked --
- 22 they checked everything, and we changed so much.
- 23 Like from the first audit that we had in the first
- 24 six months that we were working, you know, to the next one. And
- 25 we had one this year. We -- there was so much change that we

- 1 did. Basically all the -- a lot of the complaints -- the bottom
- 2 line of it is that a lot of the complaints that got to that
- 3 situation of getting to the DOT was miscommunication, was not
- 4 notifying the customer of delays, stuff like that that actually
- 5 got the customer uptight and upset, got them upset enough to go
- 6 to the DOT. And that's where it kind of got out of hand, so
- 7 that's something that changed a lot. A lot.
- 8 I wish I did bring some, you know, good reviews, you
- 9 know, from good customers that are satisfied. And I wasn't -- I
- 10 just didn't think of having the opportunity to bring paperwork
- 11 and stuff like that. But there's plenty of customers that are
- 12 really happy with our service and satisfied.
- 13 And my plan for the future is to continue in
- 14 bettering ourselves and continuing to comply with the laws and
- 15 the regulations. And, you know, when I get into a situation
- 16 with the customer, now I'm the one that calls the DOT to get
- 17 their advice. I'm the one who calls and, you know, presents the
- 18 situation to get their advice, to see what I could do, because
- 19 they're not -- again, they're not there to protect me. They're
- 20 there to protect the customer. And whatever the customer goes
- 21 and puts on the DOT, I don't have control over. Whatever I have
- 22 control over, you know, I do take full responsibility for that.
- 23 And other than that, I think that giving me the
- 24 opportunity to, you know, get the license to do local moves over
- 25 here is -- first of all, I'm going to prove to you that -- and

- 1 if you -- I'm going to prove to you that I did change and -- and
- 2 everything just works very, very different, and that, you know,
- 3 we could associate it with all the -- you know, the audits that
- 4 I had with the DOT, and they could prove it as well.
- 5 And -- I mean, it's -- I think -- I think that an
- 6 opportunity of getting the license would also bring good and
- 7 more healthy competition into the market and give job
- 8 opportunities to people because, you know, we're -- we're going
- 9 to be another place to work, and we treat our employees very
- 10 nicely.
- 11 And it just -- it would be a good opportunity for
- 12 everybody, I think. And the main thing I just want you to see
- 13 is that I learned a lot since I was with City Transport. I
- 14 wasn't aware of things when I was with City Transport. And --
- 15 and things just, you know, took a turn 180 degrees. I'm not the
- 16 same company that you see on the paper over here. It's -- our
- 17 practice is different. It really it is. So that's pretty much
- 18 what I have to say.
- 19 JUDGE TOREM: Okay. Thank you, Ms. Green. I've been
- 20 taking pretty detailed notes.
- 21 I'm going to give a chance to Ms. Cameron-Rulkowski
- 22 to ask you some questions about whatever she thought was
- 23 relevant.
- 24 THE WITNESS: Okay.
- 25 JUDGE TOREM: And so if you'll please answer her

- 1 questions.
- MS. GREEN: Sure.
- MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: Thank you, Your Honor.

- 5 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 6 BY MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI:
- 7 Q. Ms. Green, you're the president of Oral Marketing --
- 8 A. Yeah.
- 9 Q. -- correct? I'm sorry. Oral?
- 10 A. Oracle.
- 11 Q. Oracle Marketing?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. And you are also the sole corporate officer of Oral
- 14 Marketing --
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. -- Oracle Marketing?
- JUDGE TOREM: You will get that right.
- MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: I will. At least I'm not
- 19 calling it "Oracle Moving."
- JUDGE TOREM: Right.
- 21 BY MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI:
- 22 Q. So in your application, you had attached several
- 23 statements of support?
- A. (Witness nods head.)
- Q. And I have a copy of the application right here in

- 1 case you don't.
- 2 And I note that in couple of the statements, it
- 3 refers to Stanislav.
- 4 Who is Stanislav?
- 5 A. Stanislav is a very good friend of mine. He helps me
- 6 out with my moving company, and, basically, that's our
- 7 relationship. He helps me a lot. He helped me, you know, when
- 8 I came up to here, and -- and that's pretty much our
- 9 relationship.
- JUDGE TOREM: Is there a last name?
- 11 THE WITNESS: Stanislav Skribnik, S-k-r-i-b-n-i-k.
- 12 BY MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI:
- 13 Q. And does Mr. Skribnik have any sort of formal
- 14 relationship with your corporation?
- 15 A. No.
- 16 Q. You mentioned that the corporation previously had
- 17 been called "C.E.G. Marketing," correct?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And does "C.E.G." stand for Chana Esther Green?
- 20 A. Yes, it does.
- 21 Q. Your company does business under the tradename Great
- 22 American Moving & Storage, correct?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. And when did you start operating under that
- 25 tradename?

- 1 A. I believe sometime in March. I don't remember the
- 2 exact date, but somewhere around March.
- 3 Q. In which year?
- 4 A. 2012.
- 5 Q. And were those operations in Washington State?
- 6 A. Only in Washington State, yes.
- 7 JUDGE TOREM: And this is the Great American Moving &
- 8 Storage tradename?
- 9 THE WITNESS: Yes. I think I had to actually re --
- 10 reapply or reinstate the corporation forms in California with
- 11 that name, but I'm not really involved. I don't do that. I
- 12 actually use a company that helps me submit it.
- 13 So I think that maybe they resubmitted it in
- 14 California as well, but for sure in California we're Oracle
- 15 Marketing, Inc.
- 16 BY MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI:
- 17 Q. And before March 2012, were you operating as Great
- 18 American Moving & Storage in any other state?
- 19 A. No, I don't think so.
- 20 Q. I'll ask you to refer, please, to Exhibit No. 8.
- 21 A. You know what? I'm not sure...
- Q. And if you could turn to page 39, that's the page I'm
- 23 interested in.
- 24 A. Wait. Hang on. I don't think I'm on the right page.
- 25 Q. This is what the exhibit looks like (indicating).

- 1 A. Okay.
- 2 O. That's it.
- 3 A. Page 39?
- Q. Page 39 is the last page of the exhibit.
- 5 A. (Witness reviews document.)
- 6 Okay.
- 7 Q. And do you see the company name that's listed there?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. All right. Would you just read that, please.
- 10 A. "GREAT AMERICAN MOVING & STORAGE."
- 11 O. And if you look down, do you see there's a chart
- 12 there under "Household Goods Complaint History"?
- 13 A. Right.
- Q. And do you see where it says "Year"?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And what years are listed there for complaints?
- 17 A. 2010, 2011, and 2012.
- 18 Q. Thank you.
- 19 A. These complaints were -- the complaints in 2010 and
- 20 2012 were received as Olympic Van Lines. We only changed the
- 21 name of Great American Moving & Storage on the DOT site once we
- 22 resubmitted our application in Washington, so most of the
- 23 complaints here that we received were on Olympic Van Lines.
- 24 Q. Thank you. Now, do you have a website for Great
- 25 American Moving & Storage currently?

- 1 A. Yes. It's greatamericanmove.com.
- 2 Q. And what types of moving services is Great American
- 3 Moving & Storage currently offering?
- 4 A. Household goods moving.
- 5 O. And would those be -- would that be residential
- 6 household goods moving?
- 7 A. Residential and commercial, if we could handle it.
- 8 Q. And in what states are you offering those services?
- 9 A. Washington and Oregon, and we did some moves in --
- 10 from California. And we did a couple from Texas, and that's it.
- We're now trying to branch out, though, to a few more
- 12 states on the West Coast.
- 13 Q. And is Great American Moving & Storage offering local
- 14 moving services in Washington?
- 15 A. No, not yet.
- 16 Q. Is the company offering local moving services in any
- 17 other state?
- 18 A. No. We don't do any local at all.
- 19 Q. You had mentioned that the company has done business
- 20 under the tradename "Olympic Van Lines."
- 21 And does your company still do business under this
- 22 tradename?
- A. No, we don't.
- 24 Q. And when did the company's use of this tradename
- 25 cease?

- 1 A. Probably when -- around the time we were doing the
- 2 transition to the new name. The reason why we changed the name,
- 3 Olympic Van Lines, is because Tina from the licensing department
- 4 said that there's another moving company in Tacoma that has a
- 5 similar name, and that they're -- we're being associated with
- 6 them, and it's not fair to them, because we had these complaints
- 7 on the BBB. And I didn't know that company until Tina made me
- 8 aware of it, and then I changed the name.
- 9 And then I tried to -- I actually put in another
- 10 application and tried to be as Infinity Moving or Infinity
- 11 Relocation -- I don't remember -- until we decided on our name
- 12 of Great American.
- 13 Q. And you're speaking of the application that you
- 14 submitted in 2011; is that correct?
- 15 A. You know, I'm not sure of the dates. I know I
- 16 submitted, I think, three applications. I'll look at -- there
- 17 was one under Olympic here, the one on -- I don't see the date.
- 18 (Witness reviews document.)
- 19 It should have the date, though.
- 20 (Witness reviews document.)
- 21 Yeah, in 2011, yes.
- 22 Q. Thank you. Now I'd like to talk about City Transport
- 23 a little bit.
- 24 How long did you work for City Transport?
- 25 A. Almost, I guess, from the beginning. I don't

- 1 remember the dates exactly, but it was sometime in 2008. I'd
- 2 say towards the end of 2008 till about two thousand -- maybe the
- 3 end of 2009 or like the beginning of 2010 when -- that's when I
- 4 was starting to think about opening my own moving company. I
- 5 think it was actually in 2010, the beginning of 2010.
- 6 And I opened my corporation at the end of 2009, but I
- 7 didn't start doing business yet until the end of 2010, probably
- 8 around September or October of 2010.
- 9 Q. And City Transport did business under the tradename
- 10 of Mayflower Moving & Storage, correct?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 O. And they also did business under the tradename of
- 13 U.S. Mover, correct?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Were you an officer of City Transport?
- 16 A. Yes. Apparently, on the paperwork I was, I guess. I
- 17 didn't know I was an officer on the paperwork.
- 18 Q. What was your title?
- 19 A. Office manager.
- 20 Q. And were you an officer of the corporation?
- 21 A. You know what? I don't know. I'm not -- like I
- 22 said, I was young. I don't really know what I was. I know I
- 23 was -- had the license at the PUC. Other than that, on the
- 24 paperwork or the corporation, I don't think he put me as a --
- 25 because he was the president, Avichai Minkoff, so I don't know.

- 1 (Reporter interruption for clarification.)
- THE WITNESS: Avichai, A-v-i-c-h-a-i; Minkoff,
- $3 \quad M-i-n-k-o-f-f.$
- 4 I don't -- is this what we're looking at? What page
- 5 are we...
- 6 BY MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI:
- 7 Q. I'm going to ask you to turn to Exhibit No. 11. This
- 8 is the California Public Utilities Commission Household Goods
- 9 Carrier Examination Report.
- 10 A. Oh, wait. Let me see.
- Is it the last one? Yeah. Okay.
- 12 Q. Second to the last page.
- 13 A. On the second? Oh, yeah. We're on the same page,
- 14 yeah.
- 15 Q. And what title do you see there after your name?
- 16 A. General manager.
- 17 Q. And you also served as City Transport's qualifier,
- 18 correct?
- 19 A. Yeah, yeah. That was the word, "qualifier." That's
- 20 what I meant.
- 21 Q. And did you serve as their qualifier throughout your
- 22 term of employment with City Transport?
- 23 A. I don't know how soon they started doing local moves.
- 24 When I started working with them -- I don't remember the date
- 25 that I went to do the test, but I did it since I got the --

- 1 somebody else was probably the qualifier for them before me.
- 2 Q. Thank you. Is Oracle Marketing currently operating
- 3 under any other tradenames besides Great American Moving &
- 4 Storage?
- 5 A. No.
- 6 Q. Are you associated in any way with any other moving
- 7 companies?
- 8 A. No. The only -- I mean, if you call this
- 9 association, maybe -- we worked together, meaning, you know,
- 10 when I go and deliver my job, then I'll sometimes pick up a job
- 11 from them and deliver it. But I don't -- that's -- the only
- 12 association we have with a moving company is we work hand in
- 13 hand, you know, to make it work for everybody.
- 14 Q. Understood. Now, you had submitted -- you had
- 15 testified that you had submitted several household goods
- 16 applications, and I believe we have all of them in the exhibits
- 17 today.
- Would you agree with that?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And you had testified that you had operated in
- 21 Washington as Olympic Van Lines in 2010 and 2011, I believe; is
- 22 that correct?
- 23 A. Yeah, as a long-distance mover with the DOT license.
- 24 Definitely.
- 25 Q. You had also stated -- and you can tell me if I heard

- 1 this correctly -- that you had not known that you needed a
- 2 license in this state when you first started operating here; is
- 3 that --
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 O. -- fair?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And you're aware that you -- that your company had
- 8 conducted several household -- local household goods moves in
- 9 Washington without a permit under the tradename Olympic Van
- 10 Lines, correct?
- 11 A. Right. If I'm not mistaken, it was two, two or three
- 12 customers. When I got the notice from the UTC that I'm doing
- 13 business with no license and -- then I was aware.
- 14 Q. You had mentioned that your company had undergone
- 15 several DOT audits?
- 16 A. (Witness nods head.)
- 17 Q. Could you please explain the -- why your company was
- 18 audited?
- 19 A. Yeah. The first audit that we had was because every
- 20 company in the first six months gets an audit. That's the first
- 21 audit where, you know, we had -- we got a small fine. It wasn't
- 22 that small, but it wasn't that big. It was like -- I don't
- 23 know -- maybe \$3,000 for paperwork that needed to be corrected.
- 24 Like there were certain links that we had to put on our
- 25 estimates, and it was mostly -- I think we just, you know,

- 1 forgot to put like job numbers on the ends of the contracts,
- 2 different paperwork issues, where it is a big fine in the DOT.
- 3 And I sat with -- I forget his name. A really nice
- 4 man. He, you know, sat down and explained everything to me. We
- 5 had to send all the proof of corrections to him. And we did
- 6 that, although we still got the fine, but, you know, we paid it
- 7 off -- still paying it off.
- 8 And then the second audit was because of some
- 9 complaints that we got. The auditor came with another man that
- 10 was going through training at the time, and he came to see what
- 11 was going on, why I'm having so many complaints when in 2010,
- 12 they came -- or excuse me -- the beginning of 2011 they came to
- 13 do the audit, we had a very little amount of jobs, so that was
- 14 like, you're not a big company, and you're getting all these
- 15 complaints. I don't remember. Maybe it was like four or five
- 16 complaints that we got -- to come to check it out. He came. He
- 17 got all the paperwork. He was pretty happy with us. You know,
- 18 that's when we were talking about the whole situation of how
- 19 we -- I personally and the customer service team need to
- 20 communicate with the customers more so they don't get into the
- 21 situation. That's when we spoke about all that stuff.
- 22 We got another small fine because I think we were
- 23 missing a few things and just random contracts that he took out.
- 24 It wasn't specifically the customer.
- 25 And specifically the customers that complained, he

- 1 was pretty happy with everything that he saw. And he was
- 2 involved with the situation -- with each of those complaints
- 3 also live when it was happening.
- 4 And so I think we were just missing some things, and
- 5 we got another small fine. We were paying that off also, and
- 6 that was it.
- 7 And -- oh. And the other time it wasn't exactly --
- 8 it wasn't an audit about us. There was a trailer company that
- 9 was getting an audit, and they just wanted proof of paperwork
- 10 and stuff like that. So they came and visited me, and I just
- 11 provided everything they needed and they returned it and that
- 12 was it. That's what it was.
- 13 Q. Can you tell me the approximate date of the two
- 14 audits that were of your company?
- 15 A. One was maybe between January and March of 2011, and
- 16 the other one was a few months later -- I don't know -- maybe
- 17 five or six months later. Maybe five months. I could get you
- 18 the dates later.
- 19 Q. I think that's sufficient for right now.
- 20 A. Okay.
- 21 Q. And when you said that the auditor was pretty happy
- 22 with what he saw concerning the complaints, can you elaborate a
- 23 little bit on that?
- 24 A. With the second audit we're talking about?
- 25 Q. That's correct.

- 1 A. Yeah. So he came to check what's happening with the
- 2 company, you know, getting all these complaints, some of them.
- 3 I don't know -- I don't remember exactly what each complaint
- 4 was, but there was probably one for -- he said if there's a
- 5 certain amount of hostage complaints or one or two from however
- 6 many, that's when they come and get involved and come check.
- 7 So pretty happy about how I improved and changed all
- 8 the things that we talked about from the first audit. You know,
- 9 all the contracts were perfect, and we corrected the tariff, and
- 10 like everything with that, he was very happy about that.
- 11 Also concerning -- you know, all the paperwork that
- 12 he saw concerning the complaints themselves were perfect. You
- 13 know, everything was good. It was just a question of -- it was
- 14 a miss -- it was a disagreement between the customer and the
- 15 company where it had nothing to do with actual, you know, being
- 16 compliant with the law, because we were. We were. It was just
- 17 a disagreement -- disagreements that were dealt with, you know,
- 18 in different ways. Each situation for itself.
- 19 But when he came already to do the audit, all the
- 20 moves were already taken care of. Like nothing was just
- 21 hanging. I wasn't like the customer was waiting for their
- 22 stuff, you know? He just had to do it. It was mandatory for
- 23 him, you know, so he checked it out.
- 24 Q. And what kind of paperwork did you receive from the
- 25 auditor after these two audits?

- 1 A. A review, basically a summary of what the fine --
- 2 what he's fining us with. Before he did that, he would sit with
- 3 me and explain to me what I need to change, and he gave me the
- 4 opportunity to give him, you know, the proof of correction.
- 5 It was just a summary of what the violations were on the
- 6 paperwork, and the amount of the fine.
- 7 Oh, actually, the auditor himself wouldn't give me
- 8 any paperwork. I'm sorry. I made a mistake. He didn't leave
- 9 me any paperwork. I would get that later on, like two weeks
- 10 later. From the DOT I would get that summary. He would
- 11 probably submit it to the DOT, and they would give me the fine.
- 12 Q. And are you speaking of the first audit or both of
- 13 the audits?
- 14 A. Both of the audits. I never got anything from him on
- 15 the day of the audit.
- 16 Q. And then --
- 17 A. He took stuff from me and then returned them to me,
- 18 but...
- 19 Q. And then following the date of the audit from the
- 20 Department of Transportation, did you receive any paperwork for
- 21 the second audit?
- 22 A. Yeah. Like two weeks later after every audit, yeah.
- 23 I got the summary of what the violations were from the auditor,
- 24 and the amount of the fine -- I'm sorry -- and -- and that's it.
- 25 And then I would call and then I got the settlement and made the

- 1 payments.
- 2 Q. And can you tell me what the approximate amount of
- 3 the fines were?
- 4 A. They -- one was 3,000 or 3,400, something like that.
- 5 And then the other one was a little bit less than that,
- 6 somewhere between 2800 to like 3,000 also.
- 7 Q. Would you be able to provide copies of those two
- 8 summaries and the statement of the fines to the Commission?
- 9 A. Yes. Not today, but, yeah. Yeah. I could get a
- 10 copy and mail them or whatever.
- 11 JUDGE TOREM: Do you have easy access to those
- 12 documents?
- 13 THE WITNESS: Yes, yeah. I have copies of them in my
- 14 office.
- 15 JUDGE TOREM: Okay. So today is Monday.
- 16 THE WITNESS: I'm flying out tonight, actually, at
- 17 eleven p.m. I'm flying to my family in Israel, so...
- 18 I mean, I do have copies of everything, though, if
- 19 not in my office, in my e-mail, because I scan everything.
- 20 JUDGE TOREM: When do you think you can have them to
- 21 the Commission?
- THE WITNESS: By the end of the week.
- JUDGE TOREM: Okay. By Friday?
- 24 THE WITNESS: Yeah. I would just need to know who to
- 25 send them to. I could -- it would be easier for me to fax it

- 1 from there, though, because mailing it out from there would take
- 2 longer. So I could fax it or -- or scan it and e-mail it.
- 3 JUDGE TOREM: I think typically we like to receive an
- 4 electronic copy followed by a hard copy.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Okay. So I would mail it out from
- 6 there and...
- 7 JUDGE TOREM: Ms. Cameron [sic], how do you propose
- 8 we handle these documents that you're asking for? Would an
- 9 electronic copy suffice? And we could print them on our end, if
- 10 that's necessary, to put them into the record?
- 11 MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: Probably an electronic copy
- 12 would suffice, and that could be e-mailed to Rayne Pearson.
- THE WITNESS: Um...
- MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: And we can provide any
- 15 contact to you directly following the hearing --
- THE WITNESS: Perfect.
- MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: -- if that's acceptable to
- 18 Your Honor.
- 19 JUDGE TOREM: All right. And what I'm wondering is
- 20 are you asking so that it'd become part of the record in this
- 21 hearing, or simply they become part of the file for the
- 22 Commission Staff?
- MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: Your Honor, I think they
- 24 should become part of the record.
- JUDGE TOREM: Okay. So what I'm going to ask, then,

- 1 Ms. Green, is that when you submit those electronically to
- 2 Ms. Pearson, that you -- Ms. Pearson will then submit them and
- 3 forward a copy to me as the judge and to the Records Center and
- 4 take care of -- essentially she'll provide her own affidavit, as
- 5 you saw with the first exhibit from Ms. Wyse, stating that she
- 6 received these on such and such a date from you.
- 7 THE WITNESS: Okay.
- 8 JUDGE TOREM: And it's just essentially providing
- 9 them as to the best of her knowledge that's the full and
- 10 complete file that came in, and she'll make them part of the
- 11 record in this case, and that way I'll get a copy of them as
- 12 well.
- 13 So she won't be saying that they're true or accurate,
- 14 other than she just received them, and that's that.
- 15 THE WITNESS: Okay.
- JUDGE TOREM: Is that agreeable?
- 17 THE WITNESS: Yeah. If I'm able to give you it.
- 18 Also I want to check with the DOT website if there's like any
- 19 option to maybe forward a link or something that you could see
- 20 it online, because I believe they have all these stuff online, I
- 21 would guess. I mean, maybe you have to log in or something.
- 22 I'll find out with them. Maybe that would be easier.
- JUDGE TOREM: All right. So these are the two audit
- 24 reports from early 2011 and about five months later, so maybe
- 25 August/September of 2011 as well?

- 1 THE WITNESS: Yeah. If I'm remembering the dates
- 2 correctly, yeah. It was -- there was a few months between them,
- 3 yeah.
- 4 MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: And, Your Honor, we would
- 5 simply number them sequentially after the last number on the
- 6 exhibits here at hearing.
- 7 JUDGE TOREM: Okay. And the reason I'm asking about
- 8 the date is remember I -- the requirement for me is to issue a
- 9 written decision ten days after we close the record. So instead
- 10 of starting the clock today --
- 11 THE WITNESS: Yeah.
- 12 JUDGE TOREM: -- we can start the clock -- and I'd
- 13 rather it be sooner than later. I don't want this to linger for
- 14 either side. So if we get the documents in by Friday, great.
- 15 If they don't arrive and you haven't asked for additional time,
- 16 then the record will just be closed on Friday.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Okay. Okay. Yeah. I'm going to do
- 18 all I can to get them here.
- 19 JUDGE TOREM: Okay. Yeah. And if they come in
- 20 sooner, great. But I'll leave it open until Friday and start
- 21 the ten-day clock from there.
- 22 THE WITNESS: Okay.
- JUDGE TOREM: Unless later on during this hearing we
- 24 have -- find something else we need.
- THE WITNESS: No problem.

- 1 JUDGE TOREM: Ms. Cameron, do you have any additional
- 2 questions for Ms. Green?
- 3 MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: Your Honor, at this time, I
- 4 do not have any other questions. I would ask that I be able to
- 5 recall Ms. Green if any further testimony spurs further
- 6 questions.
- 7 JUDGE TOREM: And you mean through the course of
- 8 today's witnesses, not through the documents that might arrive
- 9 Friday?
- 10 MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: That's correct, Your Honor.
- 11 JUDGE TOREM: Okay. All right. So, Ms. Green, did
- 12 you have anything else you want to tell me, based on the
- 13 questions you were just asked? You'll clearly have an
- 14 opportunity to question her witnesses as well, depending on what
- 15 they say, but was there anything else you wanted to tell me as
- 16 you try to rebut these allegations?
- 17 THE WITNESS: There was one thing that I just wanted
- 18 to mention about resubmitting the application for the UTC, that
- 19 I did it three times, was one -- the first one was just, you
- 20 know -- I don't know the word in English. I -- you know, I just
- 21 wanted to get the license. I submitted it with the information
- 22 that I knew at the time, you know, with the C.E.G. Marketing.
- 23 And the second time was trying to follow Tina's
- 24 instructions, because it works a little bit differently, the
- 25 licensing over here in Washington. Actually, a lot differently

- 1 than what it goes in California. So I was trying to get the --
- 2 she had to have it match the DOT and the Department of Licensing
- 3 in Washington to what she had on the paperwork, and I didn't get
- 4 that because I didn't know how it was looking on the Department
- of Licensing because I originally didn't submit it correctly.
- 6 That's what happened. The tradename, the d/b/a, all that got
- 7 mixed up.
- 8 And the last time was, okay. I got it. This is how
- 9 it's supposed to be. You know, here's everything that you need.
- 10 I'm not missing any documents. And I actually submitted all the
- 11 attachments that she needed, and, you know, I was hoping to get
- 12 approved then, but all this came up, so...
- JUDGE TOREM: Okay. All right. Thank you.
- 14 I think we're ready to move on to hear what the
- 15 Department wants to say now having heard your testimony.
- 16 Are we ready to proceed?
- MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: Yes, Your Honor.
- 18 JUDGE TOREM: All right. So what I'm going to do is
- 19 swear in -- is Ms. Pearson going to go first, or do you want to
- 20 have Mr. Iljas first?
- 21 MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: Ms. Pearson, please.
- 22 JUDGE TOREM: Okay. So, Ms. Pearson, if you could
- 23 please stand and raise your right hand.
- 24 ////
- 25 ////

- 1 RAYNE PEARSON,
- 2 witness herein, having been first duly sworn on oath, was
- 3 examined and testified as follows:

- 5 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 6 BY MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI:
- 7 Q. Good afternoon, Ms. Pearson.
- 8 Please state your first and your last name for the
- 9 record.
- 10 A. Rayne Pearson.
- 11 Q. And please state the name of your employer.
- 12 A. Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission.
- 13 Q. In what position are you employed by the Commission?
- 14 A. Compliance investigator.
- 15 Q. And how long have you been employed in this position?
- 16 A. Two years and about eight months.
- 17 Q. And how long have you been employed by the
- 18 Commission?
- 19 A. The same amount of time.
- 20 Q. Please briefly describe your responsibilities as they
- 21 pertain to this matter.
- 22 A. With respect to the most recent application, it was
- 23 passed to me for a compliance review, and I conducted an
- 24 investigation that included some previous information that was
- 25 before the Commission in connection with past applications that

- 1 Ms. Green submitted.
- 2 Q. And so are you familiar with the applicant, Chana
- 3 Green?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And did you become familiar with Ms. Green through
- 6 this investigation?
- 7 A. Yes, I did, and I had knowledge of her from the
- 8 previous investigation conducted by another Staff member.
- 9 Q. I would ask you to please turn your attention to the
- 10 document marked as Exhibit No. 8.
- 11 Are you familiar with this document which is titled
- 12 "MEMORANDUM"?
- 13 A. Yes, I am.
- 14 Q. And how are you familiar with this document?
- 15 A. I prepared this document under my supervisor's name.
- 16 Q. And does this document accurately document your
- 17 investigation of Ms. Green and her application?
- 18 A. Yes, it does.
- 19 MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: Your Honor, I offer Exhibit
- 20 No. 8 for admission into evidence.
- 21 JUDGE TOREM: Okay. Ms. Green, Counsel has just
- 22 shown that Ms. Pearson helped prepare the document and knows the
- 23 contents, she says, of everything it contains.
- Now is the time for me to give you an opportunity to
- object to having me consider the document, or you can say "no

- 1 objection."
- 2 MS. GREEN: Yeah. I actually never saw this, so I
- 3 don't really know.
- 4 Do I have a minute to read it?
- 5 JUDGE TOREM: You can certainly take a moment to
- 6 browse through it.
- 7 MS. GREEN: Yeah.
- 8 JUDGE TOREM: Or we can wait until -- I'm sure
- 9 there's going to be some questions that go to the document, and
- 10 you'll have a better flavor for what this is; am I correct,
- 11 Ms. Cameron-Rulkowski?
- 12 MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: Your Honor, this document is
- on file in the docket on RMS, which is the Commission's
- 14 electronic filing system, and has been there for some time. It
- 15 was listed as an exhibit in the exhibit list that I filed a week
- 16 ago. And it states in some detail the allegations and the
- 17 support for the allegations in this hearing, and I do not have
- 18 plans to duplicate what is stated here through Ms. Pearson's
- 19 testimony.
- JUDGE TOREM: Okay. Had you sent this document
- 21 physically to Ms. Green before?
- MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: No, Your Honor.
- JUDGE TOREM: Okay. And, Ms. Green -- well, I think
- 24 getting the listing, was it submitted to the Records Management
- 25 System at the same time you submitted the list?

- 1 MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: No, Your Honor. That was on
- 2 file.
- 3 JUDGE TOREM: Help me in sequence in time, because --
- 4 MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: Certainly, Your Honor.
- 5 JUDGE TOREM: -- the list came in about a week ago.
- 6 BY MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI:
- 7 Q. Ms. Pearson, do you know when the memorandum was
- 8 placed in the electronic file?
- 9 A. July 3, 2012, I believe.
- 10 JUDGE TOREM: So on the same date it was prepared?
- 11 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 12 JUDGE TOREM: So you would have access to that. But
- 13 for the hearing today --
- MS. GREEN: I didn't know that, but...
- 15 JUDGE TOREM: Okay. Let me give you a moment just to
- 16 page through it. If you need more time, let's take about five
- 17 minutes.
- MS. GREEN: Okay.
- 19 JUDGE TOREM: And, Mr. Iljas, I appreciate your
- 20 patience there on the line.
- 21 MR. ILJAS: No problem.
- 22 JUDGE TOREM: I think what we'll do is we'll take
- 23 five minutes and go off the record. I'll come back in about
- 24 five minutes, we'll see if you're ready to let me know if you
- 25 have any objections to the document or need more time.

- 1 MS. GREEN: Thank you.
- JUDGE TOREM: And, hopefully, that will be
- 3 sufficient.
- 4 MS. GREEN: Okay. Thank you so much.
- 5 (A break was taken from 2:41 p.m.
- 6 to 2:48 p.m.)
- JUDGE TOREM: All right. We're back on the record.
- 8 It's about 13 minutes to three.
- 9 Ms. Green, have you had sufficient time to get an
- 10 idea of what that document is all about?
- 11 MS. GREEN: Yes.
- JUDGE TOREM: All right. Any objections to Exhibit
- 13 8?
- MS. GREEN: Yes.
- 15 JUDGE TOREM: Okay. What's the nature of it? In
- 16 this kind of hearing -- you can certainly ask questions about
- 17 any of the contents of the document to Ms. Pearson when it's
- 18 your turn. But as far as an objection, you have to tell me it's
- 19 irrelevant, or somehow this document is not authentic.
- 20 MS. GREEN: There's -- yeah. There's some missing
- 21 information. I don't have any questions. I just have a
- 22 statement to say.
- JUDGE TOREM: So you're saying it's incomplete in
- 24 some fashion?
- MS. GREEN: There's missing information. I was

- 1 looking at the part where --
- 2 JUDGE TOREM: What page number are you at?
- 3 MS. GREEN: It's page number -- I think it's from the
- 4 same one, isn't it? It's the same -- it's page No. 2.
- 5 JUDGE TOREM: In the upper right-hand corner --
- 6 MS. GREEN: Oh.
- 7 JUDGE TOREM: -- there's a page number.
- 8 MS. GREEN: Page 6 of 39.
- 9 JUDGE TOREM: Okay. And what on that page is drawing
- 10 your attention?
- 11 MS. GREEN: I was looking at the examples of four
- 12 customers that had complained either to -- I don't know who they
- 13 complained to, the DOT or the UTC.
- JUDGE TOREM: Okay.
- 15 MS. GREEN: There's a lot of missing information over
- 16 here, because this document is only based on what the customer
- 17 had to say. It's not based on any paperwork. It's not based on
- 18 any of the facts that -- you know, we didn't just go ahead and
- 19 ask Mrs. Shipman for \$4,000. The -- the whole situation behind
- 20 this story, just for instance, was we picked up her job. We
- 21 told her exactly --
- JUDGE TOREM: Let me interrupt.
- MS. GREEN: Yeah.
- 24 JUDGE TOREM: And then I understand what you're
- 25 saying is these bullet points -- as far as I can tell in this

- 1 memo, this is part of the -- it's a June 15, 2011 memo from some
- of our compliance investigators. It wasn't Ms. Pearson.
- 3 MS. GREEN: Oh, okay. So I'm -- I'm sorry.
- 4 JUDGE TOREM: But, again, so she -- how she relied on
- 5 this information and whether she did any further follow-up to
- 6 actually seek out the -- whatever these complaints were filed,
- 7 you could ask her about.
- 8 I can certainly go to the weight of this evidence.
- 9 Whether I will believe every single word in a memo versus the
- 10 actual documents. I might give much better weight to a full
- 11 investigation file.
- 12 But, again, this isn't a hearing of the sort where
- 13 we're getting into the detail of each and every one of those
- 14 complaints. All it is is did the UTC make a correct decision --
- MS. GREEN: Oh.
- 16 JUDGE TOREM: -- in notifying you to deny your
- 17 license. And they'll -- they have explained why in the notice,
- 18 and you need to rebut that. So you're already sending in these
- 19 audits now on Friday.
- I think what -- what I'll do is understand, once you
- 21 ask Ms. Pearson or the other witnesses questions, how your side
- 22 of things are that -- that might be contained in what they have
- 23 said or what they have submitted, so...
- 24 MS. GREEN: Could I bring in evidence, let's say, to
- 25 these examples?

- JUDGE TOREM: Well, certainly. If you think it would
- 2 help to rebut claims being made by the UTC, that's your right to
- 3 put as much information you think is relevant so I get the whole
- 4 story and can make the right decision.
- 5 MS. GREEN: Yes. I would like that, because I never
- 6 saw these papers before, and I would --
- 7 JUDGE TOREM: All right.
- 8 MS. GREEN: -- be happy if I have the opportunity to
- 9 do that.
- 10 JUDGE TOREM: I think from the nature of this
- 11 document, the Commission is allowed to submit it, so I'm going
- 12 to admit Exhibit 8.
- 13 What other document -- do you want to ask questions
- 14 today about it, or do you want to submit by the Friday deadline
- 15 any additional documents? That's what -- the kind of documents
- 16 you probably should have submitted on the original deadline, but
- 17 since we're already extending the record, I'm going to give you
- 18 the courtesy of submitting whatever else you think needs to come
- 19 in --
- 20 MS. GREEN: Yeah. I'm going to submit --
- JUDGE TOREM: -- in paper.
- 22 MS. GREEN: I'm going to submit some paperwork
- 23 regarding this on Friday.
- 24 JUDGE TOREM: Okay. I want you to clearly label it
- 25 different than the two, so submit separate documents. When you

- 1 scan something to send it to Ms. Pearson --
- MS. GREEN: Yeah.
- 3 JUDGE TOREM: -- one of them should be the first 2011
- 4 audit; a second document -- maybe a second e-mail would be a
- 5 separate later in 2011 audit. Each additional document should
- 6 be a separate scan so that we can understand what you're
- 7 submitting.
- 8 MS. GREEN: Okay. Yeah. I'll make it clear that
- 9 it's separate.
- 10 JUDGE TOREM: This case is supposed to be a short
- 11 hearing into this matter, and I don't want to turn this again
- 12 into something where the Commission wants to -- or has to
- 13 respond to something you should have submitted earlier.
- So I'm going to look at your documents and in the
- 15 order that I issue, I'll let you know if I considered them or
- 16 not. I'll look at them and see if they are relevant to the case
- 17 that the Commission is making.
- 18 If they're irrelevant --
- 19 MS. GREEN: Then you're going to --
- JUDGE TOREM: -- I'll note that in the -- and I'll
- 21 explain to you they're not relevant because, if I exclude them.
- 22 If I admit them, then the problem is how does the
- 23 Commission respond to these things? How do they get their fair
- 24 process rather than you might see it from their position as
- 25 trying to sneak something in at the end because the judge is

- 1 trying to be nice.
- Well, I don't want that to happen, and so I'm going
- 3 to have to make a judgment. If I'm going to admit them, I would
- 4 hope that when they come in within, say, three business days, we
- 5 get something back from the Commission asking if they want time
- 6 to respond that they send in a notice. I don't want to turn it
- 7 into a big paper case where I'm generating a notice and a
- 8 deadline.
- 9 So I'll tell you now if they come in on Friday, the
- 10 12th, the following Wednesday is the 17th. Even if you just
- 11 send me an e-mail and courtesy copy Ms. Green saying you
- 12 intend -- maybe you'll know on Monday -- that we intend to
- 13 submit a response.
- 14 MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: So, Your Honor, just to make
- 15 sure I understand this correctly, Ms. Green has a deadline of
- 16 the -- next Friday to --
- JUDGE TOREM: This Friday, the 12th.
- 18 MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: Oh, this Friday.
- 19 -- to submit anything additional about these
- 20 Washington consumers. And then we have until Wednesday to state
- 21 if we have an objection and if we'd like additional time; is
- 22 that correct?
- JUDGE TOREM: How long do you think? I mean, we
- 24 don't know what the volume of these documents is, so it's hard
- 25 to answer a question.

- 1 MS. GREEN: It's basically just -- I just -- it's the
- 2 documents from the move, probably a few e-mails concerning, you
- 3 know, some of the clients, like correspondence that we had with
- 4 them. And it's not too much paperwork. I mean, every contract
- 5 is like -- I don't know -- maybe between five to eight pages,
- 6 plus maybe another page of some e-mail, so not too much.
- 7 There's four clients, so it shouldn't be that much.
- 8 MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: Your Honor, I think Staff
- 9 could respond by Wednesday. I would simply ask to have the
- 10 courtesy of submitting any additional records that Staff might
- 11 find that might -- that might be useful to the issue.
- 12 JUDGE TOREM: Okay.
- 13 MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: And, again, we would submit
- 14 those under Ms. Pearson's declaration.
- 15 JUDGE TOREM: All right. So let me restate, then,
- 16 where we stand. Exhibits 1 through 7 were already admitted,
- 17 Exhibit 8 is now being admitted, and an allowance is being made
- 18 for Ms. Green to file, in addition to the DOT audits, which I
- 19 expect to be labeled Exhibits 11 and 12, further documents
- 20 regarding page 6 of 39 out of Exhibit 8 to respond to those
- 21 customer complaints, the company's side of things and those
- 22 underlying issues. Those are also due by Friday the 12th, and
- 23 they have to be received in Ms. Pearson's e-mail box before five
- 24 o'clock.
- MS. GREEN: Okay.

- 1 JUDGE TOREM: Ms. Pearson will then review those the
- 2 following week. She'll provide those to me when she receives
- 3 them with the declaration saying that's what she received, and
- 4 that will be 11 and 12.
- If Staff chooses to respond to 13 through 16, I
- 6 suppose it will be, Staff's response will come in via
- 7 declaration with any additional attachments with the suggested
- 8 exhibit numbers in sequence, okay?
- 9 MS. GREEN: Okay.
- 10 JUDGE TOREM: Whatever the numbers might be when we
- 11 get to that point.
- 12 So all of the Staff's exhibits have to come in by
- 13 next Wednesday at five o'clock, the 17th of October, and that's
- 14 when the record will close.
- MS. GREEN: Okay.
- 16 JUDGE TOREM: Okay. So Exhibit 8 admitted.
- 17 (Exhibit No. 8 was admitted into the record.)
- 18 JUDGE TOREM: We'll go back your questioning of
- 19 Ms. Pearson.
- MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 21 BY MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI:
- Q. Ms. Pearson, please turn to Exhibit No. 9.
- 23 Please identify this document.
- 24 A. This is a corporation detail from the Washington
- 25 Secretary of State office regarding Oracle Marketing, Inc.

- 1 Q. And did you print this document?
- 2 A. Yes, I did.
- 3 Q. Is this document a true and correct copy of the
- 4 document you printed?
- 5 A. Yes, it is.
- 6 Q. Please turn to the next exhibit, which is Exhibit No.
- 7 10.
- 8 Please identify this exhibit.
- 9 A. This is the California Secretary of State business
- 10 entity detail for Oracle Marketing, Inc.
- 11 Q. And did you print this document?
- 12 A. Yes, I did.
- 13 Q. Is Exhibit 10 a true and accurate copy of the
- 14 document you printed?
- 15 A. Yes, it is.
- MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: Your Honor, I offer Exhibits
- No. 9 and 10 into evidence.
- 18 JUDGE TOREM: If I understand correctly, these are
- 19 simply showing the corporate registrations with both states?
- MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: That's correct, Your Honor.
- JUDGE TOREM: Any objection to these?
- MS. GREEN: No.
- JUDGE TOREM: All right. Exhibits 9 and 10 are
- 24 admitted. Thank you.
- 25 (Exhibit Nos. 9 10 were admitted into the record.)

- JUDGE TOREM: Let me interrupt one more time, because
- 2 I am realizing that if these were 9 and 10, Mr. Iljas's are 11
- 3 and 12, and I'm just catching the fact that all of that previous
- 4 numbering, I forgot about Mr. Iljas's documents.
- We know you're still on the phone.
- 6 MR. ILJAS: Yes. Yes, I am, Your Honor.
- 7 JUDGE TOREM: So, Ms. Green, if you will -- if you
- 8 made a note as to the specific number, it will be 13 and 14 that
- 9 you submit, and then we go on sequence from there. So I'm sorry
- 10 for misstating it.
- 11 MS. GREEN: I'm going to be 13 and 14, the documents
- 12 that I submit?
- 13 JUDGE TOREM: I believe so. It's going to be 13 and
- 14 14 will be the audits. And then from there, depending on how
- 15 many responses you're able to find to those individual
- 16 complaints --
- MS. GREEN: Right.
- 18 JUDGE TOREM: -- will start at 15. So you'll pick up
- 19 with 13 and go forward.
- 20 Sorry. I was just looking at my notes, and thought
- 21 something didn't add up right.
- MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: Your Honor, I have no further
- 23 questions for Ms. Pearson at this time.
- 24 JUDGE TOREM: Okay. Ms. Green, then it's your
- 25 opportunity to cross-examine Ms. Pearson.

- 1 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 2 BY MS. GREEN:
- 3 Q. What I wanted to ask was in regards to the -- wait.
- 4 Where is it? -- the complaints from the four shipper -- from
- 5 the four clients that you submitted.
- 6 Did anybody contact the moving company to find out
- 7 what the -- you know, what the story is and -- when it was
- 8 happening?
- 9 A. With respect to these particular four complaints, we
- 10 don't have jurisdiction over interstate moves, which are moves
- 11 that cross state lines, as all four of these transactions did.
- 12 I do believe that you spoke with my supervisor,
- 13 Sharon Wallace, with respect to one of the situations.
- 14 Q. True. Why did you put these in the...
- 15 A. That was a memo prepared by another compliance
- 16 investigator, Travis Yonker, in connection with a previous
- 17 application that you filed with the Commission, and I included
- 18 his memorandum as history of the previous investigative work
- 19 that had been done.
- Q. Yeah. Like I'm trying to see why was it put in,
- 21 because it's not like local moves.
- 22 So why was it being part of the memo?
- 23 A. Because it speaks to your fitness to operate as a
- 24 household goods mover --
- 25 Q. Okay.

- 1 A. -- because of consumer complaints and our concern
- 2 about protecting the public.
- 3 MS. GREEN: Okay. No, I don't have any more
- 4 questions.
- JUDGE TOREM: Okay.
- 6 Then, Mr. Iljas, I think I'll swear you in now.
- 7 MR. ILJAS: All right, Your Honor.
- JUDGE TOREM: All right. Where you are, if you'll
- 9 stand, please, and raise your right hand.

10

- JOE ILJAS,
- 12 witness herein, having been first duly sworn on oath via
- 13 telephone, was examined and testified as follows:

- JUDGE TOREM: Okay. Can you tell me where you are
- 16 located today?
- 17 THE WITNESS: I'm located in the Public -- California
- 18 Public Utilities Commission's offices at 505 Van Ness Avenue,
- 19 San Francisco, California 94102.
- JUDGE TOREM: All right. And can you spell your last
- 21 name for me.
- THE WITNESS: My last name is spelled I-l-j-a-s.
- JUDGE TOREM: Okay. Ms. Cameron?
- MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 25 ////

- 1 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 2 BY MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI:
- 3 Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Iljas.
- 4 A. Good afternoon.
- 5 Q. Can you please state and spell your first name.
- 6 A. Yes. My legal first name is Zulkifli. It's spelled
- 7 "Z," as in zebra, u-l-k-i, "f," as in Frank, l-i. I use the
- 8 nickname Joe for the sake of expediency, and the fact that
- 9 people get tongue twisted when they try to pronounce my first
- 10 name.
- 11 Q. Thank you. Mr. Iljas, please state the name of your
- 12 employer.
- 13 A. I'm employed by the California Public Utilities
- 14 Commission.
- 15 Q. And in what position are you employed by the PUC?
- 16 A. Currently, I'm a supervisor in the insurance unit in
- 17 the license section. I have been in this position since August
- 18 22nd of this year.
- 19 Q. And before you were in that position, which position
- 20 were you in?
- 21 A. Just prior to this position, I was an investigator in
- 22 the Transportation Enforcement Section of the Consumer
- 23 Protection and Safety Division.
- Q. And how long were you in that position?
- 25 A. I was in that position since December 2, 2009.

- 1 Q. And could you briefly describe your responsibilities
- 2 as an investigator as they pertain to your investigation of City
- 3 Transport?
- 4 A. We track the number of incoming complaints for each
- 5 company, and the number of complaints under City Transport had
- 6 reached the levels that we -- made us uncomfortable. At that
- 7 time I was assigned the case to review the operations of City
- 8 Transport. I was the lead investigator and an associate,
- 9 Maritza Perez, was my coinvestigator.
- 10 Q. Thank you. And are you familiar with Chana Green?
- 11 A. Yes, I am.
- 12 Q. And how did you become familiar with Ms. Green?
- 13 A. Ms. Green appeared on our records as the qualifier
- 14 for City Transport. In my numerous visits to the City Transport
- 15 offices in Santa Clara, I believe I saw Ms. Green in the office
- only one time. This created a concern for me in light of the
- 17 fact that -- of the numerous complaints that City Transport was
- 18 experiencing, and Ms. Green was required as a qualifier to be in
- 19 the office at least 32 hours a week. The fact that she was not
- 20 present meant greater exposure for the consumers, so, hence, I
- 21 started trying to determine where Ms. Green was in relation to
- 22 the company.
- Q. And, Mr. Iljas, I'll ask you to direct your attention
- 24 briefly to Exhibit No. 6, and this is a printout of the
- 25 California Public Utility Code Section 5135.

- 2 that is it your understanding that this is the state law section
- 3 that covers qualification for household goods carriers in
- 4 California?
- 5 A. That is correct.
- 6 Q. Thank you. And now I'll ask you, please, to refer to
- 7 Exhibit No. 11. And this is described in the exhibit list as
- 8 California PUC Household Goods Carrier Examination Report and
- 9 application.
- 10 A. All right. I have that in front of me.
- 11 O. Thank you. Is this document something that you
- 12 reviewed in the course of your investigation of City Transport?
- 13 A. Yes, it is.
- Q. And can you please explain the purpose of this
- 15 document?
- 16 A. The qualifier is required to fill out this document
- 17 as a means of identifying his or herself, and -- and the
- 18 additional requirement we have is to provide some kind of
- 19 identification that's government-issued.
- 20 Q. And what, in your opinion, is a qualifier responsible
- 21 for?
- 22 A. The qualifier has -- by taking this test, the
- 23 qualifier demonstrates that he or she is conversant with the
- 24 Maximum Rate Tariff 4, which is the tariff that governs all
- 25 moving companies in the State of California, and the qualifier

- 1 has the responsibility of being the in-house expert to guide the
- 2 company to making the lawful and correct decisions based on the
- 3 tariff and the codes.
- 4 Q. It appears from the exhibit that Ms. Green passed the
- 5 examination.
- 6 Did you consider her to be the qualifier for City
- 7 Transport?
- 8 A. Yes. She did pass, and her name appears on the City
- 9 Transport file as the qualifier.
- 10 Q. Now, did you hear Ms. Green's testimony earlier?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And Ms. Green testified earlier that she was young
- 13 and perhaps did not have a complete understanding of her
- 14 responsibilities as a qualifier.
- 15 What is your opinion of Ms. Green's grasp of the
- 16 California household goods laws and the applicable tariff?
- 17 A. Well, based on the score that she -- she got on the
- 18 test, which was an 89, it shows that she has a pretty good idea
- 19 of the Max 4 tariff. It's pretty complicated, the test is open
- 20 book, and many of the applicants do fail. In fact, Ms. Green
- 21 failed the first time when she took the test on March 6 of '09.
- 22 Q. Thank you.
- MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: Your Honor, I offer Exhibit
- 24 No. 11 for admission into evidence.
- JUDGE TOREM: Ms. Green, any objection to these two

- 1 pages?
- 2 MS. GREEN: No.
- 3 JUDGE TOREM: All right. Exhibit 11 is admitted.
- 4 (Exhibit No. 11 was admitted into the record.)
- 5 BY MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI:
- 6 Q. Mr. Iljas, please refer to Exhibit No. 12. This is
- 7 the last exhibit.
- 8 A. All right. I have that in front of me.
- 9 Q. Thank you. Are the documents in this exhibit
- 10 documents that you received from City Transport?
- 11 A. The top document, the notice to appear, was one that
- 12 was generated by me. It's dated September 30, 2009. Again,
- 13 this -- I generated this document to require Ms. Green to appear
- 14 at the Commission to speak with me because of my concern that
- 15 she was never in the office. During the course of the
- 16 investigation, I was down in the Santa Clara area where City
- 17 Transport's offices were located probably once a week, and as I
- 18 stated earlier, I found Ms. Green in the office one time. Every
- 19 time I inquired as to Ms. Green's whereabouts, I was given as an
- 20 excuse that she was at lunch or she was on an errand or
- 21 something to that nature, so as a result, I issued the notice to
- 22 appear and required her to come to the Commission to speak with
- 23 me and also bring -- bring along any payroll records to verify
- 24 that she was still on the staff of City Transport.
- 25 Q. And I see on this notice to appear that there's a

- 1 signature down below that appears to be Avi Minkoff?
- 2 A. That correct.
- 3 Q. And so I'm assuming that you received this copy,
- 4 then, from City Transport with that signature; is that correct?
- 5 A. Actually, I hand-delivered a copy to the office and
- 6 handed it to Mr. Minkoff and required him to sign that he had
- 7 received it.
- 8 Q. I understand. Thank you.
- 9 And then the documents that follow that first page
- 10 appear to be a cover letter signed by Avichai Minkoff, and then
- 11 various payroll records.
- 12 And are those records that you received from City
- 13 Transport?
- 14 A. That's correct.
- 15 Q. Thank you. And did you review these documents in
- 16 conjunction with your investigation of City Transport?
- 17 A. Yes, I did.
- 18 MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: Your Honor, at this time, I
- 19 offer into evidence Exhibit No. 12.
- JUDGE TOREM: Ms. Green, any objection to the
- 21 summons, the notice to appear, as it is in all of the responding
- 22 documents?
- MS. GREEN: No.
- 24 JUDGE TOREM: All right. Then Exhibit 12 is
- 25 admitted.

- 1 (Exhibit No. 12 was admitted into the record.)
- 2 BY MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI:
- Q. Mr. Iljas, what was the outcome of your
- 4 investigation?
- 5 A. At the end of the investigation, I found numerous
- 6 complaints -- excuse me -- numerous violations committed by City
- 7 Transport. I prepared a detailed report of my investigation,
- 8 which was submitted to my management, and as a result, City
- 9 Transport was cited the amount of \$10,000 for those violations
- 10 and was also required to make restitutions to consumers for
- 11 overcharges totaling about \$19,000.
- 12 Q. And I'm going to ask you to turn now to Exhibit No.
- 13 8, which is entitled "MEMORANDUM."
- 14 And starting on page 11, there is what appears to be
- 15 an e-mail from you to Rayne Pearson, and following that page as
- 16 Appendix D, there is a document entitled "CASE SUMMARY."
- 17 Is that case summary the memorandum that you just
- 18 referred to that you prepared?
- 19 A. That's correct.
- Q. And the document that begins on page 27 of that
- 21 exhibit entitled "CITATION FOR VIOLATION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
- 22 CODE," is that the citation that you just referred to?
- 23 A. That's correct.
- 24 Q. To your knowledge, did City Transport ever pay the
- 25 fine?

- 1 A. No, they did not.
- 2 Q. And to your knowledge, did City Transport ever make
- 3 any of the customer refunds?
- 4 A. Only a fraction. In the e-mail, I believe I referred
- 5 to the amount that they had -- well, I didn't mention an amount,
- 6 but it was roughly \$2,000 in restitutions that were made out of
- 7 the 19,000.
- 8 Q. Thank you. To your knowledge, is City Transport
- 9 operating in any way under any name in California?
- 10 A. Not to my knowledge.
- 11 O. And you told me earlier that you had heard the
- 12 testimony of Ms. Green earlier today.
- 13 Do you have anything that you would like to add to
- 14 the Staff oral statement?
- 15 A. The -- at the conclusion of my investigation, we were
- 16 still pursuing City Transport. When I visited their offices in
- 17 Santa Clara, I found that they had vacated the building without
- 18 any knowledge to either the property management or -- or any
- 19 notification made to us.
- 20 My further investigations led me to Ms. Green's
- 21 office in San Mateo. I had occasion to visit that office...
- 22 JUDGE TOREM: You're trailing off there, Mr. Iljas.
- THE WITNESS: Sorry?
- JUDGE TOREM: We have suddenly lost the volume.
- 25 THE WITNESS: Okay.

- 1 JUDGE TOREM: Can you speak up a little bit louder?
- THE WITNESS: Sure.
- JUDGE TOREM: Much better.
- 4 THE WITNESS: All right. At the conclusion of the
- 5 investigation of City Transport, I had occasion to visit their
- 6 offices in Santa Clara to determine why we were not getting any
- 7 further communication from them. I found that they had vacated
- 8 the premises and -- without any knowledge of the building
- 9 management, and we were not notified that they were ceasing
- 10 operations.
- 11 Further investigation led me to Ms. Green's office in
- 12 San Mateo. I occasioned to visit that office with my associate,
- 13 Ms. Perez, accompanied by an investigator for the district
- 14 attorney of San Mateo. We found that the salesperson of City
- 15 Transport was the only person present in that office. At that
- 16 time we made a demand for records, which he refused to provide
- 17 for us. And when we asked him to contact his boss, we assumed
- 18 would be Ms. Green for permission, instead he called
- 19 Mr. Minkoff.
- So as far as we were concerned, Mr. Minkoff was the
- 21 one running that operation with -- with Ms. Green fronting him.
- 22 And soon after that, they vacated that office also, and I found
- 23 out that Ms. Green had moved up to -- to your region.
- 24 BY MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI:
- Q. Mr. Iljas, I have a couple of clarifying questions.

- 1 You explained that you had visited the Santa Clara
- 2 offices and then the San Mateo office.
- 3 Approximately when was this; do you recall?
- 4 A. I was in the Santa Clara office, I seem to recall,
- 5 October sometime, and the San Mateo office was, if not late
- 6 October, it was early November of 2010.
- 7 Q. And you said that you had visited Ms. Green's office
- 8 in San Mateo?
- 9 A. Right.
- 10 Q. And how did you know it was Ms. Green's office?
- 11 A. The company doing business there was C.E.G.
- 12 Marketing, so I expected to see Ms. Green there. But as I've
- 13 stated, I -- instead I found a salesman for City Transport.
- Q. And when you stepped into that office, did the
- 15 salesperson identify himself or herself as a City Transport
- 16 employee?
- 17 A. No, I recognized the individual. His name escapes
- 18 me, but I had seen him several times down in -- down in the
- 19 Santa Clara office for City Transport.
- 20 MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: Thank you. I have no further
- 21 questions at this time for Mr. Iljas.
- 22 JUDGE TOREM: All right. Ms. Green, this is your
- 23 chance to ask Mr. Iljas any questions you need to ask.
- MS. GREEN: Could I say something?
- JUDGE TOREM: Well, I'll give you a chance when we

- 1 wrap up to give me --
- 2 MS. GREEN: Oh.
- JUDGE TOREM: -- a closing summary statement.
- 4 Do you have any questions for Mr. Iljas?
- 5 MS. GREEN: No, I don't.
- 6 JUDGE TOREM: Okay. All right. Thank you, then.
- 7 Ms. Cameron-Rulkowski, aside from the other documents
- 8 we have already listed we're waiting for from Ms. Green on
- 9 Friday, which will start with No. 13, it appears that Exhibits 1
- 10 through 12 that you've offered have now all been admitted.
- 11 Is there any other documents or witnesses you want to
- 12 present today?
- MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: No, Your Honor.
- 14 JUDGE TOREM: All right. So subject to the
- 15 Commission having a chance to respond to what Ms. Green may
- 16 submit on Friday, do you rest the Commission's case?
- 17 MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: In terms of evidence, yes,
- 18 Your Honor. I do understand that we will both have an
- 19 opportunity for a closing statement.
- JUDGE TOREM: All right. Ms. Green, I have heard
- 21 from you, and I have heard from the Commission by its two
- 22 witnesses and your opportunity to question them.
- We have extended the courtesy of letting you review
- 24 Commission documents today, as well as respond to them no later
- 25 than Friday at five o'clock.

- 1 Ms. Pearson will make sure you have an e-mail address
- 2 to submit those. I won't entertain any evidence after, so if
- 3 something doesn't come in by Friday, then the case will close.
- If you do submit items on Friday, then the Commission
- 5 will have until Wednesday to respond, all right? Do you
- 6 understand that?
- 7 MS. GREEN: Yeah.
- 8 JUDGE TOREM: Do you anticipate any other evidence
- 9 than the two DOT audits and those four customer files that you
- 10 wanted to address from Ms. Pearson's inclusion of them in
- 11 another memo?
- MS. GREEN: No, I don't.
- 13 JUDGE TOREM: Okay. All right. Then I think we're
- 14 ready to hear some closing comments. What I'm looking for,
- 15 Ms. Green, is just an overall summary, if you want to respond to
- 16 testimony that you've heard, and tell me how you're rebutting
- 17 all these allegations in the original notice, and then I'll let
- 18 the Commission have its last say and then we'll be done.
- MS. GREEN: Okay.
- MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: Your Honor, could I make a
- 21 request to go briefly off the record?
- JUDGE TOREM: Certainly. We'll be off the record for
- 23 a moment.
- 24 (A break was taken from 3:25 p.m.
- 25 to 3:33 p.m.)

- 1 JUDGE TOREM: It's a little after 3:30. We'll be
- 2 back on the record.
- 3 Ms. Green, are you prepared to give me your closing
- 4 remarks?
- 5 MS. GREEN: Yes.
- 6 JUDGE TOREM: Okay. Go ahead.
- 7 MS. GREEN: So there was just one thing I wanted to
- 8 say about what Mr. Joe Iljas said in regards to City Transport.
- 9 When I was in the process of starting -- you know, trying to
- 10 start my own thing, I was using City Transport's addresses and
- 11 fax number and stuff, you know, in the beginning, so that's why
- 12 when he came to the office in San Mateo, he found, you know,
- 13 some of City Transport's stuff and all their paperwork was there
- 14 and everything. I didn't start doing business as of yet. I was
- 15 just getting started trying to get everything together, and our
- 16 plan was actually to come up to here anyways.
- 17 And I also spoke to Joe many times before we actually
- 18 started doing business here in Washington, trying to work on
- 19 the, you know, last of the complaints that City Transport had.
- 20 And I told him about all my plan, and I was telling him all
- 21 about what I'm doing, you know, after that, so we weren't really
- 22 at that location. That wasn't -- that was like for mailing
- 23 purposes and stuff like that that our address was on the papers.
- 24 And my closing thing is that I just -- the bottom
- 25 line is that, you know, whatever was in the past, was in the

- 1 past. It is important to look into that, and, you know, of
- 2 course, it shows a lot about a person sometimes. And just --
- 3 it's a very delicate situation where I was involved in something
- 4 that I wasn't fully aware of, and whatever was in the past
- 5 really was in the past, because I want -- I want you guys to be
- 6 able to focus on what's happening now and what my business
- 7 practice is today and to give me the chance to -- and the
- 8 opportunity to prove to you that that is the case in the future.
- 9 I'm giving good customer service, and just giving me the
- 10 opportunity to be able to get out there because I have changed.
- 11 My business practices have changed. I understand things
- 12 differently. I understand things as they are, I guess, and
- 13 that's it. That's all I ask; just to give me the opportunity
- 14 because I do have proof of change. I'm not just saying that.
- JUDGE TOREM: Thank you, Ms. Green.
- 16 All right. Commission? Ms. Cameron-Rulkowski?
- 17 MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 18 Staff appreciates that Ms. Green has come here today
- 19 and has addressed many of the issues that Staff had -- had
- 20 identified.
- 21 At this point, however, we have not received any
- 22 documentation from Ms. Green about satisfied customers, and we
- 23 still have documentation -- we still have documentation from the
- 24 Better Business Bureau and from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety
- 25 Administration Household Goods Program that indicates that the

- 1 moving companies that Ms. Green has run has been garnering
- 2 complaints from consumers involving some very serious issues.
- 3 And knowing what we know now, Staff still is very
- 4 concerned about the business practices that are harmful to
- 5 consumers that have been alleged in these consumer complaints.
- 6 Now, Ms. Green has stated that she has no control
- 7 over what consumers write, and I understand that that's true.
- 8 Yet still customers have alleged that there have been goods
- 9 taken hostage, and Staff is not in a position of having any sort
- 10 of documentation to rebut that.
- 11 Staff looks forward to reviewing the audits that
- 12 Ms. Green will be submitting. At this time, however, Staff
- 13 believes that the Commission should deny Ms. Green's
- 14 application. Thank you, Your Honor.
- 15 JUDGE TOREM: Thank you, Ms. Cameron-Rulkowski.
- So I understand both sides. The record's still open
- 17 for Ms. Green to submit the documents. It will be -- 13 and 14
- 18 will be those audits you just referenced, and then however many
- 19 independent documents come in as rebuttal to page 6 of
- 20 Ms. Pearson's Exhibit 8, and the four complaints listed there.
- 21 Please don't send any additional documents that we
- 22 haven't already identified, but those two audits, and then the
- 23 documents hopefully broken into four files as to each of the
- 24 complaints. That would be Exhibits 13 and 14, and then 15, 16,
- 25 17, and 18. If we receive those on Friday timely or before,

- 1 then Staff will have until Wednesday to send in their documents.
- 2 And they'll make sure that they e-mail those back to you as
- 3 well, so you can see what they have submitted.
- 4 But the record will close then, and my decision that
- 5 comes out ten days after the record closes will tell you what
- 6 was admitted and if something was rejected, a short explanation
- 7 as to why I found it either irrelevant or otherwise admitted it
- 8 and maybe have given it some lesser weight for whatever reason,
- 9 okay?
- 10 MS. GREEN: All right.
- 11 JUDGE TOREM: All right. I think we are adjourned,
- 12 then, at about 20 minutes to four.
- 13 Thank you all for your time.
- MS. GREEN: Thank you.
- 15 MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: And one more --
- JUDGE TOREM: For the record?
- 17 MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: Yes, for the record, please.
- 18 Ms. Pearson has given a business card to Ms. Green
- 19 that has her contact information on it.
- JUDGE TOREM: Okay. Thank you for closing that loop.
- MS. CAMERON-RULKOWSKI: Thank you.
- MS. GREEN: Thank you.
- 23 (Proceedings concluded at 3:40 p.m.)
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      STATE OF WASHINGTON )
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               I, SHELBY KAY K. FUKUSHIMA, a Certified Shorthand Reporter
 7
      and Notary Public in and for the State of Washington, do hereby
      certify that the foregoing transcript is true and accurate to
 9
      the best of my knowledge, skill and ability.
10
              IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal
      this 18th day of October, 2012.
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                                      SHELBY KAY K. FUKUSHIMA, CCR
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      My commission expires:
      June 29, 2013
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