

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Investigation of

WASHINGTONS MOVERS LLC

For Compliance with WAC 480-15-560 and
WAC 480-15-570

DOCKET TV-200636

NOTICE OF INTENT TO CANCEL
PERMIT AS A HOUSEHOLD GOODS
CARRIER

NOTICE OF BRIEF ADJUDICATIVE
PROCEEDING; SETTING TIME FOR
ORAL STATEMENTS
(Set for August 25, 2020, at 9:30 a.m.)

- 1 Pursuant to RCW 81.80.130, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) has authority to regulate common carriers, including household goods carriers, with respect to safety of operations. WAC 480-15-450 provides that the Commission may cancel a household goods carrier's permit and operating authority for good cause, including where the carrier fails to comply with safety requirements. Commission Staff (Staff) recommends that the Commission cancel the permit of Washingtons Movers LLC (WM or Company) for good cause due to the Company's ongoing failure to comply with applicable laws and Commission rules pertaining to operation of household goods carriers, including safety requirements set in law or rule.
- 2 WAC 480-15-999 adopts by reference Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.), pertaining to safety requirements for household goods carriers. WAC 480-15-560 specifically requires carriers to comply with 49 C.F.R. Part 385, and 49 C.F.R. § 385.13 prohibits motor carriers from operating beginning on the 61st day after the date of a notice of proposed unsatisfactory rating. Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 385.17, a carrier that receives a proposed unsatisfactory or conditional safety rating may request a change in its safety rating based on evidence that the company has taken corrective actions to address the identified violations and that the company's operations currently meet the safety fitness standards.
- 3 On February 15, 2018, the Commission granted the Company a provisional household goods carrier permit.
- 4 On July 9, 2020, Staff completed an investigation of WM's compliance with the safety requirements in WAC 480-15. As a result of the compliance investigation, Staff documented 169 safety requirement violations and proposed an unsatisfactory safety rating for the Company. Staff notified the Company of this proposed rating on July 9, 2020.
- 5 WM must come into compliance with applicable laws by obtaining Commission approval of a safety management plan no later than September 7, 2020. If the Company fails to come

into compliance by that date, the Commission will cancel its household goods carrier permit effective September 8, 2020. Thereafter, as an unregistered company, WM would be prohibited from providing household goods carrier services in the state of Washington.

6 **THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE: That it intends to cancel the permit and authority of WM to provide services as a household goods carrier effective September 8, 2020, for cause, following a hearing on the factual allegations set out above, unless the Company obtains Commission approval of a safety management plan prior to that date.**

7 The Company has the right to request a hearing in this matter. Due to the short time-frame determined by the upcoming deadline, and pursuant to RCW 34.05.482 and WAC 480-07-610, the Commission schedules a hearing on its own initiative and determines that a brief adjudicative proceeding is appropriate to determine whether the Commission should cancel WM's provisional household goods carrier permit.

THE COMMISSION GIVES FURTHER NOTICE: That it will hold a virtual brief adjudicative proceeding in this matter at 9:30 a.m. on August 25, 2020. To attend the proceeding by telephone, please call (360) 407-3810 and enter the Conference ID: 4321139. To participate via Skype for Business, please use the following link: <https://lync.wa.gov/utc.wa.gov/meet/aldcalendar/39N2PWGG>.

8 The record in this case will consist of any documents regarding the matter that are considered by or prepared for the presiding officer for the brief adjudicative proceeding and a transcript of any oral statements given at the hearing, which statements will be given under oath.

9 Written notice of any other stage in the proceeding or other formal proceedings that the Commission may deem appropriate will be given during the course of this case. The Commission will provide on its website copies of documents in the current record for use by the parties or others who may want to review them.

10 **WM must submit its proposed safety management plan no later than 5 p.m. on August 11, 2020.** Parties wishing to submit any other documents for consideration at the brief adjudicative proceeding must file with the Commission a list enumerating and describing any such documents **no later than 5 p.m. on August 18, 2020.** Filing shall be in accordance with WAC 480-07-140.

11 **THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE: That any party who fails to attend or participate in the brief adjudicative proceeding set by this Notice, or any other stage of this proceeding, may be held in default under RCW 34.05.440 and WAC 480-07-450.**

12 The names and mailing addresses of all parties and their known representatives are shown as follows:

Commission: Washington Utilities and
Transportation Commission
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Representative: Nash Callaghan
Assistant Attorney General
P.O. Box 40128
Olympia, WA 98504-0128
(360) 664-1187
nash.callaghan@utc.wa.gov

Respondent: Washingtons Movers LLC
1100 Eagle Ridge Drive S.,
Unit D
Renton, WA 98055

13 Administrative Law Judge Samantha Doyle, from the Commission's Administrative Law Division, will preside during this proceeding.¹

DATED at Lacey, Washington and effective July 21, 2020.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

/s/ Mark L. Johnson
MARK L. JOHNSON
Executive Director and Secretary

Inquiries may be addressed to:

Executive Director and Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250
(360) 664-1160

¹ Judge Doyle can be reached at (360) 742-4451 or samantha.doyle@utc.wa.gov.

NOTICE

Hearing facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. Smoking is prohibited. If limited English-speaking, hearing-impaired parties or witnesses are involved in a hearing and need an interpreter, a qualified interpreter will be appointed at no cost to the party or witness.

If you need an interpreter, or have other special needs, please fill out and return this form to:

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
Attention: Mark L. Johnson
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

(PLEASE SUPPLY ALL REQUESTED INFORMATION)

Docket: _____

Case Name: _____

Hearing Date: _____ Hearing Location: _____

Primary Language: _____

Hearing Impaired: (Yes) _____ (No) _____

Do you need a certified sign language interpreter:

Visual _____ Tactile _____

Other type of assistance needed: _____

English-speaking person who can be contacted if there are questions:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone (_____) _____