1	BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
2	UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
3	In the Matter of the Penalty)
4	Assessment Against)
5	JOHN CHI) JOHN CHI INTERNATIONAL CORP.) Docket TE-130204
6	In the Amount of \$600)
7))
8))
9	
10	HEARING, VOLUME I
11	Pages 1 - 30
12	ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE ADAM TOREM
13	
14	1:31 P.M.
15	APRIL 22, 2013
16	Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
17	1300 South Evergreen Park Drive Southwest Olympia, Washington 98504-7250
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20	REPORTED BY: SHERRILYN SMITH, CCR# 2097
21	Buell Realtime Reporting, LLC
22	1411 Fourth Avenue Suite 820
23	Seattle, Washington 98101 206.287.9066 Seattle
24	360.534.9066 Olympia 800.846.6989 National
25	www.buellrealtime.com

1		APPEARANCES
2	ADMINISTRATIVE	LAW JUDGE:
3		ADAM TOREM Washington Utilities and
4		Transportation Commission
5		1300 South Evergreen Park Drive SW P.O. Box 47250 Olympia, Washington 98504
6		360.664.1136
7	EOD COMMISSION	CTA DD.
8	FOR COMMISSION	
9		MICHAEL A. FASSIO Assistant Attorney General 1400 South Evergreen Park
10		Drive South Evergreen Park P.O. Box 40128
11		Olympia, Washington 98504-0128 360.664.1192
12		mfassio@utc.wa.gov
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1	OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON; APRIL 22, 2013
2	1:31 P.M.
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5	JUDGE TOREM: Let's go on the record.
6	My name is Adam Torem, I'm an administrative law judge
7	with the Washington Utilities and Transportation
8	Commission. Today is Monday the 22nd of April 2013,
9	it is a little after 1:30 in the afternoon. This is
LO	Docket TE-130204.
L1	This is a brief adjudicative proceeding
L2	requested by Mr. John Chi of John Chi International
L3	Corporation. This comes as a result of a penalty
L4	assess that was issued, and Mr. Chi asked for
L5	mitigation of the penalty of \$600. He has already
L6	paid that, according to the records, and asked for a
L7	hearing, nonetheless, to explain what happened. My
L8	understanding is this was an annual safety report that
L9	was due by December 31st, 2012, it was not filed on
20	time, and also a payment for his regulatory fees.
21	This brief adjudication is conducted under our
22	Administrative Procedure Act for the State of
23	Washington. It is also according to the Commission's
24	rules. This is a fairly informal proceeding where,
25	Mr Chi you will have an opportunity to explain

- 1 yourself. If you testify, if you give any factual
- 2 testimony, I will swear you in, just like you see in
- 3 all the courtroom proceedings, and you can testify. I
- 4 think we have the documents and the facts already in
- 5 evidence, though.
- 6 Typically, what these are is an opportunity
- for you to speak directly to an administrative judge,
- 8 such as myself. Mr. Fassio would then have an
- 9 opportunity to, if necessary, present other factual
- 10 evidence. He has one potential witness with him,
- 11 Mr. Mat Perkinson. He can also explain the
- 12 Commission's position on things.
- 13 In order for the court reporter to be able to
- 14 take everything down, we ask people to speak one at a
- 15 time, relatively slowly. Because we are all in the
- 16 same room, it is pretty easy for the court reporter to
- identify who is talking. I have identified basically
- 18 who is in the room already, but just for one last
- 19 formality, let me ask you to state your name and
- 20 address for the record, Mr. Chi, and if you will spell
- 21 your last name.
- 22 MR. CHI: Okay. My last name is C-H-I,
- 23 first name is John, J-O-H-N.
- 24 JUDGE TOREM: And what is your business
- 25 address?

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1 MR. CHI: It's 10538 Northeast 24th
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- 2 Street, Bellevue, B-E-L-L-E-V-U-E, Washington 98004.
- JUDGE TOREM: Excellent. Thank you,
- 4 sir.
- 5 Representing Commission Staff today?
- 6 MR. FASSIO: Michael Fassio, Assistant
- 7 Attorney General. My address is P.O. Box 40128,
- 8 Olympia, Washington 98504. Phone, (360) 664-1192.
- 9 Fax, (360) 586-5522. E-mail address is
- 10 mfassio@utc.wa.gov.
- 11 JUDGE TOREM: Mr. Fassio, you prepared
- 12 an exhibit list that you have handed to me. It is
- 13 based on a letter, I think, that you filed on
- 14 April 15th, detailing the documents you thought
- 15 existed in the case. Just so we are all on the same
- 16 page, would you go over that list of documents that
- 17 you have submitted. And I understand you already
- 18 provided Mr. Chi a copy of the documents?
- 19 MR. FASSIO: Yes, Your Honor, I did.
- JUDGE TOREM: So let's go through them
- 21 and make sure that as far as Mr. Chi is concerned for
- the hearing, I have all the documents that I need.
- 23 If there's anything else, Mr. Chi, I know you
- 24 didn't send anything in last week, but if you see
- 25 something missing, bring it to my attention.

- 1 MR. CHI: I think you've got pretty much
- 2 everything here. I saw this copy. When I first
- 3 walked in he gave it to me. I think it's pretty much
- 4 all here.
- JUDGE TOREM: Okay. Well, let's go down
- 6 the list, Mr. Fassio.
- 7 MR. FASSIO: Sure. The first document
- 8 is a declaration of Mathew Perkinson, compliance
- 9 investigator with the Commission. He is also present
- 10 today and available for questions. That declaration
- describes his investigation underlying the penalty
- 12 assessment in this docket. The declaration also has
- 13 supporting documentation, which I will go through, and
- 14 it has -- consists of written communications between
- 15 the Commission and John Chi International Corporation
- in connection with that penalty assessment. It does
- 17 also present Staff's recommendation in this case. I
- 18 would like the opportunity before the close of the
- 19 hearing, if Staff needs it, to break before providing
- 20 any additional recommendation, if there is one that
- 21 needs to be done. That's the first document.
- 22 We also have what is labeled as Exhibit 1 to
- 23 his declaration, which is a letter on November 15th,
- 24 from Staff to John Chi International. That includes
- 25 instructions for filing a safety report, and a safety

- 1 report form itself, and a description of the
- 2 consequences for not filing that report.
- JUDGE TOREM: This Exhibit 1 to the
- 4 declaration, the one I have is a form letter that's
- 5 addressed to all of the charter and excursion
- 6 carriers.
- 7 MR. FASSIO: That is correct.
- 8 Mr. Perkinson's declaration describes it. That was
- 9 also sent to Mr. Chi.
- JUDGE TOREM: Okay.
- 11 MR. FASSIO: And then there is Exhibit 2
- 12 to his declaration, which is a notice of enforcement,
- 13 it is dated January 7th. That is from the Commission
- 14 to -- and that was sent to John Chi International
- 15 Corp., advising the company that its annual report was
- 16 past due and that financial penalties were due and
- 17 recurring on January 7th. A similar letter would have
- 18 been sent to other carriers in a similar position, but
- 19 this is the letter that was sent to Mr. Chi.
- 20 And then Exhibit 3 to his declaration is the
- 21 actual notice of penalty assessment in this case. And
- 22 then Exhibit 4 is the letter that Mr. Chi filed with
- 23 the Commission dated March 8, in response to the
- 24 penalty assessment. And then the last document that
- 25 we have is simply a declaration of the records manager

- 1 for the Commission, Lisa Wyse, attesting that each
- 2 exhibit that is attached is a true and correct copy of
- 3 the document as described in the declaration.
- JUDGE TOREM: Mr. Chi, have you had a
- 5 chance to look at all of those documents?
- 6 MR. CHI: Pretty much. I think I saw
- 7 this when I came back from overseas. Basically --
- 8 first of all, I think I'm -- I appreciate to have this
- 9 opportunity to explain what's going on.
- 10 JUDGE TOREM: Okay. Let's go ahead and
- 11 have you do that now. Are you going to be explaining
- more facts that aren't already here?
- 13 MR. CHI: It is very simple and very
- 14 straightforward.
- 15 JUDGE TOREM: Let me swear you in, just
- in case anything factual comes in. That way it can be
- 17 admitted as evidence.
- 18 MR. CHI: Okay.
- 19 JUDGE TOREM: And then you can just mix
- 20 the facts and argument as you see fit.
- 21 If you will please stand very quickly. I will
- 22 give you the oath of witness.
- MR. CHI: Okay.
- JUDGE TOREM: Raise your right hand.
- MR. CHI: (Complies.)

1	JOHN CHI,	witness herein, having been
2		first duly sworn on oath,
3	,	was examined and testified
4		as follows:
5		
6		
7	EXAM	INATION
8	BY JUDGE TOREM:	
9	Q Go ahead, sir.	
10	A Basically, our con	mpany is a consulting
11	company. It's very, very	small. It's not like a huge
12	company. The company ope	ration is basically
13	Q Can you speak up	so she can hear?
14	A I said our compan	y is very small consulting
15	company. Our vehicles are	e basically just for when
16	people when they have	needs. We are just, you
17	know, trying to satisfy or	ur own customers, either
18	domestic or international	
19	Our company has j	ust been regulated as
20	commercial vehicle since	November. This is very, very
21	new to us, for those kind	of regulations. It doesn't
22	matter, safety check or t	hose things. I think we,
23	through those, the past d	ocuments, we passed all the
24	requirements by WUTC. We	are trying to do everything
25	legally, as much as possi	ble. And as you know, you

- 1 know, we even get your penalty, we just pay for it.
- 2 The reason why I am here is I think for this
- 3 purpose, the late safety report, just because I was
- 4 unable to respond in time physically at that time.
- 5 When I came back, I find out that that report -- I
- 6 sent the report right away, and I called here, WUTC,
- 7 right away.
- 8 Now, I -- there's two inspectors that inspect
- 9 our vehicles, so I do have their business card, and I
- 10 sent them an e-mail and I just asked them what's going
- on, what I should do. And they just told me to -- an
- 12 agent here. I called her and she said -- she gave me
- 13 the instruction and I'm responding right away.
- 14 To be honest speaking, this is totally new to
- 15 me. I'm just thinking, you know, as industry
- official, they are trying to help small and middle
- size business to be success and to benefit to the
- 18 individual, you know, to everybody. So I've got no
- 19 problem to follow the regulation. This kind of thing
- 20 was a little bit different because I was unable to
- 21 respond in the right time, in the right way. So
- that's why I'm here, to explain to the judge, what I
- 23 supposed to do, or maybe reduce the penalty, or just
- 24 give me a break.
- 25 I will make sure it won't happen again. I

- 1 will bring my -- my business supervisor to WUTC to
- 2 study a little bit more about the regulation thing. I
- 3 have a whole bunch of things I need to take care of
- 4 every day. It's very hard for me to study page by
- 5 page, piece by piece about regulations. But I think
- if our vehicle being regulated as commercial vehicles,
- 7 we will have to follow the procedure or regulation
- 8 which is set up by either DOT or WUTC, there's no
- 9 doubt about it. I think this is a very good
- 10 opportunity for me to present my points. That's why I
- 11 came all the way from Seattle to here. I just want
- 12 to, you know, give everything to everybody in this
- 13 room.
- 14 Q Thank you, Mr. Chi.
- 15 Can you tell me, in your letter you say, and
- 16 you repeat today, you were unable to respond on time
- 17 and that you travel routinely away from the area.
- 18 A Yeah.
- 19 Q Can you explain a little bit more?
- 20 A Because at the end of the year, I spent
- 21 New Year's Eve with family, so I was back in China and
- 22 Hong Kong and, you know, those places. But I'm pretty
- 23 sure my -- the letter, it's very, very --
- 24 unfortunately, I cannot respond right away, but this
- 25 is not right. I should be responding right away,

- 1 because I -- just like everybody else, but this --
- 2 this is the situation, so...
- 3 Q This is something that I understand goes out
- 4 every year --
- 5 A Pretty much.
- 6 Q -- at the same time.
- 7 A Yeah, pretty much.
- 8 Q And so will you be traveling again when the
- 9 letter comes this year, or how will you respond?
- 10 A I think this year -- this stewing in my mind.
- 11 I think I should hire some professional to handle this
- 12 kind of situation, because it -- it's getting harder
- 13 and harder for just one person taking care of
- 14 everything, the marketing, the employee, you know, the
- 15 bills, the -- you know, it's just too much. I think
- if we hired some professional to take care of a
- 17 certain area and he know the vehicles and he know
- 18 those kind of letters from WUTC or DOT, in the future
- 19 this kind of thing will be very unlikely to be
- 20 happening again.
- 21 Q How many vehicles do you have?
- 22 A I have three.
- 23 Q And what kind of vehicles?
- 24 A We have a Mercedes sprinter, and we have one
- 25 for -- it's 15 seats and one for -- it's 12 seats.

- 1 Q So you have two vans and the Mercedes
- 2 Sprinter?
- 3 A The Sprinter is also a van, but we just bought
- 4 it a few weeks ago. It should be regulated by the
- 5 WUTC already.
- 6 Q Anything else that you want to tell me today
- 7 about the situation?
- 8 A That's pretty much -- in the beginning, I
- 9 didn't think a situation like this. I thought maybe
- 10 just one-to-one, just give the fact. Because we
- just -- well, this is good, WUTC people here, so they
- 12 know me better. Next time when I call them they can
- 13 just say -- it was kind of -- kind of hard to find
- 14 this place. I saw a gentleman walking on the street.
- 15 I asked -- I just gave him this piece of paper. He
- 16 said, Oh, you must be John Chi.
- How do you know me?
- 18 Because I work for this department.
- 19 I don't want this kind of bad image in the
- 20 future. My intention is, I just want -- even though I
- 21 pay the \$600, I want everybody to know who I am and it
- 22 won't happen again.
- 23 Q Well, I encourage you, since you are here
- today, if Mr. Perkinson can introduce you to the
- 25 enforcement staff and the technical help staff of the

- 1 appropriate division, to take advantage and meet them
- 2 today, so that you have a face to call and a contact
- 3 here in Olympia if you have a question about these
- 4 forms or other procedures about your vehicles.
- 5 Today's case, though, is about the letters and
- 6 the facts in the declarations show that things were
- 7 due by the end of the year and you filed yours, I
- 8 believe it says January 23rd was when the Commission
- 9 received it. There's no disputing that; is that
- 10 correct?
- 11 A No.
- 12 O Okay.
- 13 A I think all here are pretty much true. I
- 14 think they are trying to regulate every commercial
- vehicle like anybody else. Unfortunately, my
- 16 situation, it doesn't match what they wanted, so
- 17 that's why I got this kind of penalty, but because I
- 18 don't know.
- 19 Q And you say --
- 20 A I was unable to respond right away. If I do,
- or even knew that earlier, or, you know, if in the
- 22 past someone told me this have to be done, I probably
- 23 made another move. It's just a form, you know, it's
- 24 no big deal.
- 25 Q I understand what it is.

- 1 A So that's pretty much all.
- 2 Q You said earlier you started being
- 3 regulated as a business in November?
- 4 A Last November.
- 5 Q Did they give you a copy of all of the rules,
- or did the presume you would find those all online?
- 7 A They gave me a book, like this much. Some
- 8 things related to vehicle, but some things did not. I
- 9 just do not have enough time to read each page.
- 10 Q How is your English reading and comprehension?
- 11 A I would say English is not my mother language,
- 12 that's for sure. I'm working on it, I'm still
- 13 polishing it. I'm still learning.
- Our company is very, very small. Most times
- 15 if I've got difficulties, I can ask somebody who has
- 16 better English level to help me out. Most times
- 17 people are pretty friendly and helpful. I do not
- 18 think this is a huge issue to me.
- But there's a certain procedure you have to
- 20 understand, because before our vehicle has been
- 21 regulated as a commercial vehicle, it's basically
- 22 pretty much just a private vehicle, just like, you
- 23 know, everybody else. Since it has been regulated as
- 24 a commercial vehicle, you have to do the inspection,
- you have to have a safety pass, those kind of things,

- which is really -- there's quite a few things to take
- 2 care of. It's not just like something -- it's not
- 3 very complicated, but it's quite a bit of job that
- 4 need to be done in a certain way at a certain level.
- 5 Q So you didn't know about this report?
- 6 A Before last November.
- 7 Q When did you come back from your time in Asia?
- 8 A I think like mid-December.
- 9 Q So when did you realize you needed to file the
- 10 report?
- 11 A I got a letter.
- 12 Q That January 7th letter?
- 13 A Yeah, and I sent the e-mail to the inspector
- 14 right away. I got a letter from WUTC, what I supposed
- 15 to do, or why I get this letter, and then basically he
- told me what I supposed to do. I also called WUTC.
- 17 Q I think I understand your position.
- 18 JUDGE TOREM: Mr. Fassio, I don't know
- 19 that there is any new facts that came up.
- 20 Mr. Fassio is entitled, if there's new facts,
- 21 to ask you questions.
- MR. CHI: Yeah.
- JUDGE TOREM: Let's do that informally.
- 24 MR. FASSIO: I have a couple of just
- 25 clarifying questions, I suppose.

- 1 MR. CHI: Sure.
- 2
- 3 EXAMINATION
- 4 BY MR. FASSIO:
- 5 Q I think you had testified that you came under
- 6 regulation in November 2012?
- 7 A Last November.
- 8 O Of 2012?
- 9 A 2012, yes.
- 10 Q In Mr. Perkinson's declaration, Paragraph 3,
- it indicates that it had been regulated since
- 12 September 7th of 2012. Is that -- do you -- for
- 13 clarity of the record?
- 14 A I think, I think. At least the inspector come
- 15 to us last November.
- 16 Q So you had an inspection last November?
- 17 A Yeah, yeah, yeah.
- 18 Q But is it possible that you actually came
- 19 under regulation in September?
- 20 A It should be -- have something in our record.
- 21 Q Okay.
- 22 A But that's no problem.
- 23 MR. FASSIO: Subject to check, Your
- 24 Honor, I don't have a Commission docket for that, but
- 25 the Commission records should probably reflect when

- 1 the company received a permit, and the declaration
- 2 says September 7th, 2012.
- JUDGE TOREM: So that's when the initial
- 4 permit may have been issued?
- 5 MR. FASSIO: That's when the --
- 6 Mr. Chi's permit may have been issued by the
- 7 Commission.
- 8 O Mr. Chi, you testified that you returned from
- 9 Asia in mid-December; is that right?
- 10 A Uh-huh.
- 11 Q How long were you there approximately?
- 12 A For two weeks.
- 13 Q So from about the beginning of December to
- 14 mid-December?
- 15 A Yeah.
- 16 Q Mr. Perkinson's declaration that you have in
- 17 front of you has -- on Exhibit 1, it has a letter that
- 18 the Commission sent to charter carriers such as you
- 19 dated November 15th. Do you recall seeing that letter
- that came in November?
- 21 A I probably didn't pay attention. It's
- 22 possible.
- 23 Q Were you aware that you could have requested
- 24 an extension of time to file your annual report by
- 25 December 31st?

- 1 A Do I know why?
- 2 Q Well, if you look at --
- 3 JUDGE TOREM: Maybe you can show him
- 4 which page.
- 5 MR. FASSIO: Sure.
- 6 Q If you look at Page 6 in the exhibits that you
- 7 have, I will be asking you to take a look at that
- 8 letter and --
- 9 A Yeah.
- 10 Q -- ask if you recall seeing that.
- 11 A Uh-huh, 31st.
- 12 Q Do you recall seeing that letter?
- 13 A I think I might have this one, but I don't
- 14 have an impression about this letter. At the end of
- 15 the year, there were lots and lots going on, the tax
- 16 return, you know, those kinds of things. I cannot
- 17 100 percent guarantee I didn't receive this letter. I
- 18 think -- I just cannot remember.
- 19 JUDGE TOREM: Mr. Chi, can you keep your
- 20 voice up so we can hear you?
- MR. CHI: Oh, okay.
- JUDGE TOREM: That's great, thank you.
- 23 A This letter, I think I -- according to the
- 24 address and everything here, it should be -- it should
- 25 be -- receive it. If you ask me why I didn't respond

- 1 to this before -- between the 15th and the end of the
- year, I think probably I didn't take care or pay
- 3 attention to this letter. That's -- that's quite
- 4 possible. Because I thought this was some simple
- 5 notice and then I just didn't pay much attention.
- 6 To be honest with you, at that time I don't
- 7 know what a safety report is, you know, nobody told me
- 8 that. That's the only explanation I can tell you. My
- 9 intention has no -- I'm not trying to cheat the WUTC
- or miss a step, I do not have this kind of intention.
- 11 By the end of the year, there was lots -- so many
- 12 things going on. From this letter, it's obvious that
- 13 I -- I think you're right, by November --
- November 15th, it's not December 15th.
- 15 JUDGE TOREM: I think, Mr. Chi, the last
- 16 paragraph on that page was what Mr. Fassio was asking
- 17 about. It says about requesting an extension of time
- 18 if you need one. Do you see at the bottom of the
- 19 first page of the letter?
- MR. CHI: Yeah.
- 21 JUDGE TOREM: That will probably be the
- 22 same wording that comes in the letter in November of
- this year. That's why I asked you what your plan
- 24 would be for filing the 2013 report and next year's
- 25 fees.

- 1 MR. CHI: Again, I think this kind of
- 2 situation, I cannot say 100 percent, I'm very aware
- and it won't happen again. As a small business owner,
- 4 I want the company to be healthy, growing. I do not
- 5 have any intention to again miss the regulation by the
- 6 WUTC, as far as our vehicle is still regulated as a
- 7 commercial vehicle.
- 8 This is quite possible I got this but I didn't
- 9 pay attention.
- 10 JUDGE TOREM: Do you remember what the
- amount of the fees were when you had to pay?
- MR. CHI: Pay?
- JUDGE TOREM: You paid the regulatory
- 14 fee in January, on the 23rd we received it.
- MR. CHI: \$600.
- JUDGE TOREM: That was the penalty, but
- 17 there's a fee for I think by how many vehicles you
- 18 have.
- 19 MR. CHI: I just gave her my credit
- 20 card.
- JUDGE TOREM: Do you remember what the
- 22 charge was?
- MR. CHI: I cannot remember because I
- 24 don't know how much. When I found out later, when I
- 25 came back, I just gave her a call and I sent an e-mail

- 1 to the inspector who inspect our vehicle. I just -- I
- 2 asked him what's going on and he told me you need to
- 3 call her right away.
- JUDGE TOREM: Okay.
- 5 MR. CHI: And I left several messages to
- 6 her. Finally I got to talk to her and she told me how
- 7 much I owe. I said, Could you take my credit card and
- 8 just take the money because I don't want this to keep
- 9 going on.
- 10 JUDGE TOREM: Mr. Fassio, is there a
- 11 Commission record that you could look to and --
- 12 MR. FASSIO: Yes, Mr. Perkinson might be
- able to answer that question for you as to the
- 14 regulatory fees that were paid.
- JUDGE TOREM: Do you have any other
- 16 questions for Mr. Chi?
- MR. FASSIO: I do not.
- 18 JUDGE TOREM: For that limited item,
- 19 Mr. Perkinson, do you have a Commission record in
- 20 front of you?
- MR. PERKINSON: I do.
- 22 JUDGE TOREM: I'm not going to swear you
- in. If you could just read what the Commission record
- 24 says about that item.
- MR. PERKINSON: It shows \$75 paid, plus

- 1 \$1.50 was also paid.
- 2 JUDGE TOREM: Is that the interest on
- 3 the payment?
- 4 MR. PERKINSON: Right.
- 5 JUDGE TOREM: And that was paid on the
- 6 23rd?
- 7 MR. PERKINSON: The 17th for the \$75 and
- 8 \$1.50 was on January 23rd.
- JUDGE TOREM: Thank you, Mr. Chi.
- 10 Mr. Fassio, do you have any testimony you want
- 11 to put on, or do you just want to break to consider
- 12 what Mr. Chi had to say and then come back and make
- 13 your position known?
- MR. FASSIO: We submitted the
- declaration of Mr. Perkinson and that can maybe
- 16 substitute for testimony in this case, if we want to
- 17 admit that --
- JUDGE TOREM: Okay.
- 19 MR. FASSIO: -- as an exhibit into the
- 20 record.
- JUDGE TOREM: You've got that in front
- of me, so is that a motion to admit?
- MR. FASSIO: It's a motion to admit.
- JUDGE TOREM: All right.
- Mr. Chi, what that means is I would consider

- 1 these documents as the facts in this case, along with
- 2 your testimony today. Do you have any objection to me
- 3 considering this?
- 4 MR. CHI: No.
- 5 JUDGE TOREM: This exhibit that's marked
- 6 as MP-1 and all of its supporting exhibits is
- 7 admitted.
- 8 MR. FASSIO: If I could have just one
- 9 moment, Your Honor.
- 10 (Pause in the proceedings.)
- 11 JUDGE TOREM: Did you also want me to
- 12 consider the declaration of Lisa Wyse as --
- MR. FASSIO: Yes, Your Honor.
- 14 JUDGE TOREM: -- authenticating these
- 15 documents?
- MR. FASSIO: Yes, Your Honor. Thank
- 17 you.
- 18 JUDGE TOREM: Mr. Chi, there's one more
- 19 piece of paper from the director of our records
- 20 center. This is a statement that she has reviewed
- 21 these documents and that they are the same as the ones
- in the Commission's official record. Do you have any
- objection to me considering that sworn statement?
- 24 It's this one here.
- MR. CHI: (No verbal response.)

- JUDGE TOREM: It's a legal formality,
- 2 technically, that these documents are -- she has
- 3 looked at them.
- 4 MR. CHI: Oh, okay.
- 5 JUDGE TOREM: And the same documents
- 6 exist in the Commission's records.
- 7 MR. CHI: Okay.
- JUDGE TOREM: So I'm going to admit
- 9 Ms. Wyse's declaration as well. That's all of the
- 10 documents that Commission Staff have for me.
- 11 Mr. Fassio, how would you like to proceed?
- 12 MR. FASSIO: If I could have just a
- 13 moment off the record, Your Honor. I would like to
- just discuss with Staff before going back on the
- 15 record --
- JUDGE TOREM: Okay.
- 17 MR. FASSIO: -- if there is anything
- 18 that Staff would like to add to the declaration that's
- 19 been submitted.
- JUDGE TOREM: Okay.
- 21 Mr. Chi, we are going to take a couple of
- 22 minutes' break. It's now a little bit after two
- o'clock. In about ten minutes, we will come back.
- 24 (A brief recess.)
- JUDGE TOREM: Okay. We are ready to go

- 1 back on the record. It's about 7 minutes after 2:00.
- 2 Mr. Fassio, did you get a chance to confer
- 3 with your staff?
- 4 MR. FASSIO: Yes, I did have a moment to
- 5 confer with Staff, Your Honor, and Staff has nothing
- 6 new -- no new information to present --
- 7 JUDGE TOREM: Okay.
- 8 MR. FASSIO: -- to the documents that
- 9 have already been submitted.
- 10 JUDGE TOREM: All right. Do you want to
- 11 state Staff's position after hearing Mr. Chi's
- 12 explanation today?
- 13 MR. FASSIO: Yes, Your Honor. I will
- 14 simply reiterate that Staff does not support further
- 15 mitigation in the penalty assessment in this docket.
- 16 The penalty was already administratively mitigated by
- 17 50 percent, from \$1,200 to \$600. Mr. Chi did not file
- 18 a 2012 annual safety report on time and he failed to
- 19 request an extension to avoid penalties.
- JUDGE TOREM: I don't think there's
- 21 anything else that I need to do today on the record.
- 22 I will take the matter under advisement. The statute
- 23 about these kinds of hearings requires that I give you
- 24 a written decision in the next ten days. My
- 25 expectation is by the end of the week, I should have

- 1 this written up. At the very latest, it should go out
- in the mail on Monday, so you will know whether I'm
- 3 going to grant any further mitigation, and if so,
- 4 under any conditions.
- 5 And for Staff, you will know if I'm going to
- 6 uphold the \$600 that's already been paid. This case,
- 7 this is the first time I think we've dealt with
- 8 somebody who has prepaid a penalty.
- 9 And if there's going to be a refund issued to
- 10 you, Mr. Chi, then it will be indicated in the letter.
- If there's not, then the \$600 is already paid.
- 12 MR. CHI: Your Honor, I have one point.
- 13 Money is not an issue to me. The issue is I want to
- 14 have this opportunity to present myself, my feeling,
- 15 and the fact at that moment to the WUTC, because in
- 16 the future we still have to keep in contact. I
- 17 need -- as far as our vehicle has been limited as a
- 18 commercial vehicle, I'm pretty sure I will have lots
- 19 and lots of questions in the learning process with the
- 20 WUTC. Maybe not me, but I have to find somebody to
- 21 take care of this issue in the future, because just
- one guy cannot take care of everything.
- JUDGE TOREM: I understand. All right.
- 24 I have admitted the exhibits and I have heard
- 25 both sides' positions. I think we are ready to close

1	and go off the record. I want you to stick around for
2	just a minute, Mr. Chi, and the rest of Staff that's
3	here today.
4	Anything else for me with the court reporter?
5	MR. CHI: No, I think I'm pretty much
6	JUDGE TOREM: Mr. Fassio, anything else?
7	MR. FASSIO: No.
8	JUDGE TOREM: We are adjourned. It's 10
9	minutes after 2:00. We are off the record.
10	(Hearing concluded 2:10 p.m.)
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0030	
1	CERTIFICATE
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3	STATE OF WASHINGTON
4	COUNTY OF KING
5	
6	I, Sherrilyn Smith, a Certified
7	Shorthand Reporter in and for the State of Washington,
8	do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript is true
9	and accurate to the best of my knowledge, skill and
10	ability.
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17	SHERRILYN SMITH
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