

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the)
)
Investigation of:) Docket No. TV-230503
)
MIRACLE MAN MOVERS, LLC) Volume I
)
For compliance with:)
WAC 480-15)

PREHEARING CONFERENCE - ZOOM
Administrative Law Judge Rayne Pearson Presiding
July 27, 2023

TRANSCRIBED BY: Marjorie Jackson, CET

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On Behalf of Washington Utilities and Transportation

Commission:

CASSANDRA JONES

Office of the Attorney General of Washington

PO Box 40128

Olympia, Washington 98504

On Behalf of Miracle Man Movers:

Chris Bullock, pro se

Anna Bullock, pro se

Also present:

Ryan Smith

Jason Sharp

I N D E X O F P R O C E E D I N G S

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4 MS. BULLOCK: Is there a settings option for the camera?

5 He wanted to ask.

6 THE COURT: Ryan, is there something you can help us with?

7 MR. SMITH: Hold on, what was the issue, the camera --

8 THE COURT: If there is a setting for the camera that
9 would help them turn the camera on.

10 MR. SMITH: I can see if I can send a request, but
11 otherwise, no, it would be underneath that bottom left
12 option where you see the start video icon.

13 MS. BULLOCK: And that's what I clicked. This is what I'm
14 getting, "Zoom is unable to detect a camera".

15 THE COURT: Oh, okay.

16 MR. SMITH: Yeah, that's probably just like a computer
17 related issue where it's not able to read the hardware.

18 MS. BULLOCK: Can you see it, Judge, right there what it
19 says?

20 THE COURT: No, I just see your name.

21 MS. BULLOCK: Oh, okay. I'm sorry.

22 THE COURT: That's okay. We'll just give -- you said his
23 name was Chris -- a minute to join.

24 MS. BULLOCK: Yeah, he was up and his computer went down,
25 so he is trying to get back on. I'm trying to figure out

1 why my camera isn't working. It doesn't make a bit of
2 sense. I've used this camera before, so I don't know why
3 it's not coming on now. It won't come on. Doug, we going
4 to have to check out why my camera don't work.

5 THE COURT: Do you want to try hanging up and restarting
6 your computer, Anna, and see if that helps?

7 MS. BULLOCK: I can, if you okay with that.

8 THE COURT: Yeah, we can wait.

9 MS. BULLOCK: And Chris is able to jump in right now.

10 THE COURT: And it's okay if you don't have your camera
11 on. You know, if Chris is going to be doing the talking, he
12 can turn his camera on. And, plus, I can hear you; you have
13 good audio.

14 MS. BULLOCK: Thank you so much.

15 THE COURT: Yeah, no problem. Chris, can you turn your
16 camera on? Perfect, okay. All right. And is counsel for
17 staff ready?

18 MS. JONES: Yes, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: All right. Let's go ahead and be on the
20 record in Docket TV-230503, which is captioned, In the
21 Matter of the Investigation of Miracle Man Movers, LLC for
22 Compliance with WAC 480-15. Today is Thursday, July 27,
23 2023; the time is approximately 3:00 p.m. And we are here
24 for a prehearing conference to discuss the company's
25 proposed safety rating, its safety management plan, any

1 settlement negotiations, as well as staff's motion to
2 consolidate, and any other procedural issues.

3 My name is Rayne Pearson. I use she/her pronouns; and I
4 am the Administrative Law Judge presiding over this case.
5 So let's begin by taking appearances. Beginning with staff,
6 please state your name and spell your last name and who you
7 represent.

8 MS. JONES: Thank you, Your Honor. Good afternoon, my
9 name is Cassandra Jones, last name J-O-N-E-S. I am an
10 Assistant Attorney General appearing on behalf of staff.

11 THE COURT: Okay, thank you very much. And for the
12 company.

13 MR. BULLOCK: Chris Bullock and Anna Bullock.

14 THE COURT: Can you unmute yourself, Mr. Bullock?

15 MR. BULLOCK: There you go. It will be Chris, last name
16 Bullock, B-U-L-L-O-C-K; and Anna Bullock, B-U-L-L-O-C-K.

17 THE COURT: Okay. And you're the owner of the company,
18 both of you?

19 MR. BULLOCK: No, me, me.

20 THE COURT: Just you. Okay, perfect. Is there anyone
21 else who wishes to enter an appearance?

22 MR. BULLOCK: Well, just so you know, Anna helps me with
23 compliance. So her camera is not working. If she needs to
24 be able to appear, then she may need to restart.

25 THE COURT: That's okay. As long as I can hear her,

1 that's fine. Yeah, I'm fine with that.

2 MR. BULLOCK: Okay.

3 THE COURT: So let's first address staff's motion to
4 consolidate dockets and impose suspended penalties. So in
5 Docket TV-220511, the commission imposed an \$8,000 penalty
6 for violations of commission safety rules. And a \$5,000
7 portion of that penalty was suspended subject to several
8 conditions, including the condition that Miracle Man did not
9 commit any repeat violations of commission safety rules per
10 a two year period.

11 So in the docket we're here to address today TV-230503,
12 staff alleges that the company has committed new violations
13 of commission safety rules, including repeat critical
14 violations. So the outcome of both dockets is based on the
15 same set of violations. So to me it makes sense to
16 consolidate these matters. Does the company have any
17 objection to that?

18 MS. BULLOCK: No.

19 MR. BULLOCK: She says no.

20 THE COURT: No objection, okay, thank you. Then those
21 dockets are consolidated and both will be addressed and
22 resolved at the hearing that we have scheduled for August
23 8th at 1:30 p.m.

24 MS. BULLOCK: Judge, can I ask a point of clarification?

25 THE COURT: Yes, you can.

1 MS. BULLOCK: To consolidate and on Docket 2205101, it was
2 8,000; 5,000 was suspended; 3,000 with a payment plan, and
3 it was on a two-year program. We have not met that two
4 year. So are we accepting still the penalty?

5 THE COURT: No, so what's happening is, that was suspended
6 for a two-year period, meaning the two-year period didn't
7 need to expire first before staff could ask to impose those
8 penalties. Staff is able to request imposing the suspended
9 penalty at any time within that two-year period if repeat
10 violations were discovered.

11 And by consolidating the dockets, you are not admitting to
12 anything or in any way depriving yourself of any process.
13 It just means that when we meet again on August 8th to have
14 a hearing on the safety rating, staff will also make an
15 argument that the suspended penalty should be imposed based
16 on these new violations. And you will have an opportunity
17 to respond to that and make your arguments. It just means
18 that because it's the same set of violations that gave rise
19 both to this new docket and to staff's recommendation to
20 impose the suspended penalty in the old docket, that it
21 makes sense to address them all at once because it's the
22 same set of facts.

23 MS. BULLOCK: Thank you so much.

24 THE COURT: Sure, does that help?

25 MS. BULLOCK: Yes.

1 THE COURT: Okay. So, Mr. Bullock, has the company filed
2 its safety management plan.

3 MS. BULLOCK: Yes, we did. However, it was not accepted
4 pending I didn't see that there was a new process for it.
5 So I am in the process of working to resubmit.

6 THE COURT: Okay. And so, Mr. Sharp, are you staff's
7 witness?

8 MR. SHARP: Yes, Judge Pearson.

9 THE COURT: Okay. So are you continuing then to work with
10 the company --

11 MR. SHARP: Yes, I sent the company information where the
12 plan was deficient.

13 THE COURT: Okay. And did the parties tend to meet for a
14 settlement conference or just continue working together on
15 getting that safety management plan together?

16 MR. SHARP: Judge, at this time I think it's best for the
17 company to focus on getting their safety management plan
18 together.

19 THE COURT: Okay. That sounds good. And I know that
20 staff will provide technical assistance along the way to
21 help the company do that. Is there anything that we need to
22 address today?

23 MS. JONES: Nothing from staff, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: Okay. How about for the company? Do you have
25 any other questions?

1 MS. BULLOCK: Chris' computer went down, it's not working.
2 Can he use my speaker to respond?

3 MR. BULLOCK: Okay. Yeah, I just wanted to apologize, I
4 was able to hear everything, but (inaudible) --

5 THE COURT: I'm sorry, you're cutting out. Chris, can you
6 go back and mute the mike on your computer and then go back
7 and talk into Anna's computer? I think that might resolve
8 the issue.

9 MS. BULLOCK: It won't allow him to unmute, so he is going
10 to take it down and then come to this computer with me. We
11 got a new laptop.

12 THE COURT: No problem.

13 MR. BULLOCK: Can you hear me okay without feedback now?

14 THE COURT: Yes.

15 MR. BULLOCK: I was just letting you know that --

16 THE COURT: Oh, wait, now I can't hear you. I'm sorry, I
17 can't hear you now. I heard you for a second and then it
18 fades out.

19 MR. BULLOCK: Can you hear me now?

20 THE COURT: Really faintly.

21 MR. BULLOCK: Can you hear me now? Hello.

22 THE COURT: Yes.

23 MR. BULLOCK: Can you hear me okay?

24 THE COURT: Yes.

25 MR. BULLOCK: Okay, perfect. So I was just saying, I

1 couldn't speak, but I was able to hear everything you all
2 were saying. I heard Mr. Sharp speak and the attorney
3 general representative. But I was just letting you know
4 that I couldn't respond, so I apologize for that.

5 THE COURT: Oh, that's okay. Did you have any other
6 questions about how we're going to proceed?

7 MR. BULLOCK: No, ma'am.

8 THE COURT: Okay. So instead of entering a prehearing
9 conference order, I'm just going to summarize for the record
10 what we discussed today. We did consolidate Dockets
11 TV-220511 and TV-230503 for hearing on August 8th, 2023 at
12 1:30 p.m. The company has filed a safety management plan
13 and is working with staff to put it into an acceptable form
14 and will continue those discussions up until the hearing on
15 August 8th.

16 Is there anything else that we need to address today?

17 MR. BULLOCK: No, ma'am.

18 THE COURT: Okay, thank you. Nothing from staff?

19 MS. JONES: No, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Okay. Then we are adjourned and I will see
21 you all on August 8th. Thank you.

22 MS. BULLOCK: Thank you so much.

23 THE COURT: Okay, bye-bye.

24 (Conclusion of July 27, 2023, proceedings)

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STATE OF WASHINGTON)
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COUNTY OF KING)

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing court proceedings or legal recordings were transcribed under my direction as a certified transcriptionist; and that the transcript is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and ability, including changes, if any, made by the trial judge reviewing the transcript; that I received the electronic recording in the proprietary court format; that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties hereto, nor financially interested in its outcome.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 10th day of August, 2023.

Marjorie Jackson



/s/ Marjorie Jackson, CET