## Docket No. TV-200518 - Vol. I

## In re Application of: Super Friends Moving L.L.C.

September 1, 2020



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1	BEFORE THE WASHINGTON	Page 1	1	Page 3 PROCEEDINGS
2	UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION	COMMISSION	1 2	1 KOCLEDINGS
				THE COLIDT: Good marning. Today is Tugeday
3			3	THE COURT: Good morning. Today is Tuesday,
5	In re Application of: ) Docket TV-20051	8	4	September 1, 2020, and the time is 9:30 a.m.
	}		5	This is Docket TV-200518 which is captioned
6 7	SUPER FRIENDS MOVING, LLC, )		6	In the matter of the Application of Super
8	For a permit to operate as a ) motor carrier of household )		7	Friends Moving, LLC, doing business as Super
	goods.		8	Friends Moving, for a permit to operate as a
9	VERBATIM OF ADJUDICATIVE PROCE	FDINGS - VOLUME I	9	household goods carrier.
10	Pages 1 through 25	LEDITOS VOLONIE I	10	My name is Samantha Doyle, and I am the
11	r agos i tiroagn zo		11	Administrative Law Judge presiding over today's
12	September 1, 2020		12	brief adjudicative proceedings.
13	(Via Videoconference)		13	Let's take appearance from both parties and
14	(via videocomerence)		14	then we will talk about how we're going to
15	APPEARANCES		15	proceed this morning.
16	AFFEARANCES		16	Let's start with Commission Staff.
17	Administrative Law Judge: SAMANTHA DC	VI E	17	MR. ROBERSON: Good morning, Judge Doyle. My
18	For the Staff of UTC: JEFF ROBERSON	TLE	18	name is Jeff Roberson, R-o-b-e-r-s-o-n. I'm an
19	Company Representative: JACOB RAICH		19	Assistant Attorney General representing Staff.
20			20	With me at virtual counsel table is staff's
21	Also Appearing: JACQUE HAWKINS	-JONES	21	witness, Ms. Jacque Hawkins-Jones.
22			22	THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.
23	Departed Dy IANICE L TECARDI	-N. CCD #2072	23	And for the Company, if you can state your
24	Reported By: JANICE L. TEGARDI	EN, CCR #2073	24	first and last name, spelling it for the court
25			25	reporter, and additionally provide your address,
		Page 2		Page 4
1			1	telephone number, and e-mail address, please.
2	INDEX OF EXA	AMINATION	2	MR. RAICH: Yes. My name is Jacob Raich,
3			3	that's J-a-c-o-b, last name is Raich, R-a-i-c-h.
4	Opening Statement:	Page	4	I'm with Super Friends Moving.
5	Mr. Roberson	5	5	I'm the owner/manager of the Company, and my
6	Mr. Raich	7	6	address at the place of business is 22426 72nd
7		•	7	Avenue South, Kent, Washington.
8	Witness Examination		8	THE COURT: And your telephone number and
9	Jacque Hawkins-Jones		9	e-mail, please.
10	By Mr. Roberson	8	10	MR. RAICH: Telephone number is (206)
11	By Will Repercent	Ŭ	11	302-8833, e-mail address is jake, j-a-k-e, at
12	Closing Argument:		12	super friends moving dot com.
13	Mr. Roberson	17	13	THE COURT: Great. Thank you.
14	Mr. Raich	19	14	I will just briefly provide a roadmap for
15	IVII. Naiuli	18	15	today's hearing. We are here today because the
16			16	Commission issued a notice of intent to deny the
17		/ LIDIT C	17	Company's application for permanent authority as
	INDEX OF E	СПІВІТО		a household carrier.
18	Ctoff Fullible No.	اء ۔ ۱۹۴۰ مالہ ۸	18	
19	Staff Exhibit Nos.	Admitted	19	Mr. Raich requested a hearing to have an
20	JHJ-1	12	20	opportunity to respond to the allegations
21	JHJ-2	12	21	contained in the notice and explain why the
22	JHJ-3	14	22	application should be approved.
23	JHJ-4	17	23	So after Mr. Roberson gives a brief overview
24	JHJ-5	15	24	of Staff's case, you can present your case,
25			25	Mr. Raich.

	Page 5		Page 7
1	MR. RAICH: Thank you.	1	MR. RAICH: Yes.
2	THE COURT: You're welcome. Once all of the	2	THE COURT: And, Mr. Raich, you may go ahead
3	witnesses have testified, both parties will have	3	when you're ready.
4	the opportunity to make closing statements.	4	MR. RAICH: So during the application
5	When I call on each party to testify, I will	5	process, you know, I feel like I completed all
6	swear you in with the oath of witness so that	6	the paperwork and had taken down my website as
7	anything you tell the Court will be under oath	7	requested by the UTC in order to obtain a permit
8	and can be sworn testimony.	8	authority already.
9	For the court reporter's benefit, please	9	So what's I think a couple days before we
10	speak slowly and clearly. Once you are sworn	10	were to get our permit authority I was notified
11	in, you can present your testimony.	11	there was a request to deny the application.
12	Do you have any questions before we proceed?	12	I was hoping you what I'm hoping to
13	MR. RAICH: Not here.	13	achieve from today is to figure out what exactly
14	MR. ROBERSON: I have one small point, Your	14	caused the denial of the application.
15	Honor. Staff has five exhibits.	15	THE COURT: So you're unclear about the
16	I mailed those to you, Ms. Hawkins-Jones, and	16	assertions in the notice made by Staff?
17	Mr. Raich at the start of this hearing. I	17	MR. RAICH: Correct.
18	wasn't sure how else to circulate them.	18	THE COURT: Okay. Well, you'll have an
19	THE COURT: Sure. I received them.	19	opportunity to ask questions when Staff makes
20	Mr. Raich, have you received them as well?	20	their testimony as well.
21	MR. RAICH: Yes.	21	Was that it for your testimony, Mr. Raich?
22	THE COURT: Great. Thank you, Mr. Roberson.	22	MR. RAICH: Yes. Yes.
23	Mr. Roberson, you may also proceed with your	23	THE COURT: Okay. Thank you. I'll go ahead
24	opening statement.	24	and swear in Ms. Hawkins-Jones and she can
25	MR. ROBERSON: Not that long ago in the	25	proceed with her testimony.
	Page 6		Page 8
1	spring of 2020, Super Friends' public counsel	1	Ms. Hawkins-Jones, if would please raise your
2	and Staff resolved the complaint filed against	2	right hand. Do you swear or affirm the
3	Super Friends by Staff based on the company's	3	testimony you will give today will be the whole
4	operating without a permit.	4	truth and nothing but the truth?
5	In that settlement Super Friends agreed to	5	MS. HAWKINS-JONES: I do.
6	cease advertising as a household goods carrier	6	THE COURT: Thank you.
7	offering to perform moves as a household goods	7	Go ahead, Mr. Roberson.
8	carrier, entering into agreement as a household	8	
9	goods carrier, or performing moves as a	9	EXAMINATION
10	household goods carrier.	10	
11	Sometime thereafter Super Friends filed for a	11	BY MR. ROBERSON:
12	permit. After it did so, Staff discovered	12	Q. Good morning. Would you please state your full name
13	advertisements from Super Friends and was able	13	and spell your last name for the record.
14	to obtain a quote for household goods moves.	14	A. Yes. Jackie Hawkins-Jones, last name H-a-w-k-i-n-s,
15	Staff believes that that evidence shows that	15	dash, J-o-n-e-s.
16	the Company is not fit to hold a household goods	16	Q. Who employes you?
17	carrier permit and recommends the Commission	17	A. The Washington State Utilities and Transportation
18	deny the permit application.	18	Commission.
19	THE COURT: Thank you.	19	Q. What position do you hold at the Commission?
20	Mr. Raich, I will swear you in and we can	20	A. I'm a compliance investigator with the Consumer
21	you can present your testimony. If you could	21	Protection Division.
22	please raise your right hand.	22	Q. How long have you worked for the Commission as a
23	Do you swear or affirm that the testimony you	23	compliance investigator?
24	will give here today will be the whole truth and	24	A. I have been with the Commission as an investigator for
25	nothing but the truth?	25	one year.

	Page 9		Page 11
1	0.4.1.1.1.4	1	Q. But then how do I put this? Did you look for
2	A. I investigate the business practices of Commission-	2	advertisements by the Company after it applied for a
3	regulated utility and transportation companies,	3	permit?
4	including household goods carriers who may be	4	A. Yes.
5	operating without a Commission-issued permit.	5	Q. And where did you discover those advertisements?
6	Q. Would you please provide a just a brief summary of	6	A. I discovered the advertisements on Thumbtack and Yelp.
7	your educational background.	7	Q. Did you also discover evidence that Super Friends was
8	A. Sure. I have an associates degree from Olympic	8	continuing to conduct household goods moves after the
9	College and have seven years experience as a certified	9	entry of the settlement?
10	investigator in the state of Washington.	10	A. Yes.
11	I've completed numerous trainings, including	11	Q. Where did you discover that evidence?
12	advanced courses in fraud.	12	A. Through Thumbtack.
13	Q. Are you familiar with a company called Super Friends	13	Q. Did you discover evidence at any other website?
14	Moving, LLC?	14	A. Yes, we did discover through customer reviews on Yelp.
15	A. I am.	15	Q. Would you please turn to Exhibit JHJ-1.
16	Q. How are you familiar with Super Friends?	16	A. Okay, I'm there.
17	A. I was recently asked to conduct a review of the	17	Q. Can you identify this document.
18	company.	18	A. Yes, this is a Thumbtack advertisement for Super
19	Q. Would you please recap Super Friends' recent history	19	Friends.
20	at the Commission?	20	Q. Is that a true and accurate copy of the Thumbtack
21	A. Sure. Recently Staff completed an investigation into	21	advertisement posted by Super Friends that you found?
22	complaints of the Company's not permitted status as a	22	A. Yes.
23	household goods carrier.	23	MR. ROBERSON: At this point Staff would move
24	Q. And that was the investigation in 2019?	24	to admit Exhibit JHJ-1.
25	A. Correct.	25	THE COURT: I will admit JHJ-1 into the
∠5			
25	Page 10		Page 12
1		1	
	Page 10	1 2	5
1	Page 10 Q. And what happened as a result of that investigation?		record. Thank you.  (Staff Exhibit JHJ-1 was admitted.)
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25

25 A. I was not assigned that investigation.

has completed the Yelp's verification process that

	Day 10	1	D 45
	Page 13		Page 15
1	allows the Company to create a log-in so it can	1	' '
2	respond to customers, update hours and service areas,	2	that you found?
3	or insert photos and links to the company's Yelp page.	3	,
4	Q. How does the Yelp page identify Super Friends?	4	MR. ROBERSON: Staff would move to admit
5	A. It identifies Super Friends as a mover, self storage.	5	Exhibit JHJ-5.
6	Q. Does the Yelp page contain a feature allowing	6	THE COURT: JHJ-5 is admitted.
7	potential customers to obtain a quote for services	7	(Staff Exhibit JHJ-5 was admitted.)
8	from Super Friends?	8	Q. (By Mr. Roberson) And what services does the review
9	A. Yes, it does.	9	indicate that Super Friends performed?
10	$\mathbf{Q}.$ And does the Yelp page state the number of persons who	10	A. It indicated that the Company performed a move for
11	have recently used that quote feature?	11	this customer.
12	A. Yes, it does. It says, "96 locals recently requested	12	Q. Did you attempt to get a quote for a move after
13	a quote."	13	discovering Super Friends advertisements?
14	Q. What does the Yelp page state is the average time it	14	A. Yes, I did.
15	takes Super Friends to respond to a request for a	15	Q. And did you, in fact, obtain a quote from Super
16	quote?	16	Friends?
17	A. The average response time is 30 minutes.	17	A. Yes, I did.
18	Q. Does the Yelp page indicate a service territory for	18	Q. What date did you obtain the quote?
19	Super Friends?	19	A. August 3, 2020.
20	A. Yes, it does indicate a service territory.	20	Q. And how did you obtain the quote?
21	Q. And what is that territory?	21	A. I submitted a request through Super Friends Thumbtack
22	A. Hello?	22	page.
23	Q. You're back. I think we lost you. I'll just repeat	23	Q. And what service did you ask Super Friends to provide
24	the question and you can answer it.	24	when you requested the quote?
25	What is that territory?	25	A. I asked them to provide a residential move.
	Page 14		Page 16
1		1	
1 2	A. The Seattle area.	1 2	Q. And where did you want that move performed?
2	A. The Seattle area.  Q. Would you please turn to Exhibit JHJ-3.	2	Q. And where did you want that move performed?  A. I'm sorry, can you repeat the question.
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DOCKE	D 47	1	Da 40
1	Page 17 record.	1	Page 19 that they're actually performing moves in the
2	(Staff Exhibit No. JHJ-4 was admitted.)	2	form of customer reviews, and Ms. Hawkins-Jones
3	MR. ROBERSON: And at this point Staff has no	3	was able to obtain a quote for a household goods
4	further questions for Ms. Hawkins-Jones.	4	move.
	•	5	All of that shows violations of a cease and
5	THE COURT: Thank you.		desist order. It's the type of flagrant conduct
6	Mr. Raich, would you have any questions for	6	•••
7	Ms. Hawkins-Jones?  MR. RAICH: Not at this time.	7	that justifies a finding of unfitness. Staff asked the Commission to deny Super Friends'
8		8	application on fitness grounds.
9	THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Roberson, would you	9	•
10	like to give a closing statement?	10	THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Roberson.
11	MR. ROBERSON: On your permit an applicant	11	Mr. Raich, would you like to have a final
12	must be fit, that's RCW 81.80.075. Fitness	12	response to those factual allegations?
13	concerns an applicant's willingness and ability	13	MR. RAICH: Yes, please.
14	to conform its comment to the public service	14	In response to the exhibits, what is it we've
15	laws and the requirements, rules, and	15	got, 1 through 5? We I guess in regards to
16	regulations of the Commission.	16	Thumbtack and Yelp, we've had we've been a
17	That's the Commission's decision of the	17	company for quite some time, and we through
18	application of River (phonetic) Distribution	18	those years we've collected a lot of reviews.
19	Resources, Incorporated.	19	Reviews don't dictate when the service was
20	In terms of an applicant's willingness and	20	provided, orating; there will be some that come
21	ability to conform to the rules, laws, and	21	in for a move that was conducted three years
22	orders of the Commission, the Commission	22	ago. So I would like to make it clear that it
23	considers the applicant's compliance history one	23	doesn't the date of a review does not not
24	of the best predictors thereof.	24	dictate the date of the actual move taking
25	That's the Commission's decision and the	25	place.
	Page 18		Page 20
1	application of RedLine Courier (phonetic),	1	In regards to the Thumbtack quote, I was
2	Incorporated.	2	under the assumption that I think Ms. Hawkins
3	When looking whether or not an applicant can	3	requested a quote on the 3rd of August for a
4	overcome a negative compliance history, the	4	move on August 31st.
5	Commission considers whether the violations	5	Based on my communication with the UTC, we
6	repeated were flagrant, whether the applicant	6	anticipated that we would have received our
7	promptly took corrective action, and whether the	7	temporary authority to operate well before then,
8	applicant can now provide credible assurances of	8	so mistakenly we did provide a quote for a
9	future compliance		
10	future compliance.	9	service that was to take place on August 31st.
	That's also from the Commission's decision in	10	service that was to take place on August 31st.  What else is there? As far as as far as
11			
11 12	That's also from the Commission's decision in	10	What else is there? As far as as far as
	That's also from the Commission's decision in River Distribution.	10 11	What else is there? As far as as far as compliance in general, I've gone through the
12	That's also from the Commission's decision in River Distribution.  The Commission has recently made clear that	10 11 12	What else is there? As far as as far as compliance in general, I've gone through the safety compliance training. I've completed
12 13	That's also from the Commission's decision in River Distribution.  The Commission has recently made clear that the violation of a cease and desist order is the	10 11 12 13	What else is there? As far as as far as compliance in general, I've gone through the safety compliance training. I've completed several versions of the application, furnished
12 13 14	That's also from the Commission's decision in River Distribution.  The Commission has recently made clear that the violation of a cease and desist order is the type of flagrant conduct that justifies a	10 11 12 13 14	What else is there? As far as as far as compliance in general, I've gone through the safety compliance training. I've completed several versions of the application, furnished the information requested, and I've studied the
12 13 14 15	That's also from the Commission's decision in River Distribution.  The Commission has recently made clear that the violation of a cease and desist order is the type of flagrant conduct that justifies a finding of unfitness, that's the Commission's	10 11 12 13 14 15	What else is there? As far as as far as compliance in general, I've gone through the safety compliance training. I've completed several versions of the application, furnished the information requested, and I've studied the safety compliance manual that has been provided
12 13 14 15	That's also from the Commission's decision in River Distribution.  The Commission has recently made clear that the violation of a cease and desist order is the type of flagrant conduct that justifies a finding of unfitness, that's the Commission's order in regard to the application of Dolly,	10 11 12 13 14 15	What else is there? As far as as far as compliance in general, I've gone through the safety compliance training. I've completed several versions of the application, furnished the information requested, and I've studied the safety compliance manual that has been provided to us by the UTC.
12 13 14 15 16 17	That's also from the Commission's decision in River Distribution.  The Commission has recently made clear that the violation of a cease and desist order is the type of flagrant conduct that justifies a finding of unfitness, that's the Commission's order in regard to the application of Dolly, Inc.	10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	What else is there? As far as as far as compliance in general, I've gone through the safety compliance training. I've completed several versions of the application, furnished the information requested, and I've studied the safety compliance manual that has been provided to us by the UTC.  I've made plans to incorporate all of the
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12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	That's also from the Commission's decision in River Distribution.  The Commission has recently made clear that the violation of a cease and desist order is the type of flagrant conduct that justifies a finding of unfitness, that's the Commission's order in regard to the application of Dolly, Inc.  Also, the Commission's order with regard to Sea-Tac 24. The facts here show not that long	10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	What else is there? As far as as far as compliance in general, I've gone through the safety compliance training. I've completed several versions of the application, furnished the information requested, and I've studied the safety compliance manual that has been provided to us by the UTC.  I've made plans to incorporate all of the safety compliance forms used by the UTC into our perspective operation so that we can operate as
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1	I think we had discussed with the UTC that we	1	permitted so that the Commission can monitor its
2	would check in on a monthly basis, and at the	2	operations, and; therefore, Staff would
3	time that we did receive authority, making sure	3	recommend granting the Company a provisional
4	that our company was operating as a safe	4	permit.
5	household goods moving provider going into the	5	However, Staff would like the Commission to
6	future.	6	make clear that it will deny the Company
7	And, so, yeah, I just wanted clarification on	7	permanent authority until it pays the fines that
8	mainly why we were denied, which is and, of	8	it agreed to, the penalties agreed to, and the
9	course, the exhibits were sent to me this	9	settlement agreement.
10	morning so I did not receive these prior to.	10	They will pay as well whatever penalties the
11	So this is good to know at this point what	11	Commission imposes as a result of the Complaint
12	exactly is preventing our application from	12	the Staff will soon file based on the
13	moving through.	13	allegations that Mr. Raich effectively just
14	THE COURT: So, to be clear, Mr. Raich, when	14	admitted to, the violations at issue in this
15	you made that quote, when you responded to	15	hearing.
16	Ms. Jones-Hawkins Ms. Hawkins-Jones' quote,	16	THE COURT: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Roberson.
17	you admit that you made that response under the	17	Before we adjourn I'd like to request that
18	assumption that you would have your permit by	18	the parties waive the requirement to issue an
19	the time she requested.	19	order in ten days.
20	But you understand how that violated the	20	I'd like to have the transcript available to
21	order or are you saying	21	me when I'm writing my decision and we usually
22	MR. RAICH: No, I understand in the eyes of	22	receive the transcript within seven to ten days.
23	having in the Commission's eyes I understand	23	I anticipate that I would issue an order
24	the violation would stem from us advertising	24	within five business days from the date the
25	for the advertising or quoting for a move in	25	transcript is received at the latest.
	Page 22		Page 24
1	a period of time where we're not supposed to be	1	Does either party have an objection to
2	advertising or quoting for a move. So I do	2	waiving the requirement?
3	understand the violation there.	3	MR. ROBERSON: Staff has no objection.
4	But, yeah, I just wanted to make it known	4	THE COURT: Mr. Raich, do you have any
5	that we were under the assumption that by the	5	objection to that? Mr. Raich, are you still on
6	end of August, yes, we would be it was	6	the line?
7	assumed that we would have our authority to	7	MR. ROBERSON: Judge Doyle, I think he might
8	operate as a household goods carrier.	8	be having technical difficulties, his mic was
9	THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.	9	muted. It unmuted when you asked him that
10	Staff, would you like a short ten-minute	10	question.
11	recess in light of his testimony and potentially	11	He appears to be on the line, I think he's
12	give a recommendation, if you can take that	12	just having trouble talking.
13	opportunity?	13	THE COURT: I see. Thank you.
14	MR. ROBERSON: I think that would be	14	MR. RAICH: My apologies. I was muted. I
15	fruitful, Your Honor.	15	have no objection to the Staff's recommendation.
16	THE COURT: Great. We will take a short	16	THE COURT: Great. Thank you. And does any
17	ten-minute recess and be back on the record at	17	party either party have anything further
18	10:10.	18	before we go off the record?
19	(A ten-minute recess was taken at 10:00 a.m.)	19	MR. ROBERSON: Nothing from Staff.
20	THE COURT: Has Staff come up with a	20	MR. RAICH: Nothing from Super Friends
21	recommendation at this time?	21	Moving.
22	MR. ROBERSON: Yes, I believe Staff would	22	THE COURT: Okay. Thank you all for
23	change its recommendation at this time.	23	participating here today. We are off the
24	Staff believes it's probably in the public	24	record.
25	interest to have Mr. Raich and his company	25	(The Hearing concluded at 10:15 a.m.)

	Page 25	
1	CERTIFICATE	
2	I, Janice L. Tegarden, a Certified Court Reporter	
3	in and for the State of Washington, residing at Centralia, do hereby certify;	
4	, ,,	
5	<del></del>	
6	That the foregoing proceedings were taken before me and thereafter reduced to a typed format under my direction; that the transcript is a full, true, and	
7	direction; that the transcript is a full, true, and	
	complete transcript of said proceedings consisting of Pages 1 through 25.	
8	T	
9	That as a CCR in this state, I am bound by the Rules of Conduct as Codified in WAC 308-14-130; that court	
10	reporting arrangements and fees in this case are offered to all parties on equal terms.	
11	to all parties on equal terms.	
12		
13	That I am not a relative, employee, attorney or counsel of any party to this action, or relative or employee of any such attorney or counsel, and I am not	
	employee of any such attorney or counsel, and I am not	
14	financially interested in the said action or the outcome thereof;	
15		
16	That upon completion of signature, if required, the	
17	original transcript will be securely sealed and the same	
18	served upon the appropriate party.	
19	IN WITNESS WHEREOF. I have hereunto set my hand	
	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 15th day of September, 2020.	
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23	JANICE L. TEGARDEN	
24	Certified Court Reporter License No. 2073	
25	License No. 2073	
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