



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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April 5, 2019

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Mark L. Johnson  
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW  
P.O. Box 47250  
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

State Of WASH.  
UTIL. AND TRANSP.  
COMMISSION

RE: *Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v. Royal Moving*  
Compliance with Order 02  
Docket TV-170972

Dear Mr. Johnson:

On October 25, 2017, the commission issued Order 02 in docket TV-170972, which classified Jake Theis, d/b/a Royal Moving (Royal Moving or company), as a common carrier of household goods and assessed a \$5,000 penalty against the company for operating without a household goods permit. The commission suspended a \$4,500 portion of the penalty for two years on the condition that the company not operate in the future without the required permit. On November 3, 2017, the commission granted permit THG-67933 to Royal Moving. The commission cancelled the company's permit for lack of insurance on November 2, 2018.

On January 7, 2019, commission staff observed online advertising for Royal Moving. Staff also contacted the company and received an offer for intrastate moving services for compensation. As a result of these new violations, on February 7, 2019, staff requested the commission impose the suspended portion of the 2017 penalty.

The commission held a brief adjudicative proceeding in docket TV-190020 to consider these new violations on February 25, 2019. The commission penalized Royal Moving \$5,000 with \$4,000 suspended on the condition of future compliance. Royal Moving immediately paid the \$1,000 due.

During settlement negotiation in the 2019 case, staff discussed with Mr. Theis the outstanding penalty from 2017 and his intentions with respect to future compliance. Considering the company's financial situation and compliance history, as well as the commission's goal of compliance, staff now withdraws its February 7, 2019, recommendation to impose the suspended penalty. Staff believes that leaving the suspended penalty in place provides an incentive for

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future compliance. Imposing the full penalty now would create an unnecessary and excessive financial hardship for the company and would not serve to deter future violations.

If you have any questions, please contact Mike Turcott, Compliance Investigations Supervisor, Consumer Protection, at (360) 664-1174, or email [mike.turcott@utc.wa.gov](mailto:mike.turcott@utc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,



Bridgit Feeser  
Assistant Director, Consumer Protection