

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of Determining the Proper  
Carrier Classification of, and Complaint  
for Penalties against:

MICHAEL S. MILLER,  
D/B/A TIGER MOUNTAIN SHUTTLE  
AND TIGER SHUTTLE

DOCKET TE-190828

DECLARATION OF  
JASON HOXIT

Jason Hoxit, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, declares as follows:

1. I am employed by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) as a compliance investigator in the Transportation Safety Division. As a compliance investigator, my responsibilities include conducting investigations into the operations of regulated and unregulated transportation companies. As part of those duties, I investigate charter party and excursion service carriers that may be operating without the required Commission-issued certificate.
2. On August 30, 2019, Commission staff received a complaint alleging that Michael S. Miller, d/b/a Tiger Mountain Shuttle and Tiger Shuttle, (Tiger Shuttle or Company) is providing shuttle services for paragliders up to Tiger Mountain in Issaquah, Washington. The complainant provided a video of passengers with gear entering a yellow bus with license plate BKV7401,<sup>1</sup> a video of Michael S. Miller driving a bus with at least 13 passengers with the bus door open,<sup>2</sup> and a picture of an A-Frame advertisement for Tiger Shuttle transportation services that includes a contact email address of tigershuttle@comcast.net.<sup>3</sup>
3. On August 30, 2019, Wayne Gilbert, Motor Carrier Safety Investigator, Transportation Safety, sent a compliance email to Tiger Shuttle at tigershuttle@comcast.net.<sup>4</sup> The email stated that Commission staff believed Tiger

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<sup>1</sup> See Attachment A for a capture of a video showing license plate BKV7401, received on August 30, 2019.

<sup>2</sup> See Attachment B for captures of a video showing Michael S. Miller transporting passengers with the bus door open, received on August 30, 2019.

<sup>3</sup> See Attachment C for a picture of the Company's advertisement, received on August 30, 2019.

<sup>4</sup> See Attachment D for a copy of the email from staff to Tiger Shuttle, dated August 30, 2019.

Shuttle was operating as a passenger transportation carrier in the state of Washington without the required certificate, and requested that the Company respond no later than September 6, 2019, to avoid enforcement action by the Commission. Tiger Shuttle failed to respond to Commission staff.

4. On September 5, 2019, I searched the SecureAccess Washington database for license plate BKV7401, which produced records showing the bus registered to Michael S. Miller at 14999 239<sup>th</sup> Pl SE, Issaquah, WA 98027.<sup>5</sup>
5. On September 5, 2019, I visited Tiger Shuttle's website at [www.tigershuttle.com](http://www.tigershuttle.com).<sup>6</sup> The Company's website states, "To purchase a shuttle ticket please contact Michael directly," and provides a hyperlink to an email address of [tigershuttle@comcast.net](mailto:tigershuttle@comcast.net).
6. On September 5, 2019, I searched Commission records and found that Tiger Shuttle has never obtained passenger transportation operating authority from the Commission.<sup>7</sup>
7. On September 5, 2019, I searched Washington Department of Revenue's (DOR) Business Licensing Service, which produced no results for Michael S. Miller, Tiger Mountain Shuttle, or Tiger Shuttle.<sup>8</sup>
8. On September 5, 2019, I searched FMCSA's Safety and Fitness Electronic Records System (SAFER), which produced no results for Tiger Mountain Shuttle, or Tiger Shuttle.<sup>9</sup>
9. On September 11, 2019, I visited Northwest Paragliding Club's website at [www.nwparagliding.com](http://www.nwparagliding.com), and followed links to its "Tiger Mountain" page.<sup>10</sup> Under "Directions to Launch," the website states, "The Tiger Shuttle leaves the LZ on a more or less regular schedule. You can pay to shuttle up on a per ride basis, purchase regular use or season passes for a discount, or even throw your wing in the trailer for a modest fee if you want to hike up and have your wing waiting for you at launch. For details about shuttle schedule and pricing, <http://TigerShuttle.com>."

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<sup>5</sup> See Attachment E for a copy of SecureAccess Washington records for license plate BKV7401, captured on September 5, 2019.

<sup>6</sup> See Attachment F for a copy of the Company's website, captured on September 5, 2019.

<sup>7</sup> See Attachment G for a copy of Commission records, captured on September 5, 2019.

<sup>8</sup> See Attachment H for a copy of DOR records showing that no accounts exist for Tiger Shuttle, captured on September 5, 2019.

<sup>9</sup> See Attachment I for a copy of SAFER records, captured on September 5, 2019.

<sup>10</sup> See Attachment J for a copy of the Northwest Paragliding Club's website, captured on September 11, 2019.

10. On September 16, 2019, using an assumed name, I requested a quote for transportation service from the landing zone off Issaquah-Hobart Road to the launch point on Tiger Mountain for eight people. I requested the quote via email to tigershuttle@comcast.net.<sup>11</sup>
11. On September 16, 2019, I received an email from Michael Miller at tigershuttle@comcast.net.<sup>12</sup> In the email Michael Miller stated, “Shuttle Schedule 12 230 500. the [sic] cost is 20.00 per person.”
12. On September 16, 2019, I searched Facebook and located a closed group for Tiger Shuttle.<sup>13</sup> On September 16, 2019, I requested to join the closed group under an assumed name, and the request was approved by the administrator, Michael Miller. Michael Miller posted time schedules for shuttle service for 18 separate days in the month of September 2019. On September 24, 2019, Michael Miller posted, “Starting November 1 Tiger shuttle [sic] will be open in the winter, only on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Closed Monday thru Thursday.”

DATED this 25th day of October, 2019 at Lacey, Washington.

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JASON HOXIT

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<sup>11</sup> See Attachment K for a copy of the email conversation with Tiger Shuttle, dated September 16, 2019.

<sup>12</sup> *Id.*

<sup>13</sup> See Attachment L for a capture of Tiger Shuttle’s closed Facebook grouped, captured on October 9, 2019.