

Bruce A. Wolf Principal

January 27, 1992

Hand Delivered

Mr. Paul Curl, Secretary
Washington Utilities and
Transportation Commission
Chandler Plaza Building
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W.
Olympia, WA 98504

RECEIVED

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Re: <u>Everegreen Trails Inc.</u>, <u>d.b.a Grayline of Seattle. Complainant vs. San Juan Airlines, Inc.</u>, <u>d.b.a. Shuttle Express</u>, <u>Respondent/Docket No. TC-900407</u>

Dear Secretary Curl:

Enclosed for filing please find the original and three copies of the Answer of the Respondent Shuttle Express to the Petition for Rehearing filed by the Complainant Grayline. Please note that, in the alternative, if the petition is to be considered, then the respondent Shuttle Express has also requested that a prehearing conference be set, that certain discovery be allowed, and that the matter be set for a full and complete hearing.

Your consideration is appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Bruce A. Wolf

BAW/jrh

cc: Robert Cederbaum

Clyde MacIver

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BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

EVERGREEN TRAILS, INC., a
Washington corporation, d/b/a
Grayline of Seattle,

Complainant,

v.

SAN JUAN AIRLINES, INC., a
Washington corporation, d/b/a
Shuttle Express,

Respondent.

DOCKET NO. TC-900407

ANSWER OF RESPONDENT SAN JUAN AIRLINES, INC. d/b/a SHUTTLE EXPRESS TO PETITION OF GRAYLINE FOR REHEARING AND, IN THE ALTERNATIVE, REQUEST FOR PREHEARING CONFERENCE, DATA, DEPOSITIONS AND FULL HEARING

I. INTRODUCTION

COMES NOW the respondent above named, San Juan Airlines, Inc, d/b/a Shuttle Express (hereinafter "Shuttle Express") by and through its attorneys of record, Sessions & Monahan, P.S. and Bruce A. Wolf, pursuant to RCW 80.04.200, RCW 81.04.200, WAC 480-09-425, and WAC 480-09-820, files the following answer to the petition of Evergreen Trails, Inc., d/b/a/ Grayline of Seattle (hereinafter "Grayline") for rehearing, and, in the alternative, makes a request for a prehearing



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conference, discovery in the form of data requests and depositions, and a full hearing.

For the reasons expressed below, the petition of Grayline for rehearing should not be considered.

II. DENIAL OF ALLEGATIONS

In its petition, Grayline alleges that Shuttle Express has operated in violation of its permit authority by serving various hotels located in downtown Seattle served by Grayline. Grayline refers to the results of certain privately retained investigations and alleges that "sworn affidavits from the investigators are available."

In response to a telephone call to counsel for the petitioner requesting copies of the "sworn affidavits," counsel for the petitioner replied that, despite the allegation, no sworn affidavits had been prepared.

Contrary to the allegations of permit violations, Shuttle Express does not provide service in excess of its operating authority. All drivers, dispatchers, and other employees have been advised of the permit restrictions and instructed to adhere to the same.

Consequently, the respondent Shuttle Express hereby denies each and every substantive allegation of permit violations contained in the petition for rehearing.

III. PROCEDURAL DEFICIENCIES

In addition, Grayline, in its petition for rehearing, has failed to demonstrate that, procedurally, the petition should be considered. RCW 80.04.200, RCW 81.04.200, and WAC 480-09-820 set forth the procedural prerequisites that must be present before the Washington

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Utilities Transportation Commission may consider a petition for rehearing. Those statutes and the regulation provide that a petitioner must show the following: 1) changed circumstances; 2) injurious to the petitioner; and 3) not considered and determined by the Commission.

At the original hearing in the above-entitled matter and in its final order, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission fully considered the issue of whether Shuttle Express should be precluded from serving the downtown Seattle hotels served by Grayline. The Commission determined that Shuttle Express should be so precluded. A final order was issued amending the Shuttle Express operating authority and prohibiting any such service.

Clearly, the remedy for any violations of that original final order is the issuance of citations by the Commission staff for exceeding permit authority rather than a petition for rehearing of an issue fully considered by the Commission in its original order.

Now, in its petition, Grayline asks that the Commission revisit the very same issue and issue an order further restricting the Shuttle Express operating permit.

As a result of the original order, Grayline is already the benefactor of a final order precluding service to the full extent of Grayline's operating permit authority. Grayline, therefore, has no standing to request any additional limitations.

In short, Grayline has failed to establish that, procedurally, a rehearing would be appropriate. The appropriate remedy, if any, for exceeding permit authority and violating the terms of a final Commission order, if any such violations have occurred, would be the

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issuance of citations by the Commission staff, not a rehearing of a matter fully considered by the Commission in the original hearing and the resulting final order.

IV. ALTERNATIVE REQUEST FOR HEARING, PREHEARING CONFERENCE, DATA REQUEST, AND DEPOSITIONS

If the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission decides to consider the instant petition for rehearing, then the Express respectfully requests, pursuant to respondent Shuttle WAC 480-09-460, that the Commission first set a prehearing conference for the purposes stated in that regulation. It is clear that, if the instant petition is to be considered, the respondent Shuttle Express, to prepare properly for any hearing, must have the opportunity to depose the alleged private investigators. Additionally, data requests to determine whether any of the activities of Shuttle Express have been Also, if the petition is to be injurious to Grayline will be required. considered, substantial factual disputes and issues of permit language interpretation would be raised that could only be resolved after a full and complete hearing. Consequently, if the petition is to be considered, a hearing must be had.

V CONCLUSION

For all of the reasons expressed above, the instant petition for rehearing should not be considered. In the alternative, if the petition is to be considered, then a prehearing conference should be scheduled, data requests and depositions should be allowed, and a full hearing must be



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set for a full consideration of any and all factual and legal issues raised.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 27th day of January, 1992.

SESSIONS & MONAHAN, P.S.

Bruce A. Wolf

Of Attorneys for Respondent

Shuttle Express



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document upon all parties of record, by mailing, properly addressed with postage prepaid, to the following:

Mr. Robert Cedarbaum Assistant Attorney General Heritage Plaza Building 1400 South Evergreen Park Drive S.W. Olympia, WA 98504

Mr. Clyde MacIver
Attorney at Law
Miller, Nash, Weiner, Hager & Carlsen
4400 Two Union Square
601 Union Street
Seattle, WA 98101-2352

Dated at Seattle, Washington this 27th day of January, 1992.

Bruce A. Wolf, Attorney for Respondent Shuttle Express