WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

PENALTY ASSESSMENT TE-110216

PLEASE NOTE: You must complete and sign this document, and send it to the Commission within 15 days after you receive the penalty assessment. Use additional paper if needed.

I have read and understand RCW 9A.72.020 (printed below), which states that making false statements under oath is a class B felony. I am over the age of 18, am competent to testify to the matters set forth below and I have personal knowledge of those matters. I hereby make, under oath, the following statements.

| [] 1. | Payment of penalty. I admit that the violations occurred and enclose \$2,400 in payment of the penalty. |
|-----------|---|
| [] 2. | Request for a hearing. I believe that the alleged violations did not occur, based on the following information, and request a hearing for a decision by an administrative law judge: |
| | |
|)3. OR | Application for mitigation. I admit the violation, but I believe that the penalty should be reduced for the reason(s) set out below. [] a) I ask for a hearing for a decision by an administrative law judge b) I waive a hearing and ask for an administrative decision on the information I present here: |
| <u>P1</u> | ease see attached letter of explanation. |
| includin | re under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing, and information I have presented on any attachments, is true and correct. |
| Landr | February 18, 2011 [month/day/year], at Auburn, WA [city, state] mark Travel Service Inc. of Respondent (company) – please print Signature of Applicant |
| DOW 0 | A 72 020. |

RCW 9A.72.020:

"Perjury in the first degree. (1) A person is guilty of perjury in the first degree if in any official proceeding he makes a materially false statement which he knows to be false under an oath required or authorized by law. (2) Knowledge of the materiality of the statement is not an element of this crime, and the actor's mistaken belief that his statement was not material is not a defense to a prosecution under this section. (3) Perjury in the first degree is a class B felony."



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Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, RE: Penalty Assessment TE-110216

I was the Charter Operations Manager for this company from 1991, until 1997. During that time, I never had a driver running without having a valid physical. I take great pride in doing things the right way. Safety and integrity are the two most important factors in building a company.

I took over the position of Charter Manager this time on Nov. 19, 2010. The previous Manager was very meticulous, and precise. She told me "Everything is up to date, and current. The only thing that needs to be done is to get driver abstracts in March, and do the annual reviews in March and May." As she said this, she pointed to two entries on the white board in this office, which gave this same information.

Because of her history with details (I have been driving part time for her for the last 3 years), and her constantly demanding that we (drivers) always be legal in all aspects of our jobs, I believed her. She was meticulous with paperwork, returning our logs to us for correction if we were even $\frac{1}{4}$ hour off on our logs. Because of this trust, I did not put as much emphasis on the driver qualification files that I would have, had this history with her not been established. I, instead, devoted most of my time to re-learning company procedures, pricing structures etc., and ensuring that our drivers are complying with proper vehicle inspection procedures, hours of service, and driver's daily log regulations, and that they consistently provide our customers with a safe and professional ride.

I have created an excel spreadsheet that lists each driver, and the most vital information for each. This information includes the issue and expiration dates of the driver license and DOT physical cards, as well as the date of the last driver abstract, and of the last annual review.

By reviewing this spread sheet on a weekly basis, I will stay on top of the important dates, and ensure that no driver is used with expired credentials.

Mr. Gardner and I had originally scheduled our Review/Audit to take place on Feb. 23 & 24, 2011. By this time, I would have had the opportunity to evaluate all of the driver qualification files, and rectify all of the infractions listed above. The reason that I contacted Mr. Gardner to move up the Review/Audit date is that I found out that our Carrier Profile was only in effect until 1/22/2011. The only problem with this new appointment date was that the first two weeks in January are two of the busiest weeks we have all year. Because of this, I was not able to get to the driver files before the Review/Audit took place.

I have, since the audit, been able to go through all of the driver files, and make sure they are individually up to date.

Thank you.

Respectfully, Vern & Britton

Vern Britton

Charter Operations Manager

Puget Sound Coach Lines