1	Dock	et Nos. TC-14	Exhibit No (HJR-1T) 3691, TC-160516 & TC-161257
2			Witness: H. Jack Roemer
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7	BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES		
8	SHUTTLE EXPRESS, INC.	DOCKET TC-143691	NOS. 1, TC-160516 & TC-161257
9	Petitioner and Complainant,		
10	v.		
11	SPEEDISHUTTLE WASHINGTON, LLC		
12	Respondent.		
13	SPEEDISHUTTLE WASHINGTON LLC		
14	d/b/a SPEEDISHUTTLE SEATTLE,		
15	Complainant,		
16	v.		
17	SHUTTLE EXPRESS, INC.		
18	Respondent.		
19			
20	TESTIMO	ONY OF	
21	H. JACK ROEMER		
22	CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, SPEE	DISHUTTLE	E WASHINGTON, LLC
23			
24			
25	March 1	7, 2017	
	TESTIMONY OF H. JACK ROEMER, Exhibit No ()	HJR-1T) - 1	Williams, Kastner & Gibbs PLLC 601 Union Street, Suite 4100 Seattle, Washington 98101-2380 (206) 628-6600
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1		I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>
2	Q.	Please state your name, position at Speedishuttle Washington, LLC and business
3		address.
4	А.	My name is H. Jack Roemer (I go by "Jack") and I am the Chief Financial Officer of
5		Speedishuttle Washington LLC. My business address is 1237 S. Director St., Seattle,
6		WA 98108.
7	Q.	I understand Speedishuttle Washington, LLC does business as Speedishuttle
8		Seattle. If I refer to it simply as "Speedishuttle" or "Speedishuttle Seattle" can we
9		agree that both will refer to Speedishuttle Washington, LLC?
10	A.	Yes, that would make it easier.
11	Q.	Would it also be acceptable if I referred to Speedishuttle, LLC as "Speedishuttle
12		Hawaii?"
13	A.	Yes, that is fine.
14	Q.	Can you tell us a little about your education?
15	A.	Absolutely. I attended college at the University of Utah, where I graduated in 1976
16		with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting. I attained my MBA from University of Utah
17		- David Eccles School of Business in 1981. I passed the Uniform CPA exam in 1977,
18		was licensed in Utah and Colorado and practiced as a certified public accountant for
19		approximately 10 years.
20	Q.	Will you please provide a brief summary of your background and experience with
21		respect to the operations of an auto transportation company?
22	A.	Of course. I first started working for Speedishuttle Hawaii, which operates similarly to
23		Speedishuttle Seattle, as the CFO in 2009 and have continued there until the present.
24		As the CFO, I am responsible for all financial, accounting, IT, legal and regulatory
25		functions. That includes pricing, financing, customer and vendor contract negotiations,
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1 accounting, cash management, budgeting, taxes, human resources, licensing, 2 compliance, financial reporting and banking relationships. 3 Q. How has your involvement with Speedishuttle Seattle compared to that of 4 Speedishuttle Hawaii? 5 A. I have been working for Speedishuttle Seattle since the company was formed in 2014, 6 was closely involved in the process of applying for its operating authority from the 7 WUTC, and as the CFO, am one of the principal persons involved with its 8 management. My close involvement with Speedishuttle Seattle has essentially been the 9 same as for Speedishuttle Hawaii. However, my involvement with Speedishuttle 10 Seattle has been different from that of Speedishuttle Hawaii in one critical respect; 11 unlike Hawaii, I have been involved in working with our lawyers in regulatory 12 proceedings in Washington that has required a significant amount of my time and 13 energy. I have not been required to dedicate so much of my time or Speedishuttle 14 Hawaii's resources in a similar way in Hawaii. 15 Do you have any particular areas of expertise which are relevant to this Q. 16 proceeding? 17 A. There are a number of subject matters in which I have considerable knowledge, training 18 and experience which are relevant to the transportation business Speedishuttle operates. 19 Specific to this proceeding, I have years of experience in budgeting, long-term planning 20 and profitability enhancement, systems implementation and process improvement, cash 21 management, and project cost management. 22 Q. Based upon that knowledge, training and experience, do you intend to offer any 23 opinions to the Commission in this testimony? 24

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Yes, I have a number of opinions which relate to Shuttle Express' complaint against Speedishuttle as well as Shuttle Express' claims about the sustainability of service which I intend to offer.

### **II. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY**

### Q. Will you please briefly summarize the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?

7 A. I am testifying on behalf of Speedishuttle in order to demonstrate to the Commission 8 why it should deny Shuttle Express' request for cancellation of Certificate No. C-65854 and all other relief requested by Shuttle Express, and to demonstrate why the 9 10 Commission should find Shuttle Express has repeatedly violated State law and Commission rules. More specifically, by my testimony, it is my intent to provide the 12 Commission with information as to how Speedishuttle has operated in Washington 13 since the time the UTC issued Speedishuttle its operating authority in 2015, and thereby 14 establish just how Speedishuttle's operations conform to the service Speedishuttle 15 originally proposed to provide, particularly with respect to the factors which the 16 Commission explicitly stated differentiated Speedishuttle's service from Shuttle Express' service in Order 04 in March, 2015. It is also my intent to demonstrate that 18 Speedishuttle's fares for shared ride service are just, fair, reasonable, sufficient, 19 remunerative, and unoppressive to Shuttle Express. I further intend to show that 20 Shuttle Express at all relevant times failed to provide service to the satisfaction of the Commission through its continuous violation of Commission rules, which also 22 demonstrates an inability to serve the entire market for shared ride service in King 23 County.

### **III. EXHIBITS**

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A.

#### Will you be sponsoring any exhibits in support of your testimony? Q.

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1	A.	Yes, I am sponsoring the following exhibits:
2		Exhibit No(HJR-2) is a true and correct copy of an email from Wesley Marks to
3		Jeanette Anderson at the Port of Seattle dated May 1, 2015.
4		Exhibit No. (HJR-3) through Exhibit No. (HJR-9) are true and correct copies
5		of photographs of the make and model of Mercedes Sprinter vans Speedishuttle uses in
6		Washington.
7		Exhibit No (HJR-10) is a true and correct copy of Data Request No. 6 from Shuttle
8		Express to Speedishuttle and Speedishuttle's response thereto.
9		Exhibit No (HJR-11) is a true and correct copy of Data Request No. 17 from
10		Shuttle Express to Speedishuttle and Speedishuttle's response thereto, prepared
11		November 4, 2016.
12		Exhibit No (HJR-12) is a true and correct copy of an excerpt of Shuttle Express'
13		First Data Requests to Speedishuttle Washington, LLC including Data Request No. 8
14		from Shuttle Express to Speedishuttle.
15		Exhibit No (HJR-13) is a true and correct copy of Speedishuttle's response to Data
16		Request No. 8 from Shuttle Express, prepared August 31, 2016.
17		Exhibit No (HJR-14) is a true and correct copy of Speedishuttle's response to Data
18		Request No. 8 from Shuttle Express, prepared September 30, 2016.
19		Exhibit No. (HJR-15) is a true and correct copy of an email from me to Samuel
20		Mifsud at SMS terminating the agreement between Speedishuttle and SMS.
21		Exhibit No. (HJR-16) is a true and correct copy of an email from Paul Kajanoff to
22		Jeff Hoevet at the Port of Seattle regarding Speedishuttle's provision of walk-up
23		service.
24		Exhibit No. (HJR-17) is a true and correct copy of a spreadsheet supplied by Shuttle
25		Express in response to Speedishuttle's Data Requests 15, 19 and 20.
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1		Exhibit No (HJR-18) is a true and correct copy of the Declaration of Jimy Sherrell
2		filed in Docket No. TC-132141.
3		Exhibit No (HJR-19) is a true and correct copy of Speedishuttle Data Request No.
4		1 and Shuttle Express' response thereto.
5		Exhibit No (HJR-20) is a true and correct copy of the UTC Staff's Data Request
6		No. 2 and Shuttle Express' response thereto.
7		Exhibit No(HJR-21) is a true and correct printout from www.google.co/jp created
8		on March 14, 2017.
9		Exhibit No(HJR-22) is a true and correct printout from www.google.co/kr created
10		on March 14, 2017.
11		Exhibit No(HJR-23) is a true and correct printout from www.google.co/hk created
12		on March 14, 2017.
13		IV. SPEEDISHUTTLE'S BUSINESS MODEL
14	Q.	Can you please explain the service Speedishuttle proposed to operate in Docket
15		No. TC -143691?
16	A.	Absolutely. Understanding the service Speedishuttle proposed to provide starts with its
17		application. Speedishuttle filed an application with the Washington Utilities and
18		Transportation Commission seeking auto transportation authority to provide "Door-to-
19		door shared ride service between Sea-Tac Airport and points within King County."
20		Thus, Speedishuttle has always made clear it intended to provide a door-to-door shared
21		ride service to anyone requiring service between Sea-Tac Airport and any other place in
22		King County, Washington. Additionally, it was proposed that Speedishuttle Seattle
23		offer a similar service as that offered by Speedishuttle Hawaii, which serves over one
24		million passengers per year. You could think of Speedishuttle's service as a hybrid
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between public transportation and the more upscale door-to-door services provided by black car services.

### Q. Can you please elaborate factually on that last point?

A. Of course: Speedishuttle's service is a shared ride service, so it is somewhat like public transportation in that there will be multiple stops to pick up passengers on the way to the airport, or multiple stops to drop off passengers departing the airport. But it is more like the door-to-door services a passenger can receive from a taxi, town car, limousine, or a TNC because it can go from the airport to any particular place a passenger needs to go within the territory we serve. The traditional door-to-door services like taxis, town cars, and limousines can be very pricey, however, and even TNCs can be far pricier than a ride on Speedishuttle. We view ourselves as a happy medium in that, by pooling passengers in a shared ride service, we can keep the cost lower than a taxi, who we view as our primary competition, but in a far more upscale vehicle which might appeal to someone who would hire a black car service, or even Uber Black, which is Uber's black car service.

Q. So if I understand you correctly, you provide something like a luxury black car
 service but at something closer to the price of public transportation?

18 A. That is the idea.

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Q. What kind of things does Speedishuttle do to provide a more desirable service to and from the airport than taxis and traditional black car services?

A. Well, it starts with our fleet, which is more upscale compared to taxis and is again something more comparable to black car services. But we offer what we believe is superior customer service, shorter wait times, and we try to accommodate many of our international customers by offering free Wi-Fi (which helps with network roaming charges) and through multilingual receptive teams when available.

TESTIMONY OF H. JACK ROEMER, Exhibit No. \_\_\_\_ (HJR-1T) - 7

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To your knowledge, is there another airport service provider in King County whose service fits the same niche as Speedishuttle is targeting with its service features?

A. No, there is not.

Q.

## Q. What about Shuttle Express? Can you compare and contrast Speedishuttle's service to that of Shuttle Express please?

A. I would say we both provide door-to-door shared ride service, but Speedishuttle does so
in a way in which really tries to compete with other upscale service offerings that I just
discussed, by providing enhanced amenities like our Mercedes vans and additional
service features like free Wi-Fi, SpeediShuttle TV, our multilingual website and our
complimentary greeters in baggage claim on arrival. We also try to compete with the
technological service features offered by TNCs through use of our website and apps.
Shuttle Express, as demonstrated in the application hearing transcript, provided basic
Ford vans and was not really offering the various additional service enhancement
features Speedishuttle provides. I should also note that we applied for and received a
certificate for all of King County. There are areas in King County that Shuttle Express
is not authorized to serve.

### Q. Where in King County does Shuttle Express not provide service?

A. As of the time of our application hearing, which as far as I know it has continued to today, Shuttle Express was not providing service to all of the 98405 and 98022 zip codes.

- 2 Q. Where are those zip codes?
- A. North Bend and Enumclaw.
  - Q. Do you understand the basis of why Shuttle Express does not serve the entirety of those zip codes?

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1 A. I believe Shuttle Express only has authority to serve within 25 miles of Sea-Tac airport 2 and there are parts of those zip codes which are farther than 25 miles. 3 Q. So if Shuttle Express succeeds in its protracted efforts to cancel Speedishuttle's 4 certificate, will there be another provider with certificate authority in those areas 5 Shuttle Express does not serve? 6 Not a door-to-door provider of which I am aware. A. 7 Q. Are there any other differences between your services? 8 Shuttle Express also provides scheduled service, while we are purely door-to-door. A. 9 Q. Why should that matter to the Commission? 10 A. Because I don't believe Shuttle Express truly offers door-to-door service throughout its 11 entire authorized territory, and it does not keep its door-to-door and scheduled service 12 separate. 13 Q. What makes you say that? 14 I booked a scheduled service ride on Shuttle Express to a downtown Seattle hotel on A. 15 February 16, 2015 (Ticket Number SX3844800) for which Shuttle Express did not, at 16 the time, allow booking door-to-door service on line, and although they charged me for 17 scheduled service, they did not follow the route with passengers on board. They 18 actually took us to Harborview Hospital and the University District, which were not on 19 the route, and it took much longer to get to the hotel than it should have. 20 Q. Why would Shuttle Express's van go to locations not on the route? 21 A. The only logical explanation is that Shuttle Express grouped both scheduled and door-22 to-door passengers on the same van, but did not truly provide door-to-door service for 23 those passengers travelling to Harborview Hospital and the University District, instead 24 they deviated from the scheduled route. 25 Williams, Kastner & Gibbs PLLC TESTIMONY OF H. JACK ROEMER, Exhibit No. \_\_\_ (HJR-1T) - 9

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## Q. Have you seen anything that confirms your experience that this is an actual practice of Shuttle Express?

A. I have. Attached as Exhibit No. \_\_\_(HJR-2) is an email from Wesley Marks to Jeanette Anderson at the Port of Seattle. This email demonstrates that Shuttle Express has grouped its door-to-door and scheduled service passengers together into a single vehicle as a practice.

7 **Q**.

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### And how is Speedishuttle any different?

A. We don't offer scheduled service, so there is no possibility a door-to-door passenger is forced to wait while a van completes its scheduled route or a scheduled service passenger is required to wait while the van completes unscheduled door-to-door service.

### V. SERVICE FEATURES

Q. Because Shuttle Express has alleged in its Petition for Rehearing that Speedishuttle was not really providing the service it proposed to provide at the application hearing, I would like to review now with you both what was proposed and what Speedishuttle is actually doing.

A. Ok.

A.

SPEEDISHUTTLE'S FLEET

### Q. Can describe the fleet Speedishuttle proposed to bring to Washington?

Absolutely. As Cecil Morton testified at the hearing on Speedishuttle's application,
Speedishuttle's auto transportation service in Hawaii uses Mercedes Sprinter vans and
Speedishuttle is the largest operator of Mercedes Sprinter passenger vans in North
America. These vans have an interior that is upgraded compared to most of the
industry. They have a high ceiling that makes it easier to get in and out of, are roomier

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and also much more comfortable than many of the vans used by other auto transportation service providers. They also have zone heating and air conditioning, a high quality sound/acoustics system and tons of luggage space. Speedishuttle Hawaii also owns all of the vehicles it uses in its service and maintains them entirely in-house.

## Q. Did Speedishuttle actually incorporate the same type of vans into its service in Washington?

## A. It did. Speedishuttle's fleet in Washington is comprised of the same make and model of black Mercedes vans used in Hawaii. The lone exception to our exclusive use of Mercedes Sprinter vans is our ADA accessible Toyota minivan, which is required by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

 1
 Q.
 Have you provided any exhibits to depict the vans used by Speedishuttle Seattle?

 2
 A.
 I have. Those are Exhibit No. (HJR-3) through Exhibit No. (HJR-9).

Q. Shuttle Express witness Don J. Wood stated in Exhibit No. \_\_\_(DJW-1T) at page 27, lines 20-21 "Whatever its initial intentions, it is clear that Speedishuttle is now providing the same service that Shuttle Express provides, with no meaningful distinctions." Do you agree that Speedishuttle is providing the same service as Shuttle Express with respect to its vans?

8 A. Absolutely not.

Q. Please explain in your understanding what is different about Speedishuttle's vans from the fleet used by Shuttle Express for its door-to-door shared ride service?
A. It is my understanding that Shuttle Express uses primarily Ford vans. Their vans do not have a 6' 1" ceiling like the Mercedes does, their interior furnishings are not nearly as high quality as the Mercedes vans Speedishuttle owns and operates and, in my opinion, they don't carry quite the same cachet as the Mercedes vans do. We feel the brand appeals to many of our customers seeking upscale service. While Shuttle Express' vans

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are serviceable much like a taxi can be serviceable and in good enough condition for some passengers, they are on average much older than Speedishuttle's fleet in either Washington or Hawaii because of our fleet replacement policies. We try to appeal to passengers who care about having newer vehicles, nicer interior furnishings and who might opt for a black car service over a taxi, and who prefer a more opulent option in the door-to-door shared ride industry.

# Q. Are there any other distinctions between Speedishuttle's fleet and the fleet used by Shuttle Express to transport its passengers?

A. Well, in my understanding Shuttle Express, for many years before and at the time Speedishuttle applied for operating authority, operated a portion of its door-to-door shared ride service by transporting customers in vehicles owned by independent contractors when Shuttle Express did not have a vehicle available. Based upon Shuttle Express' data requests responses to UTC staff in this proceeding, it appears Shuttle Express continued a similar practice after the UTC assessed a large fine against Shuttle Express in 2014, and is my further understanding, that they now continue that practice under a limited exemption granted by the UTC on September 30, 2016. I obviously do not know the condition or quality of the vehicles used by those many independent contractors. I suspect that even though Shuttle Express says it inspects those vehicles, because those vehicles are not owned by Shuttle Express, it may not truly know the actual condition or quality of those vehicles, either including whether there are outstanding recall notices. That highlights another significant difference in the service provided by Speedishuttle, because Speedishuttle only transports passengers using company-owned equipment (operated by company employees) which it maintains inhouse. This allows Speedishuttle to ensure the comprehensive safety of its vehicles from a maintenance perspective. If we were to use independent contractor-owned

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vehicles like Shuttle Express, we would lack the same direct control over vehicle maintenance and there would be always be some lingering questions, at least for us, about the ultimate safety of our passengers.

Mr. Wesley Marks testified in Exhibit No. (WAM-1T) at page 7, lines 9-11, Q. that "actual experience has shown that the introduction of Mercedes vans did not provide service to people who were or would have been unserved simply because we use Ford vans." Isn't it possible that anyone who could ride in one of Speedishuttle's vehicles could ride in one of Shuttle Express' Ford vans? A. It is possible, but that does not mean they would affirmatively choose to be transported in one of Shuttle Express' vans. Rather than riding in a Ford van, those same passengers might select to ride in a nicer vehicle through a TNC like Uber or Lyft. There are numerous options for airport transportation in King County and some customers may prefer the option to ride in a more nicely furnished vehicle but with a door-to-door shared ride service price. Frankly, I don't know how Mr. Marks or anyone else could testify whether a passenger who chooses to use Speedishuttle's service would have subjectively accepted the alternative of riding in Shuttle Express's Ford vans. Certainly nothing about market analytics relied upon by Mr. Marks, Mr. Wood and Mr. Kajanoff in their direct testimony could support that answer. Mr. Marks's testimony also inherently suggests that Shuttle Express is entitled to a monopoly and that anyone seeking shared ride service in King County would and should be satisfied with whatever Shuttle Express chooses to offer. With all of the other existing transportation options, however, I doubt that is true. Speedishuttle's service is different because we understand that despite continuing regulatory controls of market entry, shared ride services here exist in a dynamic transportation market which this Commission has repeatedly observed. In order to compete, we seek to provide

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1		exemplary customer service and service amenities and features beyond what taxis,
2		TNCs and Shuttle Express offer their customers.
3		WI-FI SERVICE AND OTHER TECHNOLOGY
4	Q.	Speaking of those amenities and features, did Speedishuttle propose to provide
5		Wi-Fi in all of its vans?
6	A.	Yes, and Speedishuttle Hawaii provides Wi-Fi in each of its vans which was proposed
7		for Speedishuttle Seattle in Washington as well.
8	Q.	Does Speedishuttle actually offer Wi-Fi in all of its vans in Washington?
9	A.	Absolutely. Speedishuttle's vans in Washington are all equipped with an operable
10		mobile Wi-Fi device for our customers to use, which as I mentioned earlier, we believe
11		particularly appeals to our international travelers who frequently must pay for cellular
12		data usage during their stay in the U.S.
13	Q.	Mr. Marks even questioned whether Speedishuttle actually turned on the Wi-Fi.
14		Specifically, he testified in Exhibit No(WAM-1T) at page 8, lines 4-6 "[w]e
15		even asked them for documents to show if the Wi-Fi was even turned on or
16		working properly in their vans. Again, they denied any knowledge of the
17		operability or real-world functioning of the Wi-Fi service." I have a few questions
18		about that remark. First, what might give Mr. Marks the impression that
19		Speedishuttle does not know whether its equipment had functioning or operable
20		Wi-Fi?
21	A.	You would have to ask Mr. Marks that question, because Speedishuttle did not do or
22		say anything to give him or anyone else that impression.
23	Q.	What about in Speedishuttle's responses to Shuttle Express' data request "for
24		documents to show if the Wi-Fi was even turned on or working properly in their
25		vans" as Mr. Marks testified?
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A. Shuttle Express served no such data request to Speedishuttle and I am not aware that they ever asked for that information in any other way.

#### Q. Would you please describe the information Shuttle Express requested on Speedishuttle's Wi-Fi through discovery?

5 A. Shuttle Express requested information which related to Wi-Fi in a few of its data 6 requests. In Data Request No. 6, Shuttle Express requested statistical data for every 7 single trip made by Speedishuttle to or from Sea-Tac Airport and asked within that 8 information for "... whether they used Wi-Fi or watched TV." Speedishuttle informed 9 Shuttle Express in its response, which I have provided again as Exhibit No. \_\_\_\_ (HJR-10 10), that "Speedishuttle does not record, measure or otherwise monitor which of its shared ride passengers watch or use Speedishuttle TV or Wi-Fi." Shuttle Express also requested, in Data Request No. 17, Speedishuttle "[d]escribe efforts to attract or target 12 13 tech-savvy or non-English speaking passengers in the market and provide any 14 documents that reflect, show, or relate to such efforts." Among other information, 15 Speedishuttle informed Shuttle Express through its response to Shuttle Express' Data 16 Request No. 17, which is supplied as Exhibit No. (HJR-11), that Speedishuttle has provided free Wi-Fi since the start of regulated operations. Shuttle Express also 18 requested information on Wi-Fi usage, through Data Request No. 8 to Speedishuttle, 19 which I am supplying as Exhibit No. (HJR-12). Shuttle Express requested, 20 specifically, "[p]rovide documents that show the vehicles used to transport passengers in the market, including, for each vehicle, the make, model, year, and any amenities, 22 such as TVs and Wi-Fi facilities. Provide records that show when such amenities were 23 installed, operated (on/off/disabled, etc.) and used (e.g. Wi-Fi data usage records)." Speedishuttle's response, as demonstrated in Exhibit No. \_\_\_ (HJR-13) stated as to the 24 25 Wi-Fi tracking information requested, "[S]peedishuttle does not track operation and

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1 usage of Wi-Fi and SpeediTV which services are available on all vehicles except 2 Speedishuttle TV is not available on the ADA accessible minivan..." Speedishuttle 3 subsequently served a supplemental response to Data Request No. 8, which is supplied 4 as Exhibit No. \_\_\_(HJR-14). In that data response, Speedishuttle provided its fleet list 5 by make, model and serial number and which indicated every Speedishuttle van was 6 duly equipped with Wi-Fi. 7 Q. Why doesn't Speedishuttle track its customers' usage of Wi-Fi? 8 A. We have no business reason to track that information. Moreover, our Wi-Fi hotspot is a 9 part of our fleet communication system which uses cellular data for connectivity. 10 Cellular charges are not segregated between data communications, GPS service and 11 Wi-Fi service by our cellular provider. How does providing Wi-Fi service differentiate Speedishuttle's service from 12 Q. 13 Shuttle Express' service? 14 At the time of Speedishuttle's application, it is my understanding that Shuttle Express A. 15 did not generally offer Wi-Fi on its vans. At the hearing on Speedishuttle's application, 16 Mr. Marks testified, at page 110, lines 19-24, Shuttle Express had installed Wi-Fi on 17 just 10 of its 107 units. Unlike Shuttle Express, which had less than 10% of its fleet 18 equipped with Wi-Fi, Speedishuttle has always equipped 100% of its vans with Wi-Fi. 19 0. Should it matter to the Commission that Shuttle Express may have subsequently 20 installed Wi-Fi on its vans? 21 Only if the Commission would consider that a post-application service improvement in A. 22 response to a more complete service provided by Speedishuttle. If auto transportation 23 companies are judged during an application hearing purely on how they improve 24 service after a new application is filed, they could easily prevent additional service from 25 ever being granted by incumbent providers simply waiting for new applications to be

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1 filed, and then immediately improving their own service in response to an application. 2 This would not only stifle innovation but enable the existing carrier to claim a service 3 monopoly without ever having to improve its service until a newcomer files an 4 application, ironically, much like Shuttle Express has tried to do here. 5 Does Speedishuttle do anything else to appeal to "tech-savvy" customers who Q. 6 might like the idea of reserving a ride through TNC on their mobile device? 7 A. In addition to providing Wi-Fi, we have released iPhone iOS and Android apps and 8 have been actively promoting them. They are available at 9 https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/speedishuttle-seattle/id1126837775 and 10 https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.hudson.speedishuttle\_seattle. They 11 permit passengers to make and store reservations on their Apple and Android smart phones. We have also developed and released "Where's My Vehicle," providing 12 13 departing guests with real-time information on their vehicle and driver automatically. 14 The service is free to the guest and is provided automatically if we have either a valid 15 U.S. cell phone number or a valid email address. If we are provided a U.S. mobile 16 phone number for the guest, they will receive an SMS (text) message twenty minutes 17 prior to their scheduled departure pickup. If we do not have a valid telephone number 18 but have an email address, the guest will receive an email. Either includes a customized 19 web link which will open a map that tracks the vehicle's progress and displays the 20 driver's name and vehicle description. 21 **SPEEDISHUTTLE TV** 22 Can you please describe for the Commission what evidence was presented by Q. 23 Speedishuttle about TVs in its application testimony? 24 A. Here, I am going to quote from the application hearing transcript verbatim. Starting on 25 page 28, line 21 and ending on page 29, line 1, Cecil Morton testified "Our vehicles

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1		have interiors that are a little upscale compared to the majority of the industry, and we
2		have Speedishuttle TV, which is an orientation of the marketplace. So when guests
3		arrive, they see a program that has to do with, in this case, it will be Seattle and the
4		wonderful places to visit."
5	Q.	Can you elaborate some on what Mr. Morton explained?
6	A.	Of course. Speedishuttle features an HD television set in each of its vans. That TV set
7		displays a custom program to provide information about tourist attractions in the Seattle
8		area. You can actually see a photo of the Speedishuttle TV installed in one of our vans
9		in Exhibit No(HJR-9)
10	Q.	Did Speedishuttle propose to offer a luxury television sets which can be adjusted
11		by users to display on-air television programming as contended by Mr. Marks?
12	A.	No, it did not.
13	Q.	Do you have any idea of why Mr. Marks would complain that Speedishuttle TV is
14		not exactly that?
15	A.	You would have to ask him, because I do not have any knowledge where he got that
16		idea unless he conflates that concept overall with our luxury vehicle offerings.
17	Q.	Did Speedishuttle install HD television sets in its vans in Washington?
18	A.	Yes, that's correct.
19	Q.	Is Speedishuttle TV functional in each of those vans?
20	A.	Absolutely it is, and it provides exactly what was described by Mr. Morton in his
21		testimony.
22	Q.	Mr. Marks testified in Exhibit No(WAM-1T), page 8, lines 17-19 that "when
23		[Shuttle Express] asked Speedishuttle if the TV really worked and how many, if
24		any, of their passengers actually watched the TV in operations here, they claimed
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1		to be clueless." Did Shuttle Express actually ask Speedishuttle in discovery or any
2		place else if Speedishuttle TV actually worked?
3	A.	This sounds a lot like how Mr. Marks has tried to twist or modulate Shuttle Express'
4		data requests, and Speedishuttle's responses, regarding our Wi-Fi service. To be clear,
5		Shuttle Express never asked Speedishuttle if Speedishuttle TV actually worked.
6	Q.	Is there any truth to Mr. Mark's testimony that Shuttle Express asked if any of
7		Speedishuttle's passengers actually watched the TV?
8	A.	Absolutely not.
9	Q.	To be clear, what did Shuttle Express ask Speedishuttle regarding Speedishuttle
10		TV in discovery?
11	A.	Shuttle Express requested information for every single trip made in Speedishuttle's
12		history in Washington in Data Request No. 6, and asked within that data for
13		Speedishuttle to provide "whether they used Wi-Fi or watched TV" In Data
14		Request No. 8, which I have provided as Exhibit No (HJR-11), Shuttle Express
15		asked Speedishuttle to "[p]rovide documents that show the vehicles used to transport
16		passengers in the market, including for each vehicle the make, model, year and any
17		amenities such as TVs and Wi-Fi facilities. Provide records that show when such
18		amenities were installed, operated (on/off/disabled, etc.) and used (e.g., Wi-Fi data
19		usage records)."
20	Q.	So did you tell Shuttle Express how many people actually watch Speedishuttle
21		TV?
22	A.	We had no way to answer Shuttle Express' question because there is no realistic way
23		for us to track that information. At the risk of sounding facetious, that's equivalent to
24		asking us to tell you how many of our customers chew gum. We do not track how
25		many customers watch Speedishuttle TV because we have no business reason to do
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that, but more importantly, tracking Speedishuttle TV usage would ask our driver to monitor the passengers instead of the road. Shuttle Express may ask its drivers to watch its passengers and track data on their activities, but I find that notion to be outrageously and pointlessly dangerous, not to mention off-putting and intrusive to Speedishuttle's customers.

6 Q. Similar to Mr. Wood, Mr. Marks testified in Exhibit No. (WAM-1T) at p. 23, 7 lines 1-2 "We know today, conclusively, that the service [Speedishuttle] provides is 8 functionally identical with the service we have long provided." Is Shuttle Express' 9 service, for instance, identical to Speedishuttle's with respect to Speedishuttle TV? 10 A. Absolutely not. For that to be true, Speedishuttle would have to remove Speedishuttle 11 TV from all of its vehicles because Shuttle Express does not offer its customers a similar service feature. 12

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### **MULTILINGUAL SERVICES**

14Q.Mr. Roemer, with respect to the multilingual services offered by Speedishuttle, I'd15like to start with asking what multilingual services Speedishuttle offers in Hawaii16as an initial point of reference for its plans here.

A. Many of Speedishuttle Hawaii's wholesale customers are travel companies from around the world that offer Hawaii as a destination. In order serve the needs of some of the most frequently served demographics of travelers to Hawaii, Speedishuttle created versions of its website for Japanese, Chinese and Korean travelers. We also try to hire multilingual receptive staff so that we can serve many of the languages our customers speak.

Q. To be specific, can you please recite what Speedishuttle described at the application hearing it would do to serve multilingual customers in Washington?

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A. Certainly. Cecil Morton testified at page 24, lines 8-14, "We'll do our best to hire multilingual receptive teams so we can communicate with some of the people that are from different countries, and here we're seeing there's a lot of people coming from the Far East. Like we have in Honolulu, as an example, Japanese speaking, as well as Hispanic speaking – Spanish speaking – Spanish speaking, excuse me."

## Q. Did Mr. Morton provide any further testimony regarding Speedishuttle's multilingual services?

8 Not at the hearing, but in Exhibit CM-1 he provided a statement which, in paragraph 2, A. 9 stated "As to the latter, we have installed free Wi-Fi service in all of our Oahu Island 10 shuttles and have bilingual websites and ticketing agents serving Asian customers from 11 China, Japan and Korea and have particularly adapted our operations to facilitating 12 visitors from the Asian markets who come to Hawaii for either pleasure or on 13 business." Then continuing in paragraph 3, Mr. Morton stated "We anticipate that 14 many of these service application and expansion developments can also be utilized in 15 the Seattle-King County airport shuttle marketplace because of the Northwest's 16 increasingly prominent position in international trade and tourism and because of the 17 burgeoning economic base represented by the Seattle-King County area." 18 Q. Did Speedishuttle plan on duplicating those multilingual services if it received 19 operating authority in Washington? 20 A. That is exactly what we planned to do. 21 Did Speedishuttle follow through on what it represented it would do with respect Q. 22 to multi-lingual services? 23 A. We did and are providing precisely what we said we would. 24 Q. Did Speedishuttle actually provide a multilingual website through which

customers from China, Japan or Korea could make reservations?

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1	A.	We did. The homepage for customers who prefer Japanese is located at
2		https://speedishuttleseattle.com/jp/. Our homepage for customers who prefer Chinese is
3		located at https://speedishuttleseattle.com/cn/ and our Korean language homepage is
4		located at https://speedishuttleseattle.com/kr/.
5	Q.	When you say homepage, are you suggesting there is more to the multilingual
6		aspects of your website than just the homepage?
7	A.	Yes, there is. In each of the languages our website provides information about our
8		service, our affiliations, Sea-Tac Airport, contact information for the airlines flying
9		from Sea-Tac, information about the cruise lines departing from Seattle, and a
10		reservation system for arranging travel through Speedishuttle.
11	Q.	Does Speedishuttle do anything to reach out to potential non-English speaking
12		travelers who might use Speedishuttle's multilingual services?
13	A.	Yes, we do. We do that through our website, which is available on most internet search
14		engines.
15	Q.	Does Speedishuttle's multilingual website actually show up for internet users in
16		Japan, Korea and China, or for those using Japanese, Korean or Chinese, who
17		might search online for airport transportation options in Seattle?
18	A.	It does. In fact, using Google's translation software, we ran searches on
19		www.google.co/jp, www.google.co/kr, and www.google.co/hk, which operate in
20		Japanese, Korean and Chinese languages, respectively. We searched using the phrase
21		"airport transportation Seattle Washington" after translating the phrase into the
22		appropriate language for each of those search engines. Each of the sites placed
23		Speedishuttle's website within the top results. To demonstrate this point, I have
24		provided the search results in Exhibits No. (HJR-21), No. (HJR-22), and No.
25		(HJR-23 ).

TESTIMONY OF H. JACK ROEMER, Exhibit No. \_\_\_\_ (HJR-1T) - 22

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1	Q.	Do you have an opinion on whether this search engine visibility can increase access
2		to transportation information and specifically to your regulated transportation
3		services for passengers who speak Japanese, Korean or Chinese?
4	A.	I do. Considering that people frequently, and nowadays, increasingly, rely upon the
5		internet for all their travel needs, I believe that by making our multilingual website
6		visible to persons who read and write Japanese, Korean or Chinese, we can facilitate
7		removing or reducing barriers to access for prospective foreign language passengers.
8	Q.	Moving on for a moment, did Speedishuttle actually hire multilingual receptive
9		teams?
10	A.	Absolutely, we did. The last time I checked we had 42 multilingual employees in
11		Washington, representing 14 non-English languages. Those include mostly greeters
12		and drivers with some operations staff as well.
13	Q.	Did Speedishuttle represent it would do anything beyond providing a multilingual
14		website and trying to hire multilingual receptive teams to provide multilingual
15		services?
16	A.	No.
17	Q.	Has Speedishuttle actually transported passengers from countries whose primary
18		language is something other than English who might actually be able to benefit
19		from Speedishuttle's multilingual services?
20	A.	Absolutely, we have.
21	Q.	Do you know whether Mr. Marks testified at the hearing on Speedishuttle's
22		application?
23	A.	Yes, he did.
24	Q.	Did Mr. Marks testify at that hearing about whether Shuttle Express offered a
25		website in Japanese, Chinese or Korean?
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1	A.	He did, and he denied Shuttle Express had a multilingual website. Specifically, at page
2		74, lines 19 to page 75, line 3, he testified to the following:
3		19 Q. We had some testimony earlier this afternoon about
4		20 hotels and how someone books on the website. First of all,
5		21 on the website, do you have Japanese, Chinese, and/or
6		22 Korean language indicated on your website?
7		A. I don't believe we do at this time.
8		Q. So if you were a customer arriving from or
9		25 planning to arrive in Seattle from Korea or China, for
10		1 instance, and you didn't speak English, you couldn't access
11		2 your website without a translation; isn't that correct?
12		A. I believe that's correct, yes.
13	Q.	With respect to the multilingual website offered by Speedishuttle, is
14		Speedishuttle's service identical to that offered by Shuttle Express, as claimed by
15		Mr. Wood and Mr. Marks?
16	А.	No. Shuttle Express does not offer a multilingual website.
17	Q.	Mr. Marks also attacked Speedishuttle's efforts to attract multilingual employees,
18		testifying that "the languages [of Speedishuttle's employees] do not reflect any
19		effort to target unserved foreign passengers. Rather, it reflects the nationalities or
20		background of people who apply for unskilled and minimum wage jobs in the
21		Seattle area. We get applications and hire from the same backgrounds." Exhibit
22		No(WAM-1T), page 9, lines 13-16. Do you have any reactions to that
23		comment?
24	А.	Frankly, I am not sure I understand his comment. If Mr. Marks is suggesting
25		Speedishuttle should use the same stereotype he used to identify which drivers are
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multilingual and which are merely "unskilled labor," I don't much care for Mr. Mark's viewpoint. Speedishuttle has customers from around the world, and we do what we can to hire drivers and greeters with varied language skills in order to accommodate our customers. More importantly, we do not discriminate amongst customers in the way Mr. Marks appears to be suggesting we should. We try our best to serve as many foreign language customers as we can. If Shuttle Express wants to discriminate on the basis of hiring or service of customers, that is their prerogative, but is decidedly not a policy we have or would ever adopt.

Q. Mr. Marks also appears to suggest that Speedishuttle proposed to serve only multilingual passengers. Did Speedishuttle ever propose in its application or through its application hearing testimony to reserve its service for only multilingual passengers, or any other limited subset of the general public?

A. We certainly did not. As I discussed earlier, Speedishuttle proposed to provide an upscale shared ride service which would provide additional service features not available from the other providers in the territory for which we applied. The multilingual services we discussed were only one component of those service features. Frankly, I wonder whether Mr. Marks understands that what he portrays our service was supposed to be and how it was to be implemented appears to be illegal. Does he actually propose we use a language and/or a visual test for our passengers to ensure they all speak a foreign language? Should we pick and choose acceptable passengers on the basis of national original, not to mention violates the basic obligations of a common carrier, and that was certainly not what Speedishuttle ever proposed to provide. Speedishuttle proposed to distinguish its service by its features, and the Commission found those features might well appeal to unserved demographics, but that does not

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1		mean we would or should be limited to serving the persons who could somehow be
2		identified as finding those features appealing.
3	Q.	Mr. Marks also suggests that Speedishuttle promised it would focus on Asian
4		language passengers by stating "Thus, walk-up passengers or those who try to
5		book by phone are not receiving any of the promised newly-targeted Asian
6		language services." Exhibit No (WAM-1T), page 10, lines 15-17. Did
7		Speedishuttle promise to provide multilingual service only to Japanese, Chinese or
8		Korean tourists?
9	A.	Absolutely not.
10	Q.	Did Speedishuttle promise to provide service in Japanese, Korean and Chinese to
11		passengers at every step in the process of providing service?
12	A.	No, and frankly that is virtually impossible. For instance, each vehicle has only one
13		driver and I do not know of any multilingual drivers fluent in Japanese, Chinese,
14		Korean and English. And even if we did, that would be to the exclusion of all other
15		languages. That does not make sense.
16	Q.	Mr. Wood testified that Speedishuttle made a commitment to meet all incoming
17		passengers with a multilingual agent. Exhibit No(DJW-1T), page 19, lines 17-
18		<b>19.</b> Is that a true statement?
19	A.	Not at all. Mr. Wood appears to take a mish-mash or amalgam of unrelated testimony
20		to reach his conclusion on that point, but as I clearly address above, that was not
21		something Speedishuttle stated it does nor promised it would do. We do, however,
22		make diligent efforts to hire multilingual receptive teams as Mr. Morton originally
23		testified. It should also be noted that for a multitude of reasons, we cannot guarantee a
24		multilingual greeter is always available in the language of a particular non-English
25		speaking passenger.

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1 Q. Mr. Marks also appears to make a big deal about whether particular 2 demographics were already served, for example he suggests Speedishuttle hiring 3 Spanish speaking drivers doesn't count because it was never identified as an 4 unserved demographic and Shuttle Express already served that demographic. 5 Exhibit No. \_\_\_\_ (WAM-1T), page 10, lines 10-11. Did Speedishuttle discuss 6 providing service to Spanish speaking customers in the application hearing? 7 A. First, I would like to note that I do not see what difference it makes whether a 8 demographic was already served. Our application was predicated on service feature 9 differentiation and Shuttle Express' failure to serve to the satisfaction of the 10 Commission based on its need for third parties to "rescue" its passengers. But, actually, 11 Cecil Morton did testify about Speedishuttle's efforts to serve Spanish language 12 customers at the application hearing, which I cited earlier. That testimony is located in 13 the application hearing transcript at page 24, lines 8-14. 14 Q. By the way, did Mr. Marks or anyone else for Shuttle Express testify that they 15 already served Spanish speaking customers at the application hearing? 16 A. No, neither Mr. Marks nor Mr. Kajanoff testified that Shuttle Express provided any 17 multilingual services whatsoever. Here and on many other points, Shuttle Express 18 seems intent on re-litigating our application hearing in this proceeding. If this 19 information would have made a difference, it was available then and it should have 20 been raised at that time. 21 Q. Mr. Marks also suggests there simply is no need for multilingual services, 22 testifying "I'm aware of only two cases of a non-English speaker who required 23 assistance in a language other than that spoken by the individual they were 24 working with." Exhibit No. (WAM-1T), page 13, lines 10-11. Do you have any 25 comments on Mr. Mark's testimony in that regard?

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A. Assuming Mr. Marks even knows what each and every one of Shuttle Express passengers' language requirements truly are, I think this simply suggests passengers who require multilingual access choose not to use Shuttle Express. Those who do may manage to get by, but that doesn't mean multilingual passengers are being accommodated or would not benefit from additional service features. The willingness to take steps to accommodate those passengers is one of a number of things that set, Speedishuttle's service apart from what Shuttle Express offered, which the Commission appeared to understand and acknowledge when it granted our certificate.

## Q. Do you also think Mr. Mark's comment suggests Shuttle Express did not endorse the Commission's 2013 Rulemaking?

11 I do. The 2013 auto transportation Rulemaking indicated the UTC wanted auto A. 12 transportation companies to become more competitive through adaptation to the market 13 and through service innovations. Mr. Marks' comments and Shuttle Express' 14 continuing practices and indeed this current process all suggest to me Shuttle Express 15 wants to ignore those policies so it can keep doing what it has always done. Rather 16 than acknowledge that service improvements may be helpful and responsive to the 17 public, they seem instead to simply demand the protection of a single regulated door-to-18 door provider in the state's largest population center, despite dramatic regulatory 19 changes in 2013.

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### **DEPARTURE TIMES**

Q. Mr. Roemer, I'd like to turn now to departure times. Did Speedishuttle represent at the application hearing that it would offer a 20 minute departure guarantee?

A. That was definitely something which Cecil Morton discussed at the application hearing with respect to Speedishuttle Hawaii, and which we intended to bring to Washington as well.

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1 Q. Did the Commission in your view do anything to institutionalize the discussed 2 departure guarantee as a mandatory requirement of Speedishuttle's service? 3 Again, I do not believe that the Commission intended us to be restricted to any A. 4 particular proposed service feature, as that would restrict the desired adaptability and 5 innovation that was discussed by the UTC in the 2013 rulemaking which we reviewed with much interest before filing our application over a year after those new rules were 6 7 adopted. But if the Commission wanted to ensure Speedishuttle actually published a 20 8 minute service guarantee as Mr. Marks suggests, I would have no way of knowing that. 9 There simply is no mention of departure times in the holdings in Final Order 04 10 granting Speedishuttle's application. 11 Has the 20 minute departure guarantee become reality in Washington? Q. 12 A. I wouldn't say we can represent to the public that we have a consistent 20 minute 13 departure guarantee, but that is definitely our desired target departure time and it is 14 something we believe we have met in the vast majority of our departures. 15 Q. Did Speedishuttle experience any difficulties in implementing its plans to meet the 16 20 minute departure time after commencing regulated operations in Spring, 2015? 17 A. Yes, we did. The issue was that the Port of Seattle refused to let us stage vehicles 18 despite permitting then and still allowing other operators to stage in convenient 19 locations, including some providers using Mercedes Sprinters. In Hawaii, when we 20 know we have an arrival coming, we are permitted to stage at an area at the airport 21 where we can bring all of our passengers to load into the van. At Sea-Tac, despite 22 Shuttle Express and others long having been permitted to do exactly that, we have been 23 required to wait outside the departure area at a holding lot for the arrival and then drive 24 to the pick-up zone only when the passengers are ready to be picked up. During peak 25 traffic times at the airport we can suffer a delay in getting the vehicle to where our

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passengers are waiting because it can take 15 minutes or more just to get from the holding lot to the pick-up zone.

Q. How would the use of a staging area eliminate that issue?

A. With a staging area we can have our van waiting for the arrival of the airplane and ready to load as soon as our passengers arrive at the van. The way the Port of Seattle has so far insisted we load simply won't permit us to be ready and waiting, which unfortunately adds to our departure wait time.

8 Q. Has Shuttle Express actually attempted to make things more difficult for you with
9 respect to the Port of Seattle in any way that might affect departure times?

10 A. I believe so. In our view, Shuttle Express' conduct toward Speedishuttle's relationship 11 with the Port of Seattle has bordered on intentional interference. Shuttle Express has 12 complained about Speedishuttle to the Port of Seattle on numerous occasions in what 13 appears to be an effort to paint us in a bad light and harm our service, going so far as to 14 inform the Port of Seattle we exceeded our authority from the UTC by providing walk-15 up service and inferring Speedishuttle had been dishonest at the application hearing. 16 An example of this conduct can be found in the email from Paul Kajanoff to Jeff 17 Hoevet at the Port of Seattle, provided as Exhibit No. \_\_\_\_ (HJR-16).

18 **Q**.

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Did Shuttle Express succeed in its attempts?

A. Well, we still have our podium and nothing has gotten worse yet, but we still aren't able to stage vehicles in the way Shuttle Express was and other transportation companies are still, permitted.

Q. Mr. Marks testified that 77% of Speedishuttle's departures are under 20 minutes
and 10-15% take more than 26 minutes. Exhibit No. (WAM-1T), page 24,
lines 6-8. Does that sound accurate?

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A. It is possible that it is accurate, but he has no way of knowing and neither do we. The data Speedishuttle has available is only for walk up guests and tracks the time from their purchase and actual departure, which is the relevant time period in our departure guarantee in Hawaii. Speedishuttle does not track the time a guest is "ready to go" that Mr. Marks referred to. Further, the information we have available is full of errors and we informed Shuttle Express of that when we produced it to them. Again, Mr. Marks seems bent on a goal here and apparently decided that he would rather offer testimony he viewed as helpful to his cause based on error-filled data than admit that no meaningful testimony could be predicated on the basis of available information.

## 10 Q. Can you explain what sorts of errors that data contains and why any conclusions 11 drawn from it are not helpful?

12 A. Most of these issues are caused by the way our dispatch software treats a driver 13 communication for a trip in process. The software sometimes resets (but not always) the 14 onboard time when a driver sends a text to dispatch. We have never found this to be a 15 serious problem since we are tracking wait times for walk up customers as a measure of 16 the effectiveness and efficiency of our dispatch team and not to prove some point for 17 Mr. Marks. We would prefer to have 100% accurate data for internal monitoring, and 18 the data we have now is, in our opinion, satisfactory for our broad performance 19 monitoring for walk up reservations. But it simply cannot be relied upon to reach any 20 absolute conclusions about our overall aggregate departure times. Therefore, any 21 conclusion based on them is just a guess.

# Q. But don't Mr. Mark's statements about Speedishuttle departure times actually show that you meet your goal most of the time?

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A. Again, you can't use bad data and rely on the answer even if you like the answer. But yes, if you want to use the data good or bad, it does show that 77% of our walk-up guests depart within 20 minutes and 89% depart within 26 minutes.

## 4 Q. To your knowledge, does Shuttle Express, with its available staging area, even aspire to depart within 20 minutes?

A. It is my understanding that Shuttle Express had only a 30-minute departure time, at
least of the time of the application hearing.

# 8 Q. Do you know what Shuttle Express' average departure time is and if so, will you share that with the Commission?

10 A. No, and we did not request discovery on this issue. Mr. Marks claims it was 20 minutes 11 in 2014, but there is nothing in the application hearing record on that issue. Further, 12 Mr. Marks claims Shuttle Express' departure times were up 5% in 2015, but I feel it 13 necessary to point out that in its earlier 2013 petition for exemption from WAC 480-30-14 213(2) and WAC 480-30-456, Docket No. TC-132141, its owner Jimy Sherrell, stated 15 in a declaration made under oath (Exhibit No. \_\_\_(HJR-18) that "compliance is already 16 harming the traveling public by materially degrading Shuttle Express's service. It is 17 resulting in longer wait times at the airport due to the need to redirect vans for inbound 18 priority. Often a passenger becomes impatient and takes a taxi to get home." I have no 19 information on how often Shuttle Express has experienced this purely because of delay, 20 but Shuttle Express advised through a recent data request response to UTC staff that it 21 had placed a passenger with an independent contractor on more than 40,000 occasions 22 between January 16, 2014 and September 29, 2016. Thus, it seems Shuttle Express has 23 either experienced significant delays, necessitating the use of an independent 24 contractor, or it has simply avoided delays solely through violation of Commission 25 rules.

TESTIMONY OF H. JACK ROEMER, Exhibit No. \_\_\_ (HJR-1T) - 32

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#### **RECEPTIVE TEAMS AND WALK-UP SERVICE**

## Q. Let's move on to Speedishuttle's receptive teams, and again, let's start with what Speedishuttle originally proposed in its Washington service. What, again, was Mr. Morton's testimony about reception teams at the application hearing?

A. Mr. Morton testified, as reflected in the hearing transcript at page 23, lines 17 to page 24, line 1 "We're customer-service centric. We believe in, the experience starts when a passenger arrives at the airport in a particular city and not in a particular their – the final destination, so upon the arrival, we have receptive teams at all airports, and our plan is to do the same here, where we will greet all prearranged guests with a sign with their name on it, welcome them to Seattle, and direct them to their baggage claim area, their carousel, and then usher them to their shuttle that would be waiting for them."

## Q. Did Speedishuttle plan on providing greeters to walk-up customers when it applied for authority?

A. Speedishuttle did not plan on providing walk-up service when it applied for authority in Washington.

### 16 **Q.** What about by the time the hearing was held?

A. At the time the hearing was held, we were under the impression that Shuttle Express
had an exclusive agreement with the Port of Seattle and that no other auto
transportation company was permitted to provide walk-up service. In fact, our attorney,
Mr. Wiley, tried to probe Mr. Marks about Shuttle Express' exclusive agreement with
the Port of Seattle at the application hearing, but Mr. Marks testified he did not know
the details of Shuttle Express' contract with the airport.

### **Q.** Can you direct me to where your counsel asked that at the application hearing?

A. Yes. He asked Mr. Marks a number of questions about that starting on page 78, line 18 and continuing until page 80, line 5.

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1	Q.	Would Speedishuttle have proposed to provide walk-up service at the application
2		hearing had it known Shuttle Express did not have an exclusive arrangement with
3		the Port of Seattle?
4	А.	Yes. If we had correctly understood that no exclusive arrangement existed, we would
5		have proposed to provide walk up service.
6	Q.	Did Speedishuttle actually implement its representations about its receptive
7		teams?
8	А.	Of course we did.
9	Q.	Mr. Marks complains that Speedishuttle does not have 60 receptive teams in
10		Seattle like it does in Hawaii. Exhibit No(WAM-1T), page 17, lines 10-12. Do
11		you have any reactions to that testimony?
12	А.	Mr. Marks also complains that Speedishuttle has more than five vans, claiming we
13		proposed to offer a unique, niche transportation service to what would apparently be a
14		select and small group of non-English speaking, tech savvy tourists. So, it seems Mr.
15		Marks would like to have it both ways. The reality is that we started small and hope to
16		grow here as we have in Hawaii.
17	Q.	Mr. Marks also criticizes the effectiveness of some of Speedishuttle's receptive
18		staff. Exhibit No(WAM-1T), page 16, line 21 to page 17, line 4. Do you have
19		any response?
20	А.	I find it interesting that Mr. Marks didn't provide the date on which that allegedly
21		occurred. For all we know that was our first day, week, or month of operations when
22		we had multiple new employees still in training. Regardless of when it occurred, we
23		didn't promise we would be perfect on day one or even day 100, so I'm not sure why
24		this is even being discussed. I'm sure we could follow Shuttle Express staff around in
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the way Mr. Marks apparently stalked our staff and unilaterally find multiple critiques, but I don't see any benefit to this proceeding in doing so.

# Q. Mr. Marks also commented that less than half of Speedishuttle's passengers were being met by greeters because only half were pre-arranged. Is that accurate?

A. Absolutely not. First, Mr. Marks himself noted (incorrectly and without any evidence) that a majority of Speedishuttle's passengers were originating with wholesalers, all of whom are pre-arranged. Thus, his own testimony contradicts this claim. Exhibit No.
\_\_\_\_ (WAM-1T), page 15, lines 7-8. But the reality is that closer to 80% of our passengers to date have been pre-arranged, though a majority are not through wholesalers. Those 80% *are* typically all met by a greeter. And as Mr. Morton testified at the application hearing, receptive teams provide a personal greeter to pre-arranged passengers. Our receptive teams certainly do work with all passengers, but you can't greet at baggage claim passengers you do not know you will be serving.

## Q. A Mr. Jason DeLeo also testified about Speedishuttle's personal greeters and I'd like to ask you a few questions about his testimony. Did SMS, the company he worked with, ever pass on to Speedishuttle any customer complaints about personal greeters?

A. Not really. Early on, the few "complaints" we received from SMS were non-specific and provided no dates, times or passenger names, making it impossible to follow up and identify what occurred. Obviously, if there had been an issue with one of our employees, all of whom were new or relatively new to the company at that time, we would want to be able to address any such problems. SMS did not provide any details, though.

## Q. Are you aware of the "investigation" performed by SMS as described by Mr. DeLeo?

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1	A.	I am, because, Mr. DeLeo sent an email which was forwarded to Speedishuttle about it.
2	Q.	Was his testimony accurate?
3	А.	No.
4	Q.	Please describe in what ways his testimony was inaccurate.
5	A.	Mr. DeLeo's testimony stated that Speedishuttle had just two greeters for 70 passengers
6		at 16 baggage carousels when he investigated. Exhibit No(JD-1T), page 3, lines
7		12-13. But when he prepared an email outlining his "investigation" on May 28, 2016,
8		he told us there were 3 greeters for 30-40 reservations over a few hours. Exhibit No.
9		(HJR-15). He also failed to mention that SMS had just three flights arriving. AS-
10		637 (Alaska) at 10:55, with three passengers, BA 53 (British Airways) at 11:20 with
11		two passengers, and DL 2784 (Delta) at 11:57 a.m. with two passengers.
12	Q.	In your opinion, was Speedishuttle's staffing of greeters appropriate based upon
13		the number of incoming flights?
14	А.	I have not done a thorough analysis of the timing of arrivals, but based on my review
15		our records. I show we had 31 flights to greet in the three hours from 9:00 a.m. to noon
16		that day. That's 10 flights per hour with three greeters each handling roughly 3 flights
17		per hour. I think that sounds perfectly reasonable.
18	Q.	But on the day Mr. DeLeo investigated, didn't his staff end up greeting a majority
19		of their guests?
20	A.	No. He said there was one flight where they could not find the greeter. That flight (BA
21		53 at 11:20) had 3 guests out of 7 passengers for SMS that day.
22	Q.	Did Mr. DeLeo ever complain about the professionalism or dress of
23		Speedishuttle's greeters in his email?
24	А.	No, in fact he mentioned Candy Jesse was friendly in his email but had nothing else to
25		say about it at the time.
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1	Q.	Mr. DeLeo also noted that Speedishuttle's greeters use an iPad. Exhibit No.
2		(JD-1T), page 4, lines 13-16. Is that correct?
3	A.	They do not have iPads. They use Samsung Galaxy tablets. It's a user-friendly
4		technology system we use for mobile reservations.
5	Q.	Mr. DeLeo mentioned that they don't work well for greeting passengers, because
6		they can only take one name at a time. Is that true?
7	A.	It is true that they take only one name at a time for reservations, but we don't just use
8		the Galaxies to greet passengers. We have other tablets for greeting and we also use
9		paper name signs.
10	Q.	Mr. DeLeo also testified that "[w]hen we complained to Speedishuttle about the
11		problems and complaints, they were not helpful at all." Exhibit No(JD-1T),
12		page 5, lines 3-4. What did Speedishuttle do after SMS brought up its concerns
13		about the adequacy of personal greeters at the airport?
14	А.	If you read the email chain I have submitted as Exhibit No(HJR-15), we were very
15		responsive to this issue and hoped to work closely with SMS to address any of their
16		concerns about our receptive teams.
17	Q.	Mr. DeLeo also testifies in Exhibit No(JD-1T) at page 5, lines 5-6, that SMS
18		actually fired Speedishuttle due to your unwillingness to work with them to fix
19		these issues. Is that true?
20	А.	Not even a little. I have submitted as an exhibit an email discussing the reason
21		Speedishuttle and SMS's relationship ended. If you review Exhibit No (HJR-15),
22		you will see that on two occasions, SMS sent strongly worded emails to Speedishuttle
23		making complaints that we attempted to address. In each of those instances, however,
24		when we checked our records, we found that the complaints were completely
25		unfounded and provided that evidence to SMS. On other occasions that we heard
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1 complaints from SMS we never received any details so that we could determine the 2 core cause of the issue. As a result of SMS's unwillingness to work with us to resolve 3 issues regardless of fault, and because we felt SMS was going out of its way to attack 4 Speedishuttle's service, we felt that we could no longer work with SMS and 5 Speedishuttle, not SMS, terminated our contract. 6 Q. Moving on, when did Speedishuttle decide to serve walk-up passengers? 7 A. That was actually a process. 8 0. Can you describe the process? 9 A. It started when we first found out that Shuttle Express actually did not have an 10 exclusive agreement with the Port of Seattle for providing walk-up service. We didn't discover that until after the application hearing, sometime in April, 2015. When we 11 12 heard, we instructed our lawyer to find out from UTC staff if we were prohibited from 13 providing walk-up service on the basis of the certificate we were just granted. 14 Q. Do you know who your lawyer spoke with? 15 I believe Mr. Wiley spoke with Penny Ingram in the latter half of April. A. Do you know whether UTC staff indicated Speedishuttle could provide walk-up 16 Q. 17 service under its existing certificate? 18 A. It is my understanding the UTC staff informed our lawyer that, after internal review, it 19 was permitted by our certificate because Commission rules do not distinguish between 20 pre-arranged and on-demand service, which our counsel relayed to us. 21 Q. Would you have provided walk-up service without the blessing of UTC staff? 22 No. Had they suggested there would be any regulatory prohibition, we would not have A. 23 commenced providing walk-up service without additional clarification or legal process. 24 Q. Did it then surprise you when the Commission proposed to revise Order 04 to 25 restrict Speedishuttle's service and prohibit walk-up service?

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TESTIMONY OF H. JACK ROEMER, Exhibit No. \_\_\_\_ (HJR-1T) - 38

1	А.	Absolutely it did. We felt like everything we did was above board and with good
2		intentions and we had no idea why walk-up later became an issue despite our original
3		assumption that the agreement between the Port and Shuttle Express would preclude
4		that service. We thus viewed walk-up as a more complete service offering.
5		VI. MARKET ANALYTICS
6	Q.	Mr. Roemer, I'd like to ask you a few questions about Speedishuttle's business
7		model, as discussed by the witnesses for Shuttle Express, in the context of their
8		market analysis.
9	A.	Ok.
10	Q.	Have you had an opportunity to review Mr. Marks comments in Exhibit No.
11		(WAM-1T) on page 11?
12	А.	I have.
13	Q.	Mr. Marks testified at page 11 of Exhibit No(WAM-1T) "[w]e know from
14		over a year of experience that Speedishuttle is not really carrying unserved
15		Chinese, Japanese, and Korean passengers in any meaningful numbers. First, had
16		that happened, we would have seen an increase in the total number of shared ride
17		passengers, or at least a slowing down of the downward trend. That did not
18		happen." Do you have any reactions to this testimony?
19	А.	First, again, neither Speedishuttle nor the Commission ever said Speedishuttle was
20		going to serve only Chinese, Japanese or Korean passengers, so I truly don't understand
21		the context of this comment at all. Additionally, that statement makes several
22		assumptions that are not supported by evidence. For example, what was the overall
23		market trend? How many passengers chose alternative services? What were the
24		language demographics of those passengers? He would need to answer all of those
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questions and more to support his statement, but I don't see where he addressed any of those issues.

### Q. Do you have any critiques of the remainder of Mr. Marks' testimony on page 11 of Exhibit No. (WAM-1T)?

5 I do. Mr. Marks compares Speedishuttle's trips to Shuttle Express' trips to support his A. 6 conclusion that Speedishuttle "diverted" Shuttle Express customers, but again, we only 7 serve partially overlapping territories, Shuttle Express also has multiple County 8 territories in its certificate, and there are essential missing facts here. How many of 9 Shuttle Express' trips were lost in territories we do not serve? What was the number of 10 trips lost to TNCs? What was the number of trips lost to flat rate taxis? How many trips lost were scheduled v. door-to-door customers? How many were lost to all of the 12 other transportation options available? How many of Shuttle Express' trips were lost 13 because Shuttle Express cancelled them in order to place their passengers on a 14 limousine, towncar or SUV? Mr. Marks doesn't begin to address any of those 15 questions, all of which are needed at a bare minimum to reach the broad conclusion that 16 he does.

17 Q. Mr. Marks also claims that Speedishuttle's use of wholesale bookings 18 demonstrates that Speedishuttle is not actually offering the services it proposed to 19 offer. Exhibit No. \_\_\_\_ (WAM-1T), page 15. In your view, how can wholesale 20 bookings show that Speedishuttle is not providing the service it proposed? 21 It can't. Speedishuttle actually discussed its wholesale customers at the application A.

hearing and submitted customer support statements from many of them which were admitted into the hearing record. So, of course, we always proposed to use wholesale bookings. But more importantly, in our experience, wholesalers, as a general rule, do not make exclusive deals with service providers. Thus, Mr. Marks is going to have to

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1 do something more than point to us using the same wholesaler to establish that the same 2 customers who would or could have used Shuttle Express are now using Speedishuttle. 3 Q. Is this even "new evidence," as Shuttle Express claimed this rehearing was 4 founded upon? 5 A. Not at all. In fact, Mr. Marks made Go Group a significant point of discussion at the 6 application hearing, claiming it was a critical issue. Mr. Marks well understood that Go 7 Group's support of Speedishuttle's application meant that Shuttle Express would likely 8 lose bookings from the Go Group when he raised that challenge at the time. Again, 9 Shuttle Express's testimony here and in other areas continually demonstrates that they 10 believe they are entitled to a service monopoly under the law and should not be 11 required to compete, or be required or expected to improve or innovate. 12 Q. Does that same critique apply to Mr. Marks' testimony in Exhibit No. \_\_\_(WAM-13 **1T**) at page 20, lines 1- page 21, line 2. 14 Absolutely it does. Rather than innovate, or even supply new evidence not available at A. 15 the application hearing, Mr. Marks is implicitly asking the Commission to reject its 16 ruling in 04 based on Shuttle Express' long-standing service to hotels and piers. What 17 Mr. Marks fails to acknowledge is that Speedishuttle provides additional service, 18 beyond mere transportation, to enhance our passengers' visits to Washington. 19 0. Do you have any other comments on Mr. Marks' testimony? 20 A. I do. In Exhibit No. (WAM-1T) at page 19, lines 8-16, Mr. Marks claims that 21 Speedishuttle's use of a kiosk demonstrates that Speedishuttle's service is the same as 22 Shuttle Express. In that vein, I suppose Mr. Marks would also testify that 23 Speedishuttle's use of tires on our vehicles demonstrates we are the same service as 24 Shuttle Express. The use of a kiosk may be similar to what Shuttle Express does, but 25 Williams, Kastner & Gibbs PLLC TESTIMONY OF H. JACK ROEMER, Exhibit No. \_\_\_\_ (HJR-1T) - 41 601 Union Street, Suite 4100 Seattle, Washington 98101-2380 (206) 628-6600

1 taxis, limousines, and Uber all have kiosks at Sea-Tac as well and that hardly makes 2 them the "same service" as Shuttle Express. 3 Q. Anything else? 4 Yes. Mr. Marks' broad conclusion that Speedishuttle is not materially different from A. 5 Shuttle Express (Exhibit No. (WAM-1T) page 22, line 6 – page 23, line 2) either blatantly disregards the service features we do provide, which the Commission found 6 7 distinguished our service, or is a direct attack on the "same service" standards used by 8 the UTC to judge applications, suggesting instead that the Commission should have 9 interpreted its rules to mean "the same type of service." If I understand correctly, the 10 Commission already directly rejected that notion in the 2013 Rulemaking. 11 Have you read all of Mr. Don Wood's testimony in Exhibit No. \_\_\_(DJW-1T)? Q. 12 A. I have. 13 Q. As a CFO, do you agree with Mr. Wood that a quantitative analysis of market 14 data can show whether Speedishuttle followed through on its proposal to bring the 15 same service it provides in Hawaii to Washington? Not even a little. 16 A. 17 Q. Why not? 18 A. That is extremely simple. Nothing about market data can tell you whether 19 Speedishuttle actually implemented the service features it proposed to bring to 20 Washington. As I have already testified, we have done those things. Thus, Mr. Wood's 21 analysis must be mistaken. 22 Q. What about Mr. Wood's analysis of the market data with respect to whether 23 Speedishuttle transports passengers who could have used Shuttle Express' 24 service? Do you agree with his conclusion that Speedishuttle "never intended to 25 operate using an 'entirely different business model that appeals to a certain subset

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of the market" and "is now providing the same service that Shuttle Express provides, with no meaningful distinctions"? Exhibit No. (DJW-1T), page 27, lines 3-4 and 20-21.

4 Mr. Wood clearly supports the notion that auto transportation companies in Washington A. 5 are inherently entitled to service monopolies and can maintain that monopoly by providing a basic service without ever improving it or engaging in innovation. In fact, 6 7 he even goes so far as to call Shuttle Express a "natural monopoly" in Exhibit No. 8 (DJW-1T) at page 5, line 8. Despite what Mr. Wood believes, or would prefer, 9 customer choice in a competitive market such as airport transportation already exists as 10 the Commission has repeatedly recognized since 2013. Thus, Shuttle Express' 11 customers could already choose to ride with someone else. Speedishuttle simply 12 proposed to provide one more choice, and never pretended that it would serve only this 13 non-English speaking, tech savvy-tourists-from Japan, China or Korea-niche 14 manufactured by Shuttle Express in order to make a retroactive straw-man argument. 15 We have provided a choice based upon upscale service features, technological service 16 improvements and select multilingual features.

What about Mr. Wood's comments about Shuttle Express enjoying a "natural monopoly" on page 28, line 8, of Exhibit No. \_\_\_(DJW-1T)?

A. Mr. Wood clearly does not understand the meaning of natural monopoly. A natural monopoly is one in which there are high barrier costs to market entry so that once an existing provider is in place it makes little economic sense to try and compete. This now exists in the telecommunications arena in which Mr. Wood ordinarily provides his opinions. I am very familiar with the differences, because I used to work in the telecommunications industry, too. However, the infrastructure costs in the telecommunications industry are nothing akin to the investment needed to start an auto

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transportation company, which are significantly lower. If the infrastructure investment the ground transportation industry was as high, you simply would not see the number of options that exist. There is simply no valid comparison between the two industries.

Q. Do you have any comments on Mr. Wood's testimony that "the final result could be the financial weakening of both providers to the point that neither can sustain its operations and must exit the market"? Exhibit No. \_\_\_(DJW-1T), page 29, lines 3-7.

A. Yes, by his "doomsday scenario" here, Mr. Wood apparently does not fully grasp the economies of scale. While it might be true that if you lose passengers and do not adapt you may fail, before that would ever occur, a well-run business would try to adapt and innovate. A simple reduction of fleet size could avoid the kind of losses that result in a total failure in this industry. Mr. Wood completely disregards this fact. Moreover, he supplies his conclusions without facts to support them.

# Q. Can you think of any other markets that have two shared ride door-to-door service providers operating in the same territory?

A. To put it simply, I cannot think of a single large market that has only one door-to-door shared ride transportation company.

**Q.** Can you name for the Commission a few airports with multiple providers?

 A. Of course, just to name a few: Los Angeles International, Phoenix Sky Harbor, Orlando International, George Bush (Houston) Intercontinental, Miami International, Minneapolis-St. Paul International, Logan International (Boston), Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County, and Newark (NYC) Liberty International. And, of course, the markets we perhaps know best: Honolulu International Airport, Maui Airport, Kona International Airport and Lihue (Kauai) Airport.

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#### 1 Q. In those Hawaiian markets are there in fact more than two providers at every 2 airport? 3 Yes, there are and they are considerably smaller airports in terms of passengers. A. 4 Q. How long has Speedishuttle Hawaii operated under those circumstances? 5 A. We have had multiple providers at every airport for the last 19 years and in fact have 6 never operated in Hawaii without more than one competitor, many of whose tenure 7 exceeds our own. 8 Q. Has Mr. Wood done anything to demonstrate why Seattle is somehow different 9 than these airports which apparently can support multiple providers? 10 A. No, he has not. In fact, he tried to support his argument by doing little more than 11 claiming that nothing had disproven his conclusions! Rather than supporting his 12 argument by analysis and facts, he supports it by arguing he is not aware of any 13 evidence to support a conclusion that he is wrong. Exhibit No. (DJW-1T), page 29. 14 Q. Is this argument on sustainability a new issue raised to the Commission for the 15 first time in this rehearing? 16 A. No, it is not. Paul Kajanoff testified that he believed there was a problem with 17 permitting too many shared ride operators in a given area at the application hearing. 18 His testimony is in the transcript at page 115, line 19 to page 116, line 7. 19 0. Is Speedishuttle doing anything to avoid serving segments of the market, as suggested by Mr. Wood (Exhibit No. \_\_\_(DJW-1T), page 30) and Mr. Kajanoff? 20 21 A. Absolutely not. Speedishuttle's fares are public record. If Mr. Wood (or Mr. Kajanoff) 22 think we are actively attempting to avoid serving a market segment, rather than pointing 23 to hypothetical ways a provider might do that and then basing conclusions on 24 hypotheticals without foundation, Mr. Wood could have done a simple analysis of our 25 fares. Take North Bend for example – a zip code which Shuttle Express does not fully Williams, Kastner & Gibbs PLLC TESTIMONY OF H. JACK ROEMER, Exhibit No. \_\_\_\_ (HJR-1T) - 45

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serve. Speedishuttle's fares, according to Mr. Kajanoff, are 10 times higher than our downtown fares. But our fares to North Bend are actually \$105.00 for a party of two, which is hardly 10 times higher than our downtown fares of \$31.98 for a party of two. Our fares for North Bend are in fact fifty cents cheaper per person than the fares of Shuttle Express. I suppose by Mr. Kajanoff's logic, Shuttle Express, in addition to not actually serving all of North Bend, must actually be trying to avoid serving it by pricing even higher than Speedishuttle

Q. Mr. Wood concluded that if Speedishuttle's certificate is not restricted to serving only the unserved segments of the market or otherwise it should have its certificate cancelled. Exhibit No. (DJW-1T), page 31. Do you have any comments on his suggestion?

12 A. If Mr. Wood is suggesting that the Commission must carve up the market based upon 13 unique market niches, so that Speedishuttle can only transport the tech savvy non-14 English speaking tourists, and should be forced to stop providing walk-up service, then 15 I think he must advocate that Shuttle Express be prohibited from transporting 16 passengers in upscale vehicles. He must also support restricting Shuttle Express from 17 offering Wi-Fi. He must also support Shuttle Express being restricted from 18 transporting non-English speaking passengers. Similarly, would he like to see Shuttle 19 Express prohibited from using a multilingual website, or from hiring multilingual 20 drivers? But none of these proposals would then support or accomplish the innovation 21 and adaptability that the Commission hoped to inspire in its 2013 rulemaking. 22 Apparently, only the threat of competition will force innovation or adaptation by 23 Shuttle Express. Thus, I believe Mr. Wood's conclusion is directly contrary to the 24 public interest.

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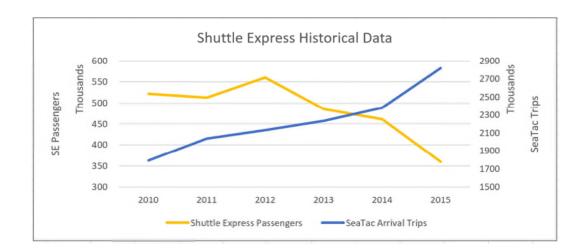
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# Q. Mr. Kajanoff also attributes to Speedishuttle, as does Mr. Wood, Shuttle Express' decline in passenger losses. Is he correct?

Shuttle Express' passenger volumes have been declining since 2012, which is depicted in the graph below (which I derived from data sourced from Shuttle Express' annual reports to the UTC and arrival statistics which were developed from data from the Port



of Seattle), well before Speedishuttle entered the market.

In other words, the diminution in Shuttle Express' passenger counts is a pattern that was emerging at least two and a half years before Speedishuttle's arrival which Shuttle Express, in defense of its perceived auto transportation natural monopoly, apparently would like to attribute only to Speedishuttle. However, during that same time period airport deplanements have increased dramatically while other transportation options, not including Speedishuttle, have been initiated or expanded at the airport. Some of those options include flat rate taxis, which began serving the airport in 2014, and TNC's, which the Port of Seattle first allowed in 2016. These new service options could also explain Shuttle Express' passenger declines. I also question whether Shuttle Express includes in its passenger volume for that period the over 40,000 passengers it originally booked as auto transportation and then placed with an independent contractor

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1		(5.6% of its total shared ride passenger count) between January 16, 2014 and
2		September 29, 2016. I would also surmise that a significant portion of its passenger
3		volume decline could be related to poor service, which is at least suggested by its need
4		to provide "rescue service." Shuttle Express has failed to answer how these new
5		providers, or other factors, could have impacted their passenger counts and therefore,
6		even any accelerating decline in Shuttle Express' passenger counts cannot be attributed
7		to Speedishuttle, at least without far more evidence than any of Shuttle Express'
8		witnesses have submitted. You have to remember, correlation does not prove causation.
9	Q.	Mr. Kajanoff also testified (Exhibit No(PK-1T), page 15, lines 1-4) that
10		Speedishuttle is a member of Go Group and has contended that Speedishuttle lied
11		about it at the application hearing. Is he correct?
12	А.	Once again, he is flat out wrong, and the percentage of income we receive does not
13		somehow prove membership. In fact, we understand Jimy Sherrell has an ownership
14		interest in Go Group. If Mr. Kajanoff could have backed up his statement with proof,
15		surely he would already have done so when he filed his opening testimony.
16		VII. PREDATORY PRICING
17	Q.	Mr. Roemer, did Speedishuttle lose money in its first year of operation?
18	А.	Absolutely, we did.
19	Q.	What would it have taken for Speedishuttle to have had its revenues to exceed its
20		cost on its first trip?
21	А.	That depends on the definition of cost you use.
22	Q.	Can you please explain?
23	А.	Well, if you use average variable cost, as we believe is required for any evaluation of
24		the fairness of our fares, you would need to recover revenue for the trip which exceeds
25		the cost of making just the trip for which you receive fares.
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1	Q.	What kind of expenses go into average variable cost?
2	А.	There are a number of expenses, but it's basically the cost of operating the vehicle.
3		That includes a number of factors such as the driver's hourly wage and benefits and the
4		cost of fuel among other costs.
5	Q.	What does not go into average variable cost?
6	A.	Cost factors which do not apply to the trip itself. This would include things like
7		overhead for an office, non-driver wages, and marketing costs.
8	Q.	So if we used average variable cost, what does it take for Speedishuttle to be
9		profitable on its first trip?
10	A.	Enough passengers at our tariffed fares to exceed the cost of providing that trip.
11	Q.	What if we used total cost?
12	А.	Speedishuttle would have to recoup all of its costs including costs unrelated to
13		transportation from the passengers on that trip, at a prohibitively expensive price.
14	Q.	Did Shuttle Express' allegation of your fares being below "cost" address a
15		comparison to your average variable cost?
16	А.	They focus on us losing money, but don't really explain it.
17	Q.	Assuming they simply compared your total cost to your total revenue, would that
18		be a fair way of evaluating whether your fares were oppressive to Shuttle Express?
19	А.	Absolutely not. Again, total cost includes things unrelated to the unit cost of
20		transportation. For example, if Speedishuttle took out a Super Bowl ad for \$2,000,000
21		(which would not be wise), that would factor into our total cost. We might lose a lot of
22		money doing that, but it does not tell you whether Speedishuttle makes a profit on an
23		individual trip.
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- 1 Q. Now if you did have some large costs lumped together at once, like in your Super 2 Bowl ad example, so that your revenues in a year were well below your costs for 3 the year, wouldn't that harm Shuttle Express? 4 I don't see how that could be true. Passengers have choices for transportation and the A. 5 factors which would likely weigh into that customer's consideration would be service and price. While I understand that there are regulatory rules used for determining fares, 6 7 a provider's cost cannot truly affect price in a competitive market because we can never 8 charge more than the market supports, and what the UTC authorizes, for our service. 9 Thus, the only important comparison should be between the incremental cost of service 10 (i.e., the average variable cost) and the fare charged for that service by each company. 11 Q. By the way, is it true that Speedishuttle intended to begin its operations with only five vehicles? 12 13 A. That was the initial plan. At the time that plan was made of course we were not certain 14 how quickly we would develop our clientele in Washington. 15 Was it always part of Speedishuttle's plan to grow its business in Washington? Q. 16 A. Indeed it was. If you review Cecil Morton's testimony in the application hearing 17 transcript at page 46 lines 1-6, you will see that he testified: "[i]f we find that the 18 demand is greater than our capacity, we will acquire new equipment. We will not be 19 starting the business within days of obtaining our authority. We will be reaching out to 20 all our clientele and we will adjust our in [sic]- commencement fleet accordingly." 21 Thus, Speedishuttle always intended to acquire additional vehicles as demand 22 warranted. 23 Q. Did the demand for Speedishuttle service require that you acquire additional
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vehicles be on the initially proposed five?

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1	A.	By the time we commenced operations at SeaTac it was soon apparent to us more
2		vehicles would be required.
3	Q.	Did that increase the total startup costs to Speedishuttle?
4	A.	Yes, it did.
5	Q.	So when Speedishuttle looks at the losses being discussed by Shuttle Express in the
6		testimony it submitted in this proceeding, do those losses include the cost to
7		Speedishuttle of acquiring infrastructure to commence its operations in
8		Washington?
9	A.	Absolutely.
10	Q.	Let's shift back, then, to average variable cost. Do you charge the entire average
11		variable cost for each trip to each individual passenger?
12	A.	No, on each trip we carry multiple passengers. The idea is to fill each van reasonably
13		full and charge each an amount that in total makes a profit compared to the cost of that
14		trip. This is how the industry operates, and sometimes it results in a loss for a particular
15		trip, which you hope is made up for on the whole. In fact, Shuttle Express admitted in
16		its data request responses that it has had shared ride trips for which the fares it received
17		did not exceed its average total cost (its apparent preferred measure of cost).
18	Q.	Does that mean that each individual's fare is less than the average variable cost for
19		a single trip?
20	А.	Correct.
21	Q.	So why don't you raise prices so that you never lose money?
22	А.	Subject to Commission review, we charge as much as the market would reflect as a
23		reasonable price point. But, again, we are in the highly competitive airport
24		transportation industry and there are numerous options available to riders outside of
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1		auto transportation. If we raise prices too high, we lose passengers to another service.
2		So we have to be careful to set prices at a competitive rate.
3	Q.	If you can't raise prices, how do you become profitable?
4	А.	This is an issue of economies of scale. In this industry, we have a certain number of
5		vehicles capable of making a certain number of trips per day. The goal is to have
6		enough customers to fill those vans to the reasonable capacity as much of the time as
7		possible. If we have too many customers, we have to acquire more vehicles to carry
8		them. If we lose customers, or during slow seasons, we might not want to operate at full
9		capacity in order to trim expenses.
10	Q.	Has Speedishuttle increased its revenues to the point it can make a profit when
11		comparing revenues to variable costs?
12	A.	We have come very close.
13	Q.	How do you propose the Commission should examine your fare structure in this
14		proceeding?
15	А.	I suggest it use the same method it used to initially approve our approved tariff in the
16		first place, and I have full confidence in the staff's ability to perform that.
17	Q.	How do your fares compare to those of Shuttle Express?
18	А.	That depends on how you look at them. Shuttle Express' fare structure is different than
19		that of Speedishuttle and it makes a fair (no pun intended) apples-to-apples comparison
20		difficult. For some trips we are lower per individual. But we offer a 10% round-trip
21		discount and Shuttle Express has offered a \$5.00 or more discount. Shuttle Express
22		also has different fares for its scheduled service than for service to a door-to-door only
23		hotel down the block. We do not offer discounts to children who occupy a seat and
24		Shuttle Express allows "children" 17 and under to ride free. As an example, compare a
25		trip to downtown Seattle zip code 98101 to a hotel on a Shuttle Express route. At the
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1 time Speedishuttle commenced operations. Speedishuttle's individual one way fare 2 was lower, but after you apply a round trip discount, the fares for a single passenger are 3 \$30.38 for Speedishuttle and \$31.00 for Shuttle Express a difference of 2%. (I note that 4 Shuttle Express has recently increased it fares by eliminating the round-trip discount. I 5 offer no opinion on their increase but we believe round-trip discount is an important incentive for customers to book round-trip transportation). If you consider that Shuttle 6 7 Express provides free transportation to every child under the age of 18 so long as they 8 are accompanied by a paying adult, for a family of four, with two children under 18, on 9 round-trip to downtown Seattle to a hotel on a Shuttle Express route, Speedishuttle's 10 total fares would be more than double Shuttle Express' fares. The same is true in other 11 locations as well. In other areas, our base one-way fare is higher than Shuttle Express. 12 For example, a one-way trip for one person to a Bellevue hotel is \$22.00 on 13 Speedishuttle vs. 19.00 on Shuttle Express' scheduled service – 16% more. We also 14 believe Shuttle Express is charging an unreasonably low fare for this service based on 15 time, distance and taxi fares - the factors we consider when pricing our services. 16 Q. In Shuttle Express' logic, wouldn't its lower fares in Bellevue be predatory, unfair, 17 unreasonable and oppressive to Speedishuttle? 18 A. By their standard apparently it does, but I don't look at it that way. The only thing that 19 would be oppressive to either company is if the other intentionally lost money to drive 20 its fares so low that its competitor had to go out of business. Again, our fares are very 21 reasonably priced, but in many instances, they can actually be higher than Shuttle 22 Express' fares, and we absolutely are trying to make a profit on every trip. In other 23 words, losing money is not our goal. 24 25

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#### VIII. SPEEDISHUTTLE'S FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Q. I'd like to turn now to the financial statement that Mr. Kajanoff criticizes extensively. First, Mr. Kajanoff complains that you provided the first 12 months of operation, May 1, 2015 to April 30, 2016, and then the next five months covering May 1, 2016 to September 30, 2016. Do you have any reaction to his testimony on the formatting of your financial statement?

7 A. Yes, I do. He suggests, by these critiques, we should have given him two non-8 comparable partial years. In my opinion, that would not have been in compliance with 9 Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP"). He also suggests his proposed 10 division of our financial statement would be more appropriate because then the first 11 five months could be defined as "startup" with the following year reflecting "annual 12 operations and seasonality." Considering that Shuttle Express lost money for multiple 13 years following the date on which it was first classified as an auto transportation 14 company (following a WUTC classification proceeding), I have no idea why Shuttle 15 Express suggests five months is an adequate "startup" period. In my opinion, we are still in our "startup" period. 16

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## Q. What do you mean by the term "comparable period?"

A. Shuttle Express asked us to produce a financial statement for May 1, 2015 through
December 31, 2015 and a second covering January 1, 2016 through September 2016.
These do not cover the same time periods and neither is a full year.

Q. Mr. Kajanaoff also testified that the reporting in your financial statement is a material misunderstanding of GAAP principles. Exhibit No. \_\_\_(PK-1T), page 8, lines 9-13. Do you have any comments in response?

A. Mr. Kajanoff apparently misapprehends GAAP. To put it bluntly, he is incorrect and
 they do comport with GAAP. GAAP would never sanction using two non-comparable

TESTIMONY OF H. JACK ROEMER, Exhibit No. \_\_\_ (HJR-1T) - 54

1		periods. It appears Mr. Kajanoff is complaining because our financial statements do
2		not support the story he wants to tell.
3	Q.	What story is that?
4	A.	Mr. Kajanoff testified that our financial statements misrepresent that Speedishuttle's
5		losses are decreasing and trips are increasing and that we are actually losing trips just
6		like Shuttle Express. He is wrong.
7	Q.	But what about the "significant overall loss" Speedishuttle suffered during the
8		second period in its financial statement according to Mr. Kajanoff? Exhibit No.
9		(PK-1T), page 9, lines 1-3.
10	A.	Mr. Kajanoff is again mistaken because what he is failing to consider here is that when
11		you include tax impacts, which he obviously did not compute for our financial
12		statement, our total loss for that period was not as portrayed by Mr. Kajanoff.
13	Q.	Mr. Kajanoff claims Speedishuttle is losing \$0.39 on every dollar of revenue it
14		collects. Is that accurate?
15	A.	Absolutely not. We lost \$0.55 on every dollar in the first twelve months at the outset of
16		operations, and \$0.14 per dollar for the subsequent five months. What he really masks
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1,		by combining a 17-month period, which under no circumstances would ever be
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		by combining a 17-month period, which under no circumstances would ever be
18		by combining a 17-month period, which under no circumstances would ever be acceptable under GAAP and which makes his testimony so very misleading, is the
18 19		by combining a 17-month period, which under no circumstances would ever be acceptable under GAAP and which makes his testimony so very misleading, is the contribution margin (revenue less variable costs). His numbers show a 28%
18 19 20		by combining a 17-month period, which under no circumstances would ever be acceptable under GAAP and which makes his testimony so very misleading, is the contribution margin (revenue less variable costs). His numbers show a 28% contribution margin. The problem is that had he split it into rational periods (first
18 19 20 21		by combining a 17-month period, which under no circumstances would ever be acceptable under GAAP and which makes his testimony so very misleading, is the contribution margin (revenue less variable costs). His numbers show a 28% contribution margin. The problem is that had he split it into rational periods (first twelve months and period to date for the second twelve months) it would show that the
<ol> <li>18</li> <li>19</li> <li>20</li> <li>21</li> <li>22</li> </ol>		by combining a 17-month period, which under no circumstances would ever be acceptable under GAAP and which makes his testimony so very misleading, is the contribution margin (revenue less variable costs). His numbers show a 28% contribution margin. The problem is that had he split it into rational periods (first twelve months and period to date for the second twelve months) it would show that the gross margin clearly improves substantially as the business grows while fixed costs stay

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1	Q.	Are there any other issues with Mr. Kajanoff's testimony regarding
2		Speedishuttle's financials?
3	A.	When he compares our real financials with his pro forma he says they show the loss per
4		dollar of revenue to be "materially greater than" \$0.39. That is unequivocally
5		inaccurate. The combined 17-month loss is \$702,000 on \$1,988,000 of revenue or
6		\$0.35 per dollar of revenue. That is more than 10% less than his estimate.
7	Q.	Would that be material under GAAP?
8	A.	A 10% error in income would be considered material under GAAP.
9	Q.	By the way, is Speedishuttle under-paying its employees and failing to abide by
10		minimum wage laws as Mr. Kajanoff alleges?
11	A.	Absolutely not. He has no basis for that statement, it is not true, and it typifies the
12		many misstatements made by Shuttle Express in its testimony and allegations.
13	Q.	Do you find that accusation at all ironic, and if so, how?
14	A.	I do. Shuttle Express was actually sued by its employees for failure to comply with the
15		SeaTac minimum wage law.
16	Q.	Are you familiar with the outcome of that lawsuit?
17	A.	I know they paid back wages because some former Shuttle Express employees who
18		now work for Speedishuttle informed us of that fact.
19		IX. UNLAWFUL COMMISSIONS
20	Q.	Has Shuttle Express also admitted it paid referral fees to hotel concierges and
21		other persons without an approved ticket agent agreement on file with the UTC?
22	A.	It has.
23	Q.	Does Shuttle Express actually have an agreement with hotel concierges and other
24		persons for payment of commissions?
25	A.	Yes, and the produced it in responses to a data request.
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1	Q.	Did Shuttle Express identify individuals or entities to whom it made referral
2		payments or commission payments without a ticket agent agreement on file with
3		the UTC or Order approving same?
4	A.	Yes, it did. There were quite a few individuals and entities on their list. I am now
5		providing the list produced by Shuttle Express in response to our data requests as
6		Exhibit No (HJR-17)
7	Q.	What was the total dollar amount of commissions and referrals Shuttle Express
8		paid those persons in the two-year period preceding the filing of Speedishuttle's
9		Complaint?
10	A.	According to Shuttle Express, it was \$53,327.81.
11		X. RESCUE SERVICE AND SERVICE TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE
12		COMMISSION
13	Q.	Are you familiar with Shuttle Express' historical use of rescue service?
14	A.	Not first hand, but I have read some of the documents available from the UTC's
15		website in the formal complaint dockets on that service relating to Shuttle Express.
16	Q.	What do you understand was Shuttle Express' "Rescue Service"?
17	A.	I understand that Shuttle Express did not have the fleet size necessary to ensure all of its
18		passengers were timely transported, so rather than leaving their passengers stranded,
19		they would send an independent contractor in a vehicle not owned by Shuttle Express to
20		provide service.
21	Q.	By the way, in Speedishuttle's application hearing, did it request the Commission
22		find that Shuttle Express was failing to provide service to the satisfaction of the
23		Commission?
24	A.	Yes, we did and also in summation at the end of the brief adjudicative proceeding.
25	Q.	What was the basis for that request?
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1	A.	Shuttle Express' long-term and well documented use of its rescue service, which the
2		Commission previously found to be a violation of Commission rules.
3	Q.	Can you elaborate on that?
4	A.	Absolutely. As I discussed above, Shuttle Express has a long history of using
5		independent contractors to transport passengers who originally booked a trip for its
6		door-to-door shared ride service. Jimy Sherrell explained Shuttle Express need for this
7		service in a Declaration I supplied above as Exhibit No(HJR-18). He explained
8		that Shuttle Express simply could not adequately serve its own passengers, much less
9		the entire market.
10	Q.	Was Shuttle Express still providing rescue service by the time of your application
11		hearing?
12	A.	Paul Kajanoff actually testified on that issue. To quote him exactly, he testified "[t]he
13		reality is, is the very straight legal definition of "independent contractor," we violated
14		that. We paid our fine, and we don't do it today." Page 97, lines 20-23.
15	Q.	Did you serve any data requests upon Shuttle Express to inquire about when it
16		stopped providing rescue service?
17	A.	Yes, we did. We asked Shuttle Express "When was the last time you provided 'rescue
18		service' or service to an airport passenger subject to WUTC jurisdiction by an
19		independent contractor and/or driver who was not an employee of Shuttle Express?"
20	Q.	What was Shuttle Express' answer to that request?
21	A.	Mr. Marks told us "[S]huttle Express states that it last provided 'rescue service' on
22		January 13, 2014 in accordance with WUTC docket #TC-132141 during the temporary
23		and conditional exemption authorized under the above docket." I have supplied that
24		data request response as Exhibit No. (HJR-19).
25	Q.	Did you subsequently learn that was not true?
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1	A.	We suspected it was not true early on and later identified at least one example
2		illustrating it was not true which we found on Facebook and supplied as an exhibit to
3		our Complaint filed in late November, 2016 in this matter.
4	Q.	Did you also cause to be served upon Shuttle Express any additional data requests
5		on the use of independent contractors for transporting passengers?
6	А.	We did, but Shuttle Express essentially failed or otherwise refused to respond to our
7		request. However, the UTC staff apparently also decided to investigate whether Shuttle
8		Express had been providing rescue service and propounded its own data requests.
9	Q.	What data request did UTC staff serve to Shuttle Express on its use of
10		independent contractors?
11	A.	I have supplied the request and Shuttle Express' response to UTC Staff Data Request
12		No. 2 as Exhibit No(HJR-20).
13	Q.	What does that data request response show?
14	A.	Paul Kajanoff answered that from January 16, 2014 to September 29, 2016, Shuttle
15		Express had placed 40,727 passengers who had originally reserved service as "auto
16		transportation" whom it ultimately placed with an "independent contractor" for
17		transportation.
18	Q.	Amongst various other issues, in your opinion does this show that Shuttle Express
19		fails to satisfactorily serve all of its passengers?
20	A.	I certainly believe it does.
21	Q.	Regarding your complaint against Shuttle Express, do you have anything else to
22		add about Shuttle Express' "rescue service"?
23	A.	I do. Shuttle Express claims it needs independent contractors to ensure its passengers
24		always receive service, and that this shows that they are responsive to their customers.
25		Putting aside the question of regulatory compliance prior to September 29, 2016, this
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obviously raises the issue of whether they reasonably serve the market without resorting to this chronic "augmentation" of their service offerings. Thus, it seems apparent to me that Shuttle Express is simply not doing all that is required to ensure their customers are timely transported. In other words, it is failing to reasonably serve all of its current and prospective customers through investment in necessary equipment and personnel sufficient to meet its common carrier and market obligations.

Q. Are you aware of any other ways in which Shuttle Express is not serving all of its customers' needs for timely transportation?

A. Yes, I am. As I mentioned earlier, Shuttle Express sometimes combines its scheduled service and door-to-door passengers in a single vehicle, extending the time it takes to reach destinations on the time schedule.

Q. Are you aware of any Commission rule which might prohibit Shuttle Express' combining of scheduled service and door-to-door service?

A. Yes. Washington Administrative Code Section 480-30-276(2) and 480-30-281(2) seem pertinent. In my understanding, the former requires all auto transportation companies providing scheduled service to make efforts to comply with their time schedule and the latter requires all intermediate stops and flag stops to be listed in the time schedule. By combining door-to-door service and scheduled service in the same vehicle, it seems impossible that Shuttle Express could fully comply with either requirement.

Q. Why do you think the Commission should care about this particular issue?

A. Along with the continued use of independent contractors between January 16, 2014 and September 29, 2016, and Shuttle Express' referral payments to undocumented "ticket agents" (i.e., hotel concierges and other hotel staff), I believe this shows the Commission that Shuttle Express refuses to follow the rules. If Shuttle Express can't

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1		follow its rules, which its regulatory history at the Commission certainly suggests to
2		me, the Commission should decline to protect Shuttle Express from competition.
3	Q.	Does that conclude your testimony at the present time?
4	A.	Yes it does.
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2	<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b> I hereby certify that on March <u>17</u> , 2017, I caused to be served the original and one (1) copy of the foregoing document(s) to the following address via Federal Express, to:	
3		
4	Steven V. King, Executive Director and Secretary Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission	
5	Attn.: Records Center P.O. Box 47250	
6	1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW Olympia, WA 98504-7250	
7	I further certify I have also provided to the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission's Secretary an official electronic file containing the foregoing document(s) via the web portal and an electronic copy via email and/or first class mail, postage prepaid, to:	
8		
9	Julian Beattie Office of the Attorney General	Rayne Pearson Administrative Law Judge
10	Utilities and Transportation Division 1400 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW	1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W. P.O. Box 47250
11	PO Box 40128 Olympia, WA 98504-0128	Olympia, WA 98504-7250 (360) 664-1160
12 13	(360) 664-1192 Email: jbeattie@utc.wa.gov	rpearson@utc.wa.gov
13	Brooks Harlow	
15	Lukas, Nace, Gutierrez & Sachs, LLP 8300 Greensboro Dr. Suite 1200 McLean, VA 22102	
16	(703) 584-8680 Email: <u>bharlow@fcclaw.com</u>	
17		
18	Signed at Seattle, Washington the 17 <sup>th</sup> day of March, 2017.	
19	Maginuler	
20	Maggi Gruber	
21	Legal Assistant / / / / / / / / / / / / / / / / / / /	
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