

STATE OF WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. S.W., P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250 (360) 664-1160 • TTY (360) 586-8203

August 9, 2012

David W. Danner, Executive Director and Secretary Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission 1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW P. O. Box 47250 Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

RE: Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v. All American Spirit Moving, Co.

LLC

Commission Staff's Response to Application for Mitigation of Penalties

Docket TV-120907

Dear Mr. Danner:

On July 23, 2012, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission issued a \$2,100 Penalty Assessment in Docket TV-120907 against All American Spirit Moving Co., LLC for 21 violations of Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 480-15-480, which requires permitted household goods carriers to furnish annual reports to the commission no later than May 1 each year.

On June 1, 2012¹, All American Spirit Moving Co., LLC wrote the commission requesting mitigation of penalties (Mitigation Request). In its Mitigation Request, All American Spirit Moving Co., LLC does not dispute that the violation occurred. The company states, "I was not aware of the new penalties for late filings or when they were put in place. I have no doubt however, that, all the proper and timely notices were sent out. And, I have no excuse for my tardy filing other than a need to survive." And "I will promise to pay closer attention to my email and mail so this problem does not recur."

It is the company's responsibility to ensure that the regulatory fee and the annual report are filed by the May 1 deadline. On February 29, 2012², Annual Report forms and Regulatory Fee packets were mailed to all regulated household goods carriers. In addition to the other information, the cover letter informed the regulated company it must complete the annual report for, pay any regulatory fees and return the material by May 1, 2012 to avoid enforcement action. On May 15, 2012³, the commission mailed a letter to those companies that had not yet filed an annual report notifying them that, to date, they had incurred a penalty of \$900. The letter went on to explain that companies who filed their annual reports no later than May 25, 2012, would receive mitigated penalties of \$25 per day, with an additional \$25 per day for each instance in the previous five years that the company received a penalty for filing a late report.

¹ See attachment A for a copy of All American Spirit Moving Co., LLC Mitigation Request.

² See attachment B for a copy of the letter sent to all regulated companies on February 29, 2012.

³ See attachment C for a copy of the enforcement letter sent to the company on May 15, 2012.

All American Spirit Moving Co., LLC did not file its annual report by May 31, 2012, which is 21 business days past the deadline of May 1, 2012. The penalty is \$100 per day for a total of \$2,100. All American Spirit Moving Co., LLC became regulated in July 2010 and has never received a penalty for filing a delinquent annual report.

Staff supports mitigating the assessed penalty from \$2,100 to \$1,050, which represents a 50 percent reduction because this is All American Spirit Moving Co., LLC's first late filing.

If you have any questions, please contact Mathew Perkinson, Compliance Investigator, at (360) 664-1105, or at Mperkinson@utc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Sharon Wallace, Assistant Director

Consumer Protection and Communications

Attachment A



AGENT OF NATIONAL VAN LINES, AND, FOR INTERSTATE RELOCATIONS.

ALL AMERICAN SPIRIT MOVING 22104 41ST AVENUE S, SUITE 303

TAVENUE S, SUITE 303 KENT, WA 98032 PHONE 208-241-1228

PHONE 206-244-1228 FAX 425-251-0375

RECEIVED

JUH 0 1 2012

Dear WUTC Board MEPHIANCIAL SERVICES

NO MONIES ENCLOSED

I was not aware of the new penaltles for late filings or when they were put in place. I have no doubt however, that, all the proper and timely notices were sent out. And, I have no excuse for my tardy filing other than a need to survive. Our company has been severely challenged by the state of our economy As is I'm sure a fot of companies. But, I've had to work not only as the Operations Manager but also as a driver and laborer and sometimes gone without pay. I was fortunate enough to find a bookkeeper that would teach and allow me to help with our year end B&O taxes and this filing of which I am writing to you about today. In 2010 we finished in the red, and for this filing we have a \$3000.00 profit, better but, hardly enough to pay such a hefty penalty. We humbly ask that you waive the penalty.

Please find herein our year end filing and adjust any penalties you may feel necessary to fit our state of affairs. We WERE required to pay 1 quarter of 1 percent of our year end profits up to about a year ago, because I remember last year although we finished in the RED was required to pay a minimum of about \$200.00??? Is this New also? As I've stated I do not have an excuse. I will not try to make an excuse. But I will promise to pay closer attention to my email and mail so this problem does not recur. Things do appear to be getting better. And this way I will be able to at least let you and fellow board members know what is going on. Please Advise.

Sincerely.

James Albertson

Operations Manager

ALL AMERICAN SPIRIT MOVING CO. LLC

Office: 425 251-3905

Fax: 425 251-0375

Cell: 206 412-7794







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February 29, 2012

Dear Regulated Company:

Reference: Your 2011 Annual Report and 2012 Regulatory Fees are due May 1

State law requires you to file an annual report and pay regulatory fees to the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC).

What is required of you?

By May 1, you must:

- Complete and file <u>one</u> paper copy or electronic version of the enclosed 2011 annual report form
- Pay your 2012 regulatory fees

What happens if you do not file a completed annual report and pay regulatory fees on time?

If you do not file your company's completed annual report and pay the regulatory fees by May 1, the UTC will assess a financial penalty of \$100 for each business day after May 1 that the report is not filed and \$100 for each business day after May 1 the fees are unpaid. You may seek mitigation of the penalties in response to the assessment you receive, after you have filed a completed annual report and paid your regulatory fees. The amount of the penalties the UTC mitigates, if any, will depend on the reasons you were late and whether you have filed late in prior years. If you have not filed your completed annual report or paid your regulatory fees by June 1, 2012, Staff will initiate proceedings to have the UTC revoke your authority to operate in Washington.

What happens if you do not pay the regulatory fees by May 1?

If you do not pay your company's regulatory fees by May 1, you will incur a 2 percent penalty on the amount due <u>and</u> a 1 percent monthly interest charge on the unpaid balance. These amounts apply in addition to the assessment of a penalty of \$100 per business day after May 1 that the fees are unpaid.

May you request an extension of time if you are unable to file the annual report or pay your regulatory fees on time?

You may file a written request for an extension to file your completed annual report, but the UTC will not extend the deadline for paying regulatory fees. Any extension request must be filed with the UTC by April 24, 2012, and must state a valid reason for why you need an extension and identify a specific date by which you will file your completed annual report. The UTC will notify you by May 1 whether your request is approved or denied. Even if your request

is approved, you will still be liable for penalties and interest payments if you fail to pay your regulatory fees by May 1.

What should you do if your company is no longer operating in Washington?

You may cancel your registration or permit by using the cancellation forms available on our website (see below), but if your company operated in Washington at any time during the 2011 calendar year, you must pay regulatory fees and file a closing annual report based on the months of operation during 2011 even if you cancel your registration or permit.

May you designate any information in your annual report as confidential? Yes, but if you satisfy two conditions:

- (1) You are eligible to request confidential treatment only if your company is regulated under Title 80 RCW, that is, if you operate an electric, natural gas, telecommunications or water company. Transportation companies, regulated under Title 81 RCW, may not request confidential treatment of documents because the authority for such treatment is found only in RCW 80.04.095. If a Title 81 company files its annual report or fee sheet as confidential, the UTC will not treat it as confidential.
- (2) You must follow the steps for filing confidential documents in WAC 480-07-160. You may find this rule at the UTC website, www.utc.wa.gov/annual reports.

Please note: The regulatory fee sheet portion of your report is not a confidential document and will not be accorded confidential treatment under the rule. The UTC will not, however, disclose credit card information you list on the fee sheet.

May you perform some of these tasks online?

Yes. You may complete the following tasks from the annual reports page at the UTC website www.utc.wa.gov/annualreports:

- · Obtain electronic versions of annual report forms
- · Pay regulatory fees
- · File your report electronically
- Cancel your registration (telecommunications companies) or permit (transportation companies) if your company ceased operations in 2011.

Where do you mail the completed annual report form and regulatory fee payment?

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission PO Box 47250 Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Is there any additional information you should file?

 If you are a gas distribution company, please also file both a paper and electronic copy of your Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Form 2. UTC Annual Reports and Fees February 29, 2012 Page 3

- If you are an electric company, please also file both a paper and electronic copy of your Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Form 1.
- If you are a class 1 Railroad, please also file a copy of your Surface Transportation Board Form R-1 - including statistics specific to the state of Washington.

If you have questions about any aspect of your report or regulatory fee, please contact Rae Lynn Carnes at (360) 664-1152 or rearnes@utc.wa.gov.

If you need this letter or an annual report form in an alternate format, please call 360-664-1243. The TTY Toll-Free phone number is 1-800-416-5289.

Sincerely,

David W, Danner

Executive Director and Secretary

Enclosures

Attachment C



STATE OF WASHINGTON WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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May 15, 2012

NOTICE OF ENFORCMENT ACTION

Attention:

Your 2011 annual report to the Utilities and Transportation Commission (commission) was due on May 1, as required by law. Financial penalties of \$100 per day began accruing on May 2. As of the date of this letter, you have accrued a penalty of \$900. That penalty will increase by \$100 per day for each subsequent day you fail to comply.

This letter tells you what you can do to mitigate your penalty.

If the commission receives your report postmarked no later than May 25, commission staff will mitigate your penalty to \$25 per day. Additional penalties of \$25 per day will be added for each year you have filed late in the past five years, up to a maximum of \$100 per day.

Annual report forms are available on the commission's website at www.utc.wa.gov. If you have questions or require additional information, please contact Mathew Perkinson, Compliance Investigator, at (360) 664-1105 or mperkinson@utc.wa.gov.

Sincerely.

David W. Danner

Executive Director and Secretary

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