



STATE OF WASHINGTON

UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. S.W., P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

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June 26, 2015

Steven V. King, Executive Director and Secretary
Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

RE: *Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v. Alpha Omega Tours & Charters, Inc.*

Commission Staff's Response to Application for Mitigation of Penalties TE-151000

Dear Mr. King:

On June 8, 2015, the Utilities and Transportation Commission issued a \$100 Penalty Assessment in Docket TE-151000 against Alpha Omega Tours & Charters, Inc. for 1 violation of Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 480-30-071 which requires charter and excursion carriers to furnish annual reports to the commission no later than May 1 each year.

On June 15, 2015 Alpha Omega Tours & Charters, Inc. wrote the commission requesting mitigation of penalties. In its mitigation request, Alpha Omega Tours & Charters, Inc. does not dispute the violation occurred. The company's response stated, "The information needed for the Auto Transportation Companies Charter & Excursion Carriers 2014 Annual Report comes from two physically separate offices. With the daily activity of quoting bus charters, dispatching, payroll, and office paperwork the information needed to complete this report was overlooked. Unfortunately, even though it was mailed on Thursday, April 30, 2015, the mail was delivered to your office on Monday May 4, 2015. Because we have never been delinquent in filing this report...we are requesting the penalty should be waived or reduced".

It is the company's responsibility to ensure that the regulatory fee is paid and the annual report is filed by the May 1 deadline. On February 27, 2015, Annual Report packets were mailed to all regulated charter and excursion carriers. The instructions for annual report completion page of the annual report informed the regulated company that it must complete the annual report form, pay the regulatory fees, and return the materials by May 1, 2015, to avoid enforcement action.

On May 4, 2015, Alpha Omega Tours & Charters, Inc. filed a complete annual report. The required regulatory fees were paid on November 10, 2014. Alpha Omega Tours & Charters, Inc.

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previously missed the deadline to file its annual report and pay regulatory fees during the 2005 reporting year. Due to the prior violations of WAC 480-30-071 and the company not presenting any compelling information, staff does not support any mitigation.

If you have any questions regarding this recommendation, please contact Amy Andrews, Regulatory Analyst, at (360) 664-1157, or aandrews@utc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,



Sondra Walsh, Director
Administrative Services