

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of Determining the Proper
Carrier Classification of, and Complaint
for Penalties Against:

EXOTOURS, LLC D/B/A EXOBUS

DOCKET TE-180826

DECLARATION OF
JASON HOXIT

Jason Hoxit, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, declares as follows:

1. I am employed by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) as a Compliance Investigator in the Consumer Protection Division. As a Compliance Investigator, my responsibilities include conducting investigations regarding the business practices of regulated utility and transportation companies. As part of those duties, I investigate charter party and excursion service carriers that may be operating without the required Commission-issued certificate.
2. On August 29, 2018, I received a tip via email concerning a potential non-certificated charter party and excursion service carrier.
3. On August 29, 2018, I searched Commission records and found that Exotours, LLC d/b/a Exobus (Exobus or Company) was not a certificated charter party and excursion service carrier.
4. An internet search for Exobus produced a website for the Company, rideexo.com. The website stated, "Soon, we'll be inviting everyone aboard the exobus. For now, feel free to send us a messages [*sic*] of inquiry on upcoming excursions and customizing your exobus experience."¹
5. An internet search of Washington Secretary of State and Washington Department of Revenue's Business Licensing Service produced records showing Exobus in active status in the state of Washington. The records list Benjamin Luca and Diana

¹ See Attachment A for a copy of the Company's website, captured on August 29, 2018.

Niemann as the governing individuals, and an address of 13421 NE 83rd Street, Vancouver, WA 98682.²

6. On August 30, 2018, I sent a compliance letter to Exobus, notifying the Company to cease operations as a charter party and excursion service carrier in the state of Washington until Exobus obtained the required charter and excursion certificate from the Commission.³ The Company was notified that it must respond to Commission staff no later than September 17, 2018. Staff received no response.
7. On September 27, 2018, I visited the Company's website and found that Exobus changed the language on its page. The website now states, "Let us create a totally custom experience for you! You fill the bus, and we do the rest. We'll craft a tour just for you and your crew to provide an excursion you'll never forget. Send us an inquiry to get started. exobus [*sic*] can hold up to 14 passengers."⁴
8. On September 27, 2018, I completed an online contact form through the Company's website under an assumed name to receive an offer for charter party and excursion carrier services. I requested to book a trip for 12-14 passengers on either October 13, 2018, or October 20, 2018.
9. On September 27, 2018, Exobus responded via email from beny@rideexo.com. The Company stated that it is available to provide passenger transportation services on October 20, 2018, and stated the tour starts at \$89 per passenger.⁵
10. On October 1, 2018, I again searched Commission records to see if Exobus was a certificated charter party and excursion service carrier. Records show that the Company is not a certificated charter party and excursion service carrier in the state of Washington.⁶

DATED this 15th day of October, 2018, at Olympia, Washington.

² See Attachment B for a copy of Washington Secretary of State, and Washington State Department of Revenue's Business Licensing Service records, captured on August 29, 2018.

³ See Attachment C for a copy of compliance letter, dated August 30, 2018.

⁴ See Attachment D for a copy of the Company's website, captured on September 27, 2018.

⁵ See Attachment E for a copy of the email communications, dated September 27, 2018.

⁶ See Attachment F for a copy of Commission records, captured October 1, 2018.

JASON HOXIT