

STATE OF ALABAMA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 304260
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130

JOHN A. GARNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TWINKLE ANDRESS CAVANAUGH, PRESIDENT

JEREMY H. ODEN, ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER

CHRIS "CHIP" BEEKER, JR., ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER

HONEST MOVERS AND JUNK HAULERS LLC d/b/a COLLEGE HUNKS HAULING JUNK AND MOVING,

DOCKET 32724 CERTIFICATE 4063

#### REVOCATION ORDER

### BY THE COMMISSION:

By Commission Order dated May 8, 2017, Honest Movers and Junk Haulers LLC d/b/a College Hunks Hauling Junk and Moving ("Honest Movers"), 236 Oxmoor Circle, Suite 109, Homewood, Alabama 35209, was granted authority to transport household goods between all points in the State of Alabama. As a certified household goods carrier, Honest Movers is required by the Alabama Motor Carrier Act to file a tariff showing its rates and is prohibited from charging rates and collecting compensation greater or less than the rates stated in its tariff.

During an audit conducted in September 2017, the Motor Carrier Services Section of the Commission discovered that, for a household goods move performed on July 25, 2017, Honest Movers charged rates and collected compensation that was greater than the rates stated in its tariff. The Motor Carrier Services Section notified Honest Movers of this error in a letter dated September 13, 2017. That letter instructed Honest Movers to refund the overcharged amount to the shipper.

On December 19, 2017, after ample time to remedy the overcharge, the Commission ordered Honest Movers to appear and show cause why its certificate should not be revoked for failure to comply with the terms of its tariff, the Rules of the Commission, and the Alabama Motor

Carrier Act. That order, which was properly served, notified Honest Movers to appear at a hearing scheduled for January 10, 2018. The hearing was held on January 10, 2018. Honest Movers did not appear to represent itself. Commission Staff participated in the hearing as well as a representative from the Office of the Attorney General of Alabama.

In the hearing, Mr. Devon Beaty, a public utility analyst for the Commission, testified that, on August 17, 2017, he received a complaint regarding Honest Movers. He stated that, in response to the complaint, he initiated an investigation into the matter by sending Honest Movers an e-mail and a letter in an attempt to gather information, including a copy of the bill of lading and other documents related to the household goods move that was the subject of the complaint. Mr. Beaty indicated that a representative from Honest Movers called him to discuss the investigation and later provided the Commission Staff with a document that appeared to be an estimate of the cost of the subject move. He testified that Honest Movers did not provide the bill of lading.

Mr. Beaty indicated that the Complainant provided the Commission Staff with an invoice and photographs related to the subject move. He testified that, based on the information available to him, he determined that Honest Movers charged an impermissible rate, specifically an hourly rate for a move where an hourly rate was not permitted. Mr. Beaty stated that he recalculated the charge based on the proper rate, assuming a minimum weight of 1,000 pounds, and determined that Honest Movers overcharged the Complainant. He testified that Honest Movers was notified of the overcharge, of the requirement to refund the Complainant for the overcharge, and of the requirement to notify the Commission Staff of the refund. Mr. Beaty indicated that Honest Movers had not notified the Commission Staff of whether it had refunded the overcharge to the Complainant. He also described other irregularities that he identified during the investigation,

such as a failure to provide a descriptive inventory sheet and a failure to charge value protection to the shipper.

No evidence was presented to respond to or explain the deficiencies identified in the complaint and subsequent investigation. As a regulated motor carrier, Honest Movers is required to operate in accordance with the provisions of the Alabama Motor Carrier Act and the rule of the Commission. Ala. Code § 37-3-5. A motor carrier's authority may be revoked, after notice and hearing, for failure to comply with the Alabama Motor Carrier Act or applicable regulation of the Commission. Ala. Code § 37-3-16. In this case, the available evidence shows that Honest Movers failed to charge the correct tariff rate and did not remedy the overcharge. Further, Honest Movers did not appear in this proceeding to show cause why its certificate should not be revoked.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED BY THE COMMISSION, that Honest Movers and Junk Haulers LLC d/b/a College Hunks Hauling Junk and Moving's authority to transport household goods between all points in the State of Alabama is hereby revoked.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED BY THE COMMISSION, that Honest Movers and Junk Haulers LLC d/b/a College Hunks Hauling Junk and Moving shall cease and desist from transporting household goods in the State of Alabama for moves that fall within the jurisdiction of the Commission pursuant to the Alabama Motor Carrier Act.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED BY THE COMMISSION, that jurisdiction in this cause is hereby retained for the issuance of any further order or orders as this Commission may find just and reasonable in the premises.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The correspondence attached hereto as Appendix 1 provides the contact number for the Commission's Legal Division for any questions that may arise with respect to this order.

## DOCKET 32724 - #4

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED BY THE COMMISSION, that this Order shall be effective as of the date hereof.

DONE at Montgomery, Alabama, this

day of March, 2018.

ALABAMA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Twinkle Andress Cavanaugh, President

Jeremy H. Oden, Commissioner

Chris "Chip" Beeker, Jr., Commissioner

ATTEST: A True Copy

Walter L. Thomas, Jr., Secretary

# **APPENDIX 1**

## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

As noted, the foregoing Order was entered by the Alabama Public Service Commission ("APSC"). Should there be any questions concerning this Order or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact the Legal Division of the APSC at (334)242-5200.