# THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF TUR TRUCKING, INC., NOTICE OF APPARENT VIOLATION AND INTENT TO ASSESS FORFEITURE.

CASE NO. 21-1065-TR-CVF (21-CR-443866)

# FINDING AND ORDER

Entered in the Journal on April 20, 2022

# I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} The Commission finds reasonable and approves the settlement agreement filed between Staff and Tur Trucking, Inc. regarding a violation of the Commission's transportation rules.

# II. DISCUSSION

- {¶ 2} R.C. 4923.04(A)(1) mandates that the Commission adopt rules applicable to the transportation of persons or property by motor carriers operating in interstate and intrastate commerce. Pursuant to Ohio Adm.Code 4901:2-5-03(A), the Commission adopted the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSR), published in the Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.), for the purpose of governing transportation by motor vehicle in the state of Ohio. Further, R.C. 4923.99 authorizes the Commission to assess a civil forfeiture of up to \$25,000 per day, per violation, against any person who violates the safety rules adopted by the Commission.
- {¶ 3} Pursuant to Ohio Adm.Code 4901:2-7-11(C) settlement agreements providing for the payment of forfeitures of \$5,000 or more for any violation must be approved by order of the Commission.
- {¶ 4} On April 9, 2021, a compliance review of the facility of Tur Trucking, Inc. (Respondent), located in the state of Ohio, resulted in the discovery eight alleged violations of the Commission's rules.

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{¶ 5} Following the compliance review, Staff served Respondent with a Notice of Preliminary Determination (NPD), in accordance with Ohio Adm.Code 4901:2-7-12. The NPD assessed Respondent a civil forfeiture of \$4,850 for the alleged violations.

- $\{\P$  6} On October 15, 2021, Respondent timely requested an administrative hearing pursuant to Ohio Adm.Code 4901:2-7-13.
- $\{\P 7\}$  The parties participated in a prehearing conference on December 20, 2021. During the prehearing conference, the parties were able to settle this matter.
- {¶ 8} On March 28, 2022, Staff and Respondent filed a settlement agreement (Settlement Agreement) that, in the parties' opinions, resolves the issues raised in this case. The following is a summary of the conditions agreed to by the parties; it is not intended to replace or supersede the Settlement Agreement.
  - A. Respondent acknowledges that, pursuant to the April 9, 2021 inspection, Respondent was found in violation of: 49 C.F.R. 382.305(b)(1); 49 C.F.R 382.305(b)(2); 49 C.F.R. 382.309; 49 C.F.R. 382.701(b)(1); 49 C.F.R. 382.701(a); 49 C.F.R. 382.705(b)(1)(v); 49 C.F.R. 382.711(b); and 49 C.F.R. 395.8(e)(1). Respondent further acknowledges that these violations may be included in Respondent's compliance record and history of violations insofar as it may be relevant for the purposes of determining penalty actions for future violations.
  - B. The recommended civil forfeiture for the above violations will be reduced to \$3,500. Respondent agrees to pay the recommended \$3,500 civil forfeiture for the violations. Respondent shall pay the \$3,500 civil forfeiture in 12 monthly payments, with the first payment due within 30 days after the Commission's order approving the Settlement Agreement. The payment can be made

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via the Commission website or by certified check or money order payable to "Public Utilities Commission of Ohio," and mailed to Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Attn: CF Processing, 180 E. Broad St., 4th Floor, Columbus, OH 43215-3793. The case numbers 21-1065-TR-CVF and 21-CR-443866 should appear on the face of the check or money order.

- C. Pursuant to Ohio Adm.Code 4901:2-7-11, the Settlement Agreement shall not become effective until adopted by the Commission. The date of the Commission's order shall be the effective date of the Settlement Agreement.
- D. In accordance with Ohio Adm.Code 4901:2-7-14(D), if the Respondent fails to comply with the provisions of the Settlement Agreement for a period exceeding 30 days, Respondent shall be in default and shall be deemed to have admitted the occurrence of the violations and waived all further right to contest liability for the forfeiture amount originally assessed by Staff.
- {¶ 9} The Commission finds that the Settlement Agreement submitted in this case is reasonable. Therefore, the Settlement Agreement shall be approved and adopted in its entirety. The Commission notes that in accordance with Ohio Adm. Code 4901:2-7-14(D), and as noted in the Settlement Agreement if Respondent fails to comply with the provisions of the Settlement Agreement for a period exceeding 30 days, Respondent shall be in default and shall be deemed to have admitted the occurrence of the violation and waived all further right to contest liability for the forfeiture originally assessed by Staff.

# III. ORDER

 ${\P 10}$  It is, therefore,

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{¶ 11} ORDERED, That the Settlement Agreement submitted in this case be approved and adopted in its entirety. It is, further,

{¶ 12} ORDERED, That Respondent pay the civil forfeiture of \$3,500 in accordance with the Settlement Agreement. Payment can be made via the Commission website or by check or money order payable to ""Public Utilities Commission of Ohio," and mailed to Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Attn: CF Processing, 180 E. Broad St., 4th Floor, Columbus, OH 43215-3793. The case numbers 21-1065-TR-CVF and 21-CR-443866 should appear on the face of the check or money order. It is, further,

{¶ 13} ORDERED, That a copy of this Finding and Order be served upon Respondent and all other interested parties of record.

# **COMMISSIONERS:**

Approving:

Jenifer French, Chair M. Beth Trombold Lawrence K. Friedeman Daniel R. Conway Dennis P. Deters

DMH/kck

# This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

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in

Case No(s). 21-1065-TR-CVF

Summary: Finding & Order approving the settlement agreement filed between Staff and Tur Trucking, Inc. regarding a violation of the Commission's transportation rules. electronically filed by Kelli C. King on behalf of The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio