

California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

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**CPUC INVESTIGATIONS RESULT IN ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS AND
FINES IMPOSED ON VARIOUS MOVING COMPANIES**

SAN FRANCISCO, May 18, 2010 – The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), in its ongoing commitment to consumer protection, has recently taken a number of actions to protect consumers from illegally operating moving companies.

During the first quarter of 2010, CPUC staff took the following enforcement actions against moving companies for violations of the Public Utilities Code and CPUC rules and regulations, including Maximum Rate Tariff 4 (MAX 4), which contains maximum rates that carriers must observe as well as rules and regulations governing intrastate moves.

Administrative Citation

Three companies were cited and fined (totaling \$4,250) for one or more of the violations listed below, and one of the companies was ordered to refund \$12,942.73 to consumers.

1. Assessed incorrect rates
2. Engaged employees without evidence of workers' compensation insurance on file
3. Failed to issue and/or properly complete the "Important Notice About Your Move" document to shippers
4. Failed to maintain records
5. Incomplete Combined Agreements for Moving Services and Freight Bills
6. Operated and advertised without a valid permit (prior to issuance and after suspension)

Companies cited:

1. CHS Transportation Inc., San Jose (MTR 190378)
2. Fabricio Lunardi dba Lunardi Moving Services, Santa Clara (MTR-190625)
3. Vera Smolova dba Got 2 Move, Berkeley (MTR 190085)

Phone Disconnect

In its ongoing efforts to clamp down on illegal moving companies, the CPUC had telephone service shut off to five moving companies operating in California without a household goods permit. These companies continue to advertise and hold themselves out to engage in the business of transporting used household goods, notwithstanding CPUC staff directives to immediately cease and desist unlawful acts and to obtain a household goods permit.

1. **Tony Amaral dba Tony's *Affordable* Moving Services, and/or Tony's Moving Services, and/or First Call Moving Service, and/or Jacob's Moving Services, and/or On Call ASAP Movers, San Francisco (Unlicensed).** Carrier advertised his unlicensed moving business on the Internet. The advertisements listed two phone numbers and offered local residential moves. Notwithstanding the CPUC's Consumer Protection and Safety Division's (CPSD's) Cease and Desist letter directing the carrier to immediately cease all unlawful advertisements and operations, the company continued to violate the law as evidenced by an undercover operation. On February 11, 2010, CPSD obtained a Finding of Probable Cause signed by a San Francisco County Superior Court Judge. The order finds that telephone service at both phone numbers were being used to violate criminal laws in the State of California.
2. **Michael Tullock dba Mike and the Movers. San Leandro (Unlicensed).** Notwithstanding a court order obtained by CPSD on October 27, 2009, shutting off this company's three telephone numbers, the company obtained three new telephone numbers and willfully continued to advertise this unlicensed moving business offering household, corporate, and commercial moves on the Internet. On March 5, 2010, CPSD obtained a second Finding of Probable Cause signed by an Alameda County Superior Court Judge. The order finds that telephone service at the three telephone numbers was being used to violate criminal laws in the State of California.
3. **Tyson Mol dba All Care Moving Company. Santa Clara. (MTR-189681 revoked).** This company's permit was revoked on February 3, 2006. The company ignored a cease and desist notice sent on October 26, 2009, and continued to advertise the moving business, offering domestic and commercial moves, on the Internet. On March 26, 2010, CPSD obtained a Finding of Probable Cause signed by a Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge. The order finds that telephone service at the two numbers advertised were being used to violate criminal laws in the State of California.
4. **Darragh Skelton dba Clover Moving and Storage, Castle Rock Moving, San Francisco (Unlicensed).** Notwithstanding the court order obtained by CPSD on September 17, 2009, shutting off this company's one telephone number, the company obtained two new numbers and continues to advertise his unlicensed moving business on the Internet. All advertisements listed one of two phone numbers and represented to the public that the company has over six years of experience from working with other moving companies. The company also uses other trade names including Irish Professional Movers N Truck, and Two Professional Movers with a Truck.

Notwithstanding CPSD's cease and desist letters directing the company to immediately cease all unlawful advertisements and operations, the company continued to violate the law as evidenced by calls conducted by CPSD. On March 26, 2010, CPSD obtained a Finding of Probable Cause signed by a San Francisco County Superior Court Judge. The order finds that telephone service at two numbers was being used to violate criminal laws in the State of California.

5. **Shane McMahon and Dave Schmidt dba Irish Professional Moving and/or Tara Moving, and/or Planet Earth Movers, and/or Small Move/Big Move/Great Prices, Berkeley (Unlicensed).** Notwithstanding a court order obtained by CPSD on November 9, 2009, shutting off its two telephone numbers, this company obtained a new number and willfully continued to advertise its unlicensed moving business on the Internet. The advertisements listed one phone number and offered residential moves. On March 29, 2010, CPSD obtained a second Finding of Probable Cause signed by an Alameda County Superior Court Judge. The order finds that telephone service at the phone number was being used to violate criminal laws in the State of California.

Criminal Filings

CPUC staff investigations of unlicensed operations resulted in three moving companies being charged criminally for violating the CPUC's rules and regulations. CPUC staff submitted its report to the Los Angeles City Attorney's office requesting a criminal complaint be filed against:

1. **Amex Movers, Inc., Los Angeles (MTR 190039) - Complaint #9CA01177** – This company was charged with 30 counts of violating various provisions of the Public Utilities Code, and the CPUC's MAX 4 Tariff including but not limited to operating and advertising after permit suspension and revocation; engaging employees without workers' compensation insurance; failing to maintain in effect public liability property damage and cargo insurance; and failing to issue Important Notice with Not To Exceed Price. Arraignment rescheduled to October 2009.
2. **L.A. Transport Inc. and its president Hassan Velashierdi, Tarzana (MTR 190257) - Complaint #9CA01215** – This company is charged with nine counts of violating various provisions of the Public Utilities Code, and the CPUC's MAX 4 Tariff including but not limited to operating and advertising after permit suspension and revocation; engaging employees without workers' compensation insurance; failing to maintain in effect public liability property damage and cargo insurance; and failing to issue Important Notice with Not To Exceed Price. The company is also charged with a count of probation violation (36 months probation) from previous misdemeanor filed in 2006 for operating without CPUC authority.
3. **Zakaria Saakian, Los Angeles (Unlicensed) - Complaint #9CA01279** – This company was charged with 10 counts of violating various provisions of the Public Utilities Code, and CPUC's MAX 4 Tariff including but not limited to operating and advertising without CPUC authority, failing to comply with CPUC order, decision, rule, and regulations, failing to provide Important Information For Persons Moving Household Goods booklet prior to loading,

failing to include a Not To Exceed Price on shipping documents, failing to show name and address used by carrier on shipping documents, failing to obtain signature of shipper on moving documents, and failing to issue shipping document to shipper when charges collected. The owner of the company appeared in court on March 19, 2010, and pled No Contest to three counts (PU Code Sections 5133(1a)(1), 5143(b) and 5139). The company's owner received 36 months summary probation; 30 days in jail, or perform 10 days of Community Labor or 300 hours of community service; pay restitution to shipper in the amount of \$2,294.31 on or before June 23, 2010; pay investigative costs to the CPUC in the amount of \$500 within one year; no operations as a household goods carrier without first obtaining a CPUC license; if working for another licensed household goods carrier, must inform the CPUC in writing within 48 hours, obey all laws, rules, and regulations pertaining to household goods operations.

Official Notice

Four companies were issued Official Notice for one or more of these violations:

1. Failed to include Cal T-number in advertisements
2. Operated and/or advertised without a permit

Companies cited:

1. David Miller dba Santa Rosa Music Center, Santa Rosa (Unlicensed)
2. Li Hong dba 168 Li Moving Co., San Francisco (MTR 190651)
3. Mario Eusebio Monterroso Lopez and Delfina Gonzalez dba M&M Movers, East Palo Alto (MTR 190702 - Pending)
4. Nathan Murch dba A-1 Moving Services, Santa Rosa (Unlicensed)

Cease and Desist Notice

Twenty-two companies were issued cease and desist notices for operating and advertising without a valid permit (unlicensed, suspended or revoked).

Companies issued cease and desist notices:

1. All Week Relocation Inc. dba All Week Relocation, San Jose (Unlicensed)
2. Armalan Moving Services LLC, San Mateo (MTR 190654)
3. Charlie Ray Langenegger Sr. dba Charlie's Mountain Movers, Santa Clara (Unlicensed)
4. Emilo J. Triana dba Triana Moving, San Leandro (MTR 91758)
5. Freddie Martinez dba Amazing Express Moving, Victorville (Unlicensed)
6. Golden Hands Moving Company, Los Angeles (Unlicensed)
7. Greg Kurtz dba Flagship Movers, Sausalito (Unlicensed)
8. Honest Packing Transportation, Inc., San Gabriel (Unlicensed)
9. Hong Yun Pack & Moving Corp., City of Industry (MTR 190526 Denied)
10. Hua Xing Moving Co., Alhambra (MTR 190547 Denied)
11. Hui Hao dba Buddies Moving, Inc., Alhambra (Unlicensed)
12. Jae Young Kim dba Orange Trucking, Garden Grove (MTR 18673)
13. Jun Ma dba First Moving, Rowland Heights (Unlicensed)

14. Mario Monterroso and Edgar Monterroso dba M&M Movers, East Palo Alto (Unlicensed)
15. Micro Moves, Los Angeles (Unlicensed)
16. Noem Yeramian dba A & A Express Moving & Delivery, Lake Forest (Unlicensed)
17. Performance Logistics & Movers. Inc., Redwood City (MTR 190588)
18. Qiao Baoqin dba Xing Wang Transportation, Alhambra (Unlicensed)
19. Qing Yun Meng dba Lai Lai, El Monte (Unlicensed)
20. Rene C. Perez and Kris Ross dba Strong Young Movers, Alameda (MTR 189714)
21. Shane McMahon dba Irish Professional Moving, Tara Moving, and Planet Earth Movers, Berkeley (Unlicensed)
22. SLO & Steady Moving, San Luis Obispo (Unlicensed)

For more information on the CPUC, please visit www.cpuc.ca.gov.

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