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PRESS RELEASE

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

SAN FRANCISCO, July 28, 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 second 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

Five companies were cited and fined (totaling \$13,250) for one or more of the violations listed below. One of the companies was ordered to refund \$12,268.26 in consumer restitutions.

1. Charged more than the maximum rates by the use of a device
2. Engaged employees without evidence of workers' compensation insurance on file
3. Failed to allow shippers a higher valuation than \$.60 cents per pound
4. Failed to include a Not to Exceed Price on required documentation
5. Failed to maintain a claim register, and records
6. Failed to pay TRF fees
7. Failed to provide Agreement three days prior to scheduled move
8. Failed to issue the Important Information Booklet
9. Failed to provide Important Notice About Your Move
10. Incomplete Combined Agreements for Moving Services and Freight Bills
11. Issued Estimated Cost of Services without a visual inspection
12. Operated and advertised without a valid permit (after suspension and revocation)
13. Unlawful assessment of packing materials charges

Companies cited:

1. Americarrier Van Lines, Inc. (MTR 190410)
2. Dandino, Inc., dba Relo Moving, Los Angeles (MTR 190382)
3. MTF Relocation Inc., San Jose (MTR 190354)
4. Rene C. Perez and Kris Ross dba Strong Young Movers, Alameda (MTR 189714)
5. Toney McBride dba Rapid Movers, Lancaster (MTR 190223)

Phone Disconnect

In its ongoing efforts to clamp down on illegal moving companies, the CPUC had telephone service shut off to four 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. **CHS Transportation Inc., and its President Eran “Ron” Bar dba Stevens Moving, dba Stevens Relocation, dba Better Way 2 Move, dba We Are Moving & Storage, dba Express Moving & Storage, and dba BMS Relocation Services, San Jose. (MTR 190378-Revoked).** This company’s permit was revoked on April 21, 2010, for failure to pay the administrative citation fine and to refund \$12,942 in consumer restitutions. The company continued to willfully advertise its moving business on the Internet and also advertises its business through an online aggregator that is used by moving companies to provide leads for potential shippers. On May 11, 2010, the CPUC obtained a Finding of Probable Cause signed by a Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge. The Finding orders the disconnection of telephone service to three phone numbers advertised and used by the company to violate criminal laws in California.
2. **Duncan and Elbaz Inc. and its President, CEO and Secretary, Edan Elbaz (aka Edan Don Elbaz, aka Don Elbaz), dba Marten Movers, dba Marten Moving, dba Marten Transport, dba Atlas Van Lines, dba Atlas Worldwide, dba Atlantic Relocation, dba Moving US Moving and Storage, dba S Van Lines, dba Shamrock Van Lines, dba Shamrock Moving and Storage, dba World Wide Moving, dba World Wide Relocation; and Missim Rahamim, Melissa Jimenez, and Ron Bar [President of CHS Transportation] individuals and/or entities acting in concert with Duncan and Elbaz, San Jose (MTR 190482-Denied).** This company’s application was denied on September 5, 2008. The company used multiple fictitious business names and continued to advertise its unlawful moving business on the Internet on its own website and 12 others. On June 11, 2010, the CPUC obtained a Finding of Probable Cause signed by a Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge. The Finding orders disconnection of telephone service to 12 phone numbers advertised and used by the company to violate criminal laws in California.
3. **BGT Trans Inc. and its President Hezia Dabahuli (aka Hezia Babahuli) dba Advanced Moving & Storage, dba Advanced Moving Solutions, dba Bekins Moving and Storage, dba Bekins Moving Systems, dba BMS Van Lines, dba United Moving Group, dba U Van**

Lines, dba N American Van Lines, dba N American Moving and Storage and Moving Storage, and Ricardo Medeiros, acting in concert with BGT Trans., Inc., San Jose (Unlicensed). Notwithstanding a court order obtained by the CPUC on September 23, 2009, shutting off this company's 14 telephone numbers, the company obtained four new telephone numbers and willfully continues to violate the law by advertising its unlawful moving services on the Internet on its own websites as well as through online aggregators. The CPUC issued Cease and Desist letters directing the company to immediately cease all unlawful advertisements and operations. Because the company continued to willfully violate the law as evidenced by advertisements on the Internet, the CPUC went to court on June 25, 2010, and obtained a Finding of Probable Cause signed by a Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge. The Finding orders disconnection of telephone service to the four numbers advertised and used by the company to violate criminal laws in California.

4. **Tigran Abeshyan and Noem Yeramian dba A and A Express Moving, Lake Forest (MTR 190320-Denied).** This company advertised in the San Juan Capistrano Pennysaver with an invalid permit number (T-200168). Notwithstanding a Cease and Desist letter directing the company to immediately cease all unlawful advertisements and operations, the company continued to violate the law as evidenced by sting calls conducted by the CPUC. On June 30, 2010, the CPUC obtained a Finding of Probable Cause signed by a San Diego Superior Court Judge. The Finding orders disconnection of telephone service to the phone number advertised and used by the company to violate criminal laws in California.

Criminal Filings

CPUC staff investigations of unlicensed operations resulted in one moving company 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. **Aleksey Posunko, Larysa Posunko, Stanislav Kirsanov, partners doing business as ALG Moving, Los Angeles (Unlicensed) - Complaint #0CA01202** – Carrier charged with 8 counts of violating various provisions of the Public Utilities Code, and Commission's MAX 4 Tariff including but not limited to operating and advertising without CPUC authority; failed to maintain in effect requisite insurance [PLPD, cargo, and workers' compensation]; failed to issue Important Notice with Not To Exceed Price; and Business and Profession Code 17200/17500 for unfair business practices. Arraignment set for July 27, 2010.

Following are status updates on criminal cases filed:

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. A jury trial is expected to begin in early August 2010.

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 one count of probation violation (36 months probation) from a previous misdemeanor filed in 2006 for operating without CPUC authority. The owner of this company appeared in court on March 26, 2010, and pled not guilty.

Official Notice

Two companies were issued Official Notice for one operating and advertising without a permit.

Companies cited:

1. Eagle Moving & Storage, Inc., San Francisco (MTR 190673)
2. Hua Xing Moving Co., Alhambra (MTR 190547)

Cease and Desist Notice

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

Companies issued a cease and desist notice are:

1. All-American (Student) Movers, Santa Barbara (Unlicensed)
2. Arnold Baeza dba Dependable Movers, Los Angeles (Unlicensed)
3. Big Time Movers, Lancaster (Unlicensed)
4. Easy Movers, Inglewood (MTR 190608)
5. Gary Haase dba Help U Move, Oceanside (Unlicensed)
6. Gary Kitchenmaster, Simi Valley (Unlicensed)
7. Hansen Smylie Moving and Storage Placerville LLC, Placerville (MTR 190214-Revoked)
8. Michael Sean Pounders dba Handle With Care Moving, Mountain View (Unlicensed)
9. Noem Yeramian dba A and A Express Moving and Delivery, Lake Forest (Unlicensed)
10. Palemon Urisabel dba Urisabel Delivery & Moving Co., Palm Desert (Unlicensed)
11. Team Movers, Los Angeles (Unlicensed)

Other enforcement actions

In its ongoing efforts to clamp down on illegal moving companies, the CPUC contacted the Financial Crimes Unit of the San Jose Police Department and requested their assistance in the

towing of moving trucks used by unlicensed moving companies. This resulted in four moving trucks towed for various reasons including expired registration. One driver was also cited for driving with a suspended license. The trucks were used by two unlicensed moving companies that have been operating in the San Jose area under multiple fictitious business names.

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

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