

# **Public Utilities Commission**

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

### CITATION FOR VIOLATION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES CODE

To: SFSafe Road, LLC Attn: Mourad Hamdad

File: TCP 38480 B Citation #: T.24-02-002 Date: February 12, 2024 Case #: PSG-5966

# **VIOLATIONS**

You are hereby cited with having violated section(s) of the Public Utilities (Pub. Util.) Code and a Commission General Order (G.O.) as described below. These violations occurred during the period of March 1, 2023, to August 10, 2023.

- (1) Operated as a charter-party carrier after expiration of its authority, in violation of Pub. Util. Code Section 5379 [1 count];
- (2) Operated at an airport without an airport authority and failure to follow airport rules and regulations, in violation of Pub. Util. Code Section 5371.4(b) and G.O. 157-E, Part 3.02 [1 count].

### STATEMENT OF FACTS

The above violations are documented in the attached Investigation Report, which consists of the carrier's records and substantiating documents obtained from other sources.

#### RESPONSE

You are hereby called upon to answer this citation on or before March 4, 2024. By way of such answer, you may either:

- (1) Pay a fine of \$6,000 pursuant to Pub. Util. Code Section 5378. (Submit your check or money order payable to California Public Utilities Commission using the attached *Citation Agreement*. Upon payment, the fine will be deposited in the State Treasury to the credit of the General Fund and the Commission staff will deem the matter closed, or
- (2) Contact the Supervisor below to make payment arrangements, or
- (3) Contest this Citation by filing an Appeal. See the attached document "How to File an Appeal and Instructions for Filing a Notice of Appeal and Certificate of Service for a Citation Appeal."

If you fail to respond by March 4, 2024, you will be in default and will have forfeited your right to appeal the Citation. In addition, your operating authority will be immediately suspended and may be subsequently revoked pursuant to Resolution ALJ-187. The Commission may also act through a civil or criminal proceeding to recover any unpaid fine and ensure compliance with applicable statutes and Commission orders.

Eric Hooks

Program and Project Supervisor

Tric Hooks

Consumer Protection and Enforcement Division

Transportation Enforcement Branch Telephone number: (415) 703-2302

E-mail address: eric.hooks@cpuc.ca.gov

#### **INVESTIGATION REPORT**

**CARRIER:** SFSafe Road, LLC

A California Limited Liability Company, 201713810008 (Active)

Case: PSG-5966

**OFFICERS:** Mourad Hamdad, Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

**AUTHORITY:** TCP 38480 B, Expired

MAILING/PHYSICAL

**ADDRESS:** 

PHONE/EMAIL:

VEHICLES: 2

**EMPLOYEE-DRIVERS:** 0

PL&PD Obi National Insurance Company

INSURANCE: Policy #

Cancellation Date: 02/25/2020

**WORKERS'** 

**COMPENSATION** N

**INSURANCE:** 

N/A

**DRUG** 

**CONSORTIUM:** N/A

#### INTRODUCTION

On October 6, 2023, I was assigned to investigate the operations and practices of SFSafe Road, LLC (hereinafter referred to as SFSafe Road), because of allegations that SFSafe Road operated after the expiration of its authority.

#### **VIOLATIONS**

I investigated SFSafe Road's operations and practices during the period of March 1, 2023, to August 10, 2023, and found violations of the following provisions of the Public Utilities (Pub. Util.) Code and a Commission General Order (G.O.):

 Operated as a charter-party carrier after expiration of its authority, in violation of Pub. Util. Code Section 5379 [1 count].

On February 25, 2020, the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) Transportation Licensing and Analysis Branch (TLAB) sent an Order of Suspension Notice via U.S. mail to SFSafe Road, for failure to maintain adequate Public Liability and Property Damage (PL&PD) insurance. This Notice states that unless SFSafe Road corrects this by May 25, 2020, the suspended operating authority will be revoked [Attachment 1]. Following the Notice of May 25, 2020, SFSafe Road failed to address the absence of their PL&PD insurance. Subsequently, TLAB sent an Order of Expiration Notice to SFSafe Road on February 27, 2022 [Attachment 2].

 Operated at an airport without an airport authority and failure to follow airport rules and regulations, in violation of Pub. Util. Code Section

5371.4(b) and G.O. 157-E, Part 3.02 [1 count].

G.O. 157-E, Part 3.02 states in part that, "No carrier shall conduct any operations

on the property of or into any airport unless such operations are authorized by both this

Commission and the airport authority involved. Consistent failure to comply with safety or

traffic rules and regulations of an airport authority may result in suspension or revocation

of Commission operating authority."

On August 10, 2023, SFO-GTU, Investigator, issued SFSafe Road a

[see Attachment 3] for operating after the expiration of its authority

and no active SFO permit. My investigation disclosed that SFSafe Road operated for one

day without an active SFO airport permit.

DECLARATION

I have read the foregoing and know the contents thereof and I declare under penalty of

perjury that the foregoing is true and correct, except as to those matters stated on information and

belief, and to those matters, I believe to be true.

Executed on February 12, 2024, at Sacramento, California.

Bee Maika Vang Bee MaiKa Vang, Enforcement Analyst

Consumer Protection & Enforcement Division

Transportation Enforcement Branch

# **List of Attachments**

- Attachment 1. Order of Suspension Notice Letter
- Attachment 2. Notice of Expiration Notice Letter
- Attachment 3. SFO GTU Citation
- Attachment 4. Cease-and-Desist Notice

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION 505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102-3298



PSG0038480

DBA: SFSAFE ROAD LLC ATTN: MOURAD HAMDAD

Charter Party TCP038480B

#### ORDER OF SUSPENSION

The operating authority(s) listed above is suspended if not otherwise expired effective February 25, 2020 for the following reason(s):

Failure to Maintain Adequate Insurance

PL and PD Policy#

If the cause of the suspension is lack of insurance, contact your Insurance provider to reinstate your policy. Unless the deficiency cited in this notice is corrected by May 25, 2020 the suspended operating authority(s) will be revoked unless otherwise in voluntary suspension for which insurance need not be maintained. The revocation will be deferred for certificate of public convenience and necessity or if the Commision is advised before the revocation date a hearing is desired.

YOU ARE HEREBY DIRECTED NOT TO OPERATE UNLESS AND UNTIL YOUR COMMISSION OPERATING AUTHORITY IS REINSTATED. Any carrier which operates during the period of suspension of its operating authority(s) is guilty of a misdemeanor which is punishable by a fine of not less than \$1,000.00 or imprisonment of up to three months, or both. Operations during a period of liability insurance suspension may result in the permanent revocation of your operating authority under provisions of Public Utilities Code Section 5387(c)(1).

Dated February 25, 2020 at San Francisco California.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION STATE OF CALIFORNIA

NOTE: Other unresolved suspension reasons are listed below. Failure to correct these deficiencies will result in revocation or your operating authorities.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION 505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102-3298



PSG0038480

DBA: SFSAFE ROAD LC ATTN: MOURAD HAMDAD

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING OPERATIONS WITHOUT AN ACTIVE PERMIT OR CERTIFICATE

The Public Utilities Code was amended effective January 1, 2010, to provide serious sanctions for, among other things, conducting operations during a period of liability insurance suspension or conducting operations without a permit or certificate from the Commission. Section 5387(c)(1) was added to the Code as follows:

- (c)(1) A charter-party carrier shall have its authority to operate as a charter-party carrier permanently revoked by the Commission or be permanently barred from receiving a permit or certificate from the Commission if it commits any of the following acts:
- (A) Operates one or more buses or vehicles without having been issued a permit or certificate from the Commission.
- (B) Operates one or more buses with a permit that was suspended by the Commission pursuant to Section 5378.5.
- (C) Commits three or more liability insurance violations within a two-year period for which it has been cited.
- (D) Operates one ore more buses or vehicles with a permit that was suspended by the Commission during a period that the charter-party carrier's liability insurance lapsed for which it has been cited.
- (E) Knowingly employs a driver who does not have a current and valid driver's license of the proper class, a passenger vehicle endorsement, or the required certificate to drive bus(es) or vehicle(s).
- (F) Has one or more buses or vehicles improperly registered with the Department of Motor Vehicles.

#### **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102-3298



DBA: SFSAFE ROAD LLC PSG0038480

ATTN:SFSAFE ROAD LLC



#### **TCP CLASS B CERTIFICATE**

### **Notice of Expiration of Operating Authority**

This is notice from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) that the operating authority listed on this letter expired effective **February 27, 2022**.

After the cancellation or revocation of a permit or certificate, or during the period of its suspension, or after the expiration of its permit or certificate, it is unlawful for a Passenger Stage Corporation (PSC) or a Transportation Charter-Party carrier (TCP) of passengers to conduct any operations as a carrier. (California Public Utilities Code §§ 1045, 5379)

Such unlawful operations are subject to fines and penalties as set forth in the California Public Utilities Code.

Date: Feb 27, 2022

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION STATE OF CALIFORNIA

licensing@cpuc.ca.gov

### Vang, Bee "Maika"

From:

Thursday, August 10, 2023 4:29 PM

Sent: To:

Cc: GTU (AIR)

Subject: Attachments: (WARNING)
- Warning.pdf

Good afternoon,

Please Cease and Desist all operation here at SFO until your company has obtain an Active Airport permit.

Continuing to operate may result in an administrative fine for each trip conducted, recollection of trip fees and further investigation by CPUC for violating the Public Utilities Codes and General Order 157-E.

**Public Utilities Code General Order 157-E Section 3.02:** Operations At Airports. No carrier shall conduct any operations on the property of or into any airport unless such operations are authorized by both this Commission and the airport authority involved. Consistent failure to comply with safety or traffic rules and regulations of an airport authority may result in suspension or revocation of Commission operating authority.

Public Utilities Code Section 5411: Every charter-party carrier of passengers and every officer, director, agent, or employee of any charter-party carrier of passengers who violates or who fails to comply with, or who procures, aids, or abets any violation by any charter-party carrier of passengers of any provision of this chapter, or who fails to obey, observe, or comply with any order, decision, rule, regulation, direction, demand, or requirement of the commission, or of any operating permit or certificate issued to any charter-party carrier of passengers, or who procures, aids, or abets any charter-party carrier of passengers in its failure to obey, observe, or comply with any such order, decision, rule, regulation, direction, demand, requirement, or operating permit or certificate, is guilty of a misdemeanor and is punishable by a fine of not less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) and not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or by imprisonment in a county jail for not more than three months, or by both that fine and imprisonment.

Thank you for your cooperation.



Permit Compliance | Ground Transportation Unit | Airport Services
San Francisco International Airport | P.O. Box 8097 | San Francisco, CA 94128

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# AIRPORT COMMISSION SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT GROUND TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATIVE CITATION

Date: 8/10/2023 Time: 1530 Day: Thurs		
Plate#	#:_	VIN#:
Make		Model/Style: Color: BLK
Drive	r:	
DL#:		Last First
Company: SF SAFE Road LLC TCP#/TNC#: 38480		
Location: International Arrivals		
SFO Permit and/or Rules and Regulations Violated:		
X	<	Warning Only
	4.1	Violation of Traffic Rules
	4.2	No Parking - Restricted Parking Area
	4.2	Failure to Comply w/ All Signs and Road Markings
	4.4	Improper Use of Roadways and Walks
	4.5	Obstructing Vehicle Flow/Double Parking
	4.6	Zone Color Zone - Improper Use
	4.7	Failure to Comply with Permit Terms
X	4.7	Lack of or Improper Trade Dress, Placard, TCP#, Decal
	4.7	Leaving a Vehicle Unattended
	4.7	Loading/Unloading Undesignated Level
	4.7	Providing False Information to Airport Officials
	4.7	Recirculating or Looping Upper Lower
	4.7	Soliciting Passengers
	4.7	Staging
	4.7	Unsafe Driving
X		No Valid CPUC Authorization
Comments: CPUC expired; No active SFO permit.		
Issue AuthID#:		

FINES SHALL BE ASSESSED PER RULE 14 OF AIRPORT RULES AND REGULATIONS AND/OR APPLICABLE OPERATING PERMIT

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor

### PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION 505 VAN NESS AVENUE

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



August 28, 2023

TCP #: 38480 B - EXPIRED



#### NOTICE TO CEASE AND DESIST

Dear Mourad Hamdad & Mohammed Boughris:

On February 27, 2022, your charter-party operating authority expired. In addition, you were observed operating without valid airport authority on August 10, 2023, at the San Francisco International Airport (SFO).

Public Utilities Code (P.U. Code) Section 5379 states that it is unlawful for a charter-party carrier of passengers to conduct any operations after cancelation, or revocation, or during the period of its suspension, or after the expiration of its permit or certificate. P.U. Code Section 5414.5 states that it is unlawful to publish or advertise without holding a valid permit. Advertisements include, but are not limited to, advertising in local directories or yellow pages, business cards, website, etc.

P.U. Code Section 5387 states in part that a charter-party carrier shall have its authority to operate as a charter-party carrier permanently revoked by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) if it operates a bus without having been issued a permit or certificate from the CPUC.

YOU MUST IMMEDIATELY CEASE AND DESIST FROM ANY AND ALL UNLAWFUL OPERATIONS. ANY CARRIER WHICH OPERATES WITHOUT AUTHORITY IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR WHICH IS PUNISHABLE BY A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN \$1,000 AND NOT MORE THAN \$5,000 FOR EACH VIOLATION OR BY IMPRISONMENT IN THE COUNTY JAIL FOR UP TO THREE MONTHS, OR BOTH (P.U. CODE SECTION 5411),

This letter places your firm on notice that continued violations of law without the required authority may result in criminal prosecutions and possible termination of telephone service. There will be no further warnings.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (415) 703-1331.

Sincerely,

Omar Teutle

Enforcement Analyst
Consumer Protection and Enforcement Division
Transportation Enforcement Branch

Email: Omar\_Teutle@cpuc.ca.gov

Tel: (415) 703-1331

Omar Toutle

Cc: Eric Hooks, Enforcement Supervisor.