

Public Utilities Commission STATE OF CALIFORNIA

CITATION FOR VIOLATION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES CODE

To:	Vivante Living	File: Unlicensed	
	ATTN: Bob Fiorentino	Date: December 27, 2	024
	1640 Monrovia	Citation #: <u>T.24-12-00</u>	15
	Costa Mesa, CA 92627	Case #: <u>CSE-153</u>	

# VIOLATIONS

You are hereby cited with having violated section(s) of the Public Utilities Code (P.U. Code) and California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) General Order (G.O.) as described below. These violations occurred from June 7, 2024, through December 16, 2024.

(1) Vivante Living advertised without authority Pub. Util. Code section 5414.5 [1 counts].

### **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**

TEB used the Penalty Assessment Methodology adopted in Resolution M-4846 and considered mitigating and exacerbating factors in setting the fine.

You are hereby called upon to answer this citation on or before January 16, 2025. By way of such answer, you may either:

- Pay a fine of \$1,000 pursuant to P.U. 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 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 January 16, 2025, 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.

Rahmon Momoh

Rahmon Momoh, Program and Project Supervisor Consumer Protection and Enforcement Division Transportation Enforcement Branch Telephone number: <u>(415) 703-1725</u> E-mail address <u>Rahmon.Momoh@cpuc.ca.gov</u>

File No.: <u>Unlicensed</u> Citation #: <u>T.24-12-005</u> Date: <u>December 27, 2024</u> Case #: <u>CSE-153</u>

### CITATION COMPLIANCE AGREEMENT

I (we) hereby agree to comply with this citation dated December 27, 2024, and herewith pay the fine of \$1,000.

Vivante Living Bob Fiorentino 1640 Monrovia Costa Mesa, CA 92627

(Signature) (Title)

(Date)

Payment (cashier check or money order) should be made payable to *California Public Utilities Commission* and sent to:

California Public Utilities Commission Attn: Fiscal Office 505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102-3298

Automatic credit and debit card payments are also available. To arrange for auto-pay, fill out the attached <u>CREDIT OR DEBIT CARD AUTHORIZATION form and email</u> to our Fiscal Office at <u>FiscalOffice-.TECitations@cpuc.ca.gov</u>.

TEB Enforcement Analyst: Mingfeng Li

Case: CSE-153

## **INVESTIGATION REPORT**

CARRIER:	Vivante Living	
OFFICERS:	Bob Fiorentino, Senior Executive Director	
AUTHORITY:	DFNT-00031 (Unauthorized Carrier)	
PHYSICAL ADDRESS:	1640 Monrovia Costa Mesa, CA 92627	
MAILING ADDRESS:	1640 Monrovia Costa Mesa, CA 92627	
PHONE/EMAIL:	(949) 629-2100 / info@vianteliving.com	
VEHICLES:		
EMPLOYEE-DRIVERS:	Unknown	
PL&PD INSURANCE:	N/A	
WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE:	N/A	
DRUG CONSORTIUM:	N/A	
<b>REVENUE:</b>	Year	Revenue
	2021	N/A
	2022	N/A
	2023	N/A

### **INTRODUCTION**

On June 7, 2024, I was assigned to investigate Vivante Senior Living (hereinafter referred to as Vivante) because the Transportation Enforcement Branch (TEB) received a whistleblower complaint from the Safety and Enforcement Division (SED) that Vivante's vehicle license plate "**Weinford**" was observed operating without authority [**Attachment 1**].

### VIOLATIONS

The investigation from June 7, 2024, to December 16, 2024, disclosed violations of the following provisions of the Public Utilities (Pub. Util.) Code and Commission General Orders (G.O.):

# • Vivante advertised without proper authority Pub. Util. Code section 5414.5 [1 counts]

The Whistleblower document showed TCP-number 35722, Vivante's website (www.vivanteliving.com), and phone number (949-629-2100) displayed on a vehicle with license plate "**1**". Prior to my assignment to investigate this case, Enforcement Analyst Destiny Graham found TCP number 35722 was registered to One Way Limo, and this company was not associated with Vivante or the vehicle "**1**". [Attachment 2].

On June 28, 2024, I emailed Vivante at **Construct and Second Seco** 

and directed them to apply for a permit with the California

Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) [Attachment 5].

## DECLARATION

I have read the foregoing and know the contents thereof and I declare that the foregoing is true and correct, except as to those matters stated on information and belief, and as to those matters, I believe to be true.

Executed on December 27, 2024, in San Francisco, California.

<u>Mingfeng Li</u> Mingfeng Li, TEB Enforcement Analyst

# **List of Attachments**

Attachment 1	20240084 - Vivante Living
Attachment 2	Email: Destiny's Findings
Attachment 3	Email: Initial contact regarding the potential violations
Attachment 4	Email: Vivante Responses
Attachment 5	Cease and Dease Letter and email

# Attachment 1

California Public Utilities Commission Transportation Informal Complaint Tracking System Printed as of 06-JUN-2024 10:19:15 Case #.... 20240084 Inquiry Type..... Written Carrier Type..... Passenger Carrier Received by Area Office San Francisco Area Office Assigned... District Office..... Transfered To..... Representative..... Destiny Graham Received Date ..... 31-MAY-2024 Closed Date.... 06-JUN-2024 Update Date..... Transfer Date..... COMPLAINANT: MTR/PSG/CA#.. DBA.... SED Name.... SED Address..... City/St/Zip.. Phone.... Email..... **DEFENDANT:** MTR/PSG/CA#.. DBA..... VIVANTE LIVING Name....

Address	1640 MONROVIA AVE		
City/ST/Zip	COSTA MESA	CA	92627
Phone	(949) 629-2100		

#### COMPLAINT DESCRIPTION:

Improper use of TCP, potentially operating without proper authority

#### **DISPOSITION DESCRIPTION:**

Referred to enforcement

### California Public Utilities Commission Transportation Informal Complaint Tracking System Passenger Carrier Violation(s) Printed as of 06-JUN-2024 10:19:15

Failure to insure all equipment Failure to register interstate operations GO 157/158 Loss or Damage No operating authority No worker's compensation Operations while suspended Other Service Unlicensed sub-carriers Advertising without a permit



 From:
 @€

 Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 3:55 PM

 To:
 @

 Subject: [EXTERNAL] Run Off Road by one of your drivers

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Christopher,

Attached is a photo of the van that came over on top of me when I was in the left turn lane and he was in the go straight lane.

About 10:15 am this morning, going westbound on Superior Ave. in Newport Beach I was in the left turn lane turning into lot for 500 Superior. This Vivante Living van pulled up alongside of me in the "going straight lane". When the light turned green for the left turn lane, even though the cars in the left were bumper to bumper, the driver of your very large van decided he wanted to turn left and came over practically on top of me. I had to abruptly brake and turn my car into the divider. Even though I had my hand on the horn the whole time, he continued coming across into my lane. Luckily there was not a car behind me and my car was not damaged.

I've attached a photo of the license plate and identification numbers. .

# Attachment 2

 From: Graham, Destiny <</td>
 >

 Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 11:41 AM
 >

 To: Esguerra, Steve <</td>
 >

 Subject: Re: Vivante Westside LLC, Run Off Road by one of your drivers

Nope, checked both TCPs and there's no matching VIN number. Another reason why I don't think they are affiliated is because in the VM she stated that when looking the PUC up they don't provide transportation for hire. So if they were affiliated then I don't think that would be a statement she would've made.

#### **Destiny R. Graham**

Public Utilities Regulatory Analyst II California Public Utilities Commission Consumer Protection and Enforcement Division Transportation Enforcement Branch/Field Enforcement Unit Cell ( Email: From: Esguerra, Steve <

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 5, 2024 2:36:22 PM

**To:** Graham, Destiny <

Subject: RE: Vivante Westside LLC, Run Off Road by one of your drivers

# Yes, looks like they transposed the TCP numbers. Is our subject vehicle listed on ISL's equipment list?

Steve Esguerra Enforcement Analyst Consumer Protection & Enforcement Division Transportation Enforcement Branch California Public Utilities Commission Phone

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Subject: Re: Vivante Westside LLC, Run Off Road by one of your drivers

I don't think they are related, but the TCP number on the van looks like 35722 which belongs to One Way Limo ( ) and I gave them a call to see if they had sold any of their vehicles and the owner said no.

Destiny R. Graham
Public Utilities Regulatory Analyst II
California Public Utilities Commission
Consumer Protection and Enforcement Division
Transportation Enforcement Branch/Field Enforcement Unit
Cell
Email:

From: Esguerra, Steve < > >
Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 11:29:07 AM
To: Graham, Destiny < >
Subject: Vivante Westside LLC, Run Off Road by one of your drivers

Hi Destiny,

CA# 509885 belongs to ISL Employees, Inc. TCP 37522-**Z** (Active). This is the TCP number on the van. Please see attached.

Is Vivante Westside LLC related to ISL Employees, Inc.?

Thank you.

Steve Esguerra Enforcement Analyst Consumer Protection & Enforcement Division Transportation Enforcement Branch California Public Utilities Commission

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>

From: Transportation Safety Complaints <<u>Transportation-Safety-Complaints@cpuc.ca.gov</u>> Sent: Friday, May 31, 2024 3:09 PM

**To:** Esguerra, Steve <

Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Run Off Road by one of your drivers

# Attachment 3

## Hi Vivante Living,

My name is Ming Li, and I am a Regulatory Analyst from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). Per our phone conversation a few days ago, I would like to recap and ask you the following questions:

- 1. We recently received information that the TCP number displayed on your vehicles did not match the registered business. Could you clarify if Vivante Living have an active TCP permit with the CPUC?
- 2. What type of transportation services does Vivante Living provide?
- 3. Could you provide a log or timetable of transportation services provided?
- 4. How many vehicles are within Vivante Living?

Thank you for your cooperation.

### Best regards,

Ming Li Regulatory Analyst California Public Utilities Commission



Ming Li – Public Utilities Regulatory Analyst I Transportation Enforcement Branch Consumer Protection and Enforcement Division California Public Utilities Commission

www.cpuc.ca.gov

# Attachment 4

From:	Bob Fiorentino
То:	Li, Mingfeng
Cc:	Vivante Transportation; Megan Stilwell; Lei, Shirley; Zachary Butcher; Matt Kaufman
Subject:	Re: [EXTERNAL] Follow-Up on TCP Number and Service Information
Date:	Monday, July 1, 2024 5:01:37 PM
Attachments:	image005.png

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

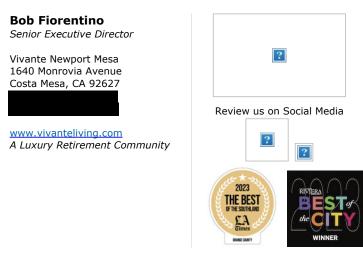
#### Ming,

As I indicated on the phone today, ISL is the management company that operates our building. I have reached out to ISL - Integral Senior Living to find out who at ISL does these applications so they can straighten this out with you. Please understand that the people that drive these vehicles are employees of ISL and not Vivante or Nexus Development. We have had this same arrangement for 10 years now and I don't know why it is now an issue.

In the interim, tomorrow, 7/2/24, we will only be making medical appointments in our vehicles. We cannot sustain this and need to operate our vehicles as we normally have for the last 10 years. What do you need from ISL that would satisfy you and allow us to normally operate the vehicles?

Best regards,

Bob



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On Jul 1, 2024, at 12:08 PM, Li, Mingfeng </ ingfeng.Li@cpuc.ca.gov> wrote:

Dear Christopher Orenos,

Thank you for your information. I would like to inform you that the Transportation Charter Party (TCP) number 37522 is registered to ISL Employees, Inc. while I have checked with ISL Employees Inc providing managing service to Vivante Senior Living. It is important to note that TCP permit sharing is prohibited, as Vivante Senior Living and ISL Employees, Inc. are distinct entities. Each business must have its own TCP number that corresponds with its registered company and register vehicles.

Currently, Vivante Senior Living is operating without the proper permits. We strongly advise you to immediately cease all transportation operations, with the exception of medical transportation. We recommend that you apply for a TCP permit with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) as soon as possible.

For further information and to begin the application process, please refer to the following link: <u>Charter Party Carriers</u>.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Ming Li – Public Utilities Regulatory Analyst Transportation Enforcement Branch Consumer Protection and Enforcement Division California Public Utilities Commission

From: Vivante Transportation		>	
Sent: Saturday, June 29, 2024 3:39 PM	1		
<b>To:</b> Li, Mingfeng <	>		
Cc: Megan Stilwell <	>; Bob Fiore	entino	>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Follow-Up on	TCP Number and Serv	vice Information	

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon Ming Li,

Thank you for reaching out. To answer your questions:

1. We do have an active TCP permit. It was originally mistyped but we have made the correction so our PUC# is 37522 and I have attached photos at the bottom of this email reflecting the correct information now being displayed.

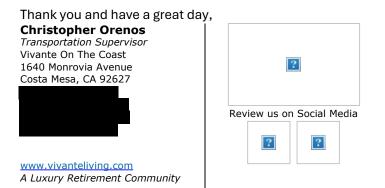
2. We are a private transportation service for the residents who reside here at Vivante

Living.

3. Our Transportation department provides rides needed to doctor appointments, hair appointments, shopping trips, errands trips, etc. within a 7 mile radius of the facility.

4. We have a total of 7 registered vehicles that we use.

Please let me know if you have any further questions. I've copied our Activities Director, Megan Stilwell, and our Senior Executive Director, Bob Fiorentino, on this email as well.









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On Jun 28, 2024, at 11:18 AM, Li, Mingfeng < wrote:

Hi Vivante Living,

My name is Ming Li, and I am a Regulatory Analyst from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). Per our phone conversation a few days ago, I would like to recap and ask you the following questions:

1. We recently received information that the TCP number displayed on your vehicles did not match the registered business. Could you clarify if

Vivante Living have an active TCP permit with the CPUC?

- 2. What type of transportation services does Vivante Living provide?
- 3. Could you provide a log or timetable of transportation services provided?
- 4. How many vehicles are within Vivante Living?

Thank you for your cooperation.

Best regards,

Ming Li Regulatory Analyst California Public Utilities Commission

<image001.jpg>

Ming Li – Public Utilities Regulatory Analyst ITransportation Enforcement BranchConsumer Protection and Enforcement DivisionCalifornia Public Utilities Commission**27** (415) 696-7320 (ext 5-7320)Mingfeng.li@cpuc.ca.govwww.cpuc.ca.gov

# Attachment 5

### PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298

7/1/2024 Case No.: CSE-153 TCP: Unlicensed

Vivante On The Coast Attention: Christopher Orenos, Transportation Supervisor 1640 Monrovia Ave. Costa Mesa, CA 92627

#### NOTICE TO CEASE AND DESIST

Dear Christopher Orenos:

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has become aware that you are operating without a valid authority.

Public Utilities (Pub. Util.) Code Sections 1031 and 5371 state that it is unlawful for a Passenger Stage Corporation or a Charter-Party Carrier to conduct any operations without valid authority. Pub. Util. Code Sections 1034.5 and 5414.5 state that it is unlawful to publish or advertise without holding a valid operating authority. Advertisements include, but are not limited to, advertising in local directories or Yellow Pages, business cards, internet websites, and any other form of advertisements.

Your company must immediately cease and desist from all unlawful operations including advertising. Pub. Util. Code Section 5411 states in part that any TCP carrier which operates without a valid authority is guilty of a misdemeanor and is punishable by a fine not less than \$1,000.

This letter places your company on notice that continued violations of the law without the required operating authority may result in enforcement actions, including criminal prosecutions. There will be no further warnings.

For information on obtaining a permit or certificate, go to: http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/transportationlicensing/.



# Page 2

Please contact me within five days of receiving this notice at the telephone number and email address listed below.

Sincerely,



Ming Li – Public Utilities Regulatory Analyst I California Public Utilities Commission Consumer Protection and Enforcement Division Transportation Enforcement Branch