1500 SW Arrowhead Road Topeka, KS 66604-4027

Dwight D. Keen, Chair Susan K. Duffy, Commissioner Andrew J. French, Commissioner

June 28, 2022

Kansas Corporation Commission

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20220628104113 Kansas Corporation Commission Phone: 785-271-3100 Fax: 785-271-3354 http://kcc.ks.gov/

Laura Kelly, Governor

NOTICE OF PENALTY ASSESSMENT 22-TRAM-510-PEN

Baltazar Guzman Ruiz, Owner Baltazar G. Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking 3046 Jones Ave. Garden City, KS 67846

This is a notice of a penalty assessment against Baltazar G. Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking (Ruiz Trucking) for violation(s) of Kansas Motor Carrier Safety Statutes, Rules, and Regulations discovered during a compliance review conducted on May 3, 2022 through May 26, 2022, by Kansas Corporation Commission Special Investigator Erica Pargas and Penny Fryback. Penalties are assessed in accordance with the FY 2022 Uniform Penalty Assessment Matrix, approved by the Commission on June 29, 2021. For a full description of the penalty(s) and terms and obligations please refer to the Order attached to this notice.

IF YOU ACCEPT THE PENALTY: Ruiz Trucking has been assessed a \$12,700 penalty. You have thirty (30) days from the date of service of the Penalty Order to pay the penalty. Please remit payment of \$12,700, through your personal account with the Kansas Corporation Commission's Kansas Trucking Regulatory Assistance Network (KTRAN) system located at https://puc.kcc.ks.gov/ktran/. If you have not received a letter from the Transportation Division assigning you a PIN, please contact that Division at 785-271-3145. You must have an account through KTRAN to pay the penalty owed.

The attached Order requires a representative of Ruiz Trucking to attend a Commission-sponsored safety seminar within ninety (90) days from the date of the Order and to provide the undersigned Litigation Counsel with written proof of attendance. A schedule of dates and locations for safety seminars can be found at the Commission's website <u>http://www.kcc.state.ks.us/trans/safety_meetings.htm</u>.

IF YOU CONTEST THE PENALTY ORDER: You have the right to request a hearing. A request for hearing must be made in writing, setting forth the specific grounds upon which relief is sought. Ruiz Trucking must file, within fifteen (15) days from the date of service of this Order, the request for hearing with the Commission's electronic filing system found at https://puc.kcc.ks.gov/e-filing/e-express/, and mail a copy of the request for hearing to the undersigned at the above address. If you do not have access to the internet, you can mail an original and seven copies of the request to the Executive Director at 1500 S.W. Arrowhead Road, Topeka, Kansas 66604, and mail a copy to the undersigned Litigation Counsel.¹

IF YOU FAIL TO ACT: Failure to pay the penalty of \$12,700 within thirty (30) days from the date of service of the Penalty Order or failure to comply with the terms of the Order, or in the alternative, failure to provide a timely written request for a hearing, will result in the Order becoming final and may result in additional sanctions of suspension and/or revocation of your motor carrier operating authority.

Respectfully, *Iel Ahean A. Latif* Ahsan A. Latif Litigation Counsel (785) 271-3118 a.latif@kcc.ks.gov

¹ K.A.R. 82-1-215; K.S.A. 77-542.

THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION **OF THE STATE OF KANSAS**

Before Commissioners:	Dwight D. Keen, Chair Susan K. Duffy Andrew J. French

In the Matter of the Investigation of **Baltazar G**. Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking, of Garden City, KS, Regarding the Violation(s) of the Motor Carrier Safety Statutes, Rules and Regulations and the Commission's Authority to Impose Penalties, Sanctions and/or the Revocation of) Motor Carrier Authority.

) Docket No. 22-TRAM-510-PEN

PENALTY ORDER

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The above-captioned matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Commission). Having examined its files and records, and being duly advised in the premises, the Commission finds and concludes as follows:

I. JURISDICTION

1 Pursuant to K.S.A 66-1,108b, 66-1,111, 66-1,112 and 66-1,114b, the Commission is given full power, authority and jurisdiction to supervise and control motor carriers, as defined in 49 C.F.R. Part 390.5 as adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3f, doing business or procuring business in Kansas, and is empowered to do all things necessary and convenient for the exercise of such power, authority and jurisdiction.

2. Pursuant to K.S.A. 66-1,129a, 66-1,130 and 66-1,142b, the Commission may suspend operations, revoke or amend certificates, and initiate sanctions or fines against every motor carrier and every person who violates any provision of Kansas law in regard to the regulation of such motor carriers and persons, or who fails to obey any order, decision or regulation of the Commission.

3. The Commission has the authority, pursuant to K.A.R. 82-1-237, to investigate an entity under the Commission's jurisdiction and issue an order on the Commission's own motion when the Commission believes the entity is in violation of the law or any order of the Commission.

II. BACKGROUND

4. Baltazar G. Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking (Ruiz Trucking or Carrier) has common operating authority with the Commission and further operates under USDOT number 1458316.

5. Baltazar Ruiz attended the Procedures for Safety Compliance Seminar presented by the Kansas Corporation Commission, on November 18,2019, on behalf of Ruiz Trucking.

6. Ruiz Trucking is a common motor carrier which primarily hauls grain, feed and hay.

III. STATEMENT OF FACTS

7. Pursuant to the jurisdiction and authority cited above, on May 3, 2022 through May 26, 2022, Commission Staff (Staff) Special Investigator Erica Pargas and Penny Fryback conducted a safety compliance review of the operations of Ruiz Trucking. A copy of the safety compliance review is included in this Penalty Order as Attachment "A" and is hereby incorporated by reference. As a result of this investigation, the special investigator identified sixteen (16) violation(s) of the Motor Carrier Safety Regulations.

a. On December 2, 2021, Ruiz Trucking required or permitted its driver, Jose
 Ramirez, to operate a CDL-required commercial motor vehicle, a 2014
 Freightliner, VIN ending in 9932, GVWR 50,000 lbs., in interstate

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commerce in from Ordway, Colorado to Pratt, Kansas. This trip is evidenced by a Driver's Daily Log, dated December 2, 2021, a copy of which is attached hereto as Attachment "B" and is hereby incorporated by reference. At the time of this transportation, Ruiz Trucking permitted its driver, Jose Ramirez, to operate a commercial motor vehicle with a manual transmission while possessing a commercial driver's license with an "E" restriction. An "E" restriction on a CDL indicates that driver is not authorized to drive a vehicle with a manual transmission. This same driver had previously been placed out-of-service weeks earlier, on November 15, 2021, for operating a commercial motor vehicle with a manual transmission while possessing a CDL with an "E" restriction. That trip is evidenced by Driver/Vehicle Examination Report No. NEXC00000622, dated November 15, 2021, a copy of which is attached hereto as Attachment "C" and is hereby incorporated by reference. The Carrier's repeated use this driver to operate a commercial motor vehicle with a manual transmission while he possessed a CDL with an "E" restriction is an intentional violation of 49 C.F.R. 392.2, adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3h, and authorized by K.S.A. 8-2, 125. Staff recommends an enhanced fine of \$1,000.

b. On December 27, 2021, Ruiz Trucking required or permitted its driver, Baltazar Ruiz, to operate a CDL-required commercial motor vehicle, a 2002 Freightliner, VIN ending in 41081, GVWR 54,000 lbs., in interstate commerce from Albion, Nebraska to Satanta, Kansas. This trip is evidenced by a Trip Summary Sheet, dated December 27, 2021, a copy of which is attached hereto as Attachment "D" and is hereby incorporated by reference. At the time of this transportation, Baltazar Ruiz was not eligible for a Driver's License or CDL due to previous Driving Under the Influence convictions and failures to submit to testing. The revocation of Mr. Ruiz's driving privileges is evidenced by an email from the Kansas Department of Revenue (KDOR), dated May 4, 2022, a copy of which is attached hereto as Attachment "E" and is hereby incorporated by reference. Although Mr. Ruiz's driving privileges are and remain revoked, he provided the Special Investigators with a fraudulent Mexican driver's license he uses to drive. The fraudulent nature of the license provided is evidenced by an email from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) who checked its authenticity with representatives of the Mexican government. The email is dated May 10, 2022, a copy of which is attached hereto as Attachment "F" and is hereby incorporated by reference. The Carrier utilizing a driver with a fraudulent driver's license in an attempt to circumvent the revocation of his driving privileges is a violation of 49 C.F.R. 390.35, adopted K.A.R. 82-4-3f, and authorized by K.S.A. 66-1,129. Staff recommends a fine of \$2,000.

c. During the transportation described in paragraph a., above, Ruiz Trucking provided fraudulent periodic (annual) inspections for units operated by the Carrier. For the periodic (annual) inspection for the vehicle in this trip the inspector, Mr. Ruiz, checked as "OK" the "Bus Exhaust" despite the vehicle not being a bus. Additionally, Mr. Ruiz failed to check the lighting devices and safe loading as well as required portions of the steering system, spring assembly, tires as well as wheels and rims. A copy of the fraudulent Annual Vehicle Inspection, dated January 1, 2021, is attached hereto as Attachment "G" and is hereby incorporated by reference. The Special Investigators found five (5) violations of this type. The Carrier permitting its drivers to operate a commercial motor vehicle using a fraudulent periodic (annually) inspection is a violation of 49 C.F.R. 390.35, adopted K.A.R. 82-4-3f, and 49 C.F.R. 396.17(a), adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3j, both authorized by K.S.A. 66-1,129. Staff recommends an enhanced fine of \$2,000.

- d. During the transportation described in paragraph b., above, Ruiz Trucking permitted or required its driver, Baltazar Ruiz, to operate a CDL required commercial motor vehicle despite the fact his driving privileges had been revoked. The Carrier utilizing a disqualified driver whose driving privileges had been revoked to operate a commercial motor vehicle is an intentional violation of 49 C.F.R. 391.15(a), adopted K.A.R. 82-4-3g, and authorized by K.S.A. 66-1,129. Staff recommends a fine of \$500.
- e. During the transportation described in paragraph a., above, Ruiz Trucking failed retain supporting documents for each load hauled. The Special Investigators found forty-eight (48) violations of this type. The Carrier's failure to retain supporting documents for each load hauled is a violation

of K.A.R. 82-4-35a and 49 C.F.R. 392.2, adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3h, and authorized by K.S.A. 66-1,129. Staff recommends a fine of \$1,000.

- f. On December 8, 2021, Ruiz Trucking required or permitted its driver, Jose Ramirez, to operate a CDL-required commercial motor vehicle, a 2014 Freightliner, VIN ending in 9932, GVWR 50,000 lbs., in interstate commerce in from Garden City, Kansas to Hastings, Nebraska. This trip is evidenced by a Driver's Daily Logs, dated December 1 - 8, 2021, a copy of which is attached hereto as Attachment "H" and is hereby incorporated by reference. At the time of this transportation, Ruiz Trucking permitted its driver, Jose Ramirez, to operated five hours and thirty minutes over the 70 hours allowed in an eight (8) day work period. Ruiz Trucking was found to have committed the same violation on a previous compliance review. The Carrier permitting its driver to drive in excess of 70 hours in a period of eight consecutive days in successive compliance reviews is an intentional violation of 49 C.F.R. 395.3(b)(2), adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3a, and authorized by K.S.A. 66-1,129. Staff recommends an enhanced fine of \$500.
- g. On January 20, 2022, Ruiz Trucking required or permitted its driver, Juan Martinez, to operate a CDL-required commercial motor vehicle, a 2002 Freightliner truck, VIN ending in 41081, GVWR 54,000 lbs., in intrastate commerce from Scott City, Kansas to Satanta, Kansas. This trip is evidenced by Driver's Daily Log, dated January 20, 2022, a copy of which is attached hereto as Attachment "I" and is hereby incorporated by

reference. At the time of this transportation, Ruiz Trucking failed to ensure its drivers had an equal chance of being selected for a random controlled substance and alcohol test each time selections were made. The Carrier's failure to ensure that each driver selected for random alcohol and controlled substance testing has an equal chance of being selected each time selections are made is in violation of 49 C.F.R. 382.305(i)(2), adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3c and authorized by K.S.A. 66-1,129. Staff recommends a fine of \$0.00.

- h. During the transportation described in paragraph b., above, Ruiz Trucking could not produce the motor vehicle record for its driver, Mr. Ruiz. The Carrier's failure to maintain a copy of the motor vehicle record received from each state agency in the driver qualification file is a violation of 49 C.F.R. 391.25(a), adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3g, and authorized by K.S.A. 66-1,129. Staff requests an enhanced fine as the Carrier has a violation of this type in a previous compliance review. Staff requests an enhanced fine of \$200.
- i. On April 4, 2022, Ruiz Trucking required or permitted its driver, Larry Snyder, to operate a CDL-required commercial motor vehicle, a 2016 Freightliner, VIN ending in 8046, GVWR 50,000 lbs., in interstate commerce in Ambion, Nebraska to Oakley, Kansas. This trip is evidenced by a Driver's Daily Log, dated April 4, 2022, a copy of which is attached hereto as Attachment "J" and is hereby incorporated by reference. At the time of this transportation, Ruiz Trucking failed to require its driver, Mr.

Snyder, to be medically certified prior to operating a commercial motor vehicle. The Carrier's failure to ensure its drivers operating a commercial motor vehicle had been medically examined and certified prior to requiring or permitting the operation of a commercial motor vehicle is in violation of 49 C.F.R. 391.45, adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3g, and authorized by K.S.A. 66-1,129. Staff recommends a fine of \$250.

- j. During the transportation described in paragraph i., above, Ruiz Trucking permitted or required its driver, Mr. Snyder, to operate in interstate commerce despite the fact Mr. Snyder only possessed an intrastate CDL. The Carrier's failure to ensure its drivers operated commercial motor vehicles with a valid CDL for the operations being conducted is a violation of 49 C.F.R. 392.2 as adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3h and K.S.A. 8-2,125, and authorized by K.S.A. 66-1,129. Staff recommends a fine of \$500.
- k. During the transportation described in paragraph g., above, Ruiz Trucking permitted or required its driver, Mr. Martinez, to operate a commercial motor vehicle with a gross weight over 85,500 lbs. The Special Investigators found eight (8) violations of this type. The Carrier's failure to stay within the legal gross weight limit is a violation of K.A.R. 82-4-6a(c) and 49 C.F.R. 392.2, adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3h, and authorized by K.S.A. 8-1901. Staff recommends a fine of \$1,500.
- 1. During the transportation described in paragraph a., above, Ruiz Trucking permitted its driver, Mr. Ramirez, to drive past the allowed 14 hour on-

duty time limit. The Special Investigators found eight (8) violations of this type. Ruiz Trucking was found to have committed the same violation on a previous compliance review. The Carrier permitting or requiring its drivers to operate past the allowed fourteenth hour in successive compliance reviews is an intentional violation of 49 CFR 395.3(a)(2), adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3a, and authorized by K.S.A. 66-1,129. Staff recommends a fine of \$250.

- m. During the transportation described in paragraph a., above, Ruiz Trucking permitted its driver, Mr. Ramirez, to drive more than allowable eleven hours without qualifying for a rest break. The Special Investigator found nine (9) violations of this type. Ruiz Trucking was found to have committed the same violation on a previous compliance review. The Carrier permitting or requiring its drivers to operate beyond the eleventh hour in successive compliance reviews is an intentional violation of 49 C.F.R. 395.3(a)(3)(i), adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3a, and authorized by K.S.A. 66-1,129. Staff recommends a fine of \$250.
- n. During the transportation described in paragraph b., above, Ruiz Trucking failed to require its driver, Mr. Ruiz, to maintain a record of duty status. The Special Investigator found thirteen (13) violations of this type. The Carrier's failure to require its drivers to maintain a record of duty is a violation of 49 C.F.R. 395.8(a)(1), adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3a, and authorized by K.S.A. 66-1,129. Staff recommends a fine of \$500.

- o. On January 5-6, 2022, Ruiz Trucking required or permitted its driver, Juan Martinez, to operate a CDL-required commercial motor vehicle, a 2002 Freightliner, VIN ending in 41081, GVWR 54,000 lbs., in interstate commerce from Columbus, Nebraska to Scott City, Kansas. This trip is evidenced by a Bill of Lading, dated January 5, 2022 and a Driver's Daily Log, Dated January 5, 2022. A copy of both documents is attached hereto as Attachment "K" and is hereby incorporated by reference. Although the Bill of Lading evidences a load was transported on this date, Mr. Martinez recorded himself as off-duty on this January 6, 2022. The Special Investigators discovered that Mr. Martinez had actually delivered this load at 10:56 a.m. on January 6, 2022. At the time of this transportation, Ruiz Trucking permitted or required its driver to prepare a false report. The Special Investigators found two (2) violations of this type. The Carrier requiring or permitting its driver to prepare a false report is an intentional violation of 49 C.F.R. 395.8(e)(1), adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3a, and authorized by K.S.A .66-1,129. Staff recommends a fine of \$2,000.
- p. During the transportation described in paragraph a., above, Ruiz Trucking failed to require its driver, Mr. Ramirez, to record his hours of service using an electronic logging device (ELD) provided within the commercial motor vehicle, as the driver was required to record his hours of service more than eight days in a 30 day period. The Carrier's failure to require its driver to record his hours of service on the ELD when required is a

violation of 49 C.F.R. 395.8(a)(2)(i), adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3a, and authorized by K.S.A. 66-1,129. Staff recommends a fine of \$250.

IV. STAFF'S RECOMMENDATIONS

8. Staff submitted a Report and Recommendation (R&R), dated June 20, 2022, attached hereto as Attachment "L" and is hereby incorporated by reference. In its R&R, Staff made recommendation regarding the above-mentioned violations.

9. Based upon the available facts, Staff recommends the Commission finds Ruiz Trucking committed sixteen (16) violation(s) of Kansas law that governs motor carriers, including various provisions of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs), as adopted by the Kansas Administrative Regulations, and is therefore subject to sanctions or fines imposed by the Commission.

10. Additionally, Staff recommends a civil penalty of \$12,700 for sixteen (16) violation(s) of the Motor Carrier Safety Statutes, Rules and Regulations.

11. Staff further recommends that a representative from Ruiz Trucking be required to attend a Commission-sponsored safety seminar within ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, and provide Litigation Counsel with written proof of attendance. A schedule of the dates and locations for safety seminars can be found on the Commission's website at http://kcc.ks.gov/trans/safety_meetings.htm.

12. Staff further recommends Ruiz Trucking submit a written, comprehensive corrective action plan (CAP) to Transportation Staff within thirty (30) days of the date of this order, documenting the violation(s) described in this Penalty Order, including specific and detailed information explaining Carrier's efforts and concrete steps taken to ensure the violation(s) do not occur in the future.

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13. Finally, Staff recommends that Ruiz Trucking submit to one follow-up safety compliance review within eighteen (18) months from the date of this Order. Transportation Staff will contact the motor carrier at a later date to determine an appropriate time for this review.

V. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

14. The Commission finds it has jurisdiction over Ruiz Trucking because it is a motor carrier as defined in 49 C.F.R. Part 390.5 as adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3f.

15. The Commission finds Ruiz Trucking committed sixteen (16) violation(s) of Kansas law that governs motor carriers, including various provisions of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs), as adopted by the Kansas Administrative Regulations, and is therefore subject to sanctions or fines imposed by the Commission.

THE COMMISSION THEREFORE ORDERS THAT:

A. Baltazar G. Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking, of Garden City, KS is hereby assessed a \$12,700 civil penalty for sixteen (16) violation(s) of Kansas law governing the regulation of motor carriers, the Kansas Administrative Regulations and provisions of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, as adopted by the Kansas Administrative Regulations.

B. Ruiz Trucking is hereby ordered to attend a Commission-sponsored safety seminar within ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, and is to provide Litigation Counsel with written proof of attendance.

C. Carrier is hereby ordered to submit a written, comprehensive corrective action plan (CAP) to Transportation Staff within thirty (30) days of the date of this order, documenting the violation(s) described in this Penalty Order, including specific and detailed information explaining Carrier's efforts and concrete steps taken to ensure the violation(s) do not occur in the future.

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D. Ruiz Trucking is ordered to submit to one follow-up safety compliance review within eighteen (18) months from the date of this Order. Transportation Staff will contact the Carrier to set up the appointment.

E. Pursuant to K.S.A. 77-537 and K.S.A. 77-542, any party may request a hearing on the above issue(s) by submitting a written request setting forth the specific grounds upon which relief is sought. The request may be electronically filed with the Commission's electronic filing system at https://puc.kcc.ks.gov/e-filing/e-express/, within fifteen (15) days from the date of service of this Order, and a copy of the request mailed to the Litigation Division. If you do not have access to the internet, you can mail an original and seven copies of the request to the Executive Director at 1500 S.W. Arrowhead Road, Topeka, Kansas 66604, and mail a copy of the request to Litigation Counsel. A hearing will be scheduled only upon written request. Failure to timely request a hearing will result in a waiver of Ruiz Trucking's right to a hearing, and this Penalty Order will become a Final Order.

F. If a request for hearing is filed, attorneys for all parties shall enter their appearances in Commission proceedings by giving their names and addresses for the record. For civil penalties exceeding \$500, a corporation shall appear before the Commission by its attorney, unless waived by the Commission for good cause shown and a determination that such waiver is in the public interest.²

G. If you do not request a hearing, the payment of the civil penalty of \$12,700 is due in thirty (30) days from the date of service of this Order. Payment of \$12,700 must be made through your personal account with the Kansas Corporation Commission's Kansas Trucking Regulatory Assistance Network (KTRAN) system located at <u>https://puc.kcc.ks.gov/ktran/</u>. You must have an account through KTRAN to pay the penalty.

². K.S.A. 77-515(c); K.A.R. 82-1-228(d)(2); K.A.R. 82-1-202(a).

H. Failure to pay the \$12,700 civil penalty within thirty (30) days from the date of service of this Penalty Order and/or failure to comply with the provisions of this Order may result in suspension of Ruiz Trucking's motor carrier operating authority without further notice.³ Additionally, the Commission may impose further sanctions to include, but not limited to, the issuance and enforcement of revocation of authority and/or cease and desist orders, and any other remedies available to the Commission by law, without further notice.

BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.

Keen, Chair; Duffy, Commissioner; French, Commissioner

06/28/2022

Dated:

Lynn M. Ref

Lynn M. Retz Executive Director

AAL

³ K.S.A. 66-1,105.

ATTACHMENT "A"

VINILLE STATES REFAILING OF TRANSFORTATION



U.S. DOT#: 1458316 MC/MX#: 550956 Legal: BALTAZAR G RUIZ Operating (DBA): RUIZ TRUCKING Investigation Date: 05/26/2022

Investigation Type: Onsite Comprehensive Investigation

Location of Investigation: Company principal place of business (PPOB) **Extent of Operations:** Entire Operation

Mailing Address

3046 JONES AVE GARDEN CITY, KS 67846 United States

Physical Address

3046 JONES AVE GARDEN CITY, KS 67846 United States

Contact Information

Business and Financial

Business Type: Sole Proprietorship Name of Gross Revenue Provider: Baltazar G Ruiz Title of Gross Revenue Provider: Owner Gross Revenue: For Year Ending: Federal Tax ID:

Operation Classification and Type

Cargo

Type of Operation: Non-HM Interstate Carrier, Non-HM Intrastate Grain, Feed, Hay Carrier

Operation Classification

For-Hire Motor Carrier Property Other Non-Hazardous Freight

Equipment				Driver Information		
	Owned	Term Leased	Trip Leased	Drivers		
Truck Tractors	3				Intrastate	Interstate
Trailers	5			< 100 Miles		
				>= 100 Miles		5
	ed in the U.S.: 3 time used in the			Average trip leased d Drivers with CDL: 4 Total Drivers: 5	lriver/month: 0	
Person(s) Inter	rviewed					
Name: BALTAZ	AR GUZMAN RU	IZ		Title: OWNER		
Name: MELISSA	A HUERTA			Title:		
					0 ANA D- 1	

Questions	

Questions about this report or the Federal Motor Carrier 1303 SW FIRST AMERICAN PL STE 200Safety or Hazardous Materials regulations may be
addressed to the Federal Motor Carrier SafetyTOPEKA, KS 66604-4040Administration at:Phone: (785) 271-1260Fax: (877) 547-0378Fax: (877) 547-0378

This report will be used to assess your safety compliance.

Violations

1. Primary: 383.37(a) State Equivalent: K.S.A. 8-2,132(a)

Allowing, requiring, permitting, or authorizing a driver to operate a CMV during any period in which the driver does not have a current CLP or CDL or does not have a CLP or CDL with the proper class or endorsements. An employer may not use a driver to operate a CMV who violates any restriction on the driver's CLP or CDL.

	Violations Discovered		BASIC Impacted Driver Fitness	Rating Factor 2: Driver = Part 383	
e a	Fed	State	Total		
nt	1		1		
or MV	Checl	ked			
VIV	Fed	State	Total		
	5		5		



Acute

Example/Notes:		Drivers/Vehicles in Violation			
		State	Total		
Driver name: Jose A Ramirez	1		1		
Trip date: 12/2/2021 Vehicle description: Unit #32 VIN #	Checked	I	·		
	Fed	State	Total		
On 12/2/2021, Baltazar G. Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking allowed or required driver, Jose A	5		5		

Ramirez to operate in interstate and intrastate commerce with a CDL that did not have the proper endorsements. At the time of operation, driver, Jose A. Ramirez's CDL had a manual transmission restriction. The unit being operated at the time of operation was a manual transmission.

2. Primary: 390.35 Secondary: 383.23(a)		tions overed		BASIC Impacted Driver Fitness	Rating Factor 1: General = Part 390			
Fraudulently acquiring or falsifying a commercial driver's license.	Fed	State	Total					
Acute	1		1					
A	Chec	ked						
	Fed	State	Total					
	1		1					

Example/Notes:		Drivers/Vehicles in Violation			
		State	Total		
Trip date: 12/20/2021	1		1		
Driver's name: Baltazar G Ruiz	Checked				
Vehicle description: Unit #81, or Unit #32, Or Unit #46	Fed	State	Total		
Deltance C. Duis d'It (a Duis Truching, grouided laugetigeters with a Fraudulent Mayica	1		1		

Baltazar G Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking provided Investigators with a Fraudulent Mexico Drivers License.

3. Primary: 390.35		itions	I	BASIC Impacted	Rating Factor 1:	
Secondary: 396.17(a)		overed		Vehicle Maintenance	General = Part 390	
Making or causing to make fraudulent or intentionally false entry on an annual periodic inspection form.	Fed 5	State	Total 5			



Fed	State	Total
5		5

Example/Notes:	Drivers/Vehicles in Violation			
	Fed	State	Total	
Trip date: 12/2/2021	4		4	
Driver's name: Jose Ramirez	Checked			
Vehicle number. Unit #32/ Unit #T802	Fed	State	Total	
Delta	4		4	

Baltazar G Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking provided annual inspections that were fraudulently filled out.

4. Primary: 391.15(a) Using a disqualified driver.	ViolationsBASIC ImpactedDiscoveredDriver Fitness	Rating Factor 2: Driver = Part 391		
A Acute	Fed State Total 1 1 Checked			
	Fed State Total			
	5 5			

Example/Notes:	Drivers/Vehicles in Violation			
	Fed	State	Total	
Driver name: Baltazar G Ruiz	1		1	
Trip date: 12/20/2021 Disqualifying reason: Suspended for failure to Submit to a Test, and previous DUI convictions	Checked			
	Fed	State	Total	
	5		5	

On 12/20/2021, Baltazar G Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking allowed or required driver, Baltazar G Ruiz to operate a CMV in interstate commerce. At the time of this operation, driver Baltazar G Ruiz was disqualified from operating a CMV due to license suspension.

 5. Primary: 392.2 State Equivalent: K.S.A. 82-4-35a Operating a commercial motor vehicle not in accordance with the laws, ordinances, and regulations of the jurisdiction in which it is being operated - HOS Compliance 		Violations Discovered			BASIC Impacted Hours-of-Service	Rating Factor 3: Operational = Part	
		Fed	State	Total	Compliance	392	
		48		48			
		Chec	ked				
С	Critical	Fed	State	Total			
	At least 10% of the number checked had violations			145			

Example/Notes:	Drivers/Vehicles in Violation		
	Fed	State	Total
Driver: Jose Ramirez	4		4
Trip: 12/2/2021	Checked		

Baltazar G. Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking	failed to retai	n copies o [.]	f supporting	documents for
loads hauled by the carriers drivers.				

6. Primary: 395.3(b)(2)

Requiring or permitting a property-carrying commercial motor vehicle driver to drive after having been on duty 70 hours in 8 consecutive days.



Critical

At least 10% of the number checked had violations

Disco	tions overed		BASIC Impacted Hours-of-Service	Rating Factor 3: Operational = Part
Fed	State	Total	Compliance	395
2		2		
Chec	ked			
Fed	State	Total		
19		19		

1

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Example/Notes:	Drivers/Vehicles in Violation		
	Fed	State	Total
Dates of 8-day period, 12/1 to 12/8	1		1
Driver name: Jose Ramirez	Checked		
Date/Time Violation Began: 12/8/2021 at 8: 00 a.m.		-	Total
Total Hours Driven in Violation: 5 1/2	Fed	State	iotai
	5		5

On 12/8/2021, Baltazar G. Ruiz allowed or required driver, Jose Ramirez to drive after having been on duty 70 hours in 8 consecutive days.

7. Primary: 382.305(i)(2)

Example/Notes:

Driver name: Larry Snyder

Trip date: 3/25/2022

Failing to ensure that each driver subject to random alcohol and controlled substances testing has an equal chance of being selected each time selections are made.

Baltazar G. Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking failed to remove driver, Fernando Escarcega-Salas who was terminated on 7/24/21 from the carriers Random Pool for the 1st Quarter in

2022, which did not give the drivers an equal chance of being chosen.

Fed	State	Total
1		1
Checked		
Fed		-
rea	State	Total

Drivers/Vehicles in Violation

Fed	State	Total
1		1
Checked		
Fed	State	Total
5		5

8. Primary: 382.701 (b)(1)

Selection date: 1st Quarter of 2022

Failing to conduct an annual query.

Violations Discovered				
Fed	State	Total		
1		1		
Checked				
Fed	State	Total		

	D 1 / / /		
Example/Notes:		ehicles in Vie	
Baltazar G. Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking failed to conduct annual queries on driver, Baltazar G.	Fed	State	Total
Ruiz in 2020, 2021, and 2022.	1 Checked		1
	Fed	State	Total
		State	
	3		3
9. Primary: 391.21(a)	Violations	Discovered	
Using a driver who has not completed and furnished an employment application.	Fed	State	Total
	2		2
	Checked		
	Fed	State	Total
	5		5
Example/Notes:	Drivers/V	ehicles in Vi	olation
	Fed	State	Total
Driver name: Baltazar G Ruiz	2		2
Trip date. 12/20/2021 Description of violation:	Checked		
Description of violation.	Fed	State	Total
Baltazar G. Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking's driver, Baltazar G Ruiz provided an employment application that failed to provide 10 years of employment history.	5		5
10. Primary: 391.25(a)	Violations	Discovered	
Failing to make an inquiry into the driving record of each driver to the appropriate State	Fed	State	Total
agencies in which the driver held a commercial motor vehicle operator's license at least	1		1
once every 12 months.	Checked		
	Fed	State	Total
	5		5
Example/Notes:	Drivers/V	ehicles in Vi	olation
Driver name: Baltazar G Ruiz	Fed	State	Total
Trip date: 12/20/2021	1		1
	Checked		
Baltazar G Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking failed to obtain or provide record of annual MVR's for	Fed	State	Total
2022, 2021, and 2020 for driver, Baltazar G Ruiz.	5		5
11. Primary: 391.25(c)(2)	Violations	Discovered	

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1 64	JULIC	10(41
1		1
Checked		
	.	
Fed	State	Total

Drivers/Vehicles in Violation

Fed	State	Total
1		1
Checked		
Fed	State	Total
5		5

Violatio	ns Discovere	d
Fed	State	Total
1		1
Checked	I	
Fed	State	Total
5		5

Example/Notes:		Drivers/Vehicles in Violation			
	Fed	State	Total		
Driver name: Larry Snyder	1		1		
Trip date: 4/4/2021	Checked	4	I		
Last examination date: None on file	CHECKE				
	Fed	State	Total		
	5		5		

On 4/4/2021, Baltazar G Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking allowed or required Larry Snyder to operate a CMV without being medically examined. The carrier had no copy of the drivers Medical Card in the Driver Qualification file and review of the drivers MVR revealed the driver has an intrastate only CDL with no Medical Card information on the MVR.

Baltazar G Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking failed to obtain or provide record of Annual Reviews

Using a driver not medically examined and certified during the preceding 24 months.

Example/Notes:

Trip date: 12/20/2021

Driver name: Baltazar G. Ruiz

12. Primary: 391.45(b)(1)

Secondary: 391.11(a)

for 2022, 2021, and 2020 for driver, Baltazar G Ruiz.

13. Primary: 392.2	Violations Discovered		
State Equivalent: K.S.A. 8-2,125	Fed	State	Total
Operating a motor vehicle not in accordance with the laws, ordinances, and regulations of		1	1
the jurisdiction in which it is being operated.	Checked		
	Fed	State	Total
		5	5

Example/Notes:	Drivers/Vehicles in Violation		
	Fed	State	Total
Unit #: 46		1	1
Driver Name: Larry Snyder			i.

	Fed	State	Total
Baltazar G Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking allowed or required driver, Larry Snyder to operate in		5	5
interstate commerce with an Intrastate only CDL.		-	-

14. Primary: 392.2 State Equivalent: K.S.A. 8-1901

Operating a vehicle in violation of local/state laws - Unsafe Driving.

Violations	5 Discovere	d
Fed	State	Total
8		8
Checked		
Fed	State	Total
97		97

Example/Notes:	Drivers/Vehicles in Violation			
	Fed	State	Total	
Unit #81	3		3	
Driver Name: Juan Martinez	Checked	1	5	
Trip Date: 1/20/22	Fed	State	Total	
On 1/20/22, Baltazar G Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking allowed or required driver, Juan Martinez	5		5	

to haul a load of DDG from Scott City to Friona Cattle Feeders weighing 90,240 pounds. This load was over the allowable weight of 85,500 pounds in the State Of Kansas.

15. Primary: 395.3(a)(2)		Violations Discovered		
Requiring or permitting a property-carrying commercial motor vehicle driver to drive after	Fed	State	Total	
the end of the 14th hour after coming on duty.	8		8	
	Checked			
	Fed	State	Total	
	150		150	
Example/Notes:	Drivers/Ve	ehicles in Vio	olation	
•	Fed	State	Total	
Trip date: 12/2/2021	2		2	
Driver name: Jose Ramirez	Checked		-	
	Fed	State	Total	
On 12/1/2021 to 12/2/2021, Baltazar G Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking allowed or required driver, Jose Ramirez to operate 1 hour and 15 minutes past the 14th hour since coming on duty.	5		5	

16. Primary: 395.3(a)(3)(i)	Violations	Discovered	
Requiring or permitting a property-carrying commercial motor vehicle driver to drive more	Fed	State	Total
than 11 hours.	9		9
	Checked		
	Fed	State	Total

150

Fed

150

150

Total

150

Example/Notes:		Drivers/Vehicles in Violation		
	Fed	State	Total	
Trip date: 12/2/2021	2		2	
Driver name: Jose Ramirez	Checked			
On 12/2/2021, Baltazar G Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking allowed or required driver, Jose	Fed	State	Total	
	5		5	
17. Primary: 395.8(a)(1)	Violations	Discovered		
Failing to require a driver to prepare a record of duty status using the appropriate method	Fed	State	Total	
	13		13	
	Checked			

Example/Notes:		Drivers/Vehicles in Violation			
	Fed	State	Total		
Date: 12/20/2021	2		2		
Driver name: Baltazar G. Ruiz					
On 12/20/2021 Paltazar C. Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking failed to require driver Paltazar C	Fed	State	Total		
On 12/20/2021, Baltazar G. Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking failed to require driver, Baltazar G. Ruiz to prepare a record of duty status.	5		5		

Making, or permitting a driver to make, a false report regarding duty status

Violations Discovered				
Fed	State	Total		
2		2		
Checked				
Fed	State	Total		
150		150		

State

Example/Notes:		Drivers/Vehicles in Violation		
	Fed	State	Total	
Driver name: Juan Martinez	1		1	
Trip Date: 1/5/2022	Checked			
On 1/5/2022, Baltazar G Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking allowed or required driver, Juan Martinez	Fed	State	Total	
to falsify the drivers record of duty status. Driver Juan Martinez failed to log his drive time from Garden City, KS to Norton, KS (approximately 167 miles; 2 hrs & 42 min).	_		5	

19. Primary: 395.8(f)

Violations Discovered

1 64	June	10(4)
23		23
Checkee	d	
Fed	State	Total
150		150
	23 Checked Fed	23 Checked Fed State

Example/Notes:		Drivers/Vehicles in Violation		
	Fed	State	Total	
Driver name: Juan Martinez	3		3	
rip date: 1/5/2022 CI	Checked			
On 1/5/2022 Baltazar G Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking's driver Juan Martinez failed to note the	Fed	State	Total	
rip date: 1/5/2022 Che	5		5	

20. Primary: 395.8(a)(2)(i)

Driver failed to record driver's record of duty status on an Electronic Logging Device.

Violations Discovered

Fed	State	Total
3		3
Checked		
Fed	State	Total
3		3

Example/Notes:	Drivers/Vehicles in Violation		
	Fed	State	Total
Driver: Jose Ramirez	3		3
Date: 11/15/2021	Checked		
Orgin and Destination: Fairmont, NE to Ulysses, KS	Fed	State	Total

Baltazar G Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking failed to require his drivers to log their Hours Of Service on an ELD as required.

21. Primary: 396.3(b)(1)

Failing to keep a maintenance record which identifies the vehicle, including make, serial number, year, and tire size.

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Fed	State	Total
3		3
Checked		
Fed	State	Total
3		3

Violations Discovered		d
Fed	State	Total
5		5
Checked		

Fed	State	Total
5		5

Example/Notes:	Drivers/Ve	ehicles in Vic	olation
	Fed	State	Total
Trip Date: 12/8/2021	5		5
Unit #46	Checked		

- Cu	JULIC	iviai
5		5

#46, Unit #81, Unit #32, Unit #T802, and Unit #7406 that were not properly identified. The	
carrier failed to note the make, serial number, year, and tire size on the maintenance files.	5

22. Primary: 396.9(d)(3)	Violation	Violations Discovered		
Failing to maintain completed inspection form for 12 months from the date of inspection at the carrier's principal place of business or where vehicle is housed.	Fed	State	Total	
	12		12	
	Checked			
	Fed	State	Total	
	12		12	
	Drivers/Vehicles in Violation			
Example/Notes:	Drivers/	Vehicles in `	Violation	
•	Drivers/` Fed	Vehicles in State	Violation Total	
Example/Notes: Date of inspection: 4/26/22				
Date of inspection: 4/26/22 Issuing agency : Kansas Highway Patrol	Fed		Total	
Date of inspection: 4/26/22	Fed		Total	

Safety Fitness Kating

Your proposed safety rating is: **UNSATISFACTORY** 2 or more UNSATISFACTORY rating factors. Corrective actions must be taken for any violations (deficiencies) identified in this report. See below for more information.

RATING FACTORS	RATING	ACUTE	CRITICAL
Factor 1: General = Parts 387 and 390	Unsatisfactory	2	0
Factor 2: Driver = Parts 382, 383 and, 391	Unsatisfactory	2	0
Factor 3: Operational = Parts 392 and 395	Unsatisfactory	0	2
Factor 4: Vehicle = Parts 393 and 396 OOS Vehicles (CR): 0 Number of Vehicles Inspected (CR): 0 OOS Vehicles (MCMIS): 2 Number of Vehicles Inspected (MCMIS): 5 OOS Rate: 40%	Conditional		
Factor 5: Haz. Mat. = Parts 397, 171, 177 and, 180	N/A	N/A	N/A
Factor 6: Accident Factor = Recordable Rate Total Miles Operated: 512,993	Satisfactory	N/A	N/A
Recordable Accidents: 0			
Recordable Accidents/Million Miles: 0.00			

Effective date: You will receive an official notice of proposed safety rating from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration in Washington, D.C. The Unsatisfactory rating will take effect 60 days after the date of the official notice.

PROHIBITION: Under 49 USC 31144(c) and 49 CFR 385.13, a motor carrier that receives a final Unsatisfactory safety rating is prohibited from operating a commercial motor vehicle in interstate and intrastate commerce. If applicable, the motor carrier shall have its operating authority registration revoked under 49 USC 13905(f)(1)(B).

You may request a safety rating upgrade based on corrective action under 49 CFR 385.17 and/or an administrative review under 49 CFR 385.15.

Change to safety rating based on corrective action: You may request a change to a safety rating under 49 CFR 385.17 at any time by providing evidence that you have taken actions to correct the deficiencies that resulted in the safety rating. You must make this request in writing to the Field Administrator for the FMCSA Service Center in which you maintain your principal place of business. A pending request for a change in safety rating under 49 CFR 385.17 will not delay the effective date of the rating.

Administrative Review: You may appeal your proposed safety rating in a petition filed under 49 CFR 385.15 if you believe FMCSA made an error in assigning your safety rating. You must submit your appeal within 90 days of the date of the proposed safety rating or within 90 days after denial of a request for a change in rating under section 385.17(i).

You should submit your appeal within 15 days of the date of the official safety rating notice to allow FMCSA to issue a written decision before the prohibitions in 49 CFR 385.13 take effect. A petition under section 385.15 will not delay the effective date of the rating unless the Chief Safety Officer grants a stay.

You must submit your appeal in writing to: Chief Safety Officer, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E., Washington, DC 20590-0001.

<u>DataCls</u>: If you dispute the violations recorded in the Violations section of this investigation report, and the violations were not used in the calculation of your safety rating, you may submit a Request for Data Review (RDR) through DataQs. The DataQs system is the method to remove violations that did not affect your safety rating. DataQs is an online system that allows a motor carrier or driver to request and track a review of Federal and State issued data that it believes to be incomplete or incorrect. To submit an RDR, go to https://dataqs.fmcsa.dot.gov.

Process Breakdown and Remedies

BASIC: Hours-of-Service Compliance Process Breakdown: Monitoring and Tracking

Baltazar G Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking will ensure to retain all supporting documents for any loads hauled by their drivers, and will review the drivers hours of service frequently to ensure drivers are staying within the allowable drive time.

Specific Recommended Remedies

To implement Safety Improvement Practices, the following list are recommended practices related to Monitoring and Tracking:

- 1. Implement an effective process for monitoring, tracking, and evaluating all drivers' compliance with Hours-of-Service (HOS) regulations and company policies.
- 2. Promptly review all Records of Duty Status (RODS) for Hours-of-Service (HOS) violations and falsification. Look for discrepancies by comparing driver logs with their "check-in" calls and other supporting documents.
- 3. Maintain roadside inspection, Records of Duty Status (RODS), supporting documents, dispatch schedules, and communication records to help evaluate the performance of all staff (drivers, dispatchers, and managers) involved in Hours of Service (HOS) and the effectiveness of compliance with HOS policies, procedures, and regulations.
- 4. Implement a system for keeping accurate records of employees' Hours-of-Service (HOS) training needs and completed training, via software, a checklist in the driver's file, and/or another appropriate method.

BASIC: Vehicle Maintenance Process Breakdown: Monitoring and Tracking

Baltazar G Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking will ensure to keep maintenance records for each vehicle operated that is properly identified along with copies of receipts for maintenance being conducted and copies of Roadside Inspections. Baltazar G Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking will ensure that annual inspections being conducted are done in accordance to Appendix G and conducted by a qualified inspector.

Specific Recommended Remedies

To implement Safety Improvement Practices, the following list are recommended practices related to Monitoring and Tracking:

- 1. Check all inspections and relevant records, such as Driver Vehicle Inspection Records (DVIRs), pre-trip and annual inspections, and maintenance and repair records, to ensure that company inspection, repairing, and maintenance policies and procedures are adhered to and properly documented.
- 2. Ensure that Driver Vehicle Inspection Records (DVIRs) are effectively coordinated with maintenance and operations, result in timely corrective measures, and are verified during pre-trip inspections as applicable.
- 3. Monitor and track roadside inspection results to ensure that vehicle defects are repaired and documented promptly and to prevent Out-of-Service (OOS) vehicles from operating prior to being repaired.
- 4. Implement a system for keeping accurate records of employee inspection, repair, and maintenance training needs, including updates on a carrier's fleet or equipment and completed training, via software, a checklist in the driver's file, and/or another appropriate method.
- 5. Regularly evaluate the company's vehicle-maintenance-related inspection results via the Federal Motor Carrier Administration's (FMCSA) website at http://ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/SMS. Assess violations for process breakdowns and how to remedy them.

BASIC: Driver Fitness Process Breakdown: Qualification and Hiring

Baltazar G Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking will not allowed disqualified drivers, drivers without a valid CDL, Not Medically Examined, or without the proper endorsements to operate a Commercial Motor Vehicle.

Specific Recommended Remedies

To implement Safety Improvement Practices, the following list are recommended practices related to Qualification and Hiring:

- 1. Ensure that Motor Vehicle Records (MVRs) from States issuing Commercial Driver's Licenses (CDLs) are reviewed for driver-fitness-related violations of all prospective drivers for the last three years.
- 2. Ensure that drivers are qualified by querying applicants, checking with previous employers and references, and obtaining necessary documents regarding driver fitness, such as those pertaining to previous violations, Commercial Driver's License (CDL), medical qualifications, operational qualifications from training, and relevant experience.
- 3. Ensure that the employment application captures all information required by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs), such as whether the driver can handle the physical requirements of the job.
- 4. Check the Motor Vehicle Record (MVR) to ensure that drivers have the proper class of license and "P" or "S" endorsement, and to see if the applicable endorsement on the license has a specific restriction, such as an air-brake restriction.

BASIC: Unsafe Driving Process Breakdown: Monitoring and Tracking

Baltazar G Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking will ensure that drivers do not haul loads over the allowable weight of 85,500 in the State Of Kansas.

Specific Recommended Remedies

To implement Safety Improvement Practices, the following list are recommended practices related to Monitoring and Tracking:

- 1. Ensure that drivers are safely operating a CMV within the allowable weight limits.
- 2. Ensure the Safety Director/Persons who oversee the Safety Management monitors the drivers highway performance by monitoring the drivers MVR's, ensure compliance with Federal Regulations, State and Local Laws.

BASIC: Hours-of-Service Compliance Process Breakdown: Monitoring and Tracking

Baltazar G Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking will ensure that drivers use an ELD log to log the drivers hours, will ensure that drivers drive within the allowable drive time, and will review the drivers logs to ensure drivers are not falsifying their records of duty status.

Specific Recommended Remedies

To implement Safety Improvement Practices, the following list are recommended practices related to

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- 1. Implement an effective process for monitoring, tracking, and evaluating all drivers' compliance with Hours-of-Service (HOS) regulations and company policies.
- 2. Promptly review all Records of Duty Status (RODS) for Hours-of-Service (HOS) violations and falsification. Look for discrepancies by comparing driver logs with their "check-in" calls and other supporting documents.
- 3. Document all findings of fatigue-related noncompliance with regulations and/or company policies.

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- 4. Maintain roadside inspection, Records of Duty Status (RODS), supporting documents, dispatch schedules, and communication records to help evaluate the performance of all staff (drivers, dispatchers, and managers) involved in Hours of Service (HOS) and the effectiveness of compliance with HOS policies, procedures, and regulations.
- 5. Regularly evaluate the company's fatigue-related inspection results via the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) website at http://ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/SMS. Assess violations for process breakdowns and how to remedy them.
- 6. Implement a system for keeping accurate records of employees' Hours-of-Service (HOS) training needs and completed training, via software, a checklist in the driver's file, and/or another appropriate method.

Kecommendations

1. Acute and Critical Violations

Acute and/or Critical violations were recorded on this investigation report. These violations will impact your safety record. NOTICE: A pattern and/or repeated violations of the same or related acute or critical regulations (violations of the same Part in Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations) will cause the maximum penalties allowed by law to be assessed under Section 222 of the Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999 (MCSIA). A pattern of violations means two or more violations of acute and/or critical regulations in three or more Parts of Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations discovered during any eligible investigation. Repeated violations means violation(s) of an acute regulation of the same Part of Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations discovered in an investigation after one or more closed enforcement actions within a six-year period and/or violation(s) of a critical regulation in the same Part of Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations discovered in an investigation after two or more closed enforcement actions within a six-year period.

2. Additional Information

Please visit the CSA outreach site for additional guidance: https://csa.fmcsa.dot.gov.

3. Obtain copies of the regulations, forms, interpretations, manuals.

Copies of the regulations, forms, interpretations, and manuals are available from a variety of sources. Check the FMCSA website for a current list of suppliers. www.fmcsa.dot.gov/safety-security/eta/index.htm

4. Ensure that all vehicles are properly marked.

Ensure that all vehicles are properly marked with your name or trade name and U.S. DOT number. If your vehicles are also periodically operating for other carriers, they must be marked with that carrier's name and U.S. DOT#.

- Conduct periodic internal reviews. (non-HM) Conduct periodic internal reviews of your driver qualification, hours of service control, maintenance, accident analysis/reporting, training, and other safety systems to ensure continued compliance with the FMCSR.
- 6. **Obtain a copy of each driver's driving record and review it.** Obtain a copy of each driver's driving record and review it annually.
- 7. **10-year driver employment history required.** Ensure that drivers provide a 10-year employment history on their employment application.
- Drivers may not drive interstate unless they have had a physical.
 Do not allow drivers to drive interstate/intrastate unless they have been physically re-examined each 24 months.
- Physically unqualified drivers cannot drive in interstate commerce Do not allow physically unqualified drivers to drive in interstate/intrastate commerce.
- 10. **Physically unqualified drivers cannot drive in interstate commerce** Do not allow physically unqualified drivers to drive in interstate/intrastate commerce.
- Require drivers to prepare complete and accurate records. Require all drivers to prepare complete and accurate records of duty status for each day, and to submit them within 13 days. Maintain all duty status records on file, with all supporting documents, for at least 6 months.

12. Duty status records must be kept on file for 6 months.

Ensure that all documents supporting records of duty status (such as toll, fuel repair and other on-the-road expense receipts, as well as invoices, bills of lading, dispatch records, etc.) are kept on file for at least 6 months.

13. 150-mile exemption terms must be met.

If you want some drivers to use the 150 air-mile radius exemption, make sure that the drivers meet all terms of the exemption, including being released from duty no more than 14 hours from when they report for duty. Logs must be prepared if a driver does not meet the 14 hour requirement.

14. Establish a maintenance records program for all vehicles.

Establish a systematic maintenance records program for all vehicles. Maintain a complete file for each subject vehicle, recording all repair, maintenance and inspection operations performed.

15. Review maintenance and inspection records for all lease vehicles.

Periodically review the maintenance and inspection records for all lease vehicles as required by Part 396 of the FMCSR. Keep a record to document these reviews and notify the vehicle owner of any violations detected.

16. Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse

https://clearinghouse.fmcsa.dot.gov .

17. Clearinghouse Annual Query

Ensure annual queries are conducted in the Clearinghouse at least once per year. You may conduct a full or limited query to fulfill this requirement.

18. Unsat & Conditional CR's

I Understand Why Compliance Saves Time and Money: Compliance with FMCSRs will not only save lives, but also saves your business time and money. Tracking how much your business spends on non-compliance activities can help you understand the many benefits of compliance to your business and why safety is good business.

Apply Adequate Resources: Apply adequate resources to properly implement safety management practices. Consider reallocating responsibilities, additional staffing, contracting, or investing in technology to aid in this responsibility.

Document and Follow Through on Action Plans: Document and follow through on action plans to ensure the actions you are taking are creating improvement in safety management and compliance.

NOTICE: A pattern and/or repeated violations of the same or related acute or critical regulations (violations of the same Part in Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations) will cause the maximum penalties allowed by law to be assessed under Section 222 of the Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999 (MCSIA). A pattern of violations means two or more violations of acute and/or critical regulations in three or more Parts of Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations discovered during any eligible investigation. Repeated violations means violation(s) of an acute regulation of the same Part of Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations discovered in an investigation after one or more closed enforcement actions within a six year period and/or violation(s) of a critical regulation in the same Part of Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations discovered in an investigation after two or more closed enforcement actions within a six year period.

Notice: 49 C.F.R. Part 391.23 requires prospective employers to , at a minimum, investigate a driver's employment information, crash record, and alcohol and controlled substance history from all employers the driver worked for within the previous three years.

The Pre-Employment Screening program (PSP) is a screening tool that assists motor carriers in investigating crash history and roadside safety performance of prospective drivers. The PSP is a screening tool that assists motor carriers to purchase 5 years of crash data and 3 years of roadside inspection data from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) Motor Carrier Management Information System (MCMIS). Records are available 24 hours a day visa Web request. Motor carriers should visit the following website for more information: http://www.psp.fmcsa.dot.gov/Pages/default.aspx

All motor carriers and truck drivers are needed to fight against terrorism and hijacking. You could be a target. Protect yourself, your trucks, your cargo, and your facilities. Motor carriers should visit the following website for more information:

FMCSA Carrier Safety Measurement System (SMS) is based on ongoing analysis and feedback from enforcement personnel, the motor carrier industry, and other stakeholders. SMS effectively identifies and prioritize high risk and other unsafe motor carriers for enforcement interventions and is designed to reduce commercial motor vehicle crashes and hazardous materials incidents. Motor carrier's currently have the ability to preview their companies SMS information.. The data preview may be found at http://csa.fmcsa.dot.gov/.

For all Investigations resulting in a Penalty Order:

PLEASE NOTE: The violations discovered during this compliance review may affect the civil penalty proposed in any subsequent Penalty Order. In addition, your history of prior violations of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, Federal Hazardous Material Regulations or the Federal Motor Carrier Commercial Regulations may also affect the civil penalty proposed in any subsequent Penalty Order. Your signature for receipt of this report acknowledges your understanding that the violations discovered by the KCC during this review may be used to calculate any civil penalty proposed as a result of this review. Your signature is not an admission of the violations identified.

For all Investigations where the carrier has been involved in 2 or more recordable crashes:

The Division Administrator/State Director will continue to consider preventability when a motor carrier contests a proposed safety fitness rating. The motor carrier may deem that the recordable accident rate is not a fair means of evaluating its accident factor (Factor 6) on the CR report. If so, the motor carrier must submit the compelling evidence within seven calendar days if the proposed rating is Unsatisfactory and 10 calendar days if the proposed rating is Conditional to:

US Department of Transportation Kansas Division Michael Christopher - Division Administrator Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration 1303 First American Place, Suite 200 Topeka, Kansas 66604-4040

Compelling evidence must be limited to official police accident reports and official insurance accident investigation reports.

For all Investigations resulting in a proposed conditional or unsatisfactory rating:

385.15

If you believe the proposed rating is in error and there are factual and procedural issues in dispute, Part 385.15 (copy provided) outlines procedures for petitioning the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration for an administrative review of these findings.

Your petition should be addressed to:

US Department of Transportation Jack Van Steenburg -Chief Safety Officer Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590

385.17

In addition, a request for a revised rating based on corrective actions may be made at any time. Part 385.17 (copy provided) outlines the procedures for such a request. The request must be made in writing, must describe the corrective action taken and must include other documentation that may be relied upon as a basis for the requested change. Address your written request to:

US Department of Transportation Max Strathman - Midwestern Field Administrator Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration 4749 Lincoln Mall Drive, Suite 300-A Matteson, IL 60443

Ensure that a CC copy of the letter is mailed to:

US Department of Transportation Kansas Division Michael Christopher - Division Administrator Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration 1303 First American Place, Suite 200 Topeka, KS 66604-4040

This letter should be submitted as soon as possible. Information on your compliance status, roadside inspections, regulatory changes, accident counter measures and hazardous material counter measures is available on the Internet at the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's web site at http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/ and http://www.safer.fmcsa.dot.gov/.

For all Investigations that did not result in a Cooperative Safety Plan:

The KCC requires that you prepare a corrective action plan (CAP), addressing the measures taken to correct all violations identified within this report. Submit this letter within 30 days outlining the carrier's updated changes to their policies and procedures regarding all listed violations. Explain in detail how, as a carrier representative, you will rectify these deficiencies and prevent their reoccurrence going forward. Include any supporting documentation and evidence as indicated in the recommendations above,

(example: vehicle inspections performed, proof of drug and alcohol testing in place, etc.) necessary to prove that corrective action has been taken. Submit the letter along with copies of your supporting evidence to:

e-mail: g.davenport@kcc.ks.gov FAX: 785-271-3124;

or mail to:

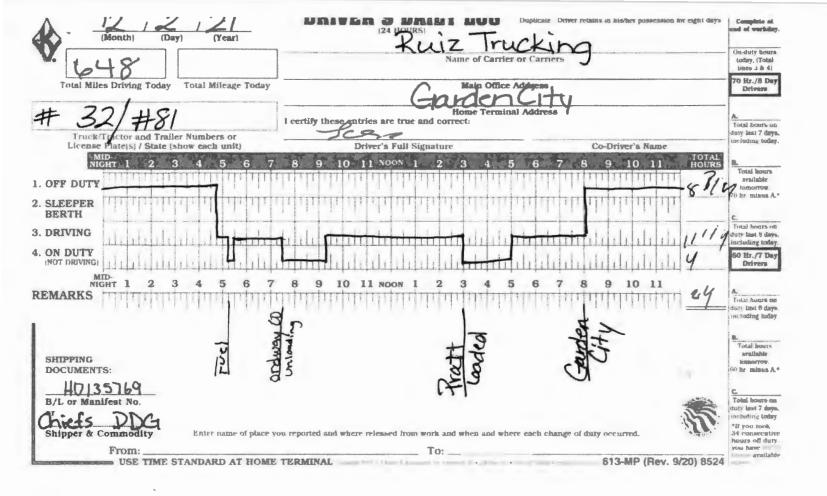
Kansas Corporation Commission Attn: Gary Davenport 1500 SW Arrowhead Road Topeka, KS 66604-4027

I acknowledge that these requirements and/or recommendations have been discussed with me and my questions have been answered. I understand that failure to satisfactorily remedy the above-listed requirements, and/or failure to comply with Kansas Motor Carrier Safety Statutes and Regulations could result in the suspension of Baltazar G Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking's operating authority and/or the impoundment of Baltazar G Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking's commercial motor vehicles.

I understand that monetary penalties will be assessed as a result of violations found in this compliance review. The penalty schedule can be found at this web site: http://kcc.ks.gov/trans penalty_assessment_table.htm

x Butt hs Signature X 5-20-22

ATTACHMENT "B"



ATTACHMENT "C"

DRIVER/VEHICLE EXAMINATION REPORT

					DRIVER		ICLL	EXAMINATION REPO			
Nebraska Sta 4600 Innovati Lincoln, NE 6 EMail: NSP.In Phone: (402)4	ion Dri 8521 Ispect	ive ions@							Report Numb Inspection Da Start: 10:08 A Inspection Le HM Inspectio	ate: 11/15/20 M CT End: vel: II - Walk	21 11:32 AM CT -Around
Carrier: RUIZ DBA: 3046 JONES / GARDEN CIT USDOT: 1458	AVE Y, KS, 316		6 P	hone	# : (620)52	1-816	51	Driver: RAMIREZ, JOS License#: Date of Birth: CoDriver: License#:	SE A		tate: KS
MC/MX#: 005 State#: Location: HE Highway: F81 County: Email:	BRON	81 S				O		Date of Birth:	Bill of L	ading: N/A GRAIN, FEEI	
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392.2MI 391.11B4-DEN	F	D	N Y	N N	EC6701352 EC6701352	N	N N	Miscellaneous Traffic Law Vie Driver operating a CMV wit restrictions.: driving a man transmission)	olation: bypass op hout proper endo ual transmission	orsements or in with a e restric	tions (no manual
392.9A2 393.9TS	F	2 1	Y N	N		UN	N	Failing to secure vehicle ed Inoperative turn signal: rear n			
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shall remove the	uthority "Out of s to safe	contair Service operati	ned in stic	Nebra kers ap	ska Statutes oplied to thos . ANY PERS	e vehic ON CC	les, or	gh 75-369, I hereby declare th operate such vehicles, until th FED OF VIOLATING AN OUT	ne out of service de	efects have been	repaired and the
"Out of Service."	No moto ONVICT	or carrie	er sha	all perm	nit or require t	this driv	ver to a	gh 75-369, or Motor Vehicle C operate any motor vehicle upo DRDER SHALL BE SUBJECT	n the highways un	til: driver gets au	tomatic transmission.
DRIVER: This rep Signature Of Rep								me appears at the top of this Facility: Da			
compliance with t This certification VIOLATIONS WE	the Fede must be ERE NO	TIFICA eral and signed TED O	TION d Stat d by t N TH	I: The L te Moto he MO	Indersigned of FOR CARRIE PORT)	ertifies ety and R and	that a Haza return	II violations on this report have dous Material Regulations ins ed to the NEBRASKA STATE	e been corrected a sofar as they are a PATROL within 1	pplicable to moto 5 days. (RETUR	or carriers and drivers N ONLY IF
Signature Of Mot	or Carrie	er X:						Title:	Date:		
Report Prepa Z. ROSE	red By		D/Ba 335	adge i	<u>±:</u>			Copy Received B JOSE RAMIREZ	By:		
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ATTACHMENT "D"

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ATTACHMENT "E"

From:	Lacey Hane [KDOR]
To:	Erica Pargas
Subject:	RE: KDOR DL Contact
Date:	Wednesday, May 4, 2022 10:19:41 AM
Attachments:	image002.png image003.png

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. Think before clicking a link or opening attachments.

Erica,

This driver's commercial driving privileges have been permanently revoked since 8/21/2018 due to the accumulation of major violations. This information displays on Withdrawal 5 on the CDLIS information you sent.

Please let me know if you have other questions.

Thanks,

Lacey Hane Phone: (785) 368-8786 Fax: (855) 590-3557

From: Erica Pargas <e.pargas@kcc.ks.gov> Sent: Wednesday, May 4, 2022 10:09 AM To: Lacey Hane [KDOR] <Lacey.Hane@KS.GOV> Subject: RE: KDOR DL Contact

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

Good Morning Lacey,

Thank you so much for reaching out. We are in great need of some assistance with a CDL that we are looking for a driver we are conducting an investigation on. I've attached the drivers MVR for your review. We are just trying to figure out if the driver is ineligible and suspended at the time?

Erica Pargas, Special Investigator Transportation Division Kansas Corporation Commission 1500 SW Arrowhead Road | Topeka, KS | 66604-4027 Phone (620) 255-3868 | Fax (785) 271-3124

From: Lacey Hane [KDOR] <<u>Lacey.Hane@KS.GOV</u>> Sent: Wednesday, May 4, 2022 10:05 AM

ATTACHMENT "F"

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ATTACHMENT "G"

ANNUAL VERICLE INSPECTION DEPURI

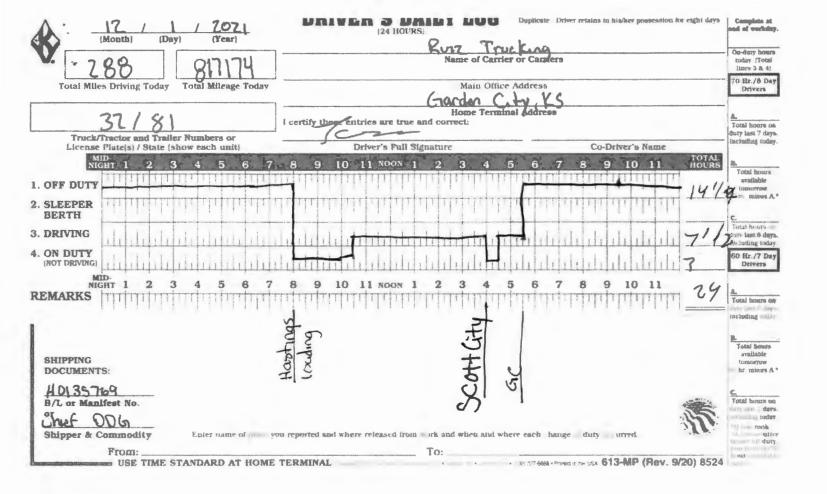
	REPORT NUMBER	FLEET UNIT NUMBER
	3	32
	DATE	21
MOTOR CARRIER OPERATOR	INSPECTOR'S NAME (PRINT OR TYPE)	
Ruiz Trucking	Baltazar Rui	2
ADDRESS Govern (1+x K)		UIREMENTS IN SECTION 396.19.
CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE	VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION (~ AND COMPLETE)	LIC. PLATE NO. VIN OTHER
-3046 W Jones Ave		9932
VEHICLE TYPE TRACTOR TRAILER FIRUCK BUS	INSPECTION AGENCY/LOCATION (OPTIONAL)	

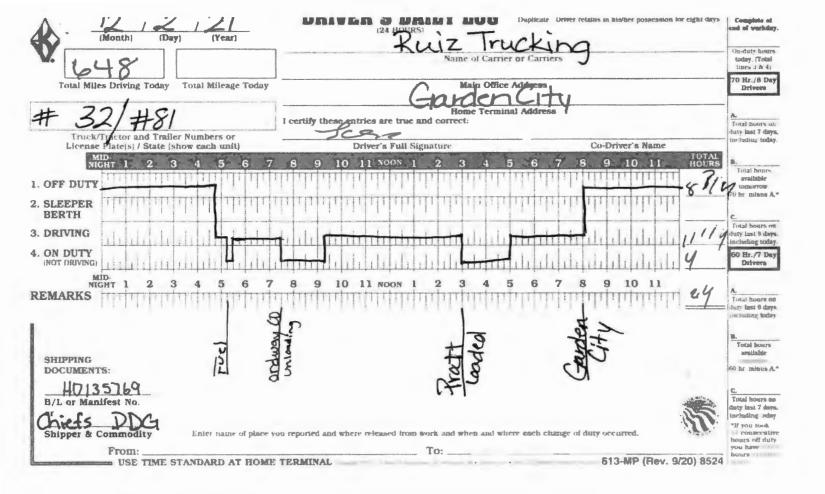
K PEPAR REPARED	ITEM	OK REPAIR DATE	ITEM	OK MEPAST	PIEPARED DATE	ITEM
	 a. Service Brakes b. Parking Brake System c. Brake Drums or Rotors d. Brake Hose e. Brake Tubing f. Low Pressure Warning Device g. Tractor Protection Valve 		 a. Part(s) of vehicle or condition of loading such that the spare tire or any part of the load or dunnage can fall onto the roadway. b. Protection against shifting cargo. c. Container securement 	/		 a. Tires on any steering axle of a power unit. b. All other tires. c. Installation of speed-restricted tires unless specifically designated by motor carrier.
	h. Air Compressor i. Electric Brakes j. Hydraulic Brakes		devices on intermodal equipment.	/		a. Lock or Side Ring b. Wheels and Rims c. Fasteners
	k. Vacuum Systems I. Antilock Brake System	4	a. Steering Wheel Free Play b. Steering Column			d. Welds
	m. Automatic Brake Adjusters a. Fifth Wheels b. Pintle Hooks c. Drawbar/Towbar Eye	/	 c. Front Axle Beam and All Steering Components Other Than Steering Column d. Steering Gear Box 	-	-	Requirements and exception as stated pertaining to any crack, discoloration or vision reducing matter (reference 393.60 for exceptions).
	d. Drawbar/Towbar Tongue e. Safety Devices f. Saddle-Mounts	f. g.	e. Pitman Arm f. Power Steering g. Ball and Socket Joints h. Tie Rods and Drag Links	1		Any power unit that has an inoperative wiper, or missing or damaged parts that rende it ineffective.
	 a. Exhaust system leaking forward of or directly below the driver/sleeper compartment. b. Bue or bauet system 		i. Nuts j. Steering System a. Any U-bolt(s), spring			Any passenger seat that is not securely fastened to the vehicle structure.
7	 b. Bus exhaust system leaking or discharging in violation of standard. c. Exhaust system likely to burn, char, or damage the electrical wiring, fuel supply or any combustible part of the motor vehicle. 		hanger(s), or other axle positioning part(s) cracked, broken, loose or missing resulting in shifting of an axle from its normal position b. Spring Assembly c. Torque, Radius or Tracking			List any other condition(s) which may prevent safe operation of this vehicle.
1	a. Visible leak. b. Fuel tank filler cap missing.		Components			
	All lighting devices and reflectors required by Part 393 shall be operable.		 a. Frame Members b. Tire and Wheel Clearance c. Adjustable Axle Assemblies (Sliding Subframes) 			

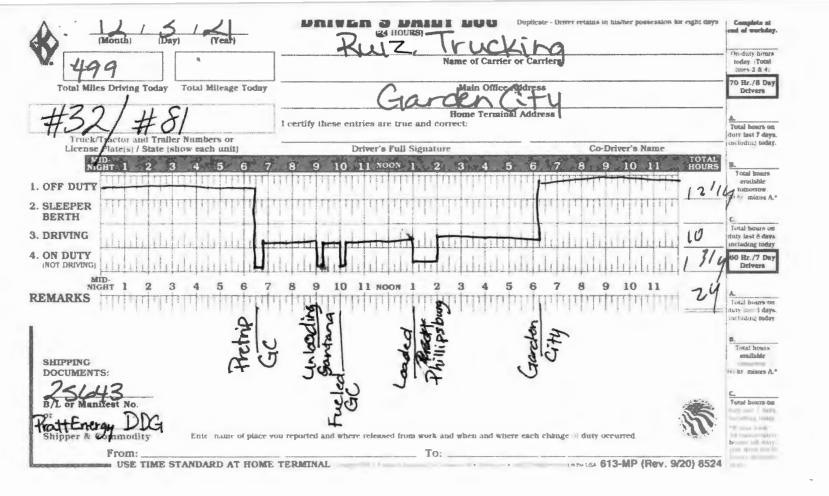
CERTIFICATION: THIS VEHICLE HAS PASSED ALL THE INSPECTION ITEMS FOR THE ANNUAL VEHICLE INSPECTION IN . ACCORDANCE WITH 49 CFR PART 396. 2240 (Rev. 8/16)

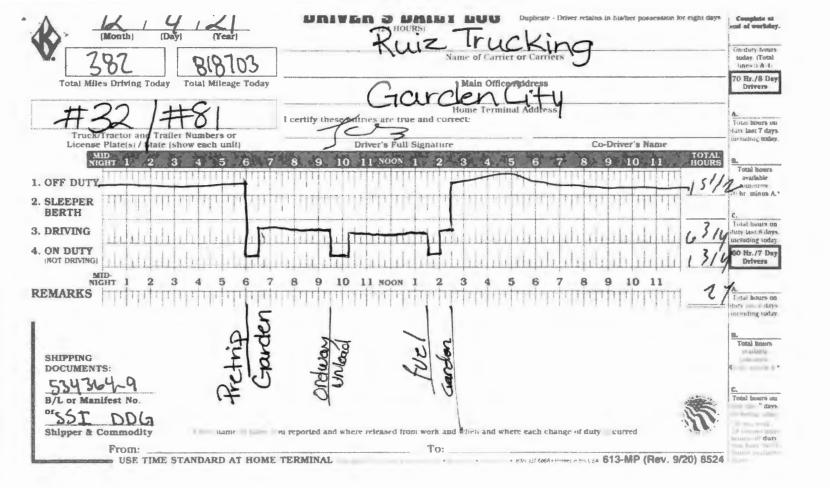
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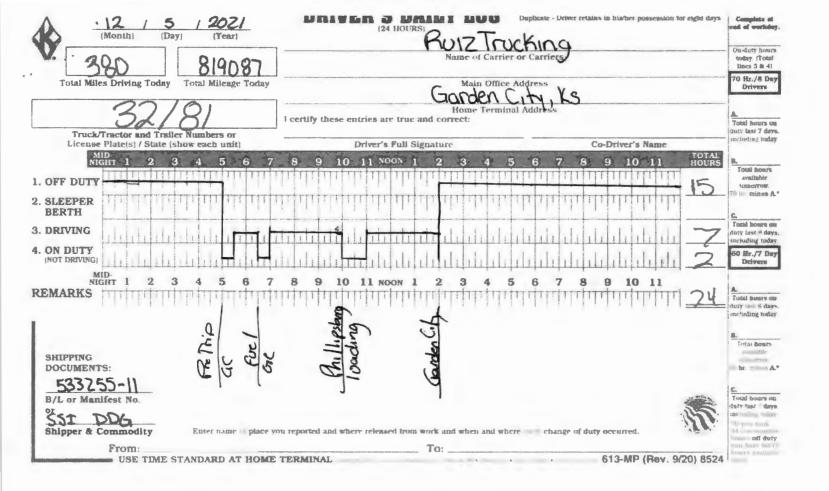
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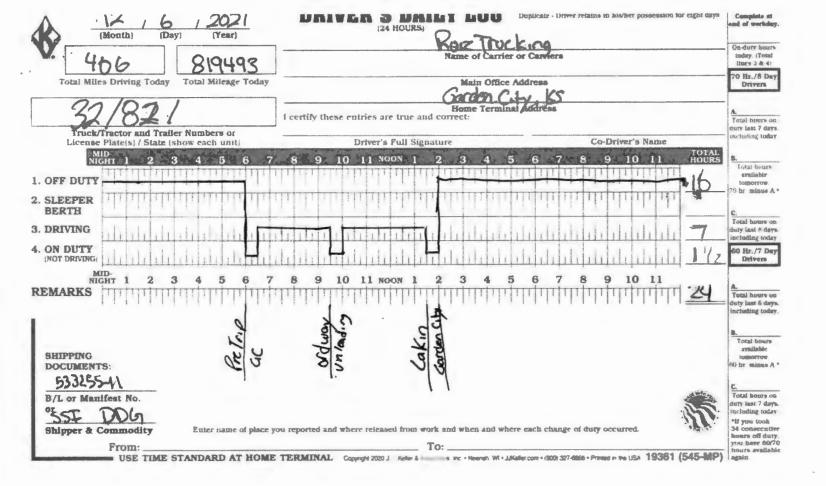


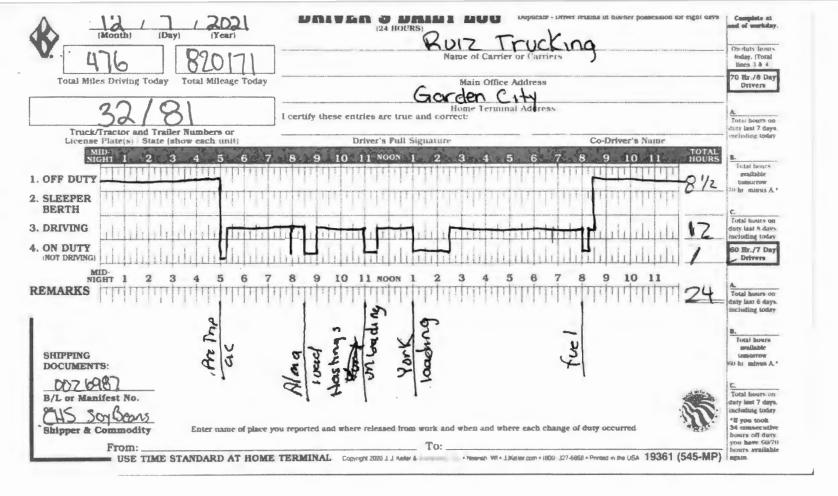


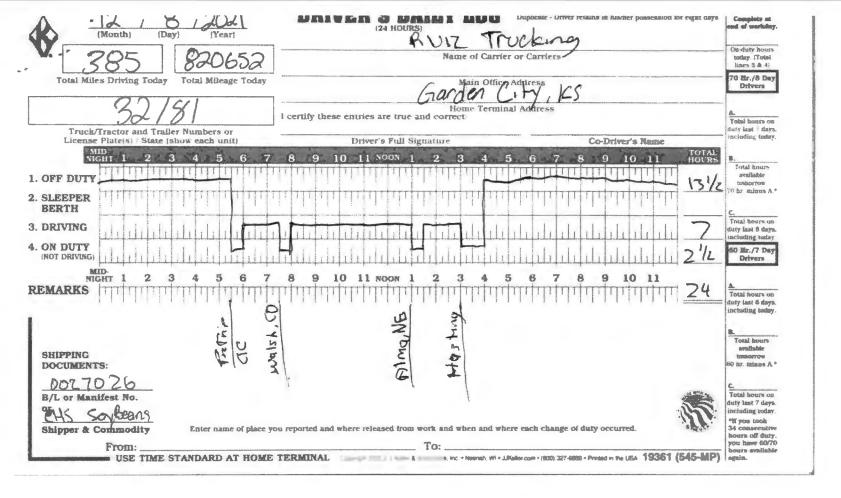




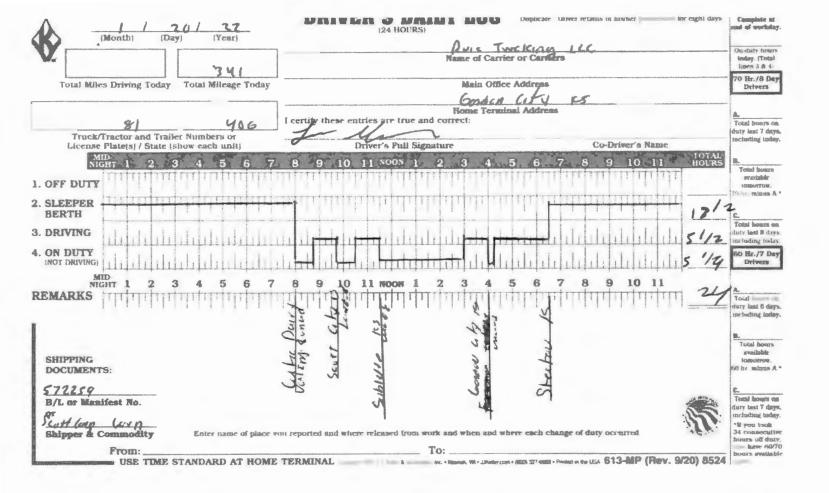




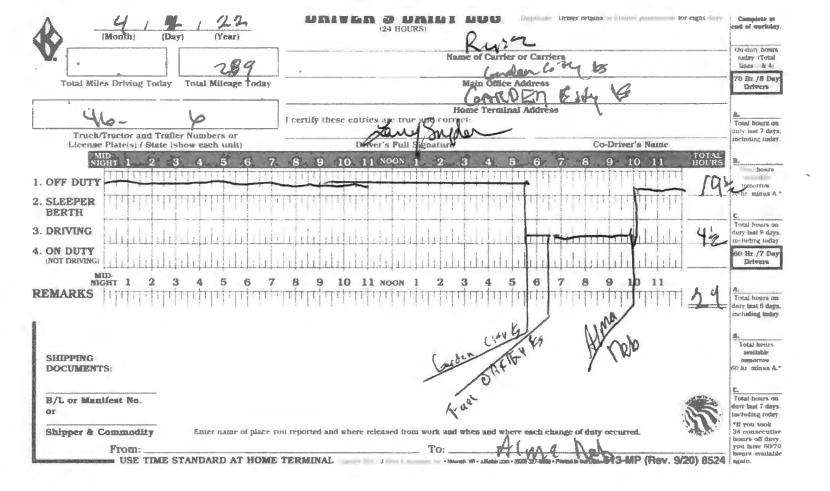




ATTACHMENT "I"



ATTACHMENT "J"



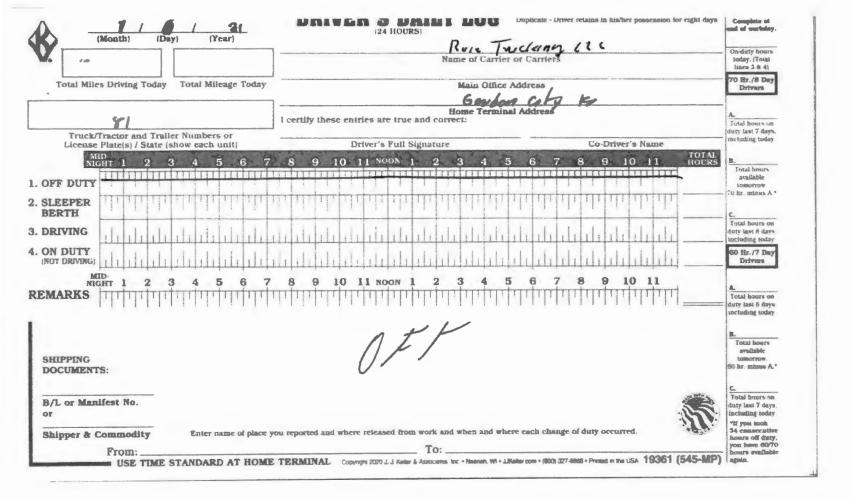
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ATTACHMENT "K"

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ATTACHMENT "L"

1500 SW Arrowhead Road Topeka, KS 66604-4027

Dwight D. Keen. Chair Susan K. Duffy, Commissioner Andrew J. French, Commissioner



Phone: 785-271-3100 Fax: 785-271-3354 http://kcc.ks.gov/

Laura Kelly, Governor

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION TRANSPORTATION DIVISION

- TO: Dwight D. Keen, Chair Susan K. Duffy, Commissioner Andrew J. French, Commissioner
- **FROM:** Mike Hoeme, Director of Transportation Gary Davenport, Deputy Director of Transportation
- **DATE:** June 20, 2022

SUBJECT: Docket No. 22-TRAM-510-PEN

In the Matter of the Investigation of Baltazar G. Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking of Garden City, Kansas Regarding the Violation of the Motor Carrier Rules and Regulations and the Commission's Authority to Impose Penalties, Sanctions and/or the Revocation of Motor Carrier Authority.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Baltazar G. Ruiz d/b/a Ruiz Trucking (Ruiz Trucking or Carrier) is a motor carrier possessing common operating authority from the Commission, primarily hauling grain, feed and hay. Ruiz Trucking operates under USDOT 1458316. On May 3, 2022 through May 26, 2022, Commission Staff Special Investigator Erica Pargas and Penny Fryback conducted a safety compliance review of the operations of Ruiz Trucking. As a result of this investigation, the special investigator identified sixteen (16) violation(s) of the Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, resulting in a recommended penalty of \$12,700.

DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS:

On May 3, 2022 through May 26, 2022, Commission Staff Special Investigator Erica Pargas and Penny Fryback conducted a safety compliance review of the operations of Ruiz Trucking. As a result of this investigation, the special investigator identified sixteen (16) violation(s) of the Motor Carrier Safety Regulations.

Violation One (1 of 16)

On December 2, 2021, Ruiz Trucking required or permitted its driver, Jose Ramirez, to operate a CDL-required commercial motor vehicle, a 2014 Freightliner, VIN ending in 9932, GVWR 50,000 lbs., in interstate commerce in from Ordway, Colorado to Pratt, Kansas. This trip is evidenced by a Driver's Daily Log, dated December 2, 2021. At the time of this transportation, Ruiz Trucking permitted its driver, Jose Ramirez, to operate a commercial motor vehicle with a

manual transmission while possessing a commercial driver's license with an "E" restriction. An "E" restriction on a CDL indicates that driver is not authorized to drive a vehicle with a manual transmission. This same driver had previously been placed out-of-service weeks earlier, on November 15, 2021, for operating a commercial motor vehicle with a manual transmission while possessing a CDL with an "E" restriction. That trip is evidenced by Driver/Vehicle Examination Report No. NEXC00000622, dated November 15, 2021. The Carrier's repeated use this driver to operate a commercial motor vehicle with a manual transmission while he possessed a CDL with an "E" restriction of 49 C.F.R. 392.2, adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3h, and authorized by K.S.A. 8-2, 125. Staff recommends an enhanced fine of \$1,000.

Violation Two (2 of 16)

On December 27, 2021, Ruiz Trucking required or permitted its driver, Baltazar Ruiz, to operate a CDL-required commercial motor vehicle, a 2002 Freightliner, VIN ending in 41081, GVWR 54,000 lbs., in interstate commerce from Albion, Nebraska to Satanta, Kansas. This trip is evidenced by a Trip Summary Sheet, dated December 27, 2021. At the time of this transportation, Baltazar Ruiz was not eligible for a Driver's License or CDL due to previous Driving Under the Influence convictions and failures to submit to testing. The revocation of Mr. Ruiz's driving privileges is evidenced by an email from the Kansas Department of Revenue (KDOR), dated May 4, 2022. Although Mr. Ruiz's driving privileges are and remain revoked, he provided the Special Investigators with a fraudulent Mexican driver's license he uses to drive. The fraudulent nature of the license provided is evidenced by an email from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) who checked its authenticity with representatives of the Mexican government. The email is dated May 10, 2022. The Carrier utilizing a driver with a fraudulent driver's license in an attempt to circumvent the revocation of his driving privileges is a violation of 49 C.F.R. 390.35, adopted K.A.R. 82-4-3f, and authorized by K.S.A. 66-1,129. Staff recommends a fine of \$2,000.

Violation Three (3 of 16)

During the transportation described in Violation One, above, Ruiz Trucking provided fraudulent periodic (annual) inspections for units operated by the Carrier. For the periodic (annual) inspection for the vehicle in this trip the inspector, Mr. Ruiz, checked as "OK" the "Bus Exhuast" despite the vehicle not being a bus. Additionally, Mr. Ruiz failed to check the lighting devices and safe loading as well as required portions of the steering system, spring assembly, tires as well as wheels and rims. The Special Investigators found five (5) violations of this type. The Carrier permitting its drivers to operate a commercial motor vehicle using a fraudulent periodic (annually) inspection is a violation of 49 C.F.R. 390.35, adopted K.A.R. 82-4-3f, and 49 C.F.R. 396.17(a), adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3j, both authorized by K.S.A. 66-1,129. Staff recommends an enhanced fine of \$2,000.

Violation Four (4 of 16)

During the transportation described in Violation Two, above, Ruiz Trucking permitted or required its driver, Baltazar Ruiz, to operate a CDL required commercial motor vehicle despite the fact his driving privileges had been revoked. The Carrier utilizing a disqualified driver whose driving

privileges had been revoked to operate a commercial motor vehicle is an intentional violation of 49 C.F.R. 391.15(a), adopted K.A.R. 82-4-3g, and authorized by K.S.A. 66-1,129. Staff recommends a fine of \$500.

Violation Five (5 of 16)

During the transportation described in Violation One, above, Ruiz Trucking failed retain supporting documents for each load hauled. The Special Investigators found forty-eight (48) violations of this type. The Carrier's failure to retain supporting documents for each load hauled is a violation of K.A.R. 82-4-35a and 49 C.F.R. 392.2, adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3h, and authorized by K.S.A. 66-1,129. Staff recommends a fine of \$1,000.

Violation Six (6 of 16)

On December 8, 2021, Ruiz Trucking required or permitted its driver, Jose Ramirez, to operate a CDL-required commercial motor vehicle, a 2014 Freightliner, VIN ending in 9932, GVWR 50,000 lbs., in interstate commerce in from Garden City, Kansas to Hastings, Nebraska. This trip is evidenced by a Driver's Daily Logs, dated December 1 - 8, 2021. At the time of this transportation, Ruiz Trucking permitted its driver, Jose Ramirez, to operated five hours and thirty minutes over the 70 hours allowed in an eight (8) day work period. Ruiz Trucking was found to have committed the same violation on a previous compliance review. The Carrier permitting its driver to drive in excess of 70 hours in a period of eight consecutive days in successive compliance reviews is an intentional violation of 49 C.F.R. 395.3(b)(2), adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3a, and authorized by K.S.A. 66-1,129. Staff recommends an enhanced fine of \$500.

Violation Seven (7 of 16)

On January 20, 2022, Ruiz Trucking required or permitted its driver, Juan Martinez, to operate a CDL-required commercial motor vehicle, a 2002 Freightliner truck, VIN ending in 41081, GVWR 54,000 lbs., in intrastate commerce from Scott City, Kansas to Satanta, Kansas. This trip is evidenced by Driver's Daily Log, dated January 20, 2022. At the time of this transportation, Ruiz Trucking failed to ensure its drivers had an equal chance of being selected for a random controlled substance and alcohol test each time selections were made. The Carrier's failure to ensure that each driver selected for random alcohol and controlled substance testing has an equal chance of being selected each time selections are made is in violation of 49 C.F.R. 382.305(i)(2), adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3c and authorized by K.S.A. 66-1,129. Staff recommends a fine of \$0.00.

Violation Eight (8 of 16)

During the transportation described in Violation Two, above, Ruiz Trucking could not produce the motor vehicle record for its driver, Mr. Ruiz. The Carrier's failure to maintain a copy of the motor vehicle record received from each state agency in the driver qualification file is a violation of 49 C.F.R. 391.25(a), adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3g, and authorized by K.S.A. 66-1,129. Staff requests an enhanced fine as the Carrier has a violation of this type in a previous compliance review. Staff requests an enhanced fine of \$200.

Violation Nine (9 of 16)

On April 4, 2022, Ruiz Trucking required or permitted its driver, Larry Snyder, to operate a CDLrequired commercial motor vehicle, a 2016 Freightliner, VIN ending in 8046, GVWR 50,000 lbs., in interstate commerce in Ambion, Nebraska to Oakley, Kansas. This trip is evidenced by a Driver's Daily Log, dated April 4, 2022. At the time of this transportation, Ruiz Trucking failed to require its driver, Mr. Snyder, to be medically certified prior to operating a commercial motor vehicle. The Carrier's failure to ensure its drivers operating a commercial motor vehicle had been medically examined and certified prior to requiring or permitting the operation of a commercial motor vehicle is in violation of 49 C.F.R. 391.45, adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3g, and authorized by K.S.A. 66-1,129. Staff recommends a fine of \$250.

Violation Ten (10 of 16)

During the transportation described in Violation Nine, above, Ruiz Trucking permitted or required its driver, Mr. Snyder, to operate in interstate commerce despite the fact Mr. Snyder only possessed an intrastate CDL. The Carrier's failure to ensure its drivers operated commercial motor vehicles with a valid CDL for the operations being conducted is a violation of 49 C.F.R. 392.2 as adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3h and K.S.A. 8-2,125, and authorized by K.S.A. 66-1,129. Staff recommends a fine of \$500.

Violation Eleven (11 of 16)

During the transportation described in Violation Seven, above, Ruiz Trucking permitted or required its driver, Mr. Martinez, to operate a commercial motor vehicle with a gross weight over 85,500 lbs. The Special Investigators found eight (8) violations of this type. The Carrier's failure to stay within the legal gross weight limit is a violation of K.A.R. 82-4-6a(c) and 49 C.F.R. 392.2, adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3h, and authorized by K.S.A. 8-1901. Staff recommends a fine of \$1,500.

Violation Twelve (12 of 16)

During the transportation described in Violation One, above, Ruiz Trucking permitted its driver, Mr. Ramirez, to drive past the allowed 14 hour on-duty time limit. The Special Investigators found eight (8) violations of this type. Ruiz Trucking was found to have committed the same violation on a previous compliance review. The Carrier permitting or requiring its drivers to operate past the allowed fourteenth hour in successive compliance reviews is an intentional violation of 49 CFR 395.3(a)(2), adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3a, and authorized by K.S.A. 66-1,129. Staff recommends a fine of \$250.

Violation Thirteen (13 of 16)

During the transportation described in Violation One, above, Ruiz Trucking permitted its driver, Mr. Ramirez, to drive more than allowable eleven hours without qualifying for a rest break. The Special Investigator found nine (9) violations of this type. Ruiz Trucking was found to have committed the same violation on a previous compliance review. The Carrier permitting or requiring its drivers to operate beyond the eleventh hour in successive compliance reviews is an

intentional violation of 49 C.F.R. 395.3(a)(3)(i), adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3a, and authorized by K.S.A. 66-1,129. Staff recommends a fine of \$250.

Violation Fourteen (14 of 16)

During the transportation described in Violation Two, above, Ruiz Trucking failed to require its driver, Mr. Ruiz, to maintain a record of duty status. The Special Investigator found thirteen (13) violations of this type. The Carrier's failure to require its drivers to maintain a record of duty is a violation of 49 C.F.R. 395.8(a)(1), adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3a, and authorized by K.S.A. 66-1,129. Staff recommends a fine of \$500.

Violation Fifteen (15 of 16)

On January 5-6, 2022, Ruiz Trucking required or permitted its driver, Juan Martinez, to operate a CDL-required commercial motor vehicle, a 2002 Freightliner, VIN ending in 41081, GVWR 54,000 lbs., in interstate commerce from Columbus, Nebraska to Scott City, Kansas. This trip is evidenced by a Bill of Lading, dated January 5, 2022 and a Driver's Daily Log, Dated January 5, 2022. Although the Bill of Lading evidences a load was transported on this date, Mr. Martinez recorded himself as off-duty on this January 6, 2022. The Special Investigators discovered that Mr. Martinez had actually delivered this load at 10:56 a.m. on January 6, 2022. At the time of this transportation, Ruiz Trucking permitted or required its driver to prepare a false report. The Special Investigators found two (2) violations of this type. The Carrier requiring or permitting its driver to prepare a false report is an intentional violation of 49 C.F.R. 395.8(e)(1), adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3a, and authorized by K.S.A .66-1,129. Staff recommends a fine of \$2,000.

Violation Sixteen (16 of 16)

During the transportation described in Violation One, above, Ruiz Trucking failed to require its driver, Mr. Ramirez, to record his hours of service using an electronic logging device (ELD) provided within the commercial motor vehicle, as the driver was required to record his hours of service more than eight days in a 30 day period. The Carrier's failure to require its driver to record his hours of service on the ELD when required is a violation of 49 C.F.R. 395.8(a)(2)(i), adopted by K.A.R. 82-4-3a, and authorized by K.S.A. 66-1,129. Staff recommends a fine of \$250.

RECOMMENDATION:

Transportation Staff recommends the Commission find Ruiz Trucking committed sixteen (16) violation(s) of Kansas law that governs motor carriers, including various provisions of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs), as adopted by the Kansas Administrative Regulations, and is therefore subject to sanctions or fines imposed by the Commission.

Additionally, Staff recommends a civil penalty of \$12,700 for sixteen (16) violation(s) of the Motor Carrier Safety Statutes, Rules and Regulations, in accordance with the recommended penalties listed in the applicable Uniform Penalty Assessment Matrix.

Staff further recommends that a representative from Ruiz Trucking be required to attend a Commission-sponsored safety seminar within ninety (90) days from the date of the Order, and provide Litigation Counsel with written proof of attendance. A schedule of the dates and locations for safety seminars can be found on the Commission's website at http://kcc.ks.gov/trans/safety_mcetings.htm.

Staff further recommends Ruiz Trucking submit a written, comprehensive Corrective Action Plan (CAP) to Transportation Staff within thirty (30) days of the date of this order, documenting the violation(s) described in the Penalty Order, including specific and detailed information explaining the carrier's efforts and concrete steps taken to ensure the violation(s) do not occur in the future.

Finally, Staff recommends that Ruiz Trucking submit to one follow-up safety compliance review within eighteen (18) months from the date of the Penalty Order. Transportation Staff will contact the motor carrier at a later date to determine an appropriate time for the review.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

22-TRAM-510-PEN

I, the undersigned, certify that a true copy of the attached Order has been served to the following by means of

electronic service on _____

AHSAN LATIF, LITIGATION COUNSEL KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION 1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD TOPEKA, KS 66604 a.latif@kcc.ks.gov BALTAZAR GUZMAN RUIZ RUIZ TRUCKING 3046 JONES AVE GARDEN CITY, KS 67846 balta-ruiz67@hotmail.com

/S/ DeeAnn Shupe DeeAnn Shupe