

THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

Before Commissioners: Dwight D. Keen, Chair
 Shari Feist Albrecht
 Susan K. Duffy

In the Matter of the Investigation of **Wilson**)
Communication Company, Inc. of Wilson,)
KS, Regarding the Violation of the Motor)
Carrier Safety Statutes, Rules and Regulations) Docket No. 20-TRAM-222-PEN
and the Commission's Authority to Impose)
Penalties, Sanctions and/or the Revocation of)
Motor Carrier Authority.)

ORDER AMENDING PENALTY ASSESSMENT

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

BACKGROUND

1. On November 26, 2019, this Commission issued a Penalty Order to Wilson Communication Company, Inc. (hereinafter Wilson Communication), assessing it a civil penalty of \$900. The penalty was for two (2) 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.

2. Wilson Communication was advised that it was a New Entrant motor carrier being reviewed for the first time, and may be eligible for a reduced penalty of fifty-percent (50%), as long as it complies with the terms and obligations described in the Notice of Penalty Assessment, the Reduced Penalty Agreement and as set out below.

3. On December 3, 2019, Staff filed a Motion for Order Amending Penalty Assessment, recommending the Commission assess Wilson Communication a fifty-percent (50%) reduced penalty of \$450, and set out specific terms and obligations.

4. Staff states that on December 2, 2019, Wilson Communication timely submitted the signed Reduced Penalty Agreement. A copy of the Reduced Penalty Agreement was attached to Staff's Motion. The carrier further submitted a Corrective Action Plan (CAP), which has been approved by Transportation Staff.

FINDINGS OF FACT

5. The Penalty Order issued on November 26, 2019, assessed Wilson Communication a civil penalty of \$900 for two (2) violation(s) of the motor carrier safety statutes, rules and regulations.

6. Staff recommends in its Motion that due to Wilson Communication's agreement to comply with the terms and obligations for a fifty-percent (50%) reduced penalty and approval of its CAP, an Order Amending Penalty Assessment is recommended to be issued by the Commission assessing Wilson Communication a reduced penalty of \$450, and setting out the terms and obligations as stated in its motion.

7. K.S.A. 66-1,142c authorizes the Commission to determine the amount of civil penalty and states in pertinent part:

"Any civil penalty may be compromised by the state corporation commission. In determining the amount of the penalty or the amount agreed in compromise, the appropriateness of the penalty to the size of the business, the gravity of the violation and the good faith of the person charged in attempting to achieve compliance, shall be considered."

IT IS, THEREFORE, BY THE COMMISSION ORDERED THAT:

A. The civil penalty of \$900 assessed to Wilson Communication Company, Inc. in the Penalty Order dated November 26, 2019, is hereby amended to \$450.

B. Payment of \$450 is due within thirty (30) days from the date of service of this Order Amending Penalty Assessment. Payment must be made through your personal account with the Kansas Corporation Commission's KTRAN system located at <https://puc.kcc.ks.gov/ktran/>. You must have an account through KTRAN to pay the penalty owed.

C. Wilson Communication is ordered to, within thirty (30) days from the date of the Penalty Order dated November 26, 2019, send an individual responsible for safety compliance to attend a Commission-sponsored safety seminar, and submit proof of attendance to Litigation Counsel.

D. Wilson Communication must submit to a follow-up compliance review within eighteen (18) months from the date of the Penalty Order. Transportation Staff will contact Wilson Communication to schedule the review.

E. If Wilson Communication fails to pay the reduced fine of \$450 and/or fails to comply with the terms and conditions ordered above, the Commission may order Wilson Communication additional sanctions, including enforcement of an out-of-service order, revoking its authority or any further sanctions as the Commission deems necessary.

F. The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and the parties for the purpose of entering such further orders as it may deem necessary and proper.

BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.

Keen, Chair; Albrecht, Commissioner; Duffy, Commissioner

Dated: 12/10/2019



Lynn M. Retz
Executive Director

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

20-TRAM-222-PEN

I, the undersigned, certify that a true copy of the attached Order has been served to the following by means of
12/10/2019
first class mail and electronic service on _____.

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/S/ DeeAnn Shupe

DeeAnn Shupe