## BEFORE THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

In the Matter of the General Investigation	)	
of Kelsy Conard of Wentworth,	)	Docket No. 17-GIMM-133-KHP
Missouri, Pursuant to the Kansas Highway	)	
Patrol Issuance of a Notice of Violation(s)	)	
and Invoice for the Violations of the	)	
Kansas Motor Carrier Safety Statutes,	)	
Rules and Regulations.	)	

# JOINT MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

The Staff of the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Staff and Commission, respectively) by and through its counsel Ahsan A. Latif, and Kelsy Conard (Respondent), by and through his counsel John E. Harvell, file this Joint Motion requesting the Commission issue an Order approving the attached Stipulated Settlement Agreement. In support of this Motion, Staff and Respondent state as follows:

- 1. On July 28, 2016, the Kansas Highway Patrol issued a Notice of Violation(s) against Kelsey Conard (Respondent), for alleged violations found during a July 22, 2016, routine motor carrier stop and inspection conducted by the Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP).
- 2. As a result of this inspection, Respondent was assessed \$1,650 in civil fines, comprised of the following violations: a \$150.00 fine for No Shipping Papers, citing 177.817A, a \$150.00 fine for Package Not Secure in Vehicle, citing 177.834A, a \$150.00 fine for No/Improper Breakaway or Emergency Braking, citing 393.43, a \$0.00 fine for Failing to Secure Equipment, citing 392.9A2, a \$0.00 fine for Leaking/Spilling/Blowing/Falling Cargo, citing 393.100B, a \$150.00 fine for No/Improper Heavy Vehicle/Machine Securement, citing 393.130, a \$150.00 fine for Tire-load weight rating/under inflated, citing 393.75F, a \$150.00 fine for Inoperative Turn Signal, citing 393.9TS, a \$250.00 for Operating a CMV while ill or fatigued,

citing 392.3, a \$250.00 fine for Driver in possession of intoxicating beverage while on duty or driving, citing 392.5A3 and a \$250.00 fine for No Driver's Record of Duty Status, citing 395.8A.

- 3. On August 26, 2016, Respondent initiated a formal challenge with the KHP.
- 4. On September 9, 2016, the Kansas Highway Patrol denied Respondent's challenge and advised Respondent of its right to an administrative hearing before the Commission.
  - 5. On September 22, 2016, Respondent requested a hearing before the Commission.
- 6. On January 11, 2017 John E. Harvell, Counsel for Kelsey Conard; Mike Hoeme, Director of the Commission's Transportation Division; Gary Davenport, Deputy Director of the Commission's Transportation Division; and Ahsan A. Latif, Litigation Counsel for Staff informally discussed the possibility of a settlement. During this and subsequent informal discussions, Staff and Respondent were able to reach mutually agreeable terms in anticipated settlement of the issues. It was agreed that Staff would subsequently reduce the terms to writing and forward the draft to Respondent for approval and signature.
- 7. The resulting signed Stipulated Settlement Agreement is attached hereto as Attachment "A" and is hereby incorporated by reference. This Agreement resolves all issues in this proceeding between Staff and Respondent. The parties believe that the Agreement represents a reasonable and fair resolution of this matter and that the Commission should approve the Agreement in full.
- 8. Should the Commission accept the terms of the attached Stipulated Settlement Agreement, the parties waive their respective rights to cross-examine witnesses and present oral arguments or written briefs to the Commission. The parties also waive their rights to request

reconsideration of the Commission Order approving the Agreement and waive their rights to seek judicial review of said Order.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons set forth herein, Staff and Kelsey Conard request this Joint

Motion be granted, and that the attached Stipulated Settlement Agreement be approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

By: Ahsan A. Latif, S. Ct. #24709

Litigation Counsel

Kansas Corporation Commission

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Attorney for Commission Staff

By: John E. Harvell, S. Ct. #

Harvell Law 108 East Cedar Olathe, KS 66061

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Email: john@johnharvell.com

Attorney for Respondent

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Rules and Regulations.	)	

## STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Stipulated Settlement Agreement (Agreement) is entered into by and between the Staff of the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Staff and Commission, respectively), and Kelsy Conard (Respondent). Its effective date will be the date the Commission enters an Order approving or amending the terms of the Agreement.

### I. JURISDICTION

- 1. Pursuant to K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 66-1,108b, 66-1,111, 66-1,112, 66-1,114, 66-1,114b and 66-1,115, and amendments thereto, the Commission is given full power, authority and jurisdiction to supervise and control motor carriers, as defined in K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 66-1,108, 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. 2016 Supp. 66-1,129a, 66-1,130 and 66-1,142b, and amendments thereto, 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 a party under its jurisdiction.
- 4. Pursuant to K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 74-2108, the Kansas Highway Patrol may require the driver of any motor vehicle operated by any motor carrier to stop and submit to an inspection to determine compliance with the laws, rules and regulations relating to motor carriers.

  Additionally, K.A.R. 82-4-2a gives the Kansas Highway Patrol the authority to examine motor carrier equipment operating on the highways in Kansas, and examine the manner of the motor carrier's conduct as it relates to the public safety and the operation of commercial motor vehicles in Kansas.
- 5. Pursuant to K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 66-1,129(a), sanctions imposed against motor carriers must be done in accordance with the Kansas Administrative Procedure Act.
- Pursuant to K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 77-505, nothing in the Kansas Administrative
   Procedure Act shall preclude the informal settlement of matters that may make other proceedings unnecessary.
- 7. Pursuant to K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 66-1,142c, a civil penalty may be compromised by the 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.

### II. BACKGROUND

8. On July 28, 2016, the Kansas Highway Patrol issued a Notice of Violation(s) against Kelsey Conard (Respondent), for alleged violations found during a July 22, 2016, routine motor carrier stop and inspection conducted by the Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP).

- 9. As a result of this inspection, Respondent was assessed \$1,650 in civil fines, comprised of the following violations: a \$150.00 fine for No Shipping Papers, citing 177.817A, a \$150.00 fine for Package Not Secure in Vehicle, citing 177.834A, a \$150.00 fine for No/Improper Breakaway or Emergency Braking, citing 393.43, a \$0.00 fine for Failing to Secure Equipment, citing 392.9A2, a \$0.00 fine for Leaking/Spilling/Blowing/Falling Cargo, citing 393.100B, a \$150.00 fine for No/Improper Heavy Vehicle/Machine Securement, citing 393.130, a \$150.00 fine for Tire-load weight rating/under inflated, citing 393.75F, a \$150.00 fine for Inoperative Turn Signal, citing 393.9TS, a \$250.00 for Operating a CMV while ill or fatigued, citing 392.3, a \$250.00 fine for Driver in possession of intoxicating beverage while on duty or driving, citing 392.5A3 and a \$250.00 fine for No Driver's Record of Duty Status, citing 395.8A.
  - 10. On August 26, 2016, Respondent initiated a formal challenge with the KHP.
- 11. On September 9, 2016, the Kansas Highway Patrol denied Respondent's challenge and advised Respondent of its right to an administrative hearing before the Commission.
  - 12. On September 22, 2016, Respondent requested a hearing before the Commission.
- 13. On January 11, 2017 John E. Harvell, Counsel for Kelsey Conard; Mike Hoeme, Director of the Commission's Transportation Division; Gary Davenport, Deputy Director of the Commission's Transportation Division; and Ahsan A. Latif, Litigation Counsel for Staff informally discussed the possibility of a settlement. During this and subsequent informal discussions, Staff and Respondent were able to reach mutually agreeable terms in anticipated settlement of the issues. It was agreed that Staff would subsequently reduce the terms to writing and forward the draft to Respondent for approval and signature.

## III. TERMS OF THE STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

- 14. The parties agree that the Commission has jurisdiction and authority over this matter.
- 15. The parties also agree that adoption of this Agreement is in the public interest and that the Commission should approve the stipulations as set forth below.
- 16. Respondent neither admits to nor denies the violations alleged in the Invoice dated July 28, 2016.
- 17. Respondent agrees to operate commercial motor vehicles subject to the Commission's jurisdiction in a safe manner.
- 18. Staff agrees to recommend to the Commission that this Agreement be approved.

  Staff further agrees that upon approval by the Commission this Agreement shall constitute a final resolution of this matter.
- 19. Pursuant to K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 77-504, the Respondent waives all rights to a hearing on, or appeal of the Invoice, and withdraws its request for a hearing previously filed herein.
- 20. Pursuant to K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 77-526, the Commission expressly reserves and maintains the right and authority to enforce the terms of this Agreement.
- 21. Pursuant to the Kansas Judicial Review Act, K.S.A 77-601 *et seq.*, Respondent waives all rights to a hearing on, or appeal of, this Agreement.

#### IV. MODIFICATION OF EXAMINATION AND INVOICE

- 22. Staff agrees to reduce the civil fee assessed against Respondent by \$650.00 from \$1,650.00 to \$1,000.00.
  - 23. Respondent agrees to withdraw its Request for Hearing before the Commission.V. DUTIES OF THE RESPONDENT.

- 24. Respondent agrees to pay fines totaling \$1,000 by January 31, 2017. Payment shall be made payable to the Kansas Corporation Commission and mailed to the Kansas Corporation Commission, Legal Division, 1500 S.W. Arrowhead Road, Topeka, Kansas, 66604-4027. Respondent shall include the docket number of these proceedings (17-GIMM-133-KHP) in the memo field of the payment.
- 25. Respondent shall comply with 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.

#### VI. RESERVATIONS

- 26. This Agreement fully resolves issues specifically addressed between the parties.

  The terms of this Agreement constitute a fair and reasonable resolution of the issues addressed herein.
- 27. The terms and provisions of this Agreement have resulted from negotiations between the signatories and are interdependent. In the event the Commission does not approve the terms of the Agreement in total, any party has the option to terminate this Agreement and, if so terminated, none of the signatories hereto shall be bound by, prejudiced, or in any way affected by any of the terms or provisions hereof, unless otherwise provided herein.
- 28. Unless (and only to the extent) otherwise specified in this Agreement, the signatories to this Agreement shall not be prejudiced, bound by, or affected in any way by the terms of this Agreement: (1) in any future Commission or court proceeding; (2) in any proceeding currently pending before the Commission under a separate docket; and/or (3) in this proceeding, if the Commission decides not to approve this Agreement in total or in any way

conditions its approval of the same. This paragraph is not meant to limit future enforcement of this Agreement, should either party fail to fulfill all terms and provisions.

- 29. Unless (and only to the extent) otherwise specified in this Agreement, this Agreement does not prejudice or waive any party's legal rights, positions, claims, assertions or arguments in any proceedings in this docket, or any other proceeding before the Commission or in any court.
- 30. If the Commission approves this Agreement in its entirety and incorporates the same into a Final Order in this docket, the parties agree to be bound by its terms and the Commission's Order incorporating its terms as to all issues addressed herein, and will not appeal the Commission's Order.
  - 31. This Agreement shall be binding on all parties upon signing.

IN WITNESS WHERETO, Staff and Kelsey Conard hereby execute and approve this

Stipulated Settlement Agreement by subscribing their signatures below.

By:

Ahsan A. Lanf S. Ct #24709

Litigation Counsel

Kansas Corporation Commission 1500 S.W. Arrowhead Road

Topeka, Kansas 66604-4027

Phone: 785-271-3118

Fax: 785-271-3167 Email: a.latif@kcc.ks.gov

Attorney for Commission Staff

By:

John E. Harvell, S. Ct. #

Harvell Law

108 East Cedar

Olathe, KS 66061

Phone: 913-339-9919

Fax: 913-339-9013

Email: john@johnharvell.com

By: Kelsy Conard.

Attorney for Respondent

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

#### 17-GIMM-133-KHP

I, the undersigned, certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing Joint Motion for Approval of Stipulated Settlement Agreement was served via electronic service this 26th day of January, 2017, to the following:

JOHN E. HARVELL, ATTORNEY AT LAW JOHN E. HARVELL 108 EAST CEDAR OLATHE, KS 66061 Fax: 913-339-9013 john@johnharvell.com AHSAN LATIF, LITIGATION COUNSEL KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION 1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD TOPEKA, KS 66604-4027 Fax: 785-271-3354 a.latif@kcc.ks.gov

Vicki Jacobsen