

THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

Before Commissioners: Shari Feist Albrecht, Chair  
Jay Scott Emler  
Dwight D. Keen

In the Matter of the Investigation of **David J. )**  
**Bascom, d/b/a Heartland Trucking of )**  
**Emmett, KS**, Regarding the Violation of the )  
Motor Carrier Safety Statutes, Rules and ) Docket No. 19-TRAM-150-PEN  
Regulations 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 October 25, 2018, this Commission issued a Penalty Order to David J. Bascom, d/b/a Heartland Trucking (hereinafter Heartland Trucking), assessing it a civil penalty of \$4,700. The penalty was for nine (9) 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. Heartland Trucking 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. Staff states that on November 9, 2018, Heartland Trucking 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.

4. On November 15, 2018, Staff filed a Motion for Order Amending Penalty Assessment, recommending the Commission assess Heartland Trucking a fifty-percent (50%) reduced penalty of \$2350, and set out specific terms and obligations.

### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

5. The Penalty Order issued on October 25, 2018, assessed Heartland Trucking a civil penalty of \$4,700 for nine (9) violation(s) of the motor carrier safety statutes, rules and regulations.

6. Staff recommended in its Motion that due to Heartland Trucking'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 Heartland Trucking a reduced penalty of \$2,350, 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 \$4,700 assessed to David J. Bascom, d/b/a Heartland Trucking in the Penalty Order dated October 25, 2018, is hereby amended to \$2,350.

B. Payment of \$2,350 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. Heartland Trucking is ordered to, within thirty (30) days from the date of the Penalty Order dated October 25, 2018, send an individual responsible for safety compliance to attend a Commission-sponsored safety seminar, and submit proof of attendance to Litigation Counsel.

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

E. If Heartland Trucking fails to pay the reduced fine of \$2,350 and/or fails to comply with the terms and conditions ordered above, the Commission may order Heartland Trucking 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.**

Albrecht, Chair; Emler, Commissioner; Keen, Commissioner

Dated: 11/20/2018 \_\_\_\_\_



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Lynn M. Retz  
Secretary to the Commission

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

19-TRAM-150-PEN

I, the undersigned, certify that the true copy of the attached Order has been served to the following parties by means of  
first class mail/hand delivered on 11/21/2018.

DAVID J. BASCOM, OWNER  
DAVID J. BASCOM  
D/B/A HEARTLAND TRUCKING  
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/S/ DeeAnn Shupe  
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DeeAnn Shupe