

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND

ORDER NO. 20,057

IN THE MATTER OF:

Served January 25, 2023

ARIEL MEDICAL TRANSPORT LLC,)
Suspension and Investigation of)
Revocation of Certificate No. 3383)

Case No. MP-2022-062

This matter is before the Commission on respondent's response to Order No. 19,983, served November 21, 2022.

I. BACKGROUND

Under the Compact, a WMATC carrier may not engage in transportation subject to the Compact if the carrier's certificate of authority is not "in force."¹ A certificate of authority is not valid unless the holder is in compliance with the Commission's insurance requirements.²

Commission Regulation No. 58 requires respondent to insure the revenue vehicles operated under Certificate No. 3383 for a minimum of \$1.5 million in combined-single-limit liability coverage and maintain on file with the Commission at all times proof of coverage in the form of a WMATC Certificate of Insurance and Policy Endorsement (WMATC Insurance Endorsement) for each policy comprising the minimum.

Certificate No. 3383 was rendered invalid on November 8, 2022, when the \$1.5 million primary WMATC Insurance Endorsement on file for respondent terminated without replacement. Order No. 19,971, served November 8, 2022, noted the automatic suspension of Certificate No. 3383 pursuant to Regulation No. 58-12, directed respondent to cease transporting passengers for hire under Certificate No. 3383, and gave respondent 30 days to replace the terminated endorsement and pay the \$100 late fee due under Regulation No. 67-03(c) or face revocation of Certificate No. 3383.

Respondent thereafter paid the late fee and submitted a \$1.5 million primary WMATC Insurance Endorsement, and the suspension was lifted in Order No. 19,983. However, because the effective date of the new endorsement is November 11, 2022, instead of November 8, 2022, leaving a 3-day gap in required insurance coverage, the order directed respondent to verify cessation of operations from November 8, 2022, to November 21, 2022, in accordance with Regulation No. 58-14(a). The

¹ Compact, tit. II, art. XI, § 6(a).

² Compact, tit. II, art. XI, § 7(g).

statement was to be corroborated by copies of respondent's pertinent business records from August 1, 2022, to November 21, 2022.

II. RESPONSE AND ORDER TO TERMINATE PROCEEDING

On November 30, 2022, as supplemented on December 20, 2022, respondent produced two statements from its owner, Heriet Tarazo; copies of respondent's bank statements for the period beginning June 1, 2022, and ending November 28, 2022; and copies of Ms. Tarazo's bank statements for the period beginning August 1, 2022, and ending November 30, 2022.

Ms. Tarazo states that respondent has never commenced transportation operations. This statement is corroborated by the bank statements, which show little activity, consistent with a lack of operations, and also show deposits at regular intervals for Ms. Tarazo's separate employment in a job unrelated to for-hire passenger transportation.

Based on the evidence, we find that respondent has demonstrated it did not conduct operations during the suspension period. Accordingly, this proceeding is hereby terminated.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION; COMMISSIONERS RICHARD AND LOTT:



Jeffrey M. Lehmann
Executive Director