

Public Utilities Commission

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

CITATION FOR VIOLATION OF A GENERAL ORDER

To: Truss Car Service
Attn: Pedro Paulo Passos
313 Via Hidalgo City

Greenbrae, CA 94903

File: Unlicensed

Citation #: T.2025-10-003 Date: October 8, 2025 Case #: CSE-000596

VIOLATIONS

You are hereby cited as having violated sections of the Public Utilities (Pub. Util.) Code and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) General Order (G.O.) as described below. These violations occurred during the period of June 9, 2025, to June 15, 2025.

- 1. Operated as a Charter-Party Carrier (TCP) without a valid operating authority, in violation of Pub. Util. Code Section 5371 [2 counts]
- 2. Operated at an airport without an airport permit and failure to follow airport rules and regulations, in violation of Pub. Util. Code Section 5371.4(b) and G.O. 157-E, Part 3.02 [2 counts]

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The above violations are documented in the attached Investigation Report, which consists of the carrier's records and substantiating documents obtained from other sources.

RESPONSE

TEB used the Penalty Assessment Methodology adopted in Resolution M-4846 and considered mitigating and exacerbating factors in setting the fine.

You are hereby called upon to answer this citation on or before October 28, 2025. By way of such an answer, you may either:

- (1) Pay a fine of \$4,000 pursuant to Pub. Util. Code Section 5378. Submit your check or money order payable to California Public Utilities Commission using the attached *Citation Agreement*. Upon payment, the fine will be deposited in the State Treasury to the credit of the General Fund and the CPUC staff will deem the matter closed, **or**
- (2) Contact the Supervisor below to make payment arrangements, or
- (3) Contest this Citation by filing an Appeal. See the attached document "How to File an Appeal and Instructions for Filing a Notice of Appeal and Certificate of Service for a Citation Appeal."

If you fail to respond by October 28, 2025, you will be in default and will have forfeited your right to appeal the Citation. In addition, your operating authority will be immediately suspended and may be subsequently revoked pursuant to Resolution ALJ-187. The CPUC may also act through a civil or criminal proceeding to recover any unpaid fine and ensure compliance with applicable statutes and CPUC orders.

Eric Hooks

Tic Hooks

Program and Project Supervisor

Consumer Protection and Enforcement Division

Transportation Enforcement Branch Telephone number: (415) 703-2302

E-mail address: eric.hooks@cpuc.ca.gov

INVESTIGATION REPORT

CARRIER: Truss Car Service

Pedro Paulo Passos **OWNER**

AUTHORITY: Unlicensed

MAILING ADDRESS:

PHONE/EMAIL:

VEHICLES:

EMPLOYEE DRIVERS:

PL&PD1 Not on file with CPUC2

INSURANCE:

WORKERS' Not on file with CPUC

COMPENSATION INSURANCE:

Not on file with CPUC **DRUG CONSORTIUM:**

¹ Public Liability and Property Damage (PL&PD) 2 California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)

INTRODUCTION

On August 8, 2025, I was assigned to investigate the operations and practices of Truss Car Service because of a San Francisco International Airport (SFO) Ground Transportation Unit (GTU) complaint alleging that Truss Car Service operated as a Charter-Party Carrier (TCP) without an operating authority from the CPUC and no airport permit.

VIOLATIONS

I investigated Truss Car Service for the period of June 9, 2025, to June 15, 2025, and found a violation of the following provision of the Public Utilities (Pub. Util.) Code and a CPUC General Order (G.O).

• Operated as a Charter-Party Carrier (TCP) without a valid operating authority, in violation of Pub. Util. Code Section 5371. [2 counts]

Pub. Util. Code 5371 states in part that "No charter-party carrier of passengers except transit districts, transit authorities or cities owning and operating local transit systems themselves or through wholly owned nonprofit corporations shall engage in transportation services made subject to this chapter without first having obtained from the commission..." The CPUC's Transportation and Licensing Analysis Branch (TLAB) records show that Truss Car Service has never held a charter-party carrier of passengers operating authority.

On June 9, 2025, SFO GTU, Investigator Jack Chen issued Truss Car Service Citation #64522 [Attachment 1]. The citation states that Truss Car Service operated at SFO without CPUC authority and no airport permit. On June 15, 2025, SFO GTU Investigator Jack Chen issued Truss Car Service Citation #66282 [Attachment 2]. The citation states that Truss Car Service operated a business without CPUC authority and no airport permit.

On August 7, 2025, I issued a Cease-and-Desist (C&D) Notice [Attachment 3] to Truss Car Service for operating as a commercial transportation business at SFO using a vehicle with the license plate This trip was conducted without the required TCP authority and no airport permit. My investigation revealed that Truss Car operated for two days and conducted two trips without possessing the necessary TCP authority.

• Operated at an airport without an airport permit and failure to follow airport rules and regulations, in violation of Pub. Util. Code Sections 5371.4(b), 5381, and G.O. 157-E, Part 3.02. [2 counts]

G.O. 157-E, Part 3.02 states in part that "No carrier shall conduct any operations on the property of or into any airport unless such operations are authorized by both this Commission and the airport authority involved...."

On June 9, 2025, SFO GTU, Investigator Jack Chen issued Truss Car Citation #64522 [Attachment 1]. The citation states that Truss Car operated at SFO without airport authority. On June 15, 2025, SFO GTU, Investigator Jack Chen issued Truss Car Service Citation #66282 [Attachment 2]. The citation states that Truss operated without airport permit. My investigation disclosed that Truss Car Service operated for two days without a SFO permit.

DECLARATION

I have read the foregoing and know the contents thereof and I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct, except as to those matters stated on information and belief, and to those matters, I believe to be true.

Executed on October 8, 2025, in Los Angeles, California.

La Tasha James

LaTasha James, Enforcement Analyst

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1. SFO GTU Citation #64522
- Attachment 2. SFO GTU Citation #66282
- Attachment 3. CPUC Notice to Cease & Desist

Attachment One



64522 Warning Only

 Date of Observation: 6/9/2025
 Time: 08:25 PDT
 Day: Monday

 Plate #:
 VIN #:

 Make:
 Model:
 Style:
 Color:

 Company:
 Non-Permitted Operator
 TCP #: 099999

Location: T1 Dep

Violated Rules and Regulations

9.2 Operating a Business without Airport Authorization

Comment: Truss Car Service - Operating a commercial transportation business without CPUC and SFO authority

Issuing Authority: GTC Issuer Id: 109

FINES SHALL BE ASSESSED PER RULE 14 OF SFIA AIRPORT RULES AND REGULATIONS AND/OR APPLICABLE OPERATING PERMIT.

Attachment Two



66282

Date of Observation: 6/15/2025 Time: 14:34 PDT

Plate #: VIN #:

Model:

Company: Non-Permitted Operator

Color:

Day: Sunday

Location: IT Arrivals

Violated Rules and Regulations

Operating a Business without Airport Authorization

Comment:

Make:

Issuing Authority: GTC Issuer Id: 109

FINES SHALL BE ASSESSED PER RULE 14 OF SFIA AIRPORT RULES AND REGULATIONS AND/OR APPLICABLE OPERATING PERMIT.



Attachment Three

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, California, 94102

Sent via email: August 7, 2025

TCP: Unlicensed

SFO Citation No.: 64522 & 66282

Case No.: CSE-000596

Truss Car Service

Attn: Pedro Paulo Passos



Dear Pedro Paulo Passos:

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) became aware that you are operating without a valid authority.

Public Utilities (Pub. Util.) Code Sections 1031 and 5371 state that it is unlawful for a Passenger Stage Corporation (PSC) or a Charter-Party Carrier (TCP) to conduct any operations without valid authority, respectively. Pub. Util. Code Sections 1034.5 and 5414.5 state that it is unlawful to publish or advertise without holding a valid operating authority. Advertisements include but are not limited to advertising in local directories or Yellow Pages, business cards, internet websites, and any other form of advertisements.

Your company must immediately cease and desist from all unlawful operations including advertising. Pub. Util. Code Section 5411 states in part that any TCP carrier which operates without a valid authority is guilty of a misdemeanor and is punishable by a fine of not less than \$1,000.

On June 9, 2025, and June 15, 2025, Truss Car Service was found operating as a commercial transportation business at San Francisco International Airport (SFO) using a vehicle with the license plate . The company did not have the required CPUC and SFO authority. On both dates, the Ground Transportation Unit issued Citation Number 64522 and Citation Number 66282 at SFO.

This letter places your company on notice that continued violations of the law without the required operating authority may result in enforcement actions, including criminal prosecutions. There will be no further warnings.

For information on obtaining a permit or certificate, go to:

http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/transportationlicensing/.

Please contact me within five days of receiving this notice at the telephone number and email address listed below.

Sincerely,

La Tasha James

LaTasha James, Enforcement Analyst California Public Utilities Commission Consumer Protection and Enforcement Division Transportation Enforcement Branch Email: Latasha.James@cpuc.ca.gov

Telephone: (213) 605-0652

cc: Eric Hooks, Program and Project Supervisor

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have on this day served the following documents on

Truss Car Service

TCP-Unlicensed

Case # CSE-000596

- 1. Administrative Citation T.2025-10-003
- 2. Citation Compliance Agreement
- 3. Investigation Report and Attachments
- 4. Credit/Debit Card Authorization Form
- 5. How to File an Appeal
- 6. Notice of Appeal Form and Certificates of Service Form (from Resolution ALJ-377)
- 7. Resolution ALJ-187
- 8. Certificate of Service

Date: October 8, 2025 <u>La Tasha James</u>

LaTasha James

TEB Enforcement Analyst