

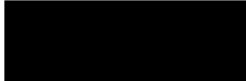


Public Utilities Commission

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

CITATION FOR VIOLATION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES CODE

To: Bruno Couto Januario



File No.: Unlicensed

Citation #: T.2025-07-012

Date: July 25, 2025

Case #: CSE-000613

VIOLATIONS

You are hereby cited for having violated a section of the Public Utilities (Pub. Util.) Code as described below. The violation occurred on July 23, 2025.

- (1) Operated as a charter-party carrier without an operating authority in violation of Pub. Util. Code Section 5371. **[1 count]**

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The above violation is 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 August 15, 2025. By way of such an answer, you may either:

- (1) Pay a fine of \$1,500 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 August 15, 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

Eric 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

Attachments



Public Utilities Commission

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

CITATION COMPLIANCE AGREEMENT

File No.: Unlicensed
Citation #: T.2025-07-012
Date: July 25, 2025
Case #: CSE-000613

I (we) hereby agree to comply with this citation dated July 25, 2025, and herewith pay the fine of \$1,500.

Bruno Couto Januario

(Signature)

(Title)

(Date)

Automatic credit and debit card payments are available. To arrange for autopay, fill out the attached CREDIT OR DEBIT CARD AUTHORIZATION form and email it to our Fiscal Office at FiscalOffice-TECitations@cpuc.ca.gov.

Or

Payment (cashier's check or money order) should be made payable to *California Public Utilities Commission* and sent to:

California Public Utilities Commission
Attn: Fiscal Office
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102-3298

INVESTIGATION REPORT

CARRIER: Bruno Couto Januario, an Individual

OWNER: Bruno Couto Januario

AUTHORITY: None (Unlicensed)

MAILING ADDRESS:



PHONE/EMAIL:

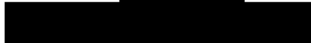


VEHICLES: 1 Car

License Plate:



VIN:



EMPLOYEE-DRIVERS: 1

PL&PD¹

INSURANCE: None

**WORKERS'
COMPENSATION
INSURANCE:**

None

DRUG CONSORTIUM: None

¹ Public Liability and Property Damage (PL&PD)

INTRODUCTION

On July 24, 2025, I was assigned to investigate the operations and practices of Bruno Couto Januario (hereinafter referred to as Mr. Couto Januario) after the vehicle he was operating was impounded by the California Highway Patrol (CHP) for operating without a valid authority from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC).

VIOLATIONS

I investigated Mr. Couto Januario for the date of July 23, 2025, and found a violation of the following provisions of the Public Utilities (Pub. Util.) Code:

- **Operated as a Charter-Party Carrier (TCP) without an operating authority, in violation of Pub. Util. Code Section 5371. [1 count]**

On July 23, 2025, Sadrud-Din Muhammad, Enforcement Analyst with the CPUC's Consumer Protection and Enforcement Division (CPED), Transportation Enforcement Branch (TEB), along with [REDACTED], observed Mr. Couto Januario, identified via California Driver's License [Attachment 1], operating a vehicle displaying California license plate [REDACTED] and VIN No. [REDACTED] [Attachment 2], in the international arrival zone at San Francisco International Airport (SFO).

During the commercial vehicle inspection, [REDACTED] of the San Francisco Police Department reviewed the Transportation Network Company (TNC) application (app) waybill associated with the trip and determined that the active waybill did not list Mr. Couto Januario as the driver, despite him picking up passenger, [REDACTED] via the Uber platform [Attachment 3]. The active waybill (see Attachment 3) lists the driver as Luis Gaonaanay., which does not match Mr. Couto Januario (see Attachment 1). This constituted a direct violation of CPUC Decision 13-09-045, specifically Ordering Paragraph 4, which mandates that each TNC driver must complete a background check and be approved before providing services. The decision further defines "providing TNC services" as beginning when the app is opened, meaning only individuals authorized by the CPUC may operate under a TNC platform.

In addition, Mr. Couto Januario's operation of a vehicle for passenger transport without holding CPUC authority violated California Pub. Util. Code §5371, which requires any charter-party carrier of

passengers, including TNC drivers, to obtain a CPUC certificate or permit before operating for compensation. By using someone else's profile on the Uber app, Mr. Couto Januario bypassed CPUC's required safety vetting and insurance provisions, making him an unauthorized and unlicensed operator.

A review of our records in the Salesforce database confirmed that Mr. Couto Januario has never held operating authority with the CPUC. Accordingly, this activity also violated California Pub. Util. Code §5371, which prohibits any entity or individual from engaging in for-hire transportation without CPUC authorization.

As a result, a Notice to Cease-and-Desist [**Attachment 4**] and an Inspection Observation Report [**Attachment 5**] were issued to Mr. Couto Januario for operating without CPUC authority. Additionally, I obtained approval from the TEB Program and Project Supervisor, Eric Hooks, to request that Officer Hunt impound the vehicle in accordance with enforcement protocol [**Attachment 6**]. In the CHP 180 (see **Attachment 6**), completed by [REDACTED], the vehicle is listed with license plate [REDACTED] and VIN No. [REDACTED] based on the registration [**Attachment 7**] provided by Mr. Couto Januario.

On July 23, 2025, I informed Mr. Couto Januario, with the assistance of a translation application and the assistance of Mr. Couto Januario associate [REDACTED], to cease all illegal operations until he obtains a CPUC authority. I also told him about the impending citation and his right to appeal it. Mr. Couto Januario confirmed that he understood my directive. I then asked him for a working email address to send the citation, which he provided: [REDACTED].

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 July 25, 2025, in Los Angeles, California.

Sadrud-Din Muhammad

Sadrud-Din Muhammad, Enforcement Analyst

List of Attachments

- Attachment 1. Mr. Couto Januario's California Driver's License
- Attachment 2. Photo of the Car with License Plate No. [REDACTED]
- Attachment 3. TNC Application Waybill
- Attachment 4. Notice to Cease-and-Desist
- Attachment 5. Inspection Observation Report
- Attachment 6. Request for Impound & CHP 180
- Attachment 7. Vehicle Registration

Attachment 1

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA
Department of Motor Vehicles

REGISTRATION CARD VALID FROM: 12/12/2024 TO: [REDACTED]

MAKE: TOYT YR MODEL: 2014 YR DOT SOLD: 2013 VLP CLASS: DM YRS: 2022 TYPE VEH: 120
BODY TYPE MODEL: 5D NO: Q NO: FL
TYPE VEHICLE USE: AUTOMOBILE
DATE ISSUED: 12/10/24 CC/ALCO: 48 DT PER RECVD: 12/10/24 PIC: 8

AMOUNT DUE: \$ 261.00
CASH: [REDACTED]
CHECK: [REDACTED]
CRDT: 261.00

Trade Dress: Yes No Partial
Front Rear

Vehicle matches the same person on the app: Yes No
Airport Permit: Yes No N/A

TCP# PSC# TNC

DRIVER'S NAME: [REDACTED]
LICENSE PLATE #: [REDACTED]
CDL#: [REDACTED]
AUTHORITY STATUS: [REDACTED]

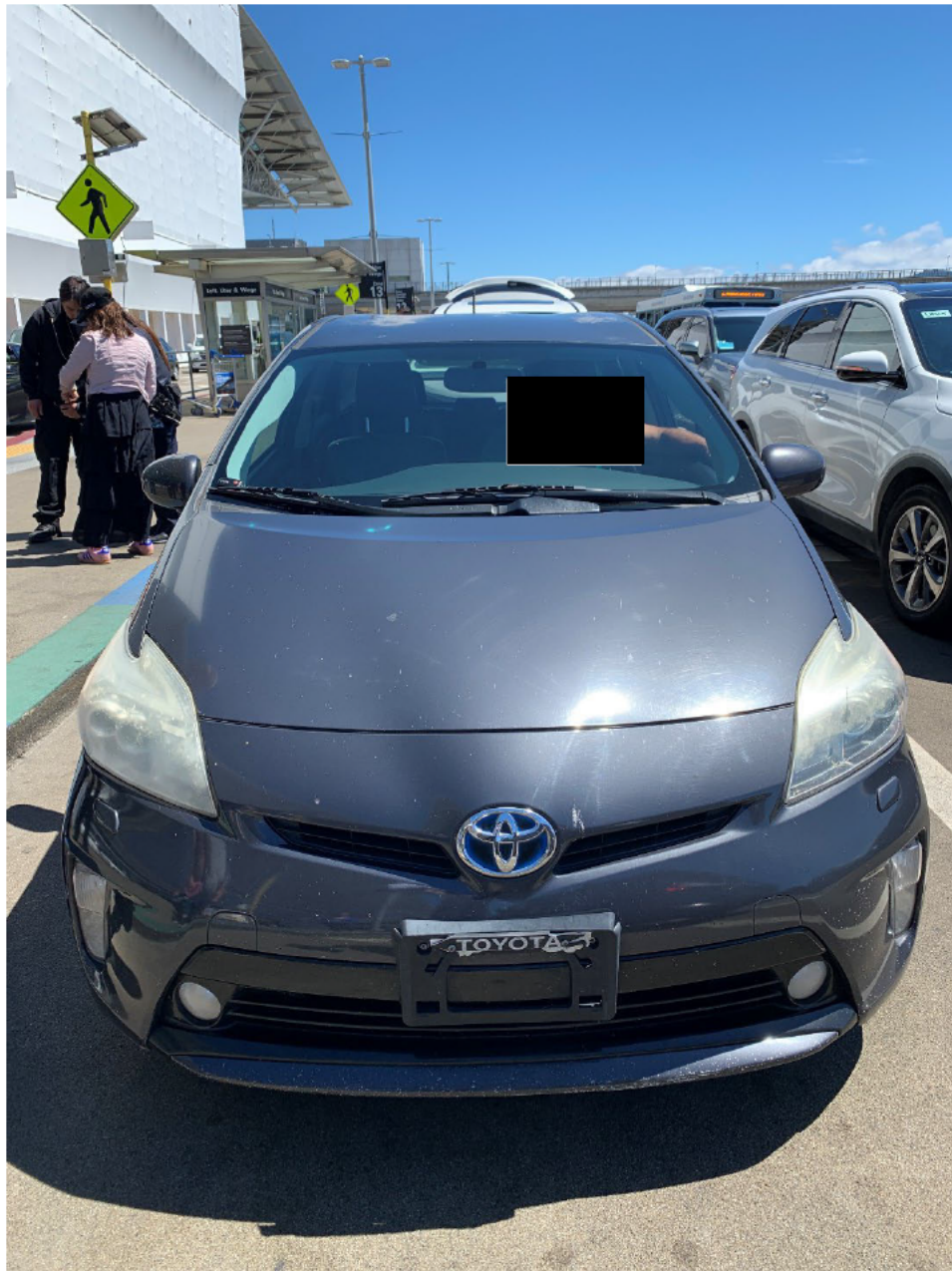
WAYBILL: Yes No PHOTOS REQUIRED: Yes No
Trade Dress: Yes No Partial
Front Rear

Vehicle matches the same person on the app: Yes No
Airport Permit: Yes No N/A

California DRIVER LICENSE
CLASS C LIMITED-TERM
END NONE
JANUARIO, JUAN COUTO
[REDACTED]

Attachment 2





The image shows a hand holding a smartphone displaying the 'Registro de viagens' app. The app screen shows trip details for a trip on 07/23/25 at 13:19:34 PDT, from Harvey Milk Terminal 1 to San Francisco International Airport (SFO). It also shows driver information and a Progressive insurance policy. The phone is held over a clipboard with a 'STAFF MTL' form, which includes fields for TCP#, DRIVER'S NAME, LICENSE PLATE #, CDL#, AUTHORITY STATUS, WAYBILL, Trade Dress, and PHOTOS REQUIRED.

Attachment 4



NOTICE TO CEASE AND DESIST

Date: 7/23/2025

Carrier: ~~Uber~~ BEARNO LOPEZ JARAMILLO

TCP number, if any N/A Operating Status: UNLICENSED

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has determined that you are operating without valid authority.

YOUR COMPANY MUST IMMEDIATELY CEASE AND DESIST FROM ANY AND ALL OPERATIONS, INCLUDING ADVERTISING, UNTIL YOU MEET ALL LICENSING REQUIREMENTS AND RECEIVE VALID OPERATING AUTHORITY FROM THE CPUC.

ANY OPERATIONS, INCLUDING ADVERTISING, WHILE OPERATING IN A SUSPENDED, CANCELLED, REVOKED, OR DENIED STATE IS UNLAWFUL.

This letter places your company on notice that any activity without the required permit or certificate is a violation and may result in civil or criminal prosecutions, possible fines, and possible termination of telephone service. To acknowledge receipt of this notice, please call 800-894-9444 within 5 business days of receipt.

☒ **OPERATION WITHOUT AUTHORITY**

Public Utilities Code Sections 5371 and 5387 (TCP)/Section 1031 (PSC). - Circle One

☐ **OPERATION AFTER: SUSPENSION/REVOCATION/EXPIRATION/DENIAL OF AUTHORITY**

Public Utilities Code Section 5379 (TCP)/Section 1045 (PSC). - Circle One

☐ **ADVERTISEMENT WITHOUT AUTHORITY**

Public Utilities Code Section 5414.5 (TCP)/Section 1037 (PSC). - Circle One

Signature Bernardo Lopez Jaramillo TITLE Driver

*****IF DRIVER IS NOT RESPONSIBLE, DRIVER IS TO GIVE NOTICE TO RESPONSIBLE OWNER*****

COMMENTS: DRIVER WAS OBSERVED AT SFO, ILLEGALLY USING UBER PROFILE.
UBER PROFILE NAME WAS LUIS

See attached Inspection Observation Report Form for more detail.

[Signature]
Enforcement Analyst Signature

Attachment 5

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION INSPECTION OBSERVATION REPORT			
Location: Airport/Other: <u>SFO</u>		PSC/TCP/TNC: <u>UBER</u>	Date: <u>7/23/2018</u>
(Circle one)		Investigator: <u>Muhammad</u>	
Prime Carrier: <u>UBER</u>		Phone#: _____	
Address: _____		City: _____	Zip: _____
Driver: <u>Bruno J. Jarama Cortes</u>		CDL#: _____	State: <u>CA</u> Class: <u>C</u>
Address: _____			
Phone: _____		Years w/company: _____	Prime Carrier: <u>Uber</u>
Relationship with Carrier: Owner/Employee/Self-carrier/Other: <u>Illegal App Use</u>			
Comments: _____			
<div style="background-color: black; height: 100px; width: 100%;"></div>			
Violation(s):			
Vehicle:	<input type="checkbox"/> TCP # Not shown on rear/front bumper <input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle not listed with PUC <input type="checkbox"/> PSC/TCP # not on side of vehicle* <input type="checkbox"/> No Trade Dress <input type="checkbox"/> Front <input type="checkbox"/> Rear <input type="checkbox"/> Carrier's name not on side of vehicle* <small>*Exempt for vehicles < 15 passengers incl. driver or leased < 30 days</small>		
Waybill:	<input type="checkbox"/> No waybill <input type="checkbox"/> Driver's Name <input type="checkbox"/> No. of person in group <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation arranged by phone or written contract <input type="checkbox"/> Name of at least 1 passenger in traveling party or identification of traveling party's affiliation <input type="checkbox"/> Carrier Name /TCP# <input type="checkbox"/> Time/Date Charter arranged <input type="checkbox"/> Name/address of persons arranging charter <input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle License Plate # <input type="checkbox"/> Origin/Destination		
TNC OPS:	<input type="checkbox"/> No Trade Dress <input type="checkbox"/> Front <input type="checkbox"/> Rear <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Profile Non-Match <input type="checkbox"/> Lack Proof of Prearranged Ride <input type="checkbox"/> Non-State CDL <input type="checkbox"/> No Airport Permit		
Violation(s): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, as noted above and in comments below <input type="checkbox"/> No Violation			
Law Enforcement Citation No.: _____			
Comments: <u>Driver was observed at SFO, illegally using Uber Profile.</u> <u>Uber Profile name was Luis</u>			
<div style="text-align: center;"><u>Bruno Cortes Jarama</u> Signature and Title</div>			
Note: Failure to take corrective action may result in enforcement action including imposition of fines			

Reason for stop and additional notes on back of this form.
Attach this form to CHP 180

VEHICLE REPORT

CHP 180 (Rev. 4-16) OPI 061

NOTE: CHP 180 IS FURNISHED TO ALL PEACE OFFICERS BY THE CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

30 DAY HOLD
A-11611

REPORTING DEPARTMENT CHP	LOCATION CODE 9335	DATE / TIME OF REPORT 07/23/05	NOTICE OF STORED VEHICLE DELIVERED PERSONALLY <input type="checkbox"/>	FILE NO.
LOCATION TOWED / STOLEN FROM SFO INTERNATIONAL	ODOMETER READING 217,672	VIN CLEAR IN SYS? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	DATE / TIME DISPATCH NOTIFIED 07/23/05	
YEAR 14	MAKE TOYOTA	MODEL PRIMS	BODY TYPE 4DR	COLOR GRY

☐ STORED ☒ IMPOUNDED ☐ RELEASED ☐ RECOVERED - VEHICLE / COMPONENT

TOWING / STORAGE CONCERN (NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE)
BOB JAZ 39 S. LINDEN AVE, SFO, CA 94080 415-588-9650

REASON FOR STOP
CRUC CHECK

CONDITION	YES	NO	ITEMS	YES	NO	ITEMS	YES	NO	ITEMS	YES	NO	WRES / WHEELS	CONDITION
WRECKED		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SEAT (FRONT)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	REGISTRATION		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CAMPER		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LEFT FRONT	WORN
BURNED HULK per 431(c) CVC			SEAT (REAR)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ALT. / GENERATOR		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	VESSEL AS LOAD		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RIGHT FRONT	WORN
VANDALIZED			RADIO		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BATTERY		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FIREARMS		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LEFT REAR	WORN
ENG. / TRANS. STRIP			TAPE DECK		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DIFFERENTIAL		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OTHER		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RIGHT REAR	WORN
MISC. PARTS STRIP			TAPE		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TRANSMISSION		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				SPARE	N/A
BODY METAL STRIP			OTHER RADIO		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AUTOMATIC		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				HUB CAPS	N/A
SURGICAL STRIP per 431(b) CVC			IGNITION KEY		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MANUAL		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				SPECIAL WHEELS	N/A

RELEASE VEHICLE TO: ☐ R/O OR AGENT ☒ AGENCY HOLD ☐ 22850.3 CVC
FROM CHP COMMERCIAL UNIT

NAME OF PERSON / AGENCY AUTHORIZING RELEASE I.D. NO. DATE
[REDACTED]

SIGNATURE OF PERSON AUTHORIZING RELEASE SIGNATURE OF PERSON TAKING POSSESSION
[REDACTED]

☐ STOLEN VEHICLE / COMPONENT ☐ EMBEZZLED VEHICLE ☐ PLATE(S) REPORT

DATE / TIME OF OCCURRENCE	DATE / TIME REPORTED	NAME OF REPORTING PARTY (R/P)	DRIVER LICENSE NO. / STATE
LAST DRIVER OF VEHICLE	DATE / TIME	ADDRESS OF R/P	TELEPHONE OF R/P ()

I CERTIFY OR DECLARE UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA THAT THE FOREGOING IS TRUE AND CORRECT.

SIGNATURE OF PERSON MAKING REPORT






REMARKS

(LIST PROPERTY, TOOLS, VEHICLE DAMAGE, ARRESTS)

ARRESTED / SECTION? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	REPORTED BY [REDACTED]	CARGO / TYPE? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	VALUE \$ <input type="checkbox"/> BILL OF LADING ATTACHED
--	----------------------------------	--	--

PROPERTY: MISC. CLOTHES, COMPRESSOR,

DAMAGE: DENTS, DENTS, SCRATCHES 360, PAINT FADING, 2 SIDE DENTS, SCRATCHES,

 FRONT	 LEFT SIDE	 RIGHT SIDE	 REAR	 TOP
SIGNATURE [REDACTED]		SUPERVISOR [REDACTED]		REQUIRED NOTICES SENT TO REGISTERED AND LEGAL OWNERS PER 22852 CVC? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
				DATE NOTIFIED

An Internationally Accredited Agency

Chp180_0416.pdf

Attachment 7

UNH
Department of Motor Vehicles

REGISTRATION CARD VALID FROM: 12/12/2024 TO: [REDACTED]

NAME: TOYT
YR MODEL: 2014
TR 1ST SOLD: 2013
ULP CLASS: DM
YR: 2022
TYPE VEH: 120
BODY TYPE MODEL: 5D
NO: Q
FL: FL
TYPE VEHICLE USE: AUTOMOBILE
DATE ISSUED: 12/10/24
CC/ALCO: 48
DT FEE RECVD: 12/10/24
PIC: 8

AMOUNT DUE: \$ 261.00
CASH: \$ 261.00
CHECK: \$ 261.00
CRDT: \$ 261.00

California DRIVER LICENSE
CLASS C LIMITED-TERM
END NONE
JANUARIO, COUTO
[REDACTED]

WAYBILL: Yes No PHOTOS REQUIRED: Yes No
Trade Dress: Yes No Partial
Front Rear
Vehicle matches the same person on the app: Yes No
Airport Permit: Yes No N/A

WAYBILL: Yes No PHOTOS REQUIRED: Yes No
Trade Dress: Yes No Partial
Front Rear
Vehicle matches the same person on the app: Yes No
Airport Permit: Yes No N/A

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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

Bruno Couto Januario

TCP/TNC Unlicensed

Case # CSE-00613

1. Administrative Citation T.2025-07-012
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: July 25, 2025

Sadrud-Din Muhammad

Sadrud-Din Muhammad
TEB Enforcement Analyst