

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



2800 BERLIN TURNPIKE, P.O. BOX 317546 NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06131-7546 Phone:

(860) 594-2875

DOCKET NO. 1603-N-31-HHG

RE: APPLICATION OF MOVE CLEAN ORGANIZE, LLC TO OPERATE MOTOR VEHICLES IN THE TRANSPORTATION OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS FOR HIRE, AS A HOUSEHOLD GOODS CARRIER, OVER IRREGULAR ROUTES BETWEEN ALL POINTS IN CONNECTICUT UPON CALLS RECEIVED FROM A HEADQUARTERS IN BERLIN.

FINAL DECISION

AUGUST 16, 2016

I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

A. Applicant's Proposal

By application filed on March 30, 2016, pursuant to Section 13b-389 of the Connecticut General Statutes, and assigned Docket No. 1603-N-31-HHG, Move Clean Organize, LLC (hereinafter "applicant"), with a mailing address of 19 St. James Place, Berlin, Connecticut 06037 seeks authorization from the Connecticut Department of Transportation (hereinafter "department") to operate motor vehicles in the transportation of household goods for hire, as a household goods carrier, over irregular routes between all points in Connecticut from a headquarters in Berlin.

B. <u>Hearing Held</u>

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-390, a hearing on this application was held at the administrative office of the Department, in Newington, Connecticut, on August 9, 2016.

Notice of the application and of the hearing to be held thereon was given to the applicant and to other parties as required by Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-390. Notice to the public was given by publication on the department's website.

The matter was heard by a hearing officer designated by the Commissioner of Transportation pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-17.

C. Appearances

Jason Muchnick appeared on behalf of the applicant. The applicant was represented by Attorney John Bowser of the law firm of Collins Hannafin, PC with a mailing address of 148 Deer Hill Avenue, Danbury, Connecticut 06810.

II. FINDING OF FACT

- 1. The applicant is seeking to operate a household moving service from a headquarters in Berlin.
- 2. The applicant is currently operating the labor portion of a household goods moving service but is not supplying transportation of the goods. The applicant has been providing a labor service since January of 2016.
- 3. Mr. Muchnick is the sole member of the applicant LLC. He has a degree in finance from the University of Connecticut and worked briefly for another moving company before deciding to start his own company.

- 4. The applicant will be operating a 2007 Toyota Tundra which is fully paid for. The business will be operated from a home office with no additional employees.
- 5. The applicant's first six months of expenses include purchasing a trailer for \$4,450, insurance of \$948, property tax of \$174, repairs of \$300, advertising of \$60 and cell phone expenses of \$60 for a total expenditure of \$5,992.
- 6. The applicant has a bank balance of \$8,039 in Liberty Bank as of August 12, 2016.
 - 7. There are no moving companies currently headquartered in Berlin.
 - 8. The applicant utilizes independent contractors as laborers.
 - 9. The applicant is performing an average of twelve packing services each week.
 - 10. There was no opposition to this application.

III. DEPARTMENT ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Department of Transportation has jurisdiction over any person operating any motor vehicle in the transportation of household goods for hire as a household goods carrier pursuant to Section 13b-389 of the Connecticut General Statutes. Further, no person shall operate as a household goods carrier, within Connecticut, without first obtaining a certificate of public convenience and necessity to so operate.

In determining whether such a certificate shall be granted, the Commissioner of Transportation shall take into consideration the existing motor transportation facilities and the effect upon them of granting such a certificate, the suitability of the applicant, the financial responsibility of the applicant, the ability of the applicant efficiently to perform the service for which the authority is requested, the criminal history of the applicant, the condition of and effect upon the highways involved and the safety of the public using such highways, pursuant to Section 13b-392 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

The first criterion to be taken into account is the effect on the existing motor carrier facilities by granting the certificate. This application was not opposed by any existing motor carrier so it appears that there would not be any effect on the existing motor carrier facilities if this application were granted. In addition, there are no moving companies headquartered in Berlin at this time.

As far as the applicant's financial ability is concerned, the applicant presented evidence that the applicant's six months of start-up costs include purchasing a trailer for \$4,450, insurance of \$948, property tax of \$174, repairs of \$300, advertising of \$60 and cell phone expenses of \$60 for a total of \$5,992. The applicant will not incur any rent or payroll expenses.

The applicant has a bank balance of \$8,039 in Liberty Bank which should more than cover his expenses so he has met the financial suitability requirement.

The applicant submitted a criminal record check for Jason Muchnick which shows no criminal record. Mr. Muchnick has a degree in finance and recently worked as an independent contractor for a household goods moving company. Since January 2016, he has operated a labor only moving service without actually transporting the goods so he has gained experience in the moving industry. Based on the evidence presented, the applicant is suitable to handle this proposed operation.

Also to be considered is the ability of the applicant to efficiently perform the service for which the authority is requested and the condition of and effect upon the highways involved and the safety of the public using such highways. The applicant is operating a smaller truck and would therefore have little effect on the highways. Mr. Muchnick received safety training from the moving company he worked for and his company would not create any safety concerns to the public.

Based upon the evidence presented, the applicant has proven all of the necessary elements to be granted a certificate to operate.

IV. ORDER

Based upon the above and pursuant to Section 13b-391 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the application of Move Clean Organize, LLC is hereby granted and Certificate Number 1784 is issued as follows:

CERTIFICATE NUMBER 1784 TO OPERATE MOTOR VEHICLES FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF PROPERTY FOR HIRE AS A MOTOR COMMON CARRIER

Move Clean Organize, LLC is hereby permitted and authorized, subject to such regulations and conditions as the department may from time to time prescribe, to transport property for hire as a motor common carrier over irregular routes as follows:

Household goods, within the State of Connecticut, between all points upon calls received at its headquarters in Berlin.

The certificate holder must accept and transport property, as herein authorized in accordance with its tariff on file, for all persons who desire the service to the extent of the certificate holder's facilities at uniform rate for all similar service.

CONDITIONS:

A motor vehicle must be registered under this certificate within thirty (30) days

from the date of this decision.

There shall be carried in each vehicle operated under this authority a copy of the certificate registration receipt by the department.

This certificate shall remain in effect until suspended, amended or revoked by the department. Failure of the certificate holder to maintain proper insurance or to comply with all motor vehicle laws and other pertinent State statutes and/or the rules, regulations and orders of the department shall be considered sufficient cause to revoke said certificate.

This certificate may not be sold or transferred until it has been operational for more than twenty-four (24) months.

This certificate is transferable only with the approval of the department and is issued subject to compliance by the holder thereof with all motor vehicle laws of the State of Connecticut, and with such rules regulations and orders as this department may from time to time prescribe.

Dated at Newington, Connecticut on this 16th day of August.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Judith Almeida

Staff Attorney III

Administrative Law Unit

Bureau of Finance and Administration