

Public Utilities Commission

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

CITATION FOR VIOLATION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES CODE AND GENERAL ORDER

To: Astor Philip Birri

Attn: Astor Philip Birri

File No.: Unlicensed Citation #: T.2025-06-003 Date: June 12, 2025

Case #: CSE-000446

VIOLATIONS

You are hereby cited as having violated sections of the Public Utilities (Pub. Util.) Code and General Order (G.O.) as described below. These violations occurred on February 22, 2025.

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

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

You are hereby called upon to answer this citation on or before July 3, 2025. By way of such an answer, you may either:

- (1) Pay a fine of \$8,000 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 July 3, 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

Tric 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

Case: <u>CSE-000446</u>

CARRIER:	Astor Phillip Birri, an Individual
OWNER:	Astor Philip Birri
AUTHORITY:	Unlicensed
MAILING ADDRESS:	
PHONE/EMAIL:	/ Unknown
VEHICLES:	1
EMPLOYEE-DRIVERS:	1
PL&PD¹ INSURANCE:	None
WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE:	None
DRUG CONSORTIUM:	None

¹ Public Liability and Property Damage (PL&PD)

INTRODUCTION

On March 20, 2025, I was assigned to investigate the operations and practices of Astor Philip Birri (hereinafter referred to as Mr. Birri) because of a San Francisco International Airport (SFO) Ground Transportation Unit (GTU) complaint alleging that Mr. Birri operated without an operating authority and an airport permit.

HISTORY OF ENFORCEMENT

Enforcement case records show Mr. Birri has a history of violating the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) rules and regulations, as detailed below.

On May 14, 2024, CPUC's Transportation Enforcement Analyst, Omar Teutle, issued a Notice to Cease and Desist (C&D) to Mr. Birri. This C&D directed him to stop all unlawful operations until he obtained the necessary operating authority from the CPUC [Attachment 1]. The decision to issue the CPUC's C&D was prompted by Mr. Birri's ongoing illegal activities at SFO. He had previously received from SFO-GTU two C&Ds on April 28, 2024, and September 2, 2024 [Attachment 2] and an Administrative Citation on October 6, 2024 [Attachment 3].

Prior Case (CSE-000282): On January 22, 2025, CPUC's Transportation Enforcement Analyst, Manal Antabli, issued Citation T.2025-01-005 to Mr. Birri for \$4,000 for the following violations [Attachment 4]:

- Operating as a Charter-Party Carrier without a valid operating authority; and
- Operating at an airport without an airport authority and failing to follow airport rules and regulations.

VIOLATIONS

I investigated Mr. Birri for the date of February 22, 2025, and found violations of the following provisions of the Public Utilities (Pub. Util.) Codes 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. [1 count]

Pub. Util. Code 5371 states, "No charter-party carrier of passengers excepting 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 a certificate that public convenience and necessity require the

operation, except that certain specific transportation services as defined in Section 5384 may be

conducted under authority of a permit issued by the commission."

On February 22, 2025, Mr. Birri was issued a misdemeanor citation by the San Francisco Police

Department (SFPD) GTU for operating without a TCP authority [Attachment 5]. My investigation

disclosed that Mr. Birri operated for one day at SFO without a valid TCP authority.

• 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.

[1 count]

G.O. 157-E, Part 3.02 states, "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. Consistent failure to comply with safety or traffic rules and regulations of an airport authority

may result in suspension or revocation of Commission operating authority."

On February 22, 2025, Mr. Birri was issued a misdemeanor citation by the SFPD-GTU for

operating at SFO without an airport permit [Attachment 5]. My investigation revealed that SFO-GTU

issued Mr. Birri an Administrative Citation for operating one day at SFO without an airport 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 June 12, 2025, in Los Angeles, California.

Manal Antabli

Manal Antabli, Enforcement Analyst

List of Attachments

- Attachment 1. CPUC Notice to Cease and Desist issued May 14, 2024
- Attachment 2. SFO-GTU Notice to Cease and Desist No.
- Attachment 3. Administrative Citation No. & SFO GTU Email Complaint
- Attachment 4. CPUC Citation T.2025-01-005
- Attachment 5. SFPD-GTU Misdemeanor Citation

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, California, 94102



May 14, 2024

TCP: Unlicensed
Notice to Cease & Desist No.:

Astor Philip Birri			
	Astor Philip Birri		
		<u>l</u> _	
Email:	Email:		

NOTICE TO CEASE AND DESIST

Dear Astor Philip Birri:

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 Charter-Party Carrier (TCP) to conduct any operations without valid authority. 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 not less than \$1,000.

On April 28, 2024, you were issued a Notice to Cease and Desist Number by SFO's Ground Transportation Unit for operating without a valid authority.

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,

Omar Teutle

Omar Teutle, Enforcement Analyst California Public Utilities Commission Consumer Protection and Enforcement Division Transportation Enforcement Branch

 $Email: \underline{Omar.Teutle@cpuc,ca,gov}$

Telephone: (415) 703-1331

cc: Eric Hooks, Program and Project Supervisor

Airport Commission
San Francisco International Airport
Ground Transportation Unit
Notice to Cease and Desist



YOUR COMPANY MUST IMMEDIATELY CEASE AND DESIST FROM ANY AND ALL OPERATIONS AT SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

The San Francisco International Airport ("Airport") has determined you are operating without valid Airport authority and has violated the following
rules:
SFO Rules & Regulations Section 2.2
SFO Rules & Regulations Section 3.3(D)
SFO Rules & Regulations Section 9.2
Additionally, your company has violated California Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC") Codes and/or General Order 157-E (Check all that apply): Violation of Public Utilities Code Section 5371 - Operating without Valid
Violation of Public Utilities Code Section 5371 - Operating without Valid CPUC Authority (Never Held)
☐ Violation of Public Utilities Code Section 5379 - Operating after Suspension/Revocation/Expiration/Denial of CPUC Authority
□ Violation of CPUC General Order 157-E Section 3.01 - No / Improper Waybill
☐ Violation of CPUC General Order 157-E Section 3.02 - No Airport Permit
☐ Violation of CPUC General Order 157-E Section 4.04 - No TCP Displayed
Under SFO Rule 14.1 the Airport, through any authorized Airport Commission employee or any Law Enforcement Officer, may cite infractions of these Rules and Regulations to any individual or business entity by issuance of a verbal or
written Admonishment or a written Citation.
Violations of CPUC codes and General Orders are misdemeanors and are punishable by a fine of not less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) and not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or by imprisonment in a county jail for not more than three months, or by both that fine and imprisonment under Public Utilities Code Section 5411.
The failure to immediately cease and desist all operations involving SFO shall be deemed an unlawful trespass under California Penal Code § 602.4 and an unfair business practice under California Business and Professions Code § 17200. Company Name: ASTOR BIRRI TOP Number:
Print Name Signature Airport Personnel/Law Enforcement: Badge: Date: 4/28/
Airport Commission: White Copy

Airport Commission
San Francisco International Airport
Ground Transportation Unit
Notice to Cease and Desist



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	Tor BIRY Refuse to Sign
Airport	Personnel/Law Enforcement: Badge Date: OF. O.
	Airport Commission; White Copy Driver; Canary Copy

Date: 10/6/2024 Time: 08:25 PDT Day: Sunday

Plate #: VIN #:

Make: Ford Model: Style: 4 Door Color: White

Driver First Name: ASTOR Driver Last Name: BIRRI

TCP #: 099999 Company: Non-Permitted Operator

Location: IT Arrivals

Violated Rules and Regulations

9.2 Operating a Business without Airport Authorization

Comment: KNOWN UNPERMITTED OPERATOR/SOLICITOR. OPERATING WITHOUT CPUC AND AIRPORT AUTHORITY. PICKUP CLIENT. ALREADY SERVED MULTIPLE CEASE AND DESIST NOTICES. VIOLATION OF CPUC CODES SECTION 5371/5411.

Issuing Authority: GTC Issuer Id:

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

From:

To: <u>Transportation Safety Complaints</u>

Cc: Hooks, Eric; Taylor, Shantanro

Subject: [EXTERNAL] SFO Referral: Astor Philip Birri - No CPUC and Airport Authority - 10-07-2024

Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 7:08:22 AM

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>

Citation .pd

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning,

Unpermitted operator and known solicitor, Astor Philip Birri (no TCP), continues to operate without CPUC and Airport authority.

Yesterday, 10-06-24, I caught Mr. Birri picking up his client, see Citation . I informed him that I will be escalating this to CPUC for further investigation. He continues to claim he apply for a TCP but all relevant documents and email dates to 2017.

He was served another notice of cease and desist on 09-02-24 for soliciting.

He was previously referred to the CPUC and was issued a notice cease and desist.

Thanks



Investigator, Compliance | Ground Transportation Unit | Airport Services
San Francisco International Airport | P.O. Box 8097 | San Francisco, CA 94128

flysfo.com/gtu

Facebook | Twitter | YouTube | Instagram | LinkedIn

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Public Utilities Commission

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

CITATION FOR VIOLATION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES CODE AND GENERAL ORDER

To: Astor Philip Birri

Attn: Astor Philip Birri

File: Unlicensed

Citation #: T.2025-01-005 Date: January 22, 2025 Case #: CSE-000282

VIOLATIONS

You are hereby cited as having violated sections of the Public Utilities (Pub. Util.) Code and General Order (G.O.) as described below. These violations occurred on October 6, 2024.

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Tric 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

MOTIOE TO ARREAR

[Rev. Jan. 1, 2024]