

Decision No. 55150**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of METROPOLITAN COACH LINES,)
 a corporation, for authority to increase)
 the charges for collection and remittance) Application No. 39018
 of money on C.O.D. Express shipments.)

O P I N I O N

In the conduct of its rail and motor coach passenger service in the Counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino Metropolitan Coach Lines handles some express shipments of freight. Certain of these express shipments are handled on a C.O.D. basis. The charges for making these C.O.D. collections are set out in applicant's Rule 15, and are as follows:

<u>Amount of C.O.D. Collection</u>	<u>Charge</u>
\$25 or less	\$.15
Over \$25 and not over \$5020
Over \$50 and not over \$10025
Over \$100	Rates shown above applied to total amount of collec- tion.

In the instant application authority is requested to increase the charge for handling C.O.D. collections to \$1.00 on all shipments of \$100 or less. C.O.D. shipments of over \$100 will not be accepted.

Data submitted with the application shows that during the last three months of 1956 a total of 148 C.O.D. shipments were handled, resulting in a total revenue from charges for collections

of \$23.95. The total amount of C.O.D. collections during this three-month period amounted to \$2,508.82.

In view of the small amount of business so handled, in view of the fact that there are adequate alternate services available to shippers through the use of highway carriers, and in view of the fact that the proposed charge of \$1.00 for C.O.D. shipments of \$100 or less, as compared with existing charges for other passenger stage corporations handling express, is the same for C.O.D. amounts up to \$50 and slightly lower for amounts over \$50, we now find that the proposed increases are justified. They will be authorized. A public hearing is not necessary.

O R D E R

Application as above entitled having been filed, the Commission being fully advised in the premises and hereby finding the proposed increases to be justified;

IT IS ORDERED that Metropolitan Coach Lines may amend its express tariff C.R.C. No. 1, Rule 15, so as to read as follows:

RULE 15

C. O. D. COLLECTIONS

The following charges will apply for collection and return of money on C.O.D. shipments:

	<u>Charge</u>
\$100 or less	\$1.00
C.O.D. shipments over \$100 not accepted	

Consignee will not be permitted to open or examine contents of C.O.D. packages prior to receipt and acceptance thereof unless consignor plainly marks package "Subject to Inspection".

Packages marked "Subject to Inspection" may be opened only in the presence of carrier's agent; when consignee refuses to

accept delivery the reason for such refusal should be noted on way-bill by consignee.

Consignor will be notified immediately of refusal by consignee to accept delivery of C.O.D. packages, and required to furnish disposition instructions.

C.O.D. shipments will be accepted for delivery at non-agency points only when consignee has arranged to meet the motor coach on arrival and pay all charges collectible thereon. Failure of consignee to meet any such motor coach will necessitate shipment being carried on to next agency point to be called for or ordered returned at regular tariff rates.

In the handling of C.O.D. shipments this carrier shall, immediately upon collection of any and all moneys, and in no event later than ten (10) days after delivery to consignee, unless consignor, in writing, instructs otherwise, remit to the consignor all moneys collected by it on such shipments.

The effective date of this order shall be twenty days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California,
this 18th day of June, 1957.

[Signature]
President

[Signature]
[Signature]

Commissioners