

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Resolution TL-18907
Rail Safety and Carriers Division
Route Revision Docket 507
November 18, 1999

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION AMENDING THE PASSENGER STAGE CORPORATION
CERTIFICATE OF AIRPORTER, INC., DBA SANTA ROSA AIRPORTER
(PSC 9023)

SUMMARY

This resolution grants the request of Airporter, Inc., dba Santa Rosa Airporter (Airporter), to amend its passenger stage corporation certificate to reflect a change in the type of service it provides at the Courtyard by Marriott and the Hilton Hotel in Santa Rosa from scheduled to reservation-only.

BACKGROUND

Airporter is a passenger stage corporation (PSC) authorized to transport passengers and their baggage between points in Mendocino, Sonoma and Marin Counties, on the one hand, and Oakland and San Francisco International Airports, on the other hand. Service generally is provided on a scheduled basis. However, certain designated stops are served only when a passenger has made an advance reservation.

Two of Airporter's authorized scheduled stops in Santa Rosa are the Courtyard by Marriott and the Hilton Hotel. As a result of changes in ownership or management at these hotels, Airporter has been informed that it may no longer serve the general public on these properties. Both hotels will permit Airporter to continue service limited to hotel guests on a reservation basis.

Notice of Airporter's request appeared on the Commission's Daily Calendar on September 1, 1999. A protest was received from Paul S. Silver, an attorney representing Sonoma County Airport Express, Inc. (Express). Express holds a PSC certificate and provides scheduled service in competition with Airporter between points in Sonoma County and San Francisco International Airport. Mr. Silver's objection is only to the change in service at the Courtyard by Marriott. The basis for the protest is that "such a change can only be accomplished by Commission action."

The Commission's Rail Safety and Carriers Division (Staff) does not object to Airporter's request. Staff offers that ideally a PSC stop should be available for use by the general public. However, it recognizes that a hotel for any number of reasons (liability and parking concerns among them) might not want the public on its property for the sole purpose of using an airport bus service. At the same time, the hotel may wish to have the service available for its guests. Staff points out that there are other stops in Santa Rosa at which Airporter provides scheduled service to the public.

DISCUSSION

We will grant Airporter's request. The carrier wishes to conform its PSC certificate to reflect service changes it must make for reasons that appear to be beyond its control. As Staff notes, it is desirable for PSC passenger stops to be available for use by the general public. We realize, however, that special circumstances may at times justify otherwise. We do not wish to force Airporter to totally abandon service at these two points when it has other scheduled stops in Santa Rosa, at which it serves the majority of its passengers. We would prefer to allow Airporter to determine whether it is operationally feasible to provide limited reservation-only service at the hotels without degrading its primary scheduled service. The fact that there is a competing carrier serving the area should be a strong inducement to Airporter to maintain a high level of service.

The filing by Paul S. Silver on behalf of Express does not give adequate reason to deny Airporter's request. Mr. Silver's protestation that only the Commission may act on the request suggests he was under the impression the matter was going to be handled through an informal staff process. By issuing this resolution, the Commission is in fact formally acting on Airporter's request.

We note that Airporter and Express are involved in matters currently before the Commission concerning the use of disputed stops in Santa Rosa.¹ Granting Airporter's instant request should not have an effect on those pending matters.

The Commission finds that Airporter's request is justified.

The draft resolution of the Rail Safety and Carriers Division in this matter was mailed to the parties in accordance with Pub. Util. Code § 311(g). No comments on the draft resolution were received.

¹ C.99-08-001 and C.99-08-042. A third matter, a Petition for Modification of D.99-02-068 in A.98-07-061 and C.98-08-044, was dismissed on November 4, 1999 at the request of the petitioner.

RSCD/PW *

Resolution TL-18907
Rail Safety and Carriers Division

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Airporter, Inc.'s request to amend its passenger stage corporation certificate (PSC 9023) to authorize reservation-only service at the Courtyard by Marriott and the Hilton Hotel, Santa Rosa, is granted.
2. Airporter, Inc. shall file amendments to its tariff and timetable reflecting the route revision authorized by this resolution; allow at least ten days' notice to the Commission; and establish service on the same day that tariffs and timetables become effective.

The route revision granted by this resolution is set forth in the certificate appendix pages attached:

Fifth Revised Page 3
Fifth Revised Page 4

The Executive Director shall mail a copy of this resolution to:

Phoebe Nicoletti, President
Airporter, Inc.
P.O. Box 6237
Santa Rosa, CA 95406

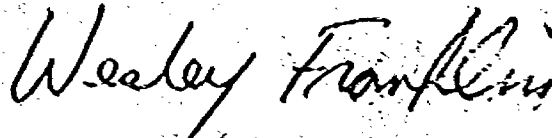
Paul S. Silver
A Professional Corporation
Silver & Silver
902 Stevenson Street
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

This resolution is effective today.

RSCD/PW *

Resolution TL-15507
Rail Safety and Carriers Division

I certify that the foregoing resolution was duly introduced, passed, and adopted by the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on November 18, 1999. The following Commissioners voted favorably thereon:



Wesley M. Franklin

RICHARD A. BILAS
President

HENRY M. DUQUE

JOSIAH L. NEEPER

JOEL Z. HYATT

CARL W. WOOD

Commissioners

SECTION II. ROUTE DESCRIPTIONS.

Route 1 Ukiah - San Francisco International Airport (SFO)

Commencing from Raley's Travel Center, 1325 N. State Street, Ukiah, then over the most convenient and appropriate streets and highways to the following points or places:

- Ukiah Airport, Ukiah
- Hopland
- Owl Cafe, 485 South Cloverdale Blvd., Cloverdale
- Dry Creek Inn, Dry Creek Road and Route 101, Healdsburg
- Raley's Shopping Center, Windsor
- Santa Rosa Airport, Santa Rosa
- * (1) Hilton Hotel, 3555 Round Barn Blvd., Santa Rosa
- * (1) Courtyard by Marriott (formerly Day's Inn), 175 Railroad, Santa Rosa
- Shapemakers Spa, 3345 Santa Rosa Ave., Santa Rosa
- El Rancho Motel, 2200 Santa Rosa Avenue, Santa Rosa
- IHOP, 2745 Fourth St., Santa Rosa
- Innkeepers of America, Railroad Ave., Santa Rosa
- Red Lion Inn, 1 Red Lion Drive, Rohnert Park
- Lyon's Restaurant, 6255 Commerce Blvd., Rohnert Park
- Winchell's Donut Shop, 225 S. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma
- (1) Travelodge, 7600 Redwood Blvd., Novato
- (1) Golden Gate Transit Stop Route 101 and Marinwood, off-ramp, Marinwood
- (1) Embassy Suites, Terra Linda
- San Rafael Transportation Center, San Rafael
- (1) Corte Madera Inn, 1815 Redwood Hwy., Corte Madera
- (1) Howard Johnson's Motel, 160 Shoreline Hwy., Mill Valley
- Berkeley Marriott, 200 Marina Boulevard, Berkeley
- Holiday Inn, 1800 Powell St., Emeryville
- and to SFO.

(1) By Reservation Only.

Issued by California Public Utilities Commission.

*Revised by Resolution TL-18907, RRD-507

SECTION II. ROUTE DESCRIPTIONS.

Route 1 Ukiah - Oakland International Airport (OAK)

Commencing from Raley's Travel Center, 1325 N. State Street, Ukiah, then over the most convenient and appropriate streets and highways to the following points or places:

Ukiah Airport, Ukiah

Hopland

Owl Cafe, 485 South Cloverdale Blvd., Cloverdale

Dry Creek Inn, Dry Creek Road and Route 101, Healdsburg

Raley's Shopping Center, Windsor

Santa Rosa Airport, Santa Rosa

* (1) Hilton Hotel, 3555 Round Barn Blvd., Santa Rosa

* (1) Courtyard by Marriott (formerly Day's Inn), 175 Railroad, Santa Rosa

Shapemakers Spa, 3345 Santa Rosa Ave., Santa Rosa

El Rancho Motel, 2200 Santa Rosa Avenue, Santa Rosa

IHOP, 2745 Fourth St., Santa Rosa

Innkeepers of America, Railroad Ave., Santa Rosa

Red Lion Inn, 1 Red Lion Drive, Rohnert Park

Lyon's Restaurant, 6255 Commerce Blvd., Rohnert Park

Winchell's Donut Shop, 225 S. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma

(1) Travelodge, 7600 Redwood Blvd., Novato

(1) Golden Gate Transit Stop Route 101 and Marinwood, off-ramp, Marinwood

(1) Embassy Suites, Terra Linda

San Rafael Transportation Center, San Rafael

(1) Corte Madera Inn, 1815 Redwood Hwy., Corte Madera

(1) Howard Johnson's Motel, 160 Shoreline Hwy., Mill Valley

Berkeley Marriott, 200 Marina Boulevard, Berkeley

Holiday Inn, 1800 Powell St., Emeryville

and to OAK.

(1) By Reservation Only.

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