

STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

BUREAU OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION OFFICE OF PROGRAM MANAGEMENT



DOCKET NO. 2307-N-102-HG

APPLICATION OF SOCT LOGISTICS LLC DBA COLLEGE HUNKS HAULING JUNK AND MOVING 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 TRUMBULL.

DECISION

July 31, 2023

Regulatory and Compliance Unit 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Unit 57941, P.O. Box 317546, Newington, CT 06131-7546 Website: CT.GOV/DOT, Fax: 860-594-2859

I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

A. Applicant's Proposal

By application filed on July 11, 2023, pursuant to Section 13b-389 of the Connecticut General Statutes and assigned Docket No. 2307-N-102-HG, SOCT Logistics dba College Hunks Hauling Junk and Moving ("hereinafter applicant"), with a mailing address of 5726 Main Street, Trumbull, CT 06611, 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 Trumbull.

B. Hearing

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-391, a hearing is not required on this application.

Notice of the application was given to the applicant and to other interested parties in the municipality of Trumbull on July 12, 2023, requesting comments on the application.

II. FINDING OF FACT

- 1. The applicant is seeking to operate an intrastate household goods moving company from a headquarters in Trumbull.
- 2. Stephen O'Keefe has no formal household goods moving experience; however, over the years, he has helped move close relatives out of homes and business buildings.
- 3. Stephen O'Keefe has been the Co-Owner of the Window Depot of Southern Connecticut for the last three years. In this position, he oversees all business operations, including day-to-day financial management.
- 4. The applicant also has received two (2) months of extensive training and has access to safety resources per the dba franchise network.
 - 5. The applicant has a \$61,700.43 balance in its business bank accounts.
 - 6. The applicant will be operating two (2) 2023 Isuzu Trucks in the moving business.
- 7. The applicant's first six (6) months of expenses include insurance costs of \$11,333, vehicle financing of \$21,030.42, maintenance and repairs of \$600, moving supplies of \$0, property tax of \$1,800, advertising costs of \$24,000 and communications costs of \$1,020.
 - 8. Stephen O'Keefe will have at least one employee working for him.
 - 9. Stephen O'Keefe has a clean criminal record.
- 10. The applicant receives several requests for intrastate moving services every week which he cannot perform because he is not authorized.

11. There was no opposition to a grant of 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, and the criminal history of the applicant pursuant to Section 13b-392 of the Connecticut General Statues.

As far as the applicant's financial ability is concerned, the applicant presented evidence of insurance costs of \$11333, vehicle financing of \$21,030.42, maintenance and repairs of \$600, moving supplies of \$0, property tax of \$1,800, advertising costs of \$24,000 and communications costs of \$1,020 for a total expense of \$59,783.42. The applicant has \$61,700.43 in business bank accounts which is sufficient to cover these costs thereby making the applicant financially suitable.

The applicant submitted a criminal record check for Stephen O'Keefe, which showed no criminal record. The applicant has moving experience, having helped move close relatives out of homes and business buildings. In addition, Stephen O'Keefe has been the Co-Owner of the Window Depot of Southern Connecticut for the last three years, overseeing all business operations, including day-to-day financial management. The applicant also has the training and resources provided by the College Hunks franchise network. Based on the evidence presented, the applicant is suitable to handle this proposed operation.

Another factor to be considered is the ability of the applicant to efficiently perform the service for which the authority is requested. The applicant plans to utilize two 2023 Isuzu trucks for the business. The applicant's two vehicles will enable efficient performance of duties.

The last criterion to be considered is the effect on the existing motor carrier facilities by granting this certificate. No moving companies have opposed the application indicating that there would be little, if any, effect on the operators in that area.

Based on the evidence provided, the applicant has proven all the necessary elements to be granted a certificate to operate a household goods moving company from a headquarters in Trumbull.

IV. ORDER

Based upon the above and pursuant to Section 13b-391 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the application of SOCT Logistics dba College Hunks Hauling Junk and College Hunks Moving is hereby granted, and Certificate Number HG1813 is issued as follows:

CERTIFICATE NUMBER HG1825 TO OPERATE MOTOR VEHICLES FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF PROPERTY FOR HIRE AS A MOTOR COMMON CARRIER

SOCT Logistics LLC dba College Hunks Hauling Junk and Moving 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 Trumbull.

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 rates for all similar service.

CONDITIONS:

A motor vehicle must be registered and insured under this certificate within ninety (90) days from the date of this decision. Failure to so may result in a revocation of authority.

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

The 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 regulations and orders as this department may from time to time prescribe.

Dated at Newington, Connecticut on this 31st day of July 2023.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Lisa A. Rivers
Transit Administrator
Bureau of Public Transportation