

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY
COMMISSION, BUREAU OF
TRANSPORTATION AND SAFETY v.
GERMANTOWN CAB COMPANY,
INC.

Public Meeting May 19, 2011
2113563-OSA
Docket Nos. C-2010-2113563;
C-2010-2116414; C-2010-2123058

STATEMENT OF
CHAIRMAN ROBERT F. POWELSON

Before the Commission today for disposition is a Settlement Agreement (Settlement) entered into between the Law Bureau Prosecutory Staff (LBPS), acting on behalf of the Commission's Bureau of Transportation and Safety (BTS), and Germantown Cab Company, Inc. (Respondent) for resolution of allegations regarding violations of the Public Utility Code and the Commission's regulations.

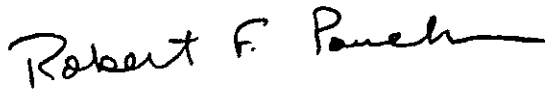
The Office of Special Assistants (Staff) recommends that the Commission adopt the proposed Opinion and Order which approves the Settlement. I generally support adoption of the Settlement because the parties agreed to the terms, however, I do so with reluctance.

Although Respondent agreed to pay the full penalty imposed in two of the three Complaints, the Settlement lowers the penalty in C-2010-2116414. My primary concern specifically relates to Respondent committing numerous violations referenced in this Complaint that resulted in fines for meters that were improperly calibrated resulting in fares that were higher than the tariff rate on file with the Commission. While Staff avers that no complaints were filed with regard to the amount charged due to the faulty meters, we have no idea how many customers could have been affected by overcharges and did not file formal complaints. In addition, Staff stated that Respondent has had several formal complaints filed against it in the past for violations similar to those found in these cases.

Finally, Staff states that Respondent has agreed to work with a BTS compliance specialist to ensure future compliance with Commission Regulations. Although I support assisting carriers to be compliant with our Regulations, this Respondent has been a certificated carrier since 1996 and should be well aware of what the Commission's Regulations require. I cannot support expending additional Commission resources to bring such an experienced carrier into compliance.

As such, I will reluctantly agree to adopt this Settlement, but I caution the Respondent that I may not be so inclined to do so in the future.

DATE: May 19, 2011



ROBERT F. POWELSON
CHAIRMAN