

Decision No. R24-0816-I

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 24G-0360TO

COLORADO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION,

COMPLAINANT,

V.

SUSAN STEINBERGER IN HER CAPACITY AS OWNER AND/OR OPERATOR OF
GARY'S COLLISION & ALIGNMENT INC.,

RESPONDENT.

**INTERIM DECISION PROVIDING OPPORTUNITY FOR
PARTIES TO FILE A STATEMENT ADDRESSING THE
PREFERENCE FOR A REMOTE, HYBRID, OR IN-PERSON
HEARING**

Issued Date: November 13, 2024

I. STATEMENT

A. Procedural history

1. On August 26, 2024, the Colorado Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") filed Civil Penalty Assessment or Notice of Complaint to Appear No. 141018 ("CPAN") against Susan Steinberger in her capacity as owner and/or operator of Gary's Collision & Alignment Inc. (Respondent) alleging 68 counts of violating of § 40-10.1-401(1)(a), C.R.S. and 68 counts of violating §40-10.1-107(1) from January 28, 2024 to July 10, 2024. The CPAN states that the civil penalty assessed for the alleged violations is \$946,220, but that if Respondent pays the civil

penalty within ten calendar days of its receipt of the CPAN, the civil penalty will be reduced to \$473,110. Finally, the CPAN states that, if the Commission does not receive payment within ten days, the CPAN will convert into a Notice of Complaint to Appear and a hearing will be scheduled at which the Commission Staff will seek the “Total Amount” of \$946,220.¹ The CPAN also states that the Commission may order Respondent to cease and desist from violating statutes and Commission rules.²

2. The CPAN alleges that the Commission served the CPAN by U.S. certified mail on August 26, 2024.

3. On October 3, 2024, Trial Staff of the Commission entered its appearance in this proceeding.

4. Respondent has not paid any amount, much less the reduced civil penalty amount or the total civil penalty amount, of the CPAN.

5. On October 16, 2024, the Commission referred this proceeding by minute entry to an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) for disposition. The proceeding was subsequently assigned to the undersigned ALJ.

B. Hearing

1. The Commission can conduct in-person, remote, or hybrid hearings. A remote hearing is one in which all of the participants appear and participate from remote locations over the Zoom web conferencing platform. A hybrid hearing involves the ALJ and at least one party and/or witness participating from one of the Commission’s hearing rooms in Denver, and the remaining party(ies) and witness(es) participating from one or more remote locations using the

¹ CPAN No. 141018 at 19.

² *Id.*

Zoom web conferencing platform. An in-person hearing is one in which the ALJ and all parties and witnesses participate in the hearing at the same location.

6. The parties will be given the opportunity to file a Statement Regarding Hearing identifying the filer's preference for an in-person, remote, or hybrid hearing. If a filer prefers an in-person hearing, the filer must identify its preferred location and provide an explanation of why the hearing should be conducted at the filer's preferred location. Any additional information supporting a request for a particular method of conducting the hearing (*e.g.*, remote, hybrid, or in-person) can be included in a Statement Regarding Hearing.

7. The deadline for the filing of the Statements Regarding Hearing will be **November 22, 2024**. The parties are on notice that the ALJ will retain discretion to change the method by which the hearing will be conducted (*e.g.*, remote, hybrid, or in-person) and/or the location of the hearing.

C. Additional Advisements

8. The parties are advised and are on notice that this proceeding is governed by the Rules of Practice and Procedure found at 4 CCR 723-1. The ALJ expects the parties to be familiar with and to comply with these rules. The rules are available on the Commission's website (<https://puc.colorado.gov/pucrules>) and in hard copy from the Commission.

II. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. The deadline to file any Statement Regarding Hearing containing the information described above is **5:00 p.m. on November 22, 2024.**
2. This Decision is effective immediately.

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

CONOR F. FARLEY

Administrative Law Judge

Rebecca E. White,
Director