BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 24A-0541CP

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF CAMERON JAMES BROWN DOING BUSINESS AS CAMERON JAMES FOR A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO OPERATE AS A COMMON CARRIER BY MOTOR VEHICLE FOR HIRE PERMANENT AUTHORITY TO EXTEND OPERATIONS UNDER CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY NO. 55977.

INTERIM DECISION ACKNOWLEDGING INTERVENTION, PERMITTING NON-ATTORNEY REPRESENTATION, SCHEDULING REMOTE HEARING, AND ESTABLISHING DEADLINES

Issued Date: February 11, 2025

I. <u>STATEMENT, SUMMARY, AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY</u>

- 1. On December 13, 2024, Cameron James Brown doing business as Cameron James ("Cameron James") filed the application described in the caption above ("Application"). Cameron James filed an amendment to question 10 on the Application on December 23, 2024.
- 2. On December 23, 2024, the Commission issued public notice of the authority sought by Cameron James in the Application as follows:
 - For authority to operate as a common carrier by motor vehicle for hire for the transportation of passengers in call-and-demand shuttle service between Denver International Airport, on the one hand, and all points in the Counties of Eagle and Pitkin, on the other hand.
- 3. On December 23, 2024, Golden West Airport Shuttle, LLC doing business as Golden West Airport Shuttle ("Golden West") filed a Notice of Intervention by Right ("Golden West Intervention"). Golden West also sought to be represented in this proceeding by

its Chief Executive Officer, Rachid Zouhair.¹ The Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") acknowledges Golden West's intervention of right.

4. On January 29, 2025, the Commission deemed the Application complete and referred the proceeding by minute entry to an ALJ.

II. <u>REPRESENTATION BY NON-ATTORNEYS</u>

A. Cameron James

- 5. A business' sole proprietor may represent their business in proceedings before the Commission.²
- 6. In its Application, Cameron James noted its sole proprietor is Cameron James Brown and that it wished for Cameron James Brown to represent the business as its sole proprietor.³
- 7. Based on the foregoing and the record as a whole, the ALJ finds that Cameron James Brown meets the requirements of Rule 1201(b)(II), 4 CCR 723-1, and § 13-1-127, C.R.S. The ALJ will permit Cameron James Brown to represent himself in this proceeding as a sole proprietor.

B. Golden West

8. Generally, entities appearing before the Commission must be represented by an attorney authorized to practice law in Colorado.⁴ However, an individual may appear without an attorney on behalf of a company after establishing the company's eligibility to be represented by

¹ See Golden West Intervention at 2.

 $^{^2}$ Rule 1201(b)(II) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 4 $\it Code$ of Colorado Regulations ("CCR"), 723-1 and \S 13-1-127, C.R.S.

³ See Application at 7.

⁴ Rule 1201(a), 4 CCR 723-1.

a non-attorney.⁵ To be eligible to be represented by a non-attorney, all the below conditions must be met:

- The company must not have more than three owners;
- The amount in controversy must not exceed \$15,000; and
- The non-attorney individual seeking to represent the company must provide the Commission with satisfactory evidence demonstrating that person's authority to represent the company in the proceeding.⁶
- Colorado law presumes that a corporation's officers, a partnership's partners, a 9. limited partnership's members, and persons authorized to manage a limited liability company have authority to represent the company in the proceeding.⁷ A written resolution from a company specifically authorizing the individual to represent the company's interests in the proceeding may also be relied upon as evidence of the individual's authority to represent the company.8
- 10. In its Intervention, Golden West stated that it is a closely-held entity that has no more than three owners; that the amount in controversy does not exceed \$15,000; and that it wished that Mr. Rachid Zouhair be allowed to represent Golden West in this proceeding.⁹
- 11. Golden West has provided information indicating that it meets the three criteria required for its Chief Executive Officer, a non-attorney, to represent Golden West in this proceeding.
- 12. Based on the foregoing and the record as a whole, the ALJ finds that Golden West meets the requirements of Rule 1201(b)(II), 4 CCR 723-1 and § 13-1-127, C.R.S., to be represented by a non-attorney, Mr. Zouhair, in this proceeding and will permit him to do so.

⁵ Rule 1201(b)(II), 4 CCR 723-1 and § 13-1-127, C.R.S.

⁷ § 13-1-127(2) and (2.3)(c), C.R.S.

⁸ § 13-1-127(3), C.R.S.

⁹ See Golden West Intervention at 2.

III. REMOTE HEARING

- 13. Based on the flexibility it affords the parties and their witnesses, the evidentiary hearing in this matter will be held in a remote format. A remote hearing is where the parties and ALJ appear remotely. The hearing will be scheduled for **May 1, 2025**, at 9:00 a.m. as ordered below. A webcast of the proceedings will be available to the public through the Commission's website.
- 14. This Decision, Attachment A, and Attachment B provide important information and instructions to facilitate holding the remote hearing, which all parties must follow.
- 15. The procedures developed for the remote evidentiary hearing are intended to replicate, as practicable, evidence presentation as it occurs when parties and witnesses are present in the hearing room. For example, participating by video conference allows parties and witnesses to view exhibits on the video conference screen while the exhibits are being offered into evidence and witnesses testify about them.
- In the remote evidentiary hearing will be conducted via video conference using the Zoom platform. Attachment A to this Decision provides information about the Zoom platform and how to use Zoom to participate in the remote hearing. To minimize the potential that the hybrid hearing may be disrupted by non-participants, the link and meeting ID, or access code to attend the hearing will be provided to the parties by email approximately one week before the hearing and the parties and witnesses will be prohibited from distributing that information to anyone not participating in the hearing.
- 17. At the hearing, the parties may call witnesses, present evidence, and make arguments in support of their position. Evidence includes documentary exhibits, testimony, and other tangible items that a party wishes the ALJ to consider in reaching a decision as to the

allegations in this proceeding. Given that the hearing will require remote participation by video conference, exhibits must be presented electronically.

- 18. The Public Utilities Commission Administrative Hearings Section uses box.com to receive and manage exhibits that are first presented in this type of hybrid evidentiary hearing. ¹⁰ As such, it is essential that the parties ensure they can access and use box.com prior to the evidentiary hearing. To this end, the parties will be provided box.com links and instructions to: (a) upload exhibits for use during the hearing; and (b) download exhibits once they are presented during the hearing.
- 19. Each party must: (a) pre-mark all hearing exhibits with a hearing exhibit number within their assigned number block before uploading the exhibits to the party's designated box.com folder; (b) sequentially page-number each page of exhibits longer than two pages, with the first page number as page 1, regardless of content, before uploading the exhibits to the party's designated box.com folder; and (c) upload all pre-marked exhibits into each party's respective designated box.com folder prior to the presenting them during the hearing.
- 20. Attachment B outlines procedures and requirements for marking and formatting exhibits aimed at facilitating efficient and smooth electronic evidence presentations at the remote hearing. It is very important that the parties carefully review and follow all requirements in this Decision and Attachments A and B.

¹⁰ Box.com is a web-based document sharing service. When exhibits are first presented during the hearing, the Commission will receive them electronically from each party's box.com folder for display.

- 21. To efficiently organize the numbering and preparation of exhibits for the hearing, the parties shall use a unified numbering system for all hearing exhibits. Blocks of hearing exhibit numbers are assigned as follows:
 - Cameron James is assigned hearing exhibit numbers 100 to 199; and
 - Golden West is assigned hearing exhibit numbers 200 to 299.
- 22. Cameron James must file a list of the witnesses he intends to call during the hearing and to file a copy of the exhibits he intends to use as evidence during the hearing (marked with hearing numbers in the block described above) by **April 3, 2025**.
- 23. Golden West must file a list of witnesses it intends to call during the hearing and to file a copy of the exhibits it intends to use during the hearing (marked with hearing numbers in the block described above) by **April 17, 2025**.

IV. <u>ADDITIONAL ADVISEMENTS</u>

24. 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.

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V. **ORDER**

A. It Is Ordered That:

- 1. The intervention of right filed by Golden West Airport Shuttle, LLC doing business as Golden West Airport Shuttle ("Golden West") filed on December 23, 2024, is acknowledged.
- 2. Non-attorney Cameron James Brown is allowed represent himself in this proceeding as a sole proprietor.
- 3. Non-attorney Rachid Zouhair is allowed to represent Golden West in this proceeding.
 - 4. A remote hearing is scheduled as follows:

DATE: May 1, 2025

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

WEBCAST: Commission Hearing Room

METHOD: Join by video conference using Zoom at the link to

be provided in an email from the Administrative

Law Judge OR Commission Staff¹¹

- 5. Nobody should attend the hearing in person at the Commission's offices.
- 6. Cameron James must file a list of the witnesses he intends to call during the hearing and to file a copy of the exhibits he intends to use as evidence during the hearing (marked with hearing numbers in the block described above) by April 3, 2025.

¹¹ Additional information about the Zoom platform and how to use the platform are available at: https://zoom.us/. All are strongly encouraged to participate in a test meeting prior to the scheduled hearing. See https://zoom.us/test.

- 7. Golden West must file a list of witnesses it intends to call during the hearing and to file a copy of the exhibits it intends to use during the hearing (marked with hearing numbers in the block described above) by April 17, 2025.
 - 8. This Decision is effective immediately.

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ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

KELLY A. ROSENBERG

Administrative Law Judge

Rebecca E. White, Director