

MOVE-FAX

FOR MEMBERS ONLY

Southwest Movers Association

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MoveFax Report of USR Registration

Following several inquiries from members about how the FMCSA UCR program would impact Texas movers, SMA contacted Joe Barnard at TxDOT for clarification. Below is his response.

“An intrastate mover still has to get the normal TxDOT motor carrier registration. A Texas intrastate mover that also transports interstate has to register under UCR and TxDOT motor carrier registration. Intrastate agents will still need to be reported to TxDOT by their Van Line as agent. I attached a UCR notice.”

Mr. Barnard provided TxDOT's clarification by type of operation and the requirements each will have for filing. A copy of that clarification is attached to this MoveFax.

SMA Open House | Unveiling of the New SMA Website | Tour the Move-U House & Training Center

November 19, 2007 | 10:30 a.m.

The entire membership is invited to join us in celebrating the unveiling of the new SMA website. There are many exciting new features, including a listing allowing the consumer public to identify a qualified mover or vendor nearest to them, as well as handy moving tips and other helpful resources for members and consumers alike. John Esparza, Executive Director, will introduce and highlight various elements on the new website. One of the key goals in enhancing the functionality and usability of the website is to encourage other movers to become members while at the same time providing an ongoing source of ready information and training for existing members.

Along with the unveiling of the new website, Tom Herrick will be on hand to present an overview of MOVE-U, including the manuals, workbooks and many different classes planned for training mover employees. Following that overview, we will visit the newly created SMA *simulated move environment*, with a furnished mock home complete with doors to remove, appliances that have to be disconnected and prepared to move, as well as mini-loading vans with walk boards to show tier loading placement.

SMA Loader Seminar

The new SMA Loader Seminar originally scheduled for November 6-8 has been moved to November 28-29.

New Haven Moving Equipment is providing all of the training equipment, dollies, boxes, furniture pads, etc., that will be needed to demonstrate the proper preparation of HHG's to be loaded, using actual professional mover equipment.

The majority of materials used to build the mock house have been donated, and Tom and a friend are building the house. The actual dollar investment for SMA will be small, compared to the clear value that this training opportunity will provide to members and others.

Violations Cited by TxDOT

TxDOT has this week provided the staff with some reminders for mover members of rules that are in the Motor Carrier Rules and Regulations and enforced by the Department:

- 43 T.A.C. ¶18.13(f)(3) failure to file a supplemental application for any change of address or change of its legal agent for service for process no later than the effective date of the change.
- 43 T.A.C. ¶18.16(a)(1) by failure to maintain the minimum required automobile liability insurance on file with the department.
- 43 T.A.C. ¶18.52(a) failure to include the following information on print advertisements: (2) street address; and (3) the certificate of registration number preceded by the words: “TxDOT No.”
- 43 T.A.C. ¶18.57(a) failure to give a copy of the moving services contract to the shipper prior to loading of the shipment.
- 43 T.A.C. ¶18.58(a)(2) Option 1 or 2 failure to provide the customer with a copy of the prescribed contract terms and conditions prescribed in the regulations.
- 43 T.A.C. ¶18.63(a) by failure to file an annual operating report with the department on or before the 15th of May of each year.
- 43 T.A.C. ¶18.64(a) failure to disclose the maximum rates and charges to prospective shippers before transporting shipments between two incorporated cities.
- 43 T.A.C. ¶18.65(a) failure to have a tariff filed with the department.

Proposal for Service and Moving Services Contact Combined Form 170 is ready for ordering.

Members report they are receiving their order with 5 days of placing it with SMA.

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