



01-22-09

Dear, Sir/Madam, Commissioner Port of Seattle.

As you are aware of, the largest communities of truckers in Seattle are foreigners. Who don't know who to turn to, when it comes to addressing problems, due to language barrier, and or lack of trust and the way of the current system is set up. For instance the trucking companies call the truckers, <OWNER OPERATOR>.

In reality truckers are employees, who provide their own trucks to show up to work. And take care of all the expenses that are related with the trucks, such as fuel, maintaining the trucks which are very costly, also licensing fee. Another words we own the problems not the benefit, which is simply the truth.

The term <OWNER OPERATOR> is deception; whoever is calling the word don't care the care the poor truckers, and their families. And yet everybody is expecting to get the job done, whatever it cost.

The only people who are making money are the trucking companies, who by far have fewer expenses than the poor individual trucker, who's overhead cost more than his income, if there is any now days.

Most Seattle water front transportation companies know each other, and compete for contracts and accounts. Since the competition is so high, the rate is going down, while the living standard is going up, so here we go again, THE POOR TRUCKER is paying the ultimate prize, and can't say anything about it.

Because as I mentioned above the transportation companies could be careless, whose truck is in the shop for repair, whether you can afford or not, matter a fact all burden are on our shoulders we praise the lord, every day to get us through without having us to pay more than we have too.

If you ever open your mouth on any of these issues, you probably are going to have hard time if not fired otherwise. So this is the kind of environment, and this is the behavior of the companies what is silencing the poor truckers, and it is the right reason to keep quiet, or lose your job, not only job but your investment. In this case who do you trust! It remains to me and others a million dollar question.

In today's meeting you will notice the silence and mistrust between the companies and the truckers,

In my view there is a lot to talk about, but to earn the trust of the truckers, Port of Seattle must open the doors for the truckers, and have somebody from the trucking community represent them always in dealing all those issues at Port of Seattle office daily. Then it is possible to have better understanding and quick way of solving Problems on both sides, and build a bridge of trust and communication.

This is not all we wanted to say, or the entire problem we have, but it surely is the starting point of our long journey ahead, and hopefully together we can reform the whole industry of trucking in Seattle.

Mahad Dimbil

Faithfully yours.