Be wary of fraudulent, misleading or aggressive marketing attempts after applying for a US DOT number

As soon as you submit an application for a DOT number with the FMSCA (Federal Motor Safety Administration), you may be subjected to fraudulent, misleading or aggressive marketing attempts by telephone, email, text and US mail. Your DOT number and business details are publically available and many entities try to convince you to purchase unneeded services or pay for documents that can be obtained for free.

The FMCSA does NOT:

- Contact carriers by telemarketers or "robo-call" automated telephone solicitations.
- Request credit card numbers by telephone.
- Charge a fee for downloadable U.S. Government forms.

Please see the FMSCA website for details:

https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/registration/fraudulent-and-misleading-marketing-new-fmcsa-applicants

An example of an official looking solicitation letter is posted on the FMCSA's Facebook page, on a post dated April 9, 2021:

https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=3490522334386592&id=225392700899588

If you receive an official looking document, please look for red flag indicators such as:

- A website that ends in .com, .biz, .net, etc. and not .gov
- An email that ends in .com, .biz, .net, etc. and not .gov
- A disclaimer, possibly in tiny print, which states that the company is not affiliated with the FMCSA or any other government agency.
- A caller or solicitation states they are "endorsed" by FMCSA. U.S. government agencies do not endorse any businesses or third-party service providers.

If you are unsure whether a document is valid, contact the FMSCA directly for assistance. They will be able to view your account details and verify your compliance status, and offer guidance if information associated with your account needs to be corrected or a form needs to be submitted.

Please refer to the FMCSA's contact information online at: <u>https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/contact-us</u> or contact:

FMSCA Wyoming Division Field Office 2617 E Lincolnway Ste F Cheyenne WY 82001 PH: 307-772-2305 FX: 307-772-2905 Western Service Center: Golden Hills Office Centre 12600 W. Colfax Ave. Ste B-300 Lakewood, CO 80215 PH: (303) 407-2350 FX: (303) 407-2339

NOTE: Programs administered by Wy Dept. of Transportation Motor Vehicle Services **do not use text messages** to communicate with carriers. If you have questions or concerns, please email <u>MVS@wyo.gov</u> or call 307-777-4827 (IFTA) or 307-777-4829 (IRP) for assistance.