

INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

LIMITED CONTRACT COMPLIANCE
FOX RENT-A-CAR, INC.

JUNE 2014 – MAY 2017

ISSUE DATE: AUGUST 7, 2018
REPORT NO. 2018-07

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Internal Audit (IA) completed an audit of the Lease Agreement between FOX Rent-A-Car, INC. (FOX / Operator) and the Port of Seattle (Port) for the period June 1, 2014 through May 31, 2017. The audit objective was to determine whether the Operator complied with significant financial provisions of the Agreement, including whether reported gross revenues and the Customer Facility Charges (CFC) paid to the Port were complete and reasonable.

We determined that the Operator underreported certain gross revenue items and the CFC.

- 1) FOX did not report \$521,500 in incidental gross revenue, resulting in approximately \$52,150 in additional Percentage Fees owed to the Port.
- 2) The Lease Agreement requires the Operator to remit the full amount of the CFC regardless of whether or not the full amount is actually collected. In certain instances, FOX did not charge the CFC and as a result, did not remit \$10,578 to the Port.

The two items resulted in an underpayment to the Port of approximately \$63,000 for the three-year period ending May 31, 2017. These issues are discussed in more detail beginning on page six and seven of this report.

We extend our appreciation to management and staff of the Aviation Commercial Management Department, the Operator, and the Accounting and Financial Reporting Department for their assistance and cooperation during the audit.



Glenn Fernandes, CPA
Director, Internal Audit

RESPONSIBLE MANAGEMENT TEAM

Lance Lyttle, Managing Director Aviation

Jim Schone, Director AV Commercial Management

Jason Johnson, Aviation Property Manager 3

BACKGROUND

Fox Rent-A-Car, Inc. (FOX) is a California corporation that provides automobile rental services. The company operates in 20 locations throughout the Western United States, including California, Washington, Utah, Nevada, and Arizona.

In July 2008, the Port entered into a Consolidate Rental Car Facility Lease Agreement (Agreement) with FOX. The terms of the Agreement provide for a Minimum Annual Guarantee (MAG) of the higher of: (1) 85% of the total amount paid to the Port in the previous Agreement year, or (2) the Initial MAG, bid by the Operator, of \$501,000. Additionally, the Agreement requires a Percentage Fee equal to 10% of the Operator's gross revenues, provided the fee is higher than the monthly MAG.

The MAG is payable in advance, on or before the first day of each month, without notice from the Port. The Percentage Fee, if applicable, is due on or before the 20th of the following month.

The Agreement states that the Operator must collect a Customer Facility Charge (CFC) of \$6 per rental day.

The table below reflects total gross revenue, percentage fees, and CFC fees:

REPORTED GROSS REVENUE / PERCENTAGE FEES / CFC FEES			
AGREEMENT YEAR	REPORTED GROSS REVENUES	CONCESSION FEES	REPORTED CFC FEES
2014-2015	\$10,014,977	\$1,001,498	\$1,428,216
2015-2016	11,289,695	1,128,970	1,589,052
2016-2017	11,661,478	1,166,148	1,443,594
TOTAL	\$32,966,150	\$3,296,616	\$4,460,862

Data Source: PeopleSoft Financials and Propworks

AUDIT SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

We conducted this audit in accordance with Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards and the International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives.

The period audited was June 2014 through May 2017. After identifying significant provisions in the Agreement, we performed audit procedures that included:

Revenue Completeness and Accuracy

- Traced concession payments to Port records to verify payments were received by Agreement dates.
- Agreed revenue reported to the Port, to the Operator's general ledger, revenue reports, and to FOX audited schedules.

Customer Facility Charge

- Agreed Operator's audited CFC counts to database records.
- Reviewed checkout and return date records to assess the reasonableness of daily transactions.

Insurance and Rent Security

- Determined whether commercial general liability insurance and rent security met Agreement requirements.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1) RATING: MEDIUM

FOX did not report \$521,500 in incidental gross revenue, resulting in approximately \$52,150 in additional Percentage Fees owed to the Port.

Our analysis of the Operator's financial records and testing of transactions identified the following items that were not included in Gross Revenues when reported to the Port:

- Time and Mileage Fees
- Customer / Business Rebates
- Detailing Fee
- Energy Recovery Fee
- Early Charge

The Operator has acknowledged these items. The underreported revenue is reflected in the table below.

ADDITIONAL PERCENTAGE FEE DUE TO THE PORT			
AGREEMENT YEAR	REPORTED	AUDITED	DIFFERENCE
2014-2015	\$10,014,977	\$10,182,508	\$167,531
2015-2016	11,289,695	11,469,324	179,629
2016-2017	11,661,478	11,835,818	174,340
Concession Revenue Underreported			\$521,500
Concession Fee Due			\$52,150

Data Source: PeopleSoft Financials, Propworks, FOX records

Recommendations:

1. Seek and recover \$52,150 in underpaid Percentage Fees.
2. Assess the applicability of a one-time late charge and any accrued interest.
3. Communicate with the Operator, to assure that future reported Gross Revenues include the items listed above.

Management Response / Action Plan

Aviation Commercial Management will seek to recover the underpaid Percentage Fees, together with any applicable late fees and interest charges. Aviation Commercial Management will also communicate both verbally and in writing that the revenues identified above, are not permitted exclusions from revenue according to the Agreement. Therefore, effectively immediately, those revenue items are required to be included in their monthly reports of gross revenues provided to the Port. Revised reports that include these excluded gross revenues, as well as payment of any additional Percentage Fees, will be requested for those months that have transpired since the end of the audit period.

DUE DATE: 10/31/2018

2) RATING: MEDIUM

The Agreement requires the Operator to remit the full amount of the CFC regardless of whether or not the full amount is actually collected. In certain instances, FOX did not charge the CFC and as a result, did not remit \$10,578 to the Port.

The lease Agreement under Section 6.2.1 stipulates:

“Each Operator must collect the Customer Facility Charge at the time the first payment is made for a qualifying vehicle rental transaction, and must remit the full amount of the Customer Facility Charge to the Port regardless of whether or not the full amount of such Customer Facility Charge is actually collected by the Operator from the person who rented the automobile.”

The Operator acknowledged the differences in CFC, which are summarized in the table below:

ADDITIONAL CFC DUE TO THE PORT			
AGREEMENT YEAR	REPORTED	AUDITED	DIFFERENCE
2014-2015	\$1,428,216	\$1,439,304	\$11,088
2015-2016	1,589,052	1,590,006	954
2016-2017	1,443,594	1,442,130	(1,464)
CFC Due			\$10,578

Data Source: PeopleSoft Financials, Propworks, FOX records

Recommendations

1. Seek and recover the \$10,578 in underpaid Percentage Fees.
2. Assess the applicability of a one-time late charge and any accrued interest.
3. Communicate with the Operator, to assure that future CFC’s are remitted as required by the Agreement.

Management Response / Action Plan

Aviation Commercial Management will seek to recover the underpaid CFC’s, together with any applicable late fees and interest charges. Aviation Commercial Management will also communicate both verbally and in writing to remind the Operator of their obligations with respect to collection and remittance of the CFC to the Port.

DUE DATE: 10/31/2018

APPENDIX A: RISK RATINGS

Findings identified during the course of the audit are assigned a risk rating, as outlined in the table below. The risk rating is based on the financial, operational, compliance or reputational impact the issue identified has on the Port. Items deemed “Low Risk” will be considered “Exit Items” and will not be brought to the final report.

Rating	Financial	Internal Controls	Compliance	Public	Port Commission/ Management
HIGH	Large financial impact Remiss in responsibilities of being a custodian of public trust	Missing, or inadequate key internal controls	Noncompliance with applicable Federal, State, and Local Laws, or Port Policies	High probability for external audit issues and/or negative public perception	Important Requires immediate attention
MEDIUM	Moderate financial impact	Partial controls Not adequate to identify noncompliance or misappropriation timely	Inconsistent compliance with Federal, State, and Local Laws, or Port Policies	Potential for external audit issues and/or negative public perception	Relatively important May or may not require immediate attention
LOW/ Exit Items	Low financial impact	Internal controls in place but not consistently efficient or effective Implementing/enhancing controls could prevent future problems	Generally complies with Federal, State and Local Laws or Port Policies, but some minor discrepancies exist	Low probability for external audit issues and/or negative public perception	Lower significance May not require immediate attention