



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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May 1, 2015—FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **CMSA DIRECTS CONSUMERS TO CHOOSE STATE-LICENSED MOVERS FOR ALL MOVES WITHIN CALIFORNIA**

CERRITOS, Calif. (May 1, 2015)—Moving is a stressful situation and hiring professional movers offers the expertise and flexibility needed for a pleasant moving experience. When hiring professional movers, the California Moving & Storage Association (CMSA) advises consumers to call its Cerritos office to verify that a moving company has a current state license to perform both local and long-distance California moves.

All California moving companies, also known as household goods carriers, are regulated by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) state agency and must obtain a PUC household goods carrier permit to conduct intrastate moves, or moves within the state. (If you are planning an interstate move, or a move across state lines, the moving company must be licensed by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.)

As stated in California Public Utilities Code 5133(a)(1):

“No household goods carrier shall engage, or attempt to engage, in the business of the transportation of used household goods and personal effects, by motor vehicle over any public highway in this state, including, by any means or media, advertising, soliciting, offering, arranging as a broker, or entering into an agreement regarding the transportation of used household goods and personal effects ... For transportation of household goods and personal effects entirely within this state, there is in force a permit issued by the [Public Utilities Commission] authorizing those operations.”

Licensed moving companies must carry liability, cargo and workers’ compensation insurance coverage to protect California consumers. Licensed movers are also required by the state to abide by the Maximum Rate Tariff 4, or MAX 4, to offer fair pricing for local moves.

To verify a company is licensed, call CMSA at (562) 865-2900 with the moving company's PUC permit number, or Cal T Number, and we can verify that they are permitted carriers.

If you want to avoid the hassle of searching for licensed and reputable carriers, CMSA offers free mover referrals over the phone that you can call with confidence that they are legitimate businesses to work with.

CMSA is a nonprofit trade association representing more than 385 licensed and insured movers operating in California. The CMSA also includes more than 185 associate member companies. Established in 1916, the CMSA is comprised of 12 chapters strategically located throughout California.

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