



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



2800 BERLIN TURNPIKE, P.O. BOX 317546
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06131-7546

Phone:

DOCKET NO. 1112-AS-124-T

RE: APPLICATION OF SUBURBAN TRANSPORTATION, INC. D.B.A.
VALLEY CAB TO OPERATE FIVE (5) MOTOR VEHICLES IN
TAXICAB SERVICE WITHIN AND TO AND FROM CANAAN, KENT,
NORTH CANAAN, SALISBURY AND SHARON.

FINAL DECISION

May 7, 2012

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Applicant's Proposal

By application filed on December 7, 2011, with the Department of Transportation (hereinafter "department"), pursuant to Section 13b-97 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, Suburban Transportation, Inc. d.b.a. Valley Cab (hereinafter "applicant") with a mailing address of 320 East Street, Plainville, Connecticut 06062 seeks authorization to operate five (5) motor vehicles in taxicab service within and to and from the towns of Canaan, Kent, North Canaan, Salisbury and Sharon.

B. Hearing Held

Pursuant to Section 13b-97(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, a public hearing on this application was held at the Department of Transportation in Newington, Connecticut on May 3, 2012.

Notice of the application and of the hearing to be held thereon was given to the applicant and to such other parties as required by Section 13b-97(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended. Legal notice to the public was given by publication on the department's website.

The hearing on this matter was conducted by a hearing officer, designated by the Commissioner of Transportation, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-17.

C. Appearances

Mr. Abdul Dode, manager of the applicant and Shazia Dode, one of the owners appeared on behalf of the applicant. The applicant was represented by Alan Berman, Esq. with a mailing address of 111 Roberts Street, Suite G-1, East Hartford, Connecticut 06108.

D. Administrative Notice

Administrative notice was taken of the fact that the department's records show that there are no taxicab operators in the towns of Canaan, Kent, North Canaan, Salisbury and Sharon.

II. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The applicant currently operates taxicabs in several towns in Connecticut.

2. The applicant seeks to operate five (5) taxicabs in the towns of Canaan, Kent, North Canaan, Salisbury and Sharon.

3. The applicant presented several witnesses from Canaan and Salisbury who testified about the lack of taxicab service in those towns. There is also no public transportation in these towns.

4. There are no taxicab operators currently serving the five towns the applicant has requested.

5. The applicant has a cash balance of \$131,238.78 in the bank.

6. The applicant's insurance would be about \$4,300 per vehicle per year.

7. The applicant's start-up costs include the following: \$51,950 to purchase vehicles, monthly maintenance of \$553, monthly payroll for dispatch of \$2,500, monthly payroll taxes of \$200, rent of \$400, utilities of \$150 and furniture of \$3,550 for a total cost of \$59,303.

8. The applicant will utilize part of its current Torrington office to provide the dispatch for this portion of the operation.

9. The applicant will operate this taxicab service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

III. DEPARTMENT ANALYSIS

The Department of Transportation has jurisdiction over common carriers, which include each person, association, limited liability company or corporation owning or operating a taxicab in the State of Connecticut in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-96, as amended. The Department is authorized to prescribe regulations with respect to fares, service, operation and equipment, as it deems necessary for the convenience, protection and safety of the passengers and the public.

Pursuant to Section 13b-97(a), as amended, any person who applies for authority to operate a taxicab shall obtain from the Department a certificate of public convenience and necessity certifying that the public's convenience and necessity requires the operation of a taxicab or taxicabs for the transportation of passengers. No certificate shall be issued unless the department finds that the person is suitable to operate a taxicab service. In so doing, the department must take into consideration any convictions of the applicant under federal, state or local laws relative to safety, motor vehicle or criminal violations, the number of taxicabs to be operated under the certificate, the adequacy of the applicant's financial resources to operate the service, the adequacy of insurance coverage and safety equipment and the availability of

qualified operators.

With regard to suitability, the applicant submitted State Police Bureau of Identification Criminal History Form for the Shaukat Dode which showed no criminal convictions. Since the applicant's criminal record check is about to expire, the applicant was instructed to obtain current criminal record checks for its permanent authority file. The applicant operates taxicab service in many other towns in Connecticut so it has the experience necessary to expand its operation. The applicant has proven its suitability to operate the proposed service.

The applicant testified that it has drivers available to cover the five vehicles it will operate in the proposed service area of Canaan, Kent, North Canaan, Salisbury and Sharon.

The applicant also presented several witnesses who spoke about the lack of public transportation and in particular, taxicab service in the towns of Canaan, Kent, North Canaan, Salisbury and Sharon. There is no authorized taxicab operator in that area. Having no operator in this area shows an obvious public need for such service. The applicant has clearly proven public convenience and necessity to be granted taxicab authority.

As far as the applicant's financial ability is concerned, the applicant has a cash balance of \$131,238.78 in the bank. The applicant's insurance is about \$4,300 per vehicle per year. The applicant's startup costs include the following: \$51,950 to purchase vehicles, monthly maintenance of \$553, monthly payroll for dispatch of \$2,500, monthly payroll taxes of \$200, rent of \$400, utilities of \$150 and furniture of \$3,550 for a total cost of \$59,303. Based on the evidence provided, the applicant has shown the requisite financial ability to have this application granted.

IV. CONCLUSION

Therefore, based upon the above and pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-97, as amended, the application of Suburban Transportation, Inc. d.b.a. Valley Cab is hereby granted as follows:

CERTIFICATE NUMBER 1144
FOR THE OPERATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES IN TAXICAB SERVICE

Suburban Transportation, Inc. d.b.a. Valley cab is hereby permitted and authorized to operate motor vehicles in taxicab service as follows:

1. Four (4) motor vehicles within and to and from Bloomfield, East Hartford, East Windsor, Enfield, Farmington, Granby, Hartford, Manchester, Newington, Rocky Hill, Simsbury, South Windsor, Vernon, Wethersfield and Windsor;

a) Three (3) of the above four (4) vehicles may also be used within and to and from Avon and Canton.

2. Two (2) motor vehicles within and to and from Southington.

3. Six (6) motor vehicles within and to and from Bristol and Wolcott.

a) Two (2) of the above six (6) vehicles may also be used in Bloomfield, East Hartford, East Windsor, Enfield, Farmington, Granby, Hartford, Manchester, Newington, Rocky Hill, Simsbury, South Windsor, Vernon, West Hartford, Wethersfield, Windsor, Burlington and Plainville to all points in Connecticut.

4. Four (4) motor vehicles within and to and from Barkhamsted, Hartland, Harwinton, New Hartford, Plymouth, and Thomaston to all points in Connecticut.

5. Three (3) motor vehicles within and to and from Litchfield, Torrington, and Winchester to all points in Connecticut.

6. Six (6) motor vehicles within and to and from Bethlehem, Cornwall, Goshen, Morris, New Milford, Warren and Washington to all points in Connecticut.

7. Five (5) motor vehicles within and to and from Canaan, Kent, North Canaan, Salisbury and Sharon to all points in Connecticut.

RESTRICTIONS

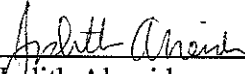
This certificate may not be sold or transferred until it has been operational, i.e., its vehicles registered with taxicab plates thereunder, for not less than twenty-four (24) consecutive months. This certificate is transferable only with the approval of the department.

This certificate shall remain in effect until it is amended, suspended, or revoked by the department. Failure of the certificate holder to maintain proper insurance and/or to comply with all pertinent motor vehicle laws and other State statutes and/or the rules, regulations and orders of the department, as this department may from time to time prescribe, shall be considered sufficient cause to amend, suspend or revoke this certificate.

Suburban Transportation shall register all of the vehicles granted in this decision within thirty (30) days from the date of this final decision.

Dated at Newington, Connecticut on this 7th day of May 2012.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



Judith Almeida
Staff Attorney III
Administrative Law Unit
Bureau of Finance and Administration