



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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Phone:

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DOCKET NO. 1711-N-117-L

RE: APPLICATION OF CT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES, LLC TO OPERATE TWO (2) MOTOR VEHICLES, HAVING A SEATING CAPACITY OF LESS THAN ELEVEN (11) PASSENGERS, IN GENERAL LIVERY SERVICE BETWEEN ALL POINTS IN CONNECTICUT FROM A HEADQUARTERS IN NEW HAVEN.

DECISION

January 11, 2018

I. INTRODUCTION

A. APPLICATION

By application filed on November 2, 2017, with the Department of Transportation (hereinafter "department"), pursuant to Section 13b-103 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, CT Transportation Services, LLC (hereinafter "applicant") with a mailing address of 344 Whalley Avenue, New Haven, Connecticut 06511 seeks authorization to operate two (2) motor vehicles, having a seating capacity of less than eleven (11) passengers, in general livery service between all points in Connecticut from a headquarters in New Haven.

B. HEARING

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes, Section 13b-103, as amended, a public hearing on this application was held on January 9, 2018.

Notice of the application and of the hearing to be held thereon was given to the applicant and to such other parties as required pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103, as amended. Legal notice to the public was given by publication on the department's website.

A hearing officer designated by the Commissioner pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-17 conducted the hearing on this matter.

C. APPEARANCES

Yaser Ehilo and Gamal Kuwa appeared on behalf of the applicant. The applicant was represented by Attorney Michael Stone whose address is 129 Church Street, Ste. 806, New Haven, Connecticut 06510.

II. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The applicant seeks to operate two (2) motor vehicles in livery service from a headquarters in New Haven.
2. One of the applicants has a degree in business while the other is an electrical engineer.
3. Both of the applicants have public service licenses and have driven for UBER in the past.
4. The applicant's presented several individuals who were former drivers who would drive for them in the livery business.

5. Both of the applicants are volunteers with a refuge organization called IRIS in Hamden which helps new refugees settle in Connecticut. Some of the IRIS clients will need livery services.

6. The applicant's six months of expenses includes \$10,834 to purchase a 2009 Ford van, \$2,262 to finance a 2014 Toyota Highlander, \$4,860 for insurance, \$1,200 for vehicle maintenance, \$600 for the cellphone costs, property tax of \$579 and marketing and advertising costs of \$500 for a total of \$20,835.

7. The applicants have \$22,575 in a Bank of America account.

8. Hussain Ibrahim works for Marrakech which is a support service for handicapped residents. He believes that the applicants can provide some needed transportation to his clients.

9. Mr. Ehilo operates a clothing store in New Haven which contains an office where the applicants will operate the livery service.

10. Mr. Ehilo has special training in CPR.

11. This application was not opposed.

III. DISCUSSION

The department has jurisdiction over each person, association, limited liability company or corporation owning or operating a motor vehicle in livery service, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-102, as amended.

In determining whether a livery permit should be granted, the department shall take into consideration the present or future public convenience and necessity. The applicant must prove that the public's convenience and necessity will be improved by the proposed service. Additionally, the applicant must show the suitability of the applicant or the suitability of the management if the applicant is a limited liability company or corporation, the financial responsibility of the applicant, the ability of the applicant efficiently and properly to perform the service for which authority is requested and the fitness, willingness and ability of the applicant to conform to the provisions of the statutes and the requirements and regulations of the department thereunder, in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103.

Some factors to consider in granting a livery permit are whether the service will benefit the relevant class of users, whether the proposed service is more efficient, more economical, more convenient, more satisfactory, or different than the services offered by the existing service providers, whether the new service would create a potentially beneficial effect upon rates and customer service and whether the acquisition of equipment would be more suitable to customer needs, whether the population in the area that the applicant proposes to service is increasing, whether potential customers have requested a service like that suggested by the applicant and whether the proposed service will improve the existing mode of transportation as defined in

Martorelli v. Department of Transportation 316 Conn. 538 (2015).

To show financial support, the applicant submitted the applicant's first six months of expenses which includes \$10,834 to purchase a 2009 Ford Van, \$2,262 to finance a 2014 Toyota Highlander, \$4,860 for insurance, \$1,200 for vehicle maintenance, \$600 for the cellphone costs, property tax of \$579 and marketing and advertising costs of \$500 for a total expense of \$20,835. The applicants have \$22,575 in a Bank of America account which is sufficient to cover these initial costs.

Regarding the applicant's suitability, a criminal record check was performed for both members of the Limited Liability Corporation, Mr. Ehilo and Mr. Kuwa, which shows no criminal records. The applicants have driving experience having driven for UBER in addition to other driving jobs in the past and both members have their public service licenses. Both of the applicants have college degrees and have been successful in other careers. The applicants appear suitable to perform the proposed livery service.

To prove public convenience and necessity, the applicant presented several witnesses from the Muslim community who believe that the applicant's service would be a benefit to the community. One witness in particular, Mr. Ibrahim spoke about the need for his handicapped clients to get livery service. Based on the evidence presented, the applicants have proven a need for an additional livery service.

VI. ORDER

Based upon the above and pursuant to Connecticut General Statute Section 13b-103, as amended, the application, standing in the name of CT Transportation Services, LLC, is hereby granted and Livery Permit Number 3621 is hereby issued as follows:

LIVERY PERMIT NO. 3621

CT Transportation Services, LLC is authorized to operate two (2) motor vehicles, having a seating capacity of less than eleven (11) passengers, in general livery service from a headquarters in New Haven.

RESTRICTIONS:

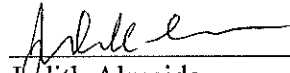
The applicant must register and insure the two (2) vehicles granted under this decision within sixty (60) days from the date of this decision.

This permit may not be sold or transferred until it has been operational, i.e. a vehicle registered with livery plates thereunder for not less than twenty-four (24) months. If at any time during the twenty-four consecutive month period the applicant enters into a contract for the sale of the vehicle authorized under livery permit number 3621, the authority granted herein for the two (2) vehicles will be revoked.

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

A memorandum of this permit, bearing the seal of the department, shall be conspicuously posted in each motor vehicle operated under this permit.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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