

STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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

Phone:

DOCKET NO. 1711-EXP-115-T

RE: APPLICATION OF USA TAXI OF STAMFORD, LLC TO OPERATE  
ONE (1) MOTOR VEHICLE IN TAXICAB SERVICE WITHIN AND TO  
AND FROM THE TOWN OF STAMFORD.

DECISION

FEBRUARY 27, 2018

## I. INTRODUCTION

### A. Applicant's Proposal

By application filed on November 1, 2017, with the Department of Transportation (hereinafter "department"), pursuant to Section 13b-97 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, USA Taxi of Stamford, LLC (hereinafter "applicant") with a mailing address of 45 Cedar Street, Stamford, Connecticut 06902 seeks authorization to operate one (1) motor vehicle in taxicab service within and to and from the town of Stamford.

### 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 February 22, 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 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

Francisco Rendon appeared pro se on behalf of the applicant. The applicant's mailing address is 45 Cedar Street, Unit #5, Stamford, Connecticut 06902.

### D. Expedited Application

The application was originally filed as an expedited application but was subsequently opposed by Stamford Yellow Cab on January 16, 2018 which then created the requirement for a hearing. The petition in opposition was subsequently

withdrawn on February 15, 2018.

## II. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The applicant is seeking to operate one (1) additional motor vehicle in taxicab service within and to and from the town of Stamford.

2. The applicant currently operates seventeen (17) taxicabs in Stamford.

3. The applicant has all seventeen (17) taxicab vehicles registered and in use.

4. Walter Rosclair will be the driver of the new vehicle. He is currently driving a vehicle for the applicant whose main driver is on vacation.

4. Evani Mirafuentes owns a car detailing business. He calls the applicant several times a day for customers who need a ride from his business. Sometimes he has to drive the customers himself. The wait time can take 30 minutes or longer to get a taxicab from the applicant.

5. Jose Chavez operates a tire company in Stamford. He also calls the applicant to transport his clients and sometimes the delay in getting transportation is lengthy.

6. Bernard Bazille is a limo driver with the applicant's livery company. He sees the need for additional taxicab plates when he talks to customers.

7. The applicant operates most of his taxicabs on a double shift.

8. The applicant will operate a 2014 Toyota Camry which is already paid for.

9. The applicant has several driver applications in his office.

10. The applicant's first six months of expenses includes insurance of \$4,700, maintenance of \$680 and property tax of \$312 for a total expense of \$5,692.

11. The applicant has cash assets of \$45,423.

12. This application was not opposed.

### 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 Mr. Rendon which showed no convictions. The applicant has an ongoing successful business with no citation actions pending. The applicant is deemed suitable to add this one (1) additional vehicle.

As far as the applicant's financial suitability is concerned, the applicant presented evidence that the first six months of expenses includes insurance of \$4,700, maintenance of \$680 and property tax of \$312 for a total expense of \$5,692. The applicant has cash assets of \$45,423 which is more than sufficient to cover

these costs.

With regard to qualified drivers the applicant presented Walter Rosclair who is ready, willing and able to drive the one (1) vehicle. The applicant also has applications from several other drivers if needed.

On the issue of public convenience and necessity, the applicant presented several witnesses who support the need for one (1) extra taxicab. Although the applicant presented witness testimony to support its application, absent the earlier objection to the expedited application, this application would have been granted on the record without hearing since the applicant's seventeen (17) vehicles are registered and in use.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

Therefore, based upon the above and pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-97, as amended, the application of USA Taxi of Stamford, LLC is hereby granted and Certificate 1182 is issued as follows:

### **CERTIFICATE NUMBER 1182 FOR THE OPERATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES IN TAXICAB SERVICE**

USA Taxi of Stamford, LLC is hereby permitted and authorized to operate eighteen (18) motor vehicles in taxicab service within and to and from Stamford.

#### **RESTRICTIONS:**

**The applicant must register the one (1) vehicle granted under this certificate within sixty (60) days from the date of this decision.**


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.

Dated at Newington, Connecticut on this 27th day of February 2018.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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