

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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DOCKET NO. 1805-N-68-L

RE: APPLICATION OF RIDE WITH CARE AMBULETTE TRANSPORTATION, LLC TO OPERATE TWO (2) MOTOR VEHICLES, HAVING A SEATING CAPACITY OF LESS THAN ELEVEN (11) PASSENGERS, IN GENERAL LIVERY SERVICE FROM A HEADQUARTERS IN STAMFORD.

DECISION

July 6, 2018

I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

A. <u>APPLICATION</u>

By application filed on May 10, 2018, with the Department of Transportation (hereinafter "department"), pursuant to Section 13b-103 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, Ride With Care Ambulette Transportation, LLC (hereinafter "applicant") located at 1266 East Main Street, Suite 700R, Stamford, Connecticut 06902 seeks authorization to operate two (2) motor vehicles, having a seating capacity of less than eleven (11) adults, in general livery service from a headquarters in Stamford. One of the two vehicles is currently authorized to provide livery service to the elderly and handicapped.

B. HEARING

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103, as amended, a public hearing on this application was held on July 3, 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

Adetutu Olomola appeared pro se on behalf of the applicant. The applicant's mailing address is 1266 East Main Street, Suite 700R, Stamford, Connecticut 06902.

II. FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The applicant seeks to operate two (2) general livery vehicles from a headquarters in Stamford.
- 2. Veyo has been using the applicant's livery service to transport customers to medical appointments. Veyo has more need for handicapped accessible vehicles.
 - 3. The applicant has \$18,604 in a bank account.
- 4. The applicant will operate a 2010 Ford van and a 2013 Ford van both of which are handicapped accessible.
 - 5. The applicant's first six month of expenses includes insurance of \$5,320, vehicle

Docket No. 1805-N-68-L Page 2 of 6 financing of \$5,750, maintenance of \$200 and property tax of \$180.

- 6. The applicant is getting daily requests from nursing homes and assisted living facilities to provide private pay transportation.
 - 7. She is turning down four to five livery requests per day.
 - 8. This application is 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 that 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).

With regard to the need for the livery service, the applicant presented evidence that Veyo wants to use her handicapped accessible vehicles in the Stamford area. The applicant has also been experiencing high call volume in the past few months she has been in business transporting the elderly and handicapped such that she is refusing requests. In order to perform both types of livery service, private pay and governmental, the applicant needs to have a general livery authority. Based on the evidence provided, the applicant has proven need for the proposed service.

The applicant submitted information that the first six months of expenses includes insurance of \$5,230, vehicle maintenance of \$200, vehicle financing of \$5,750 and property tax of

\$180 for a total expense of \$11,360. The applicant has \$18,604 in the bank which is sufficient to cover those expenses.

Regarding the applicant's suitability, the applicant submitted a criminal record check for both members of the applicant, Adetutu and Afolabi Olomola which showed no convictions. The applicant has been in the livery business for several months and has gained experience to increase her business from one (1) to two (2) vehicles.

Based on the evidence presented, the applicant has proven the necessary suitability, financial ability and public need to be granted the two (2) general livery permits.

IV. ORDER

Based upon the above and pursuant to Connecticut General Statute Section 13b-103, as amended, the application is hereby granted and Livery Permit Number 3631 is hereby reissued as follows:

LIVERY PERMIT NUMBER 3631

Ride With Care Ambulette Transportation, LLC is hereby permitted to operate two (2) motor vehicles, having a seating capacity of less than eleven passengers, in general livery service from a headquarters in Stamford.

RESTRICTIONS:

The applicant must register and insure the two (2) motor vehicles granted in this decision within sixty (60) days from the date of this decision. If these two (2) vehicles are not registered or insured within the sixty (60) day period, the permit will be revoked automatically.

The authority granted under 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.

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.

Dated at Newington, Connecticut on July 6, 2018.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Judith Almeida

Staff Attorney III

Administrative Law Unit

Bureau of Finance and Administration