

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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## DOCKET NO. 1810-N-123-L

RE: APPLICATION OF SHALOM LIMO, LLC TO OPERATE ONE (1) GENERAL LIVERY VEHICLE, WITH A SEATING CAPACITY OF LESS THAN ELEVEN PASSENGERS, FROM A HEADQUARTERS IN WEST HARTFORD.

**DECISION** 

MARCH 15, 2019

#### I. INTRODUCTION

#### A. <u>APPLICATION</u>

By application filed on October 25, 2019, with the Department of Transportation (hereinafter "department"), pursuant to Section 13b-103 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, Shalom Limo, LLC (hereinafter "applicant") with a mailing address of 45 Boulanger Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06110 seeks authorization to operate one (1) motor vehicle, having a seating capacity of less than eleven (11) adults, in general livery service from a headquarters in West Hartford.

#### B. HEARING

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103, as amended, a public hearing on this application was held on March 7, 2019.

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

Shadrack Lubayo Jolobi appeared on behalf of the applicant. The applicant was represented by Attorney Michael Stone with a mailing address of 129 Church Street, Suite 806, New Haven, CT 06510.

#### II. FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The applicant seeks to operate one (1) motor vehicle in general livery service from a headquarters in West Hartford.
  - 2. Mr. Jolobi is currently a driver for Jaguar Limo in Windsor Locks.
  - 3. The applicant plans to operate a 2006 Lincoln Town Car that has no financing.
  - 4. Mr. Jolobi has been both a taxi and livery driver.
  - 5. The applicant has \$9,425 in the bank.
  - 6. The applicant's first six months of expenses includes property tax of \$84, insurance

of \$1,755, maintenance costs of \$450, advertising of \$450 and cell phone costs of \$900.

- 7. The applicant was forced to sign a non-compete agreement to keep driving for Jaguar Limo on February 19, 2019, when the company found out about this livery application.
  - 8. Mr. Jolobi has not solicited customers from Jaguar.
- 9. Several of Mr. Jolobis former Jaguar customers testified in support of his application. He provides good customer service and he is a safe and reliable driver.
  - 10. This application was 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.

Regarding the applicant's suitability, the applicant submitted a criminal record check for Mr. Jolobi which shows no criminal record. Mr. Jolobi had been a driver for some time and has learned the livery business through experience. The applicant is suitable to perform this service.

The issue with the contract not to compete will not be considered in the suitability determination. Mr. Jolobi credibly testified regarding the circumstances in which he was forced to sign the document in order to keep his job. He also testified that he has not solicited Jaguar customers and that they have approached him about starting his own livery company. Based on the evidence presented, the applicant is suitable to operate this service.

As far as the applicant's financial ability is concerned the first six months of expenses includes property tax of \$84, insurance of \$1,755, maintenance of \$450, advertising of \$450 and cell phone costs of \$900 for a total of \$3,639. The applicant has \$9,425 in the bank, which is sufficient to cover these initial costs.

On the issue of public convenience and necessity, the applicant presented a couple of

witnesses who have used the applicant for transportation. He provides on time transportation with good customer service. In addition to doing general livery work, the applicant will also try to contract with Veyo to become one of their transportation providers. In order to do both types of trips, government contract and private pay, the applicant must have a general livery license.

Based on all of the evidence presented; this livery application will be granted.

#### IV. ORDER

Based upon the above and pursuant to Connecticut General Statute Section 13b-103, as amended, the application of Shalom Limo, LLC is hereby granted and Livery Permit Number 3655 is hereby issued as follows:

## **LIVERY PERMIT NUMBER-3655**

Shalom Limo, LLC is hereby permitted to operate one (1) motor vehicle, having a seating capacity of less than eleven passengers, in general livery service from a headquarters in West Hartford.

## **RESTRICTIONS:**

The applicant must register and insure the one (1) vehicle granted in this permit within ninety (90) days. Failure to do so may result in revocation of the authority.

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 the 15th day of March 2019.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Judith Almeida

Staff Attorney III

Administrative Law Unit

Bureau of Finance and Administration