



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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

Phone:

(860) 594-2875

DOCKET NO. 2305-N-76-L

RE: APPLICATION OF RIDE AID WHEELCHAIR & TRANSPORT SERVICES LLC TO OPERATE ONE (1) MOTOR VEHICLE IN GENERAL LIVERY SERVICE, WITH A SEATING CAPACITY OF LESS THAN ELEVEN PASSENGERS, FROM A HEADQUARTERS IN HARTFORD

DECISION

AUGUST 23, 2023

I. INTRODUCTION

A. APPLICATION

By application filed on May 16, 2023, with the Department of Transportation (hereinafter "department"), pursuant to Section 13b-103 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, Ride Aid Wheelchair & Transport Services LLC (hereinafter "applicant") with a mailing address of 555 Franklin Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06114 seeks authorization to operate one (1) motor vehicle, having a seating capacity of less than eleven (11) passengers, in general livery service from a headquarters in Hartford.

B. HEARING

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103, as amended, a public hearing by telephone was held on this application on August 9, 2023.

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

Jessica Cruz and Reginald Tolliver appeared pro se on behalf of the applicant. The applicant's mailing address is 555 Franklin Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06114.

II. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The applicant seeks to operate one (1) motor vehicle in general livery service from a headquarters in Hartford.
2. The applicant proposes to operate a 2014 MV-1 handicapped accessible van which will be purchased without any financing.
3. Mr. Tolliver operates a barber shop and is a tattoo artist.
4. While working as a nurse, Ms. Cruz found that there were issues with Medicaid Transportation and its lack of reliability.

5. The applicant's first six months of expenses includes rent of \$6,000, vehicle cost of \$14,800, insurance of \$17,764, property tax of \$383, maintenance of \$400 and communication costs of \$1,080.

6. The applicant has a total of \$43,000 in two bank accounts.

7. Reginald will be the driver of the livery vehicle. He will be getting his livery endorsement.

8. Jessica Cruz will be handling the administration of the business.

9. The applicant will be operating the livery business out of a room that Mr. Tolliver rents for his other businesses.

10. 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.

Regarding the applicant's suitability, the applicant submitted a criminal record check for both members Jessica Cruz and Reginald Tolliver which disclosed no criminal record. Mr. Tolliver is operating several businesses while his mother, Jessica, has worked as a nurse. Based on the evidence presented, the applicant is suitable to conduct the proposed intrastate livery business.

As far as the applicant's financial ability is concerned, the applicant presented evidence of the first six months of expenses which includes rent of \$6,000, vehicle cost of \$14,800, insurance of \$17,764, property tax of \$383, maintenance of \$400 and communication costs of \$1,080 for a total expense of \$40,427. The applicant has \$43,000 in bank accounts to cover these startup expenses and is therefore financially suitable.

On the issue of public convenience and necessity, the applicant is seeking to provide a reliable livery service to the elderly. While in the health care business, Ms. Cruz found that the medical transportation brokers were often not providing timely service. Based on the evidence presented, the applicant has shown that public convenience and necessity will be improved by a grant of this application.

IV. ORDER

Based upon the above and pursuant to Connecticut General Statute Section 13b-103, as amended, the application in the name of Ride Aid Wheelchair & Transport Services LLC is hereby granted, and Livery Permit Number 3801 is hereby issued as follows:

LIVERY PERMIT NUMBER 3801

Ride Aid Wheelchair & Transport Services LLC is authorized to operate one (1) motor vehicle in general livery service, with a seating capacity of less than eleven passengers, from a headquarters in Hartford.

RESTRICTIONS:

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

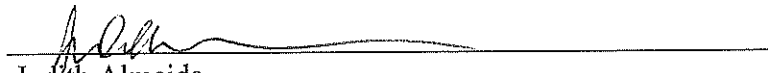
This permit shall remain in effect until it is amended, suspended or revoked by the department. Failure of the permit holder to maintain proper insurance and/or comply with all pertinent motor vehicle laws and other state statutes and/or rules, regulations and orders of the department shall be considered 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 23rd day of August 2023.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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