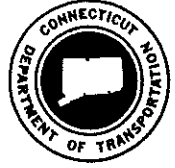




STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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

Phone:

DOCKET NO. 2407-N-65-L

RE: APPLICATION OF ETHIO MOBILITY L.L.C. TO OPERATE TWO (2)  
MOTOR VEHICLES IN GENERAL LIVERY SERVICE, WITH A  
SEATING CAPACITY OF LESS THAN ELEVEN PASSENGERS,  
FROM A HEADQUARTERS IN WEST HARTFORD

DECISION

OCTOBER 29, 2024

## I. INTRODUCTION

### A. APPLICATION

By application filed on July 11, 2024, with the Department of Transportation (hereinafter "department"), pursuant to Section 13b-103 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, Ethio Mobility L.L.C. (hereinafter "applicant") with a mailing address of 56 Gillette Street, West Hartford, Connecticut 06119 seeks authorization to operate two (2) motor vehicles, having a seating capacity of less than eleven (11) passengers, 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 by telephone was held on this application on October 22, 2024.

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

Getachew Dires appeared pro se on behalf of the applicant. The applicant's mailing address is 56 Gillette Street, West Hartford, Connecticut 06119.

## II. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The applicant seeks to operate two (2) motor vehicles in general livery service from a headquarters in West Hartford.
2. The applicant will operate a 2012 Honda Civic and a 2012 Toyota Rav4 which are both paid for.
3. The applicant is working in the IT field for the City of New London. He also has a few years' experience driving a taxi for Yellow Cab.
4. The first six months of the applicant's expenses includes insurance of \$8,029, property tax of \$487, communication costs of \$900, advertising costs of \$500 and maintenance costs of \$950.

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5. The applicant has \$45,912 in a business bank account to pay the start-up expenses.
6. The applicant has several educational degrees in Geography and International Studies.
7. The applicant wants to contract with transportation broker MTM to get livery referrals.
8. The applicant will distribute business cards, use social media, and develop a webpage to spread the word about his company.
9. The applicant will be working with his wife and his nephew who will be the primary drivers in the company. Mr. Dires also has his livery endorsement.
10. Mr. Dires has a clean criminal history.
11. This application was not opposed by any livery operator.

### 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. Dires which disclosed no criminal record. Mr. Dires has driven a taxi for Yellow Cab in the past and has his livery endorsement. 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 first six months of expenses includes insurance of \$8,029, property tax of \$487, communication costs of \$900, advertising costs of \$500 and maintenance costs of \$950 for a total expense of \$10,866. The applicant has \$45,912 in

a business bank account to cover these startup expenses and is therefore financially suitable to conduct this proposed operation.

On the issue of public convenience and necessity, the applicant's nephew has contacts in the livery community and will get referrals. The applicant will start a marketing plan to promote the business. The applicant also seeks to contract with MTM for additional referrals. Based on the evidence presented, the applicant will receive authorization for two (2) general livery vehicles.

#### IV. ORDER

Based upon the above and pursuant to Connecticut General Statute Section 13b-103, as amended, the application in the name of Ethio Mobility L.L.C. is hereby granted, and Livery Permit Number 3837 is hereby issued as follows:

#### **LIVERY PERMIT NUMBER 3837**

Ethio Mobility L.L.C. is authorized to operate two (2) motor vehicles in general livery service, with a seating capacity of less than eleven passengers, from a headquarters in West Hartford.

#### **RESTRICTIONS:**

**The applicant must register and insure the two (2) motor vehicles granted in this decision within ninety (90) days. Failure to do so may result in revocation of the general livery authority.**

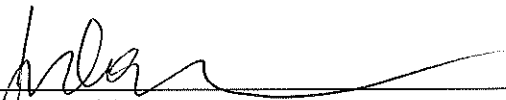
The authority granted under this permit may not be sold or transferred until it has been operational, i.e. a vehicle registered with livery plates thereunder for not less than twenty-four (24) months.

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.

Dated at Newington, Connecticut on the 29th day of October 2024.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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