

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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

(860) 594-2875

DOCKET NUMBER 1212-C-165-T .

RE: IN THE MATTER OF THE CITATION OF SAUGATUCK TAXI, LLC.

FINAL DECISION

JANUARY 30, 2015

I. INTRODUCTION

A. General

By citation dated January 9, 2015, by the Department of Transportation (hereinafter "department"), pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-97, as amended, Saugatuck Taxi, LLC. (hereinafter "respondent"), holder of Taxi Certificate Number 1174, was ordered to come before the department to answer the allegations made therein.

Pursuant to said citation, the respondent was directed to appear at the Newington office of the Department of Transportation to show cause why Certificate Number 1174, issued for the operation of taxicab service, should not be suspended or revoked or a civil penalty imposed for violation of its certificate pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-96, et seq.

More specifically, it is alleged that the respondent violated the following Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies:

- 1. 13b-96-43 (9) Unapproved stickers and decals.
- 2. 13b-96-44 (e) Advertising on exterior windows

The citation was served upon the respondent by certified mail and recited the department's reasons for issuing it.

B. Hearing Held

Pursuant to Section 13b-96 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, the public hearing for this citation was held on January 22, 2015.

Notice of the citation and the hearing to be held thereon was given to the respondent and to such other parties as required by Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-96, as amended.

The hearing on this matter was conducted by a hearing officer designated by the Commissioner of Transportation, pursuant to Section 13b-17 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

C. Appearances

The respondent did not make an appearance in this matter. The respondent's mailing address is P.O. Box 2575, Westport, Connecticut 06880.

Richard Majka, Transportation Public Transit Inspector with the Regulatory and Compliance Unit, presented evidence on behalf of the department.

II. FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The respondent is the holder of Certificate 1174 and is authorized to operate in taxicab service.
- 2. On December 30, 2014, the Department of Transportation received a written complaint from Westport Star Taxi concerning decals applied to the respondent's vehicles. The complaint also included four photographs of the decals in question.
- 3. The department sent the respondent a warning letter on December 30, 2014, indicating that its company was under investigation for potential violations.
 - 4. The respondent did not have prior department approval to place decals or advertisements on its vehicle.

III. DEPARTMENT ANALYSIS

The Department of Transportation has jurisdiction over matters pertaining to the operation of motor vehicles in taxicab service in the State of Connecticut accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-96, as amended.

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-97, the department may amend or for sufficient cause suspend or revoke any such certificate. Further, the department may impose a civil penalty on any person who violates any provision of the governing chapter or any regulation adopted under Section 13b-96, as amended, with respect to fares, service, operation or equipment, in an amount not to exceed one hundred dollars per day for each violation.

The evidence shows that the respondent has decals and advertising on its taxicab vehicles. There was no authorization be the department for allowing those decals or advertising on the vehicles as required by the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies section 13b-96-43 (9) Unapproved stickers and decals and section 13b-96-44 (e) for advertising on exterior windows. The respondent failed to appear at the hearing and therefore must have its taxicab certificate revoked.

IV. ORDER

Based on the above, Taxicab Certificate Number 1174, held in the name of Saugatuck Taxi, LLC., is hereby revoked twenty-one (21) days from the date of this final decision.

This final decision constitutes notice in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 4-182(c).

Dated at Newington, Connecticut on this 30th day of January 2015.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Judith Almeida

Staff Attorney III

Administrative Law Unit

Bureau of Finance and Administration