

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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

(860) 594-2875

DOCKET NO. 1410-NGOV-174-L

RE: APPLICATION OF THE FAMILY NETWORK, LLC TO OPERATE ONE (1) MOTOR VEHICLE, HAVING A SEATING CAPACITY OF LESS THAN ELEVEN (11) ADULTS, IN THE TRANSPORTATION OF PASSENGERS FOR HIRE BY VIRTUE OF A CONTRACT WITH, OR A LOWER TIER CONTRACT FOR, ANY FEDERAL, STATE OR MUNICIPAL AGENCY BETWEEN ALL POINTS IN CONNECTICUT FROM A HEADQUARTERS IN PLAINFIELD, CONNECTICUT.

FINAL DECISION

December 22, 2014

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Application

By application filed on October 3, 2014 with the Department of Transportation (hereinafter "department"), pursuant to Section 13b-103(a)(3) of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, The Family Network, LLC (hereinafter "applicant") located at 45 Main Street #2, Plainfield, Connecticut seeks authorization to operate one (1) motor vehicle, having a seating capacity of less than eleven (11) adults, in the transportation of passengers for hire by virtue of a contract with, or a lower tier contract for, any federal, state or municipal agency between all points in Connecticut from a headquarters in the town of Plainfield.

B. <u>Hearing</u>

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes, Section 13b-103(a)(3), a public hearing on this application was held on December 11, 2014.

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 General Statutes Section 13b-103(a)(1). Legal notice to the public was given by publication on the department's web site at www.ct.gov.

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

C. Appearances

The Family Network, LLC appeared through its Executive Director Kim Young. The applicant's mailing address is P.O. Box 335, Plainfield, Connecticut 06374.

No opposition was presented to this application.

II. FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The applicant is applying for a livery permit to provide transportation under contract with Department of Children and Families (hereinafter "agency".) to clients of the agency.
- 2. The applicant has been providing services to the agency clients, such as working with supervised visitation for clients. Having a livery permit will assist the agency in the timely transportation of their clients.
- 3. The applicant is credentialed by the agency and has a several year history with the agency.
- 4. Kim Young, the Executive Director of the applicant, has no criminal conviction history.

- 5. The applicant will be providing transportation for the agency's clients in the Willimantic and Norwich area offices.
- 6. Ann Adams, Director of Credentialing for the agency, supports the grant of authority for one vehicle for the applicant to provide services to the agency clients from the Willimantic and Norwich area office. Adams estimates that the agency will have at least ten trips per week to refer to the applicant.
- 7. The agency has the contract for the applicant drafted, but it is not executed because the agency wants to ensure that the transportation provider actually gets its permit authority. The agency is prepared to submit an executed contract upon a grant of authority.
- 8. The applicant's net income from January 1 through December 1, 2014 was \$71.695. As of October 2014, the applicant had cash on hand in the amount of \$7,500.
- 9. The applicant intends to purchase a 2012 Dodge Caravan at an approximate cost of \$17,213. The vehicle will be financed and the monthly cost would be approximately \$275 per month, for a total of \$1,650 for a six-month start-up period.
- 10. The applicant's insurance is estimated at approximately \$3,250 annually, which would be financed, with a down payment. Start-up costs, without insurance are estimated at approximately \$1,000.
 - 11. The applicant has no liabilities.

III. <u>DISCUSSION</u>

The department has jurisdiction over each person, association, limited liability company or corporation owning or operating a motor vehicle in livery service, pursuant to 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 General Statutes Section 13b-103.

In support of financial wherewithal, the applicant had a net income of \$71,895 during the year in 2014. The applicant has no liabilities and the applicant has funds in the bank to pay for start-up costs for one vehicle.

The applicant's director has no criminal convictions. The applicant provides services to the agency currently. The addition of a livery vehicle will enable the applicant to provide full service to the agency clients who may be unable to get transportation elsewhere. Moreover, the applicant's driver and staff have additional training and are credentialed by the agency to meet the requirements of the agency's clients, who may have special needs.

Lastly, in support of public convenience and necessity, the Director of Credentialing on staff with the Department of Children and Families supports a grant of one vehicle to allow the applicant to provide transportation to the agencies clients. The applicant will be providing transportation in the Willimantic and Norwich area office of the agency. The agency will provide an executed contract upon the grant of authority for the applicant.

IV. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Family Network, LLC possesses the suitability and financial wherewithal to operate the proposed service and the public convenience and necessity will be improved by a grant of one vehicle for transportation for hire by virtue of a contract with the Department of Children and Families, in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103(a)(3).

V. ORDER

Based upon the entire record and the evidence presented therein, and pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. Section 13b-103(a)(3), as amended, the application of The Family Network is hereby granted and Permit Number 3463, is hereby issued in the name of The Family Network, LLC as follows:

LIVERY PERMIT NO. 3463

DURATIONAL LIVERY SERVICE UNDER CONTRACT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES DOCKET NO. 1410-NGOV-174-L - GRANTED DECEMBER 21, 2014

The Family Network, LLC is hereby permitted and authorized to operate ONE (1) motor vehicle, having a seating capacity of eleven (11) adults or less, for the provision of transportation for hire by virtue of a contract with the Department of Children and Families from a headquarters in Plainfield, Connecticut.

RESTRICTIONS:

The applicant must submit an executed contract entered into with the Department of Children and Families within forty-five (45) days from the date of this Final Decision. If said contract is not submitted within the time afforded, the authority granted in this Final Decision will be automatically revoked.

This Final Decision constitutes notice within the meaning of Connecticut General Statutes Section 4-182.

The authority for one (1) motor vehicle granted in this Docket No. 1410-NGOV-174-L shall be durational in nature and shall exist only for the period of time that the Permit holder has a current and continuing contract in effect for the provision of service with the Department of Children and Families.

The Permit holder shall notify the Department of any termination of its contract with Department of Children and Families or the cessation of the active provision of service thereunder. The Permit holder shall file with the Department on an annual basis, upon registration or reregistration of the motor vehicle authorized in this decision, a current, executed copy of the extension of said contract. Failure to file an extension of the contract or a new executed contract with the Department of Children and Families shall void the authority for the vehicle authorized pursuant to this contract.

This permit is not transferable and shall remain in effect until revoked by the Department or until the contract under which this authority is granted has expired. 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, this 22nd day of December 2014.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Laila A. Mandour Staff Attorney III

Administrative Law Unit

Bureau of Finance and Administration