

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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

DOCKET NUMBER 1502-N-169-L

RE: APPLICATION OF AMERICAN AIRPORTS LIMOUSINE SERVICE, LLC TO OPERATE ONE (1) MOTOR VEHICLE, HAVING A SEATING CAPACITY OF LESS THAN ELEVEN (11) ADULTS, IN GENERAL LIVERY SERVICE BETWEEN ALL POINTS IN CONNECTICUT FROM A HEADQUARTERS IN WINDSOR LOCKS.

FINAL DECISION

JUNE 17, 2016

I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

A. General

By application filed on December 22, 2015, with the Department of Transportation (hereinafter "department"), pursuant to Section 13b-103 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, American Airports Limousine Service, LLC ("applicant") with a mailing address of 23 Lownds Drive, Windsor Locks, Connecticut 06096 seeks authorization to operate one (1) motor vehicle, having a seating capacity of less than eleven (11) adults, in general livery service between all points in Connecticut from a headquarters in the town of Windsor Locks.

B. Hearing Held

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103, as amended, a public hearing on this application was held on June 9, 2016.

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 the Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103. 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

Ayaz Mahmood appeared on behalf of the applicant. The applicant's mailing address is 23 Lownds Drive, Windsor Locks, Connecticut 06096. The applicant was represented by attorney Michael Stone. His mailing address is 129 Church Street, Suite 806, New Haven, Connecticut 06510.

II. FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The applicant is a chef and a driver for Yellow Cab.
- 2. The applicant is seeking to operate one (1) motor vehicle in intrastate livery service from a headquarters in Windsor Locks.
- 3. Bonnie Marie Sargent is a customer of the applicant's taxicab service. She wants utilize the applicant's service to go to the casino and occasional doctors' appointments. At this point, she anticipates needing the applicant's livery service once a month. She is willing to pay the higher premium for livery service.
- 4. Paul Guglielome is a customer of the applicant. He has used the applicant for trips to the casino, physical therapy and Bradley International Airport. The applicant provides prompt and dependable service. If the application is granted, he would continue using the service for intrastate livery trips.
 - 5. Shafiq Parvez is the owner of Professional Limo. He will refer five to six trips a week to the

applicant that he can't handle.

- 6. Afzaal Ehsan works at a car rental agency at Bradley International Airport. He can refer two to three customers a week to the applicant.
- 7. Mohammad Shahid is the owner of American Limo. He could also refer a couple of trips a week to the applicant.
 - 8. The applicant has an established clientele who are willing to use his livery service.
 - 9. The applicant will operate a 2015 Toyota Senna which is owned outright.
 - 10. The applicant has assets which include cash of \$9,829.
- 11. The applicant has no major liabilities. The applicant's first six months of expenses include \$3,480 for insurance, business cards costs of \$150, cell phone costs of \$1,200, vehicle repairs of \$900, property tax of \$584 and advertising expenses of \$300.
 - 12. The applicant provides a good level of customer service.
 - 13. This application was not opposed.

III. DEPARTMENT ANALYSIS

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.

Some factors to consider in granting a livery permit are whether the service will benefit the relevant class of users, whether the proposed service is more efficient, more economical, more convenient, more satisfactory, or different that the services offered by the existing service providers, whether the new service would create a potentially beneficial effect upon rates and customer service and whether the acquisition of equipment would be more suitable to customer needs, whether the population in the area that the applicant proposes to service is increasing, whether potential customers have requested a service like that suggested by the applicant and whether the proposed service will improve the existing mode of transportation as recently defined in <u>Steve Martorelli v. Department of Transportation (SC19307).</u>

The applicant presented the testimony of two customers who will use his intrastate livery service because of the good customer service he provides. The applicant also presented two livery owners and a gentleman who works for a car rental organization, who will refer work to him on a regular basis. The applicant is an established taxicab driver with clientele that he can

easily transition to his new livery service. The applicant's service will improve the existing livery services offered in the area.

In support of financial wherewithal, the applicant presented evidence that the applicant's first six months of startup costs include \$3,480 for insurance, business cards expenses of \$150, cell phones costs of \$1,200, repairs of \$900, property tax of \$584 and advertising costs of \$300 for a total expense of \$6614. The applicant has assets which include cash of \$9,829 which is more than enough funds to cover the start-up expenses. The applicant is financially viable to operate the proposed service.

With regard to suitability, the applicant provided the requisite criminal conviction history for the sole member, Ayaz Mahmood which shows no criminal convictions. The applicant has been a professional driver for many years and will be able to operate the proposed one car service in which he will be the driver.

Based on the evidence presented, the applicant has proven the required elements of financial wherewithal, suitability and pubic convenience and necessity to be granted a livery permit.

IV. CONCLUSION AND ORDER

Based upon the above and pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103, as amended, the application of is hereby granted and Livery Permit Number 3537 is issued as follows:

LIVERY PERMIT NO. 3537 FOR THE OPERATION OF LIVERY SERVICE

American Airports Limousine Service, LLC is hereby permitted and authorized to operate one (1) motor vehicle, having a seating capacity of less than eleven (11) adults, in general livery service from a headquarters in Windsor Locks.

RESTRICTIONS:

The applicant must register the one (1) vehicle granted under this decision within sixty (60) days from the date of this final decision.

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 may not be sold or transferred until it has been operation, i.e., a vehicle registered with livery plates thereunder, for not less than twenty-four (24) consecutive 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 this 17th day of June 2016.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Judith Almeida Staff Attorney III

Administrative Law Unit

Bureau of Finance and Administration