

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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

(860) 594-2875

DOCKET NUMBER 1507-C-80-L

RE: IN THE MATTER OF THE CITATION OF ARISTOCRAT LIMOUSINE, INC,.

Final Decision

September 28, 2015

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Background

By citation dated August 18, 2015, issued by the Department of Transportation (hereinafter "department"), pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103, as amended, Aristocrat Limousine, Inc. (hereinafter "respondent"), holder of livery Permit Number 2839, was ordered to come before the department to answer allegations made therein.

The respondent was directed to appear at the Newington office of the Department of Transportation to show cause why Permit Number 2839, for the for the operation of motor vehicles in livery service and for the registration of interstate authority should not be suspended or revoked or a civil penalty imposed for violation of its permit, issued pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-102, et seq.

The allegations against the respondent include violation of its livery permit issued pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103 by the following actions:

- Failure to maintain a headquarters in accordance with Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies Section 16-325-1; and
 - Failure to register its vehicles in violation Section 13b-103 of the Connecticut General Statutes; and
- Failure to maintain its Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration authority up to date and registered with the State of Connecticut in violation of Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-102(b); and

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

B. Hearing

Pursuant to Section 13b-103 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, the public hearing for this citation was held on September 24, 2015.

Notice of the citation and of the hearing to be held thereon was given to the respondent and to such other parties as required by General Statutes Section 13b-103, as amended.

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

C. Appearances

Aristocrat Limousine, Inc., whose mailing address of record is 11 Seneca Road, Shelton, Connecticut 06484, failed to appear at the citation hearing. The notice issued to the respondent by certified mail.

Carlos Reddick, Public Transit Inspector with the Regulatory and Compliance Unit of the department, presented the evidence in this matter.

II. FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The respondent is holder of Livery Permit No. 2839. The respondent is authorized to operate motor vehicles in the transportation of passengers in interstate commerce pursuant to its Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration authority.
- 2. On or about May 29, 2015, the Regulatory and Compliance Unit personnel learned that the respondent had no vehicles registered and requested a headquarters check to be undertaken by Carlos Reddick, Public Transit Inspector.
- 3. Reddick called the respondent on its telephone number of record and found that the telephone number was not in service.
- 4. Reddick went to the respondent's address of record, 11 Seneca Road in Shelton, Connecticut, to conduct a headquarters check. Reddick found no one at the headquarters. Reddick learned from a neighbor that the business had moved a long time prior to the date of the headquarters check.
- 5. The respondent's business filing with the Connecticut Office of the Secretary of the State shows that the respondent's company is dissolved, with the last report filed in 2003.
- 6. The hearing notice sent to the respondent via certified mail was returned to the department with a notation on the envelope indicating "Return to Sender" "Not Deliverable as Addressed" and "Unable to Forward."
- 7. Reddick searched the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration records for the respondent's federal authority and found that the respondent's federal authority was involuntarily revoked.
 - 8. The respondent failed to appear at the hearing.

III. DISCUSSION And CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Department of Transportation has jurisdiction over matters pertaining to the operation of motor vehicles in livery service in the State of Connecticut accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-102, as amended.

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103 the department may amend, or for sufficient cause suspend or revoke any such permit. 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-102 through 13b-109, as amended, with respect to fares, service, operation or equipment, in an amount not to exceed one thousand dollars per day for each violation.

The evidence shows that the respondent is authorized to operate motor vehicles in the transportation of passengers by virtue of authority issued by Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration but the respondent has no vehicles registered, and no headquarters.

Based on the substantial evidence of record, the respondent is in violation of its permit, issued pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103, which requires the permit holder to comply with the laws, regulations and rules governing livery service. The respondent is in violation by failing to register its vehicles pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-102 and by failing to maintain a headquarters in violation of Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies Section 16-325-1.

IV. ORDER

Based on the evidence of record, Permit No. 2839, standing in the name of Aristocrat Limousine, Inc., is hereby revoked.

Dated at Newington, Connecticut on this 28th day of September 2015.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Laila A. Mandour

Staff Attorney III

Administrative Law Unit

Bureau of Finance and Administration