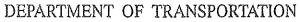


STATE OF CONNECTICUT





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DOCKET NUMBER 1509-C-121-T (Case No. TX-0519-15-14)

RE: IN THE MATTER OF THE CITATION OF GEORGE TAXI.

Final Decision

December 18, 2015

I. INTRODUCTION

A. <u>Background</u>

By citation dated October 1, 2015, filed by the Department of Transportation (hereinafter "department"), pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-97, as amended, George Taxi (hereinafter "respondent"), whose mailing address is 42 Hayden Avenue, Windsor Connecticut, holder of Taxicab Certificate Number 1024, was ordered to come before the department to answer 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 1024 should not be suspended or revoked, or a civil penalty imposed, for violation of its taxicab certificate issued pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-97 as amended for the following reasons:

-Failure to cooperate with the requests of authorized representatives of the commissioner in violation of Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies Section 13b-96-11;

-Failure to produce business records upon request of authorized representatives of the commissioner and failure to maintain a historical record of said business records, including trip sheets, in violation of Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies Section 13b-96-30;

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

B. Hearing

Pursuant to Section 13b-97 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, the public hearing for this citation was held on November 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.

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

C. <u>Appearances</u>

George Samuels appeared on behalf of George Taxi. George Taxi's mailing address is 42 Hayden Avenue, Windsor, Connecticut 06095.

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

II. FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The respondent is holder of taxicab Certificate Number 1024 and is authorized to operate motor vehicles in taxicab service in the State of Connecticut.
- 2. The respondent applied for an additional taxicab without hearing through the expedited process.
- 3. The respondent was required, pursuant to regulations, to provide trip records to show compliance.
- 4. Carlos Redick, Public Transit Inspector for the Regulatory and Compliance Unit of the department attempted to review the respondent's trip records on July 24, 2015. The respondent was not prepared.
- 5. On September 11, 2015, the respondent submitted his trip sheets to Redick. Upon review, Redick found that the respondent provided falsified trip records which, for the most part, were reproduced and for which the dates were changed to reflect different days' records.
- 6. At the hearing, the respondent provided trip records beginning after September 11, 2015 that were compliant.

III. <u>DISCUSSION</u>

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 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-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 respondent failed to keep trip records for his driver and himself. Further, the respondent failed to maintain a history of said records for a period of two years.

At the hearing, the respondent provided updated trip sheets that were kept after the notice of citation was issued. Those trip sheets were in compliance. The respondent may be cited in the amount of \$100 per day, per violation. However, in that the violations were not egregious and did not put the public at risk of harm, and upon the recommendation of the Regulatory and Compliance staff, the respondent will be assessed a civil penalty of \$500 per violation.

IV. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The evidence in this matter shows that the respondent is holder of Certificate Number 1024 and is authorized to operate vehicles in taxicab service. The evidence further shows that the respondent violated his taxicab certificate issued pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-96, et seq. in the following ways:

- 1. The respondent violated Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies Section 13b-96-11 by failing to cooperate with the requests of authorized representatives of the commissioner;
- 2. And further violated Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies Section 13b-96-30 by failing to produce business records upon request of authorized representatives of the commissioner and failure to maintain a historical record of said business records, including trip sheets.

V. ORDER

Based on the evidence of record, George Taxi is hereby ordered to pay a civil penalty in the amount of ONE THOUSAND (\$1,000) DOLLARS. This civil penalty represents an assessment of \$500 per violation.

George Taxi is hereby ordered to make this payment by certified check, bank check or money order made payable to the "Treasurer, State of Connecticut" within ninety (90) days of the date of this Final Decision.

Failure of George Taxi to comply with this order shall result in revocation without further proceeding.

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

Dated at Newington, Connecticut on this 18th day of December 2015.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Laila A. Mandour

Staff Attorney, III

Administrative Law Unit

Bureau of Finance and Administration