

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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DOCKET NO. 1706-N-52-L

RE: APPLICATION OF HASSAN IAJOUR TO OPERATE ONE (1) MOTOR VEHICLE, HAVING A SEATING CAPACITY OF LESS THAN ELEVEN (11) PASSENGERS, IN GENERAL LIVERY SERVICE BETWEEN ALL POINTS IN CONNECTICUT FROM A HEADQUARTERS IN NEW HAVEN.

DECISION

AUGUST 17, 2017

I. INTRODUCTION

A. APPLICATION

By application filed on June 29, 2017, with the Department of Transportation (hereinafter "department"), pursuant to Section 13b-103 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, Hassan Iajour (hereinafter "applicant") with a mailing address of 9 Rockview Circle, Apt. D, New Haven, Connecticut 06515seeks authorization to operate one (1) motor vehicle, having a seating capacity of less than eleven (11) passengers, in general livery service between all points in Connecticut from a headquarters in New Haven.

B. HEARING

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes, Section 13b-103, as amended, a public hearing on this application was scheduled on August 15, 2017.

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 Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103(a)(1), as amended. 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

Hassan Iajour appeared pro se on behalf of the applicant. The applicant's mailing address is 9 Rockview, Apt D, New Haven, Connecticut 06515.

II. FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The applicant seeks to operate one (1) motor vehicle in livery service from a headquarters in North Haven.
- 2. Mr. Iajour is currently a livery driver and has seven years of experience driving a taxi.
- 3. The applicant has secured a Federal Motor Carrier Number MC 32308 to perform interstate livery trips.
- 4. Delia Stokes is a resident of New Haven who has used the applicant as a cab driver in the past. She likes the personal service the applicant gives and will pay the higher price for the applicant's livery service. She wasn't pleased with the other transportation services she has received from other drivers. She estimates her future livery usage at three to four times a year.

- 5. Mike Casale has been a Bell Captain at the Omni Hotel in New Haven for the past forty-five years. When the applicant was a taxicab driver, Mr. Casale would often call him to transport customers because he is reliable and provides good customer service. Mr. Casale would refer the applicant two to three livery trips per week.
- 6. Debra Thornton is a former taxicab customer of the applicant. She called Mr. Iajour when she has had car problems to bring her to her two jobs. She likes his good customer service and would continue using him when he drives in livery service despite the increased cost.
- 7. Hadjbouazza Mejjatiis a former customer of the applicant. He takes the applicant's service a couple of times a year and has found him to be prompt and reliable. He would also use the applicant's livery service.
- 8. The applicant has developed a large customer base from all of his years driving in livery and taxi service.
- 9. The applicant's first six months of expenses are insurance of \$2,453, maintenance of \$1,488, property tax of \$371, and advertising of \$600 for a total expense of \$4,912.
 - 10. The applicant has a \$10,000 deposit in a credit union.
 - 11. The applicant will operate a 2011 Ford E350 van in livery service.
 - 12. This application was not opposed.

III. DISCUSSION

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

To show financial support, the applicant submitted information that the applicant's first six months of expenses includes insurance of \$2,453, maintenance of \$1,488, property tax of

\$371, and advertising of \$600 for a total expense of \$4,912. The applicant has a \$10,000 deposit in a credit union which is sufficient to cover these bills. Based on the evidence presented, the applicant is financially viable to operate the proposed livery service.

Regarding the applicant's suitability, a criminal record check was performed for Mr. Iajour which shows no criminal record. He has a public service license and has been both a taxi and livery driver. Nothing came to light which would reflect negatively on the applicant's suitability.

In proving public convenience and necessity, the applicant presented several former customers who spoke highly of the applicant's service and want to use his livery service despite the increased cost. The applicant has proven, through his evidence, that he has the financial responsibility, the ability to efficiently and properly to perform the service for which authority is requested and the fitness, willingness and ability to conform to the provisions of the statutes and the requirements and regulations of the department.

VI. ORDER

Based upon the above and pursuant to Connecticut General Statute Section 13b-103, as amended, the application is hereby granted. Accordingly, Livery Permit Number 3605, standing in the name of Hassan Iajour is hereby issued as follows:

LIVERY PERMIT NO. 3605

Hassan Iajour is authorized to operate one (1) motor vehicle, having a seating capacity of less than eleven (11) passengers, in general livery service from a headquarters in New Haven.

Hassan Iajour is also permitted and authorized to operate motor vehicles as a common carrier of passengers, in charter and special operations, in interstate commerce under such authorization as issued or amended by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration in the issuance of Certificate Number MC-32308-C.

RESTRICTIONS:

The applicant must register and insure the one (1) motor vehicle granted in this decision within sixty (60) days from the date of this 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 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 August 17, 2017.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Judith Almeida

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Bureau of Finance and Administration