

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06131-7546

Phone:

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DOCKET NO. 1807-N-85-L

RE: APPLICATION OF PIGGYBACK RIDES, LLC TO REMOVE THE AGE RESTICTION FROM ITS LIVERY AUTHORITY TO OPERATE FIVE (5) GENERAL LIVERY VEHICLES, WITH A SEATING CAPACITY OF LESS THAN ELEVEN PASSENGERS, FROM A HEADQUARTERS IN HAMDEN.

DECISION

AUGUST 23, 2018

I. INTRODUCTION

A. APPLICATION

By application filed on July 5, 2018, with the Department of Transportation (hereinafter "department"), pursuant to Section 13b-103 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, Piggyback Rides, LLC (hereinafter "applicant") located at 1890 Dixwell Avenue, Suite 109, Hamden, CT 06514 seeks authorization to remove the age restriction from its five (5) livery vehicles, having a seating capacity of less than eleven (11) adults, in general livery service from a headquarters in Hamden.

B. HEARING

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103, as amended, a public hearing on this application was held on August 2, 2018 and August 21, 2018.

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, 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

Tatiana Dukes and Jasmine Sampson appeared pro se on behalf of the applicant. The applicant's mailing address is 1890 Dixwell Avenue, Suite 109, Hamden, CT 06514.

II. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The applicant seeks to remove the age restriction requiring it to service clients eighteen years old or younger. The applicant has authority to operate five (5) general livery vehicles.

2. The applicant has been performing livery work for the Department of Children and Families (hereinafter "DCF") for the past seven years and would like to branch out to do general livery transportation for clients who are over the age restriction.

3. The applicant receives about twenty (20) requests per week for other general livery transportation such as to the airport, proms or weddings.

4. The applicant's members also own a photo booth business which supplies photo booths to weddings and various events. Some of their clients have inquired about livery

transportation.

5. The applicant supplied a letter of support from an event planner who would like to refer the applicant's livery service to her customers.

6. The applicant has \$108,000 in a bank account.

7. The applicant is currently operating three (3) vehicles and may add two (2) Cadillac's SUVs to the fleet.

8. The removal of the age restriction will not result in any additional expense to the applicant.

9. The applicant's work schedule with DCF is for a few hours in the morning and a few hours in the afternoon thereby leaving blocks of availability.

10. This application is 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.

This application is somewhat different from other livery applications in that the applicant already has authority for five (5) vehicles in general livery service with an age restriction limited to only servicing clients eighteen years old or younger. With regard to the need to remove the age restriction, the applicant presented evidence that it gets twenty (20) requests per week for general livery transport. In addition, the applicants are owners of a photo booth company that will generate clients and they also have connections to event planners that will refer business to them. It is a natural expansion of their business to remove the age restriction.

Since the applicant is already in the livery business and will not be expending any funds to service the additional clients, the usual financial analysis is not required in this matter.

Regarding the applicant's suitability, the applicant submitted a criminal record check for both members, Tatiana Dukes and Jasmine Sampson, which showed no convictions. The applicant has been in operation for seven (7) years without difficulty. The applicant has the suitability to operate this additional service.

Based on the evidence presented, this application will be granted and the applicant will be allowed to remove the age restriction from its permit.

IV. ORDER

Based upon the above and pursuant to Connecticut General Statute Section 13b-103, as amended, the application is hereby granted and Livery Permit Number 3461 is hereby reissued as follows:

LIVERY PERMIT NUMBER 3461

Piggyback Rides, LLC is hereby permitted to operate five (5) motor vehicles, having a seating capacity of less than eleven passengers; in general livery service from a headquarters in Hamden.

RESTRICTIONS:

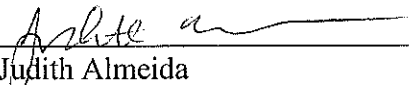
The authority granted under this permit may not be sold or transferred until it has been operational, i.e. a vehicle registered with livery plates thereunder for not less than twenty-four (24) months.

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 on the 23rd day of August, 2018.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



Judith Almeida
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Bureau of Finance and Administration

Docket No. 1807-N-85-L

Page 4 of 5