

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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

(860) 594-2875

DOCKET NO. 1901-N-3-L

RE: APPLICATION OF RELAX RIDE, LLC TO OPERATE TWO (2) GENERAL LIVERY VEHICLES, WITH A SEATING CAPACITY OF LESS THAN ELEVEN PASSENGERS, FROM A HEADQUARTERS IN WETHERSFIELD.

DECISION

FEBRUARY 27, 2019

I. INTRODUCTION

A. APPLICATION

By application filed on January 3, 2019, with the Department of Transportation (hereinafter "department"), pursuant to Section 13b-103 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, Relax Ride, LLC (hereinafter "applicant") with a mailing address of 12 Wilcox Street, Wethersfield, CT 06109 seeks authorization to operate two (2) motor vehicles, having a seating capacity of less than eleven (11) adults, in general livery service from a headquarters in Wethersfield.

B. HEARING

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103, as amended, a public hearing on this application was held on February 26, 2019.

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

Tarik Ali appeared on behalf pro se of the applicant. His mailing address is 12 Wilcox Street, Wethersfield, CT 06109.

II. FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The applicant seeks to operate two (2) motor vehicles in general livery service from a headquarters in Wethersfield.
- 2. Mr. Ali has been both a taxi driver and UBER driver for several years. Since the taxicab company he drove for went bankrupt, he has been getting calls from former customers for transportation.
 - 3. Mr. Ali is currently working part time as a parking attendant.
- 4. The applicant will operate a 2011 MV-1 and a 2011 Chevrolet SUV in the business. Both vehicles are owned outright. The MV-1 is handicapped accessible.
 - 5. The applicant has \$11,069 in the bank.

Docket No. 1901-N-3-L Page 2 of 5

- 6. The applicant's first six months of expenses includes insurance of \$7,566, \$500 for repairs, property tax of \$183, \$100 for advertising and \$600 for the phone expenses.
 - 7. Mr. Ali and another driver, Merwin Kahlifa, will drive the two (2) vehicles.
- 8. The applicant also plans to work for Veyo doing medical transportation with the wheelchair accessible vehicle.
- 9. Haitham Taha, Abobaker Elamin, Abdul Karim Adabi, Beulah Abilah Saleem, Mohammed Mohammed and Salah Salih all use the applicant for transportation and find him to be a good and trustworthy driver.
 - 10. This application was 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.

Regarding the applicant's suitability, the applicant submitted a criminal record check for Mr. Ali which shows no criminal record. Mr. Ali has been a professional driver for years and is suitable to conduct this proposed business.

As far as the applicant's financial ability is concerned the applicant presented evidence that the first six months of expenses includes insurance of \$7,566, \$500 for repairs, property tax of \$183, \$100 for advertising and \$600 for the phone expenses for a total of \$8,949. The applicant has \$11,069 in the bank, which is sufficient to cover these costs.

On the issue of public convenience and necessity, the applicant presented several witness who all complimented his driving and good customer service. They have used the applicant for years for their transportation needs and are very satisfied. Based on all of the evidence presented, this livery application will be granted.

IV. ORDER

Based upon the above and pursuant to Connecticut General Statute Section 13b-103, as amended, the application of Relax Ride, LLC is hereby granted and Livery Permit Number 3653 is hereby issued as follows:

LIVERY PERMIT NUMBER 3653

Relax Ride, LLC is hereby permitted to operate two (2) motor vehicles, having a seating capacity of less than eleven passengers, in general livery service from a headquarters in Wethersfield.

RESTRICTIONS:

The applicant must register and insure the two (2) vehicles granted in this permit within ninety (90) days. Failure to do so may result in revocation of the authority.

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 27th day of February 2019.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Judith Almeida

Staff Attorney III

Administrative Law Unit

Bureau of Finance and Administration

Docket No. 1901-N-3-L

Page 4 of 5