

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06131-7546

Phone:

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DOCKET NO. 1907-N-88-L

RE: APPLICATION OF BLS LIMOUSINE SERVICE OF CT, LLC TO OPERATE TWO (2) GENERAL LIVERY VEHICLES, WITH A SEATING CAPACITY OF LESS THAN ELEVEN PASSENGERS, FROM A HEADQUARTERS IN BERLIN.

DECISION

OCTOBER 21, 2019

I. INTRODUCTION

A. APPLICATION

By application filed on July 16, 2019, with the Department of Transportation (hereinafter "department"), pursuant to Section 13b-103 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, BLS Limousine Service of CT, LLC (hereinafter "applicant") with a mailing address of 1224 Mill Street Building B, Suite 224, Berlin, CT 06023 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 Berlin.

B. HEARING

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103, as amended, a public hearing on this application was held on October 17, 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

Michael and Eric Okan appeared on behalf of the applicant. The applicant was represented by Attorney Benjamin Trachten with a mailing address of 679 State Street, New Haven, CT 06510.

II. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The applicant seeks to operate two (2) motor vehicles in general livery service from a headquarters in Berlin.
2. The applicant will operate two 2017 Mercedes E300 vehicles.
3. The applicant has operated several limousine companies in other states for the last forty-eight years.
4. The applicants has contracts with several corporate clients who they will be working exclusively for including NBC Universal and Disney.

5. The applicant received interstate livery authority under Livery Permit Number 3664 in April 2019.
6. The applicant has \$102,928 in a bank account.
7. The applicant's first six months of expenses includes insurance of \$6,600, maintenance costs of \$1,200, rent of \$6,264 and property tax of \$619.
8. The local livery service level is not up to the standards set by the applicant.
9. 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 both Michael and Eric Okan which showed no criminal record. The Okans operate several limousine companies in other states and have done so for some time. Based on the evidence presented, the applicant has the necessary suitability to have this application granted.

As far as the applicant's financial ability is concerned, the applicant presented evidence which includes insurance of \$6,600, maintenance costs of \$1,200, rent of \$6,264 and property tax of \$619 for a total expense of \$14,683 over the first six months. The applicant has \$102,928 in the bank, which is sufficient to cover these costs and therefore the applicant is financially suitable.

On the issue of public convenience and necessity, the applicant presented two contracts with corporate entities, which have asked the applicant to operate intrastate livery service for them. The applicant sets a high standard of operation such that this level of service is not consistent with other livery companies. Based on all of the evidence presented, the applicant has shown public convenience will be improved by a grant of this application.

IV. ORDER

Based upon the above and pursuant to Connecticut General Statute Section 13b-103, as amended, the application of BLS Limousine Service of CT, LLC is hereby granted and Livery Permit Number 3664 is hereby issued as follows:

LIVERY PERMIT NUMBER 3664

BLS Limousine Service of CT, 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 Berlin.

BLS Limousine Service of CT, LLC is permitted and authorized to operate motor vehicles as a common carrier of passengers, in charter and special operations, in interstate commerce until such authorization as issued or amended by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration in the issuance of Certificate Number MC-1026668.

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.

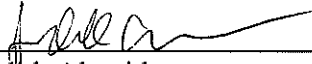
The authority granted under this permit may not be sold or transferred until it has been operational, i.e. a vehicle registered with livery plates thereunder for not less than twenty-four (24) months.

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 21th day of October 2019.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



Judith Almeida
Staff Attorney III
Administrative Law Unit
Bureau of Finance and Administration