

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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

(860) 594-2875

DOCKET NO. 2102-N-10-L

RE: APPLICATION OF MERCY TRANSPORTATION GROUP LLC TO OPERATE THREE (3) MOTOR VEHICLES IN GENERAL LIVERY SERVICE, WITH A SEATING CAPACITY OF LESS THAN ELEVEN PASSENGERS, FROM A HEADQUARTERS IN SPRAGUE.

DECISION

APRIL 29, 2021

I. INTRODUCTION

A. APPLICATION

By application filed on February 16, 2021, with the Department of Transportation (hereinafter "department"), pursuant to Section 13b-103 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, Mercy Transportation Group LLC (hereinafter "applicant") with a mailing address of 186A Main Street, Baltic, Connecticut 06330 seeks authorization to operate three (3) motor vehicles, having a seating capacity of less than eleven (11) passengers, in general livery service from a headquarters in Sprague.

B. <u>HEARING</u>

This application file was transmitted to the Administrative Law Unit on March 16, 2021. Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103, as amended, a public hearing by telephone was held on this application on April 20, 2021.

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

Mark Hamel and Jose Medina appeared pro se on behalf of the applicant. The applicant's mailing address is 186A Main Street, Baltic, Connecticut 06330.

II. FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The applicant seeks to operate three (3) motor vehicles in general livery service from a headquarters in Sprague.
- 2. The applicant will operate a 2015 Dodge Caravan, 2015 Toyota Camry and a 2017 Toyota Camry in the livery business. All three vehicles will be financed.
- 3. The applicant's first six months of expenses includes insurance costs of \$12,858, maintenance costs of \$720, communication costs of \$2,550, advertising costs of \$300, property tax of \$476 and vehicle financing of \$8,891.

Docket No. 2102-N-10-L Mercy Transportation Group LLC Page 2 of 6

- 4. The applicant has \$25,902 in a business bank account.
- 5. Mr. Hamel has worked in student transportation and in taxi/livery work. Mr. Medina was a marketing consultant.
- 6. Aimee Buckman will act as a general manager handling scheduling, dispatching and hiring. Mr. Hamel will be handling driving and billing. Mr. Medina will be handling the marketing.
- 7. The applicant plans to reach out to Veyo and DCF to perform governmental contract livery service in addition to working with other local organizations to provide livery transportation.
- 8. The applicant will be operating from a home office. There are no zoning issues associated with operating this office.
- 9. The applicant has three drivers lined up to provide the transportation who each have public service licenses.
 - 10. 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.

Regarding the applicant's suitability, the applicant submitted a criminal record check for Mark Hamel and Jose Medina, which disclosed no criminal records. Mr. Hamel has experience transporting the public as a school bus driver and has worked for various taxi and livery companies. Mr. Medina has an extensive background in marketing. Based on the evidence presented, the applicant is suitable to conduct the proposed intrastate livery business.

As far as the applicant's financial ability is concerned, the applicant presented evidence that the first six months of expenses includes: insurance costs of \$12,858, maintenance costs of \$720, communication costs of \$2,550, advertising costs of \$300, property tax of \$476 and vehicle financing of \$8,891 for a total expense of \$25,795. The applicant has \$25,902 in a bank account to cover these startup expenses. The applicant is financially suitable.

On the issue of public convenience and necessity, the applicant will be performing general livery work while also working with local organizations. In addition, the applicant has contacted Veyo and DCF and will be looking to provide livery transportation under government contract. Based on the evidence presented, the applicant will be granted intrastate livery authorization.

IV. ORDER

Based upon the above and pursuant to Connecticut General Statute Section 13b-103, as amended, the application in the name of Mercy Transportation Group LLC is hereby granted, and Livery Permit Number 3706 is hereby issued as follows:

LIVERY PERMIT NUMBER 3706

Mercy Transportation Group LLC is authorized to operate three (3) motor vehicles in general livery service, with a seating capacity of less than eleven passengers, from a headquarters in Sprague.

RESTRICTIONS:

The applicant must register and insure the three (3) general livery vehicles granted in this decision within ninety (90) days. Failure to do so may result in revocation of this 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

Docket No. 2102-N-10-L Mercy Transportation Group LLC Page 4 of 6 conspicuously posted in each motor vehicle operated under this permit.

Dated at Newington, Connecticut on the 29th day of April 2021.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Judith Almeida

Staff Attorney III

Administrative Law Unit

Bureau of Finance and Administration

Docket No. 2102-N-10-L Mercy Transportation Group LLC Page 5 of 6

CERTIFICATION DOCKET NO. 2102-N-10-L

I hereby certify that true and correct copies of the decision dated April 29, 2021 in the above-entitled matter were forwarded on April 29, 2021.

COPIES OF THE ABOVED-NOTED DECISION WERE FORWARDED AS FOLLOWS:

APPLICANT:

Mercy Transportation Group LLC 186A Main Street Baltic, Connecticut 06330

CERTIFIED MAIL:

91 7199 9991 7037 7905 6673

APPLICANT'S COUNSEL:

NA

INTERVENORS:

NA

OTHERS:

Regulatory & Compliance

CERTIFIED BY:

Judith Almeida

Staff Attorney 3

Administrative Law Unit

Bureau of Finance and Administration

Docket No. 2102-N-10-L Mercy Transportation Group LLC Page 6 of 6