

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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# DOCKET NO. 2106-N-49-L

RE: APPLICATION OF LEES LIMOUSINES LLC TO OPERATE ONE (1)
GENERAL LIVERY VEHICLE, WITH A SEATING CAPACITY OF
LESS THAN FOURTEEN PASSENGERS, FROM A HEADQUARTERS
IN EAST HARTFORD.

**DECISION** 

AUGUST 31, 2021

### I. INTRODUCTION

#### A. APPLICATION

By application filed on June 14, 2021, with the Department of Transportation (hereinafter "department"), pursuant to Section 13b-103 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, Lees Limousines LLC (hereinafter "applicant") with a mailing address of 90 Orchard Street, East Hartford, Connecticut 06108 seeks authorization to operate one (1) motor vehicle, having a seating capacity of less than fourteen (14) passengers, in general livery service from a headquarters in East Hartford.

# B. HEARING

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103, as amended, a public hearing by telephone was held on this application on August 26, 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

Eleser Lee Ortega appeared pro se on behalf of the applicant. The applicant's mailing address is 90 Orchard Street, East Hartford, Connecticut 06108.

# II. FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The applicant seeks to operate one (1) motor vehicle in general livery service from a headquarters in East Hartford.
  - 2. The applicant will operate a 2007 Lincoln Stretch Limousine in the livery business.
- 3. The applicant's first six months of expenses includes insurance costs of \$5,362, maintenance costs of \$1,200, communication costs of \$600, advertising costs of \$1.800, property tax of \$208 and a GPS charge of \$390.
  - 4. The applicant has \$10,790 in a business bank account.

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- 5. Mr. Ortega is a licensed mechanic who has owned his own garage and worked for a livery company in the past. In addition, he served in the military for many years.
  - 6. Ultimate Limousine Service will work with the applicant to provide livery referrals
- 7. The applicant will be operating out of his home. There are no zoning issues with operating a home office in the residence.
- 8. The applicant's brother-in-law, who has a public service license, will drive the livery vehicle.
- 9. The applicant will get customers by social media, a website, a billboard, and advertising on craigslist.
  - 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, Mr. Ortega submitted a criminal record check which disclosed no criminal record. Mr. Ortega has operated his own autobody business and worked for a livery company where he gained knowledge of the livery industry. 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 \$5,362, maintenance costs of \$1,200, communication costs of \$600, advertising costs of \$1,800, property tax of \$208 and a GPS charge of \$390 for a total expense of \$9,560. The applicant has \$10,790 in a bank account to cover these startup expenses and is therefore financially suitable.

Docket No. 2106-N-49-L Lees Limousines LLC Page 3 of 6 On the issue of public convenience and necessity, the applicant has a plan to market the company by various means and to work in conjunction with another livery company to receive livery referrals. Based on the evidence presented, the applicant will receive authorization for intrastate livery transportation.

#### IV. ORDER

Based upon the above and pursuant to Connecticut General Statute Section 13b-103, as amended, the application in the name of Lees Limousines LLC is hereby granted, and Livery Permit Number 3720 is hereby issued as follows:

# **LIVERY PERMIT NUMBER 3720**

Lees Limousines LLC is authorized to operate one (1) motor vehicle in general livery service, with a seating capacity of less than fourteen (14) passengers, from a headquarters in East Hartford.

#### **RESTRICTIONS:**

The applicant must register and insure the one (1) general livery vehicle 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 conspicuously posted in each motor vehicle operated under this permit.

Dated at Newington, Connecticut on the 31st day of August 2021.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Judith Almeida

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Administrative Law Unit

Bureau of Finance and Administration