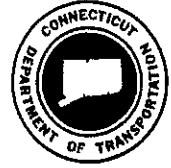




STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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

Phone:

(860) 594-2875

DOCKET NO. 2303-N-45-L

RE: APPLICATION OF SONAM SHERPA DBA SHERPA LUXURY  
LIMOUSINE SERVICE TO OPERATE ONE (1) MOTOR VEHICLE IN  
GENERAL LIVERY SERVICE, WITH A SEATING CAPACITY OF  
LESS THAN ELEVEN PASSENGERS, FROM A HEADQUARTERS IN  
ENFIELD

DECISION

MAY 10, 2023

## I. INTRODUCTION

### A. APPLICATION

By application filed on March 8, 2023, with the Department of Transportation (hereinafter "department"), pursuant to Section 13b-103 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, Sonam Sherpa dba Sherpa Luxury Limousine Service (hereinafter "applicant") with a mailing address of 78 Park Avenue, Enfield, Connecticut 06082 seeks authorization to operate one (1) motor vehicle, having a seating capacity of less than eleven (11) passengers, in general livery service from a headquarters in Enfield.

### B. HEARING

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103, as amended, a public hearing by telephone was held on this application on May 2, 2023.

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

Sonam Sherpa appeared pro se on behalf of the applicant. Keisha Powell also appeared as a witness. The applicant's mailing address is 78 Park Avenue, Enfield, Connecticut 06082.

## II. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The applicant seeks to operate one (1) motor vehicle in general livery service from a headquarters in Enfield.

2. The applicant proposes to operate a 2019 VW Tiguan. This vehicle is financed.

3. Mr. Sherpa does not have a livery license endorsement but has been driving for Uber for the past 8 years.

4. The applicant's first six months of expenses includes property tax of \$207, insurance costs of \$3,639, maintenance costs of \$150, communication costs of \$600, vehicle financing of \$4,206 and advertising costs of \$100.

5. There are no additional major expenses that the applicant needs to incur to start intrastate livery service.
6. The applicant has \$16,237 in a bank account.
7. Mr. Sherpa will be the sole driver of the livery vehicle.
8. The applicant will be operating the livery business out of his residence. Ms. Powell will be assisting the applicant with the paperwork.
9. Mr. Sherpa has no criminal record.
10. The applicant has gained a network of clients through his years of driving for Uber.
11. 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 Sonam Sherpa which disclosed no criminal record. The applicant has been a professional driver with Uber for the past eight years. 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 property tax of \$207, insurance costs of \$3,639, maintenance costs of \$150, communication costs of \$600, vehicle financing of \$4,206 and advertising costs of \$100 for a total of \$8,902. The applicant has \$16,237 in a bank account to cover these startup expenses and is therefore financially suitable.

On the issue of public convenience and necessity, the applicant has been working as a Uber driver for the past eight years. He has many clients who will hire him for livery work. Based on the evidence presented, the applicant has shown that public convenience and necessity 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 in the name of Sonam Sherpa dba Sherpa Luxury Limousine Service is hereby granted, and Livery Permit Number 3781 is hereby issued as follows:

#### **LIVERY PERMIT NUMBER 3781**

Sonam Sherpa dba Sherpa Luxury Limousine Service is authorized to operate one (1) motor vehicle in general livery service, with a seating capacity of less than eleven passengers, from a headquarters in Enfield.

#### **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 the general livery authority.**

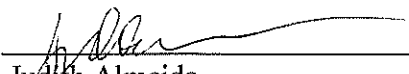
The authority granted under this permit may not be sold or transferred until it has been operational, i.e. a vehicle registered with livery plates thereunder for not less than twenty-four (24) months.

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 10<sup>th</sup> day of May 2023.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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