



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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Phone:

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DOCKET NUMBER 1209-C-130-B

RE: IN THE MATTER OF THE CITATION OF BEST EXPRESS
TRANSPORTATION, LLC

Final Decision

March 15, 2013

I. INTRODUCTION

A. General

By citation dated November 30, 2012, by the Department of Transportation (hereinafter "department"), pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103, as amended, Best Express Transportation, LLC (hereinafter "respondent"), holder of Permit Number 516, was ordered to come before the department to answer the allegations made therein.

Pursuant to said citation, the respondent was directed to appear at the Newington office of the Department of Transportation to show cause why Permit Number 516, issued for the operation of bus service, should not be suspended or revoked or a civil penalty imposed for violation of its certificate pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103, et seq.

More specifically, it is alleged that the respondent violated Connecticut General Statute Section 13b-103 for failure to register and insure vehicles.

The citation was served upon the respondent by first class and certified mail and recited the department's reasons for issuing it.

B. Hearing Held

Pursuant to Section 13b-103 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, the public hearing for this citation was held on March 14, 2013.

Notice of the citation and the hearing to be held thereon was given to the respondent and to such other parties as required by Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103, as amended.

The hearing on this matter was conducted by a hearing officer designated by the Commissioner of Transportation, pursuant to Section 13b-17 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

C. Appearances

Theodore Vines appeared pro se at the citation hearing. The respondent's mailing address is 104 Blake Street, New Haven, Connecticut 06511.

Eugene Morris, Transportation Public Transit Inspector with the Regulatory and Compliance Unit, presented evidence on behalf of the department.

II. FINDING OF FACT

1. On April 16, 2012, the Department of Motor Vehicles sent the respondent a letter stating that because the respondent did not have insurance they were cancelling his registration effective May 3, 2012.

2. On May 17, 2012, Mr. Vines sent a letter to the department stating that he was ceasing operation of his business.

3. On or about September 26, 2012, Dennis King, Manager of the Regulatory and Compliance Unit, received a call from Mr. Vines about the fact that his registration had expired in March of 2012 and he wanted to reregister vehicles.

4. Although the respondent claims he wants to start up the company again, he does not have a bus type vehicle with which to do the transportation.

5. The respondent's business plan has changed in that he now wants to perform interstate livery service with a van which requires a livery permit not a bus permit.

6. It does not seem likely that the respondent will be operating a viable bus transportation service any time soon.

III. CONCLUSION

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103, the department may amend or for sufficient cause suspend or revoke any such permit. Further, the department may impose a civil penalty on any person who violates any provision of the governing chapter or any regulation adopted under Section 13b-103, as amended, with respect to fares, service, operation or equipment, in an amount not to exceed one thousand dollars per day for each violation.

Mr. Vines appears sincere in his desire to maintain his bus permit but the facts do not support such an outcome. The service has never made any money and Mr. Vines does not own a suitable vehicle to be operated under the permit. In addition, Mr. Vines has changed his scope of work to include interstate trips with a van type vehicle which requires a livery permit.

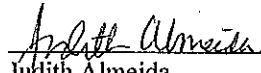
Given these facts, it is better for Mr. Vines to pursue a livery permit and have the bus permit revoked. Should Mr. Vines desire to get back in the bus business in the future, he may reapply at any time and the revocation of this permit will not be an impediment. Therefore, based on the facts as discussed above, permit number 516 is hereby revoked.

IV. ORDER

Based on the above, the bus permit in the name of Best Express Transportation, LLC, Permit Number 516, is hereby revoked fifteen (15) days from the date of this final decision.

Dated at Newington, Connecticut on this the 15th day of March 2013.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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