



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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

Phone:

DOCKET NO. 1103-N-17-T

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RE: ~~APPLICATION OF MY TAXI, LLC TO OPERATE TWO (2) MOTOR VEHICLES IN  
TAXICAB SERVICE WITHIN AND TO AND FROM MERIDEN AND  
WALLINGFORD.~~

FINAL DECISION

January 17, 2013

## I. INTRODUCTION

### A. Applicant's Proposal

By application filed on March 8, 2011, with the Department of Transportation (hereinafter "department"), pursuant to Section 13b-97 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, My Taxi, LLC (hereinafter "applicant") with a mailing address of 101 Arch Street, Meriden, Connecticut 06450 seeks authorization to operate two (2) motor vehicles in taxicab service within and to and from the towns of Meriden and Wallingford.

### B. Hearing Held

Pursuant to Section 13b-97(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, a public hearing on this application was held at the Department of Transportation in Newington, Connecticut on January 10, 2013.

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Notice of the application and of the hearing to be held thereon was given to the applicant and to such other parties as required by Section 13b-97(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended. Legal notice to the public was given by publication on the department's website.

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

### C. Appearances

Mubarik Mir appeared on behalf of the applicant. The applicant's mailing address is 101 Arch Street, Meriden, Connecticut 06450.

## II. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The applicant seeks to operate two (2) taxicabs in the towns of Meriden and Wallingford.
2. The applicant owns an intrastate livery company headquartered in Newington.
3. The applicant is an experienced eleven year taxicab driver and is currently working for a taxicab company in the Middletown area.
4. The applicant will operate twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week with four 12-hour shifts.
5. The applicant has a cash balance of \$29,771 in the bank and no liabilities.
6. The applicant's costs include: annual insurance for the two vehicles is \$6,175, property tax is \$400, maintenance and repair of the vehicles is \$1,200, telephone is \$840, rent is \$1,800 and communication costs are \$1,350. The total cash needed for startup costs in the first six months is \$15,523.

7. The applicant plans to use a 2006 Pontiac Montana which costs \$3,995 and a 2005 Chevrolet Venture which costs \$2,995.

8. The applicant submitted many witnesses who testified about the poor taxicab service in Meriden and Wallingford. Metro Taxi was often cited for its poor performance time picking up customers, if it even appeared at all. Metro Taxi sends taxicabs from the New Haven area and as a result, Meriden and Wallingford customers receive less than satisfactory service.

9. Reverend Holloway of Meriden is unable to drive and depends on taxicab service about fifteen times a week for herself, her family and those individuals she counsels. Among other complaints Reverend Holloway charges that Metro Taxi does not pick up promptly, she is forced to wait hours for transportation, they won't give an estimated time of arrival, she is unable to get a cab in inclement weather and they only operate four cars at night,

10. There is no town bus service after 6:00 p.m. in Meriden.

11. Ms. Jamie Greaves, a Wallingford resident, testified that she has two kids and no car. She relies on taxicab service approximately twenty times a month and has reduced the number of times she calls Metro Taxi because they do not show up.

12. Ms. Brenda Shuler owns two businesses in Meriden, Sister's Salon and a cosmetology school. Clients and employees of her salon often need transportation to or from the salon. Her main complaints are calling and getting no answer, no shows and not giving a time of arrival. There are occasions when her employees must transport clients to their home because of the lack of taxicab service.

13. Mr. Mohammad Irshad's car broke down in the Meriden area and he called Metro Taxi. No one showed up to bring him home. There are no taxicab companies listed in the Meriden telephone book.

14. Laura Pulver reported a couple of negative incidents she had with Metro Taxi. In one incident, a vehicle she was being driven in was in bad mechanical shape. On several occasions, Metro failed to show up for the trip.

15. Richard Warner and his girlfriend Barbara McCormick both testified about the bad taxicab service in Meriden. Mr. Warner is a disabled veteran who wants to be able to volunteer at various veterans functions and has trouble doing so because he cannot get reliable taxicab transportation. He recounted several incidents where he was left stranded waiting for hours for a taxicab.

16. Charles Gerkins is a postal employee in Meriden. He has mostly given up on taxicab service because of the lack of taxicab service in Meriden.

17. Elizabeth Bellente operates a laundry in Meriden. Sometimes she sees customers waiting for taxicabs to pick them up and take them home.

18. The applicant has five drivers lined up to handle the driving services for the two vehicles he has requested. Mr. Mir will also be driving and his wife will be helping out in the business.

19. There was no opposition to this application.

### III. DEPARTMENT ANALYSIS

The Department of Transportation has jurisdiction over common carriers, which include each person, association, limited liability company or corporation owning or operating a taxicab in the State of Connecticut in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-96, as amended. The Department is authorized to prescribe regulations with respect to fares, service, operation and equipment, as it deems necessary for the convenience, protection and safety of the passengers and the public.

Pursuant to Section 13b-97(a), as amended, any person who applies for authority to operate a taxicab shall obtain from the Department a certificate of public convenience and necessity certifying that the public's convenience and necessity requires the operation of a taxicab or taxicabs for the transportation of passengers. No certificate shall be issued unless the department finds that the person is suitable to operate a taxicab service. In so doing, the department must take into consideration any convictions of the applicant under federal, state or local laws relative to safety, motor vehicle or criminal violations, the number of taxicabs to be operated under the certificate, the adequacy of the applicant's financial resources to operate the service, the adequacy of insurance coverage and safety equipment and the availability of qualified operators.

With regard to suitability, the applicant submitted a State Police Bureau of Identification Criminal History Form for the Mubarik Mir which showed no criminal convictions. The applicant operates as a taxicab driver now and has done so for many years. The applicant submitted a detailed business plan outlining how the business is to be operated and successfully handled all questions about the operation. The applicant is familiar with the rules and regulations governing taxicab service and has proven its suitability to operate the proposed service.

As far as the applicant's financial suitability is concerned, the applicant has a cash balance of \$29,771 in the bank and no liabilities. The applicant's insurance for the two vehicles will be about \$6,175, property tax is \$400, maintenance and repair of the vehicles is \$1,200, telephone is \$840, rent is \$1,800 and communication costs of \$1,350. The total cash that is to be spent in the first six months is \$15,523. The applicant is found to be financially suitable to operate the proposed service.

The applicant plans to use a 2006 Pontiac Montana which costs \$3,995 and a 2005 Chevrolet Venture which costs \$2,995. These vehicles are suitable to be used as taxicabs and the applicant has sufficient insurance coverage and safety equipment.

With regard to proving public convenience and necessity, the applicant submitted the testimony of many witnesses from Meriden and Wallingford who all testified about the awful taxicab service. There were many complaints about the existing service and the total disregard for

the customers in this area. There were complaints about dispatchers not answering the phone, taxicabs not arriving at all, waiting for hours for a cab, not being given an estimated time for arrival and other bad service. The sheer quantity and quality of the testimony from those complaining is a compelling reason to grant the application.

Based on the evidence presented, the application will be granted and the applicant will be awarded two taxicabs in Meriden and Wallingford.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

Therefore, based upon the above and pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-97, as amended, the application of My Taxi is hereby granted as follows:

CERTIFICATE NUMBER 1226  
FOR THE OPERATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES IN TAXICAB SERVICE

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My Taxi, LLC. is hereby permitted and authorized to operate two (2) motor vehicles in taxicab service within and to and from Meriden and Wallingford to all points in Connecticut.

RESTRICTIONS

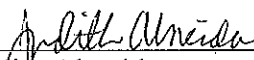
This certificate may not be sold or transferred until it has been operational, i.e., its vehicles registered with taxicab plates thereunder, for not less than twenty-four (24) consecutive months. This certificate is transferable only with the approval of the department.

This certificate shall remain in effect until it is amended, suspended, or revoked by the department. Failure of the certificate holder to maintain proper insurance and/or to comply with all pertinent motor vehicle laws and other State statutes and/or the rules, regulations and orders of the department, as this department may from time to time prescribe, shall be considered sufficient cause to amend, suspend or revoke this certificate.

**My Taxi, LLC. shall register a vehicle under the certificate granted in this decision within thirty (30) days from the date of this final decision.**

Dated at Newington, Connecticut on this 17th day of January, 2013.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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