

ChrisDeeLimo



Z Limo
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WCTLC Permit #: 06-00135

Dear Customer.

Because it is important to us that you the customer is informed of issues, policy enhancements or anything else pertinent to the transportation industry and/or the transportation solutions we provide – we believe that it is critical that you the customer be aware of the following:

Until recently limousines and taxi's in New York State were first governed by state regulations to maintain legitimacy and then if applicable by a city or county governing municipality. For example NYS required limousines companies (with both sedans and stretch limos) to carry insurance coverage of one (1) million dollar per vehicle by a transportation industry insurance carrier and registering the vehicle as “for hire” i.e. “Livery” or “TLC plates” (both plates are the same depending local jurisdictional or state requirements). And in addition to state mandated regulations any limousine company based in locales that have a governing municipality controlled TLC (Taxi and Limousine Commission) must submit to regulations within their own local municipal TLC as well. However any limousine company based in a non-TLC regulated municipality must minimally comply with the aforementioned New York State regulations while continuing to be able to perform a pick-up and drop-off or as an “as directed”-hourly without risk of fines and/or seizure within a different locale that is TLC regulated. Nevertheless “as directed”-hourly notwithstanding, the only prohibitive service was to perform a pick-up and drop-off (point-to-point) within such a TLC regulated locality. But a new state law has changed the requirements on how a limousine company can continue inter-jurisdictional operations such as a company based in Suffolk picking up passengers at JFK and vice-versa.

New York Governor Signs Reciprocity Law

On Wednesday, August 16, 2006, NY State Governor George E. Pataki signed the new S8400/A10540B Chapter 549 Inter-Jurisdictional Pre-Arranged For-Hire Vehicle Operation Act for the regulation of for hire transportation within the State. In ninety (90) days (starting August 16, 2006) it will become law. The law is limited to cities with a population of one million or more, counties contiguous to such cities and counties contiguous to such counties. (*The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines contiguous as, touching along a boundary or at a point.*) Thereby guaranteeing the right of New York City licensed for-hire vehicles to pick-up and drop-off passengers in Nassau and Westchester Counties without facing restrictions.

What this means for us limousine companies and its customers based in Suffolk County is that after November 14, 2006 any limousine company vehicle (either sedan or stretch) that is not registered by a county or city level regulated “Taxi and Limousine Commission” (TLC) that has reciprocity with New York City Proper and enters New York City Proper (includes JFK, LGA, Manhattan and all boroughs) for either a passenger pickup and/or “as directed” hourly services the vehicle will be seized and/or severely fined by the NYC TLC resulting in – “you the passenger” - to find another means of transportation at time of incident.

To avoid such incidents all legitimate limousine companies based either in Suffolk County must have their company, chauffeurs/drivers, base location and vehicles registered by a TLC that is both recognized by New York State and has reciprocity with other geographically mandated TLC's such as the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission.

Particulars -

- Suffolk County does not have an established Taxi and Limousine Commission therefore after November 14th prohibiting Suffolk based companies from continuing to do business within New York City Proper.
- Nassau County's TLC was only granted reciprocity in late December 2006 as the new law was passed in early November 2006 – To ensure the continued practice of maintaining compliance with NYS transportation laws while a decision to grant Nassau's TLC reciprocity was not yet settled - we at ChrisDeeLimo and ZLimo registered with the Westchester TLC prior to the new law be enacted.

As a result to the above the only Taxi and Limousine Commissions that have reciprocity with each other when the law was first enacted (November 14th, 2006) that impacts our travels to and from New York City Proper and its point of venues; metropolitan airports, all boroughs including Manhattan, is either the New York City TLC or the Westchester County TLC.

Options for Suffolk County based companies:

As of the New Year 2007 - Suffolk County based limousine companies can legitimately register with the New York City TLC, the Westchester TLC and to reiterate as of the new year the Nassau County TLC. Registering with either of the three TLC's requires the following:

- Each chauffeur/driver must undergo a criminal background check and drug test by either Westchester County or New York City. But please note that our insurance carrier will continue to provide an annual ten-year driving background check for all existing chauffeurs/drivers and prior to hire new chauffeur/drivers
- Each principal owner of the base (limousine company) must be fingerprinted and undergo a criminal background check by either Westchester County or New York City
- The physical location of the base, associated records and vehicles must be seen and reviewed by either a Westchester County or New York City TLC official to assure operational legitimacy and State compliance. Nassau County TLC does not require nor engage in such review practices.

What we at ChrisDeeLimo done to remain in compliance:

We have registered our base, vehicles and chauffeurs with the Westchester TLC. (New York City TLC is backlogged and could not perform the process prior to November 14th, 2006 and Westchester's registration process is much more efficient than NYC and Nassau TLC did not receive reciprocity until the beginning of 2007).

To ensure that us or another limousine company is in full compliance with New York State law and is properly registered with either the New York City TLC, Nassau County TLC or the Westchester TLC please look for the following:

- Every vehicle must have a medallion on the lower right hand corner of the windshield (New York City TLC is diamond shaped, Westchester's TLC is rectangular and Nassau could be of either shape)
- All new advertising, company logos, business cards, etc. must have their TLC permit number displayed; our WCTLTC permit number is: **06-00135**. Nassau County TLC is exempt from requiring the display of a base permit number.

In closing although there is a great expense establishing and maintaining a base license, registering the vehicles and each chauffeur/driver with the Westchester TLC – being lawfully regulated in such context will assist in differentiating the illegal operator who avoid such regulation to maintain lower operating cost than their legitimate competition and/or due to a dubious history prohibits them from registering with a TLC ultimately placing their customer base at risk every time transportation services are provided.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions and/or concerns.

Sincerely,

Donna Schreiber