

**Taxicab Advisory Group
Special Meeting Minutes for May 8, 2012
140 West Flagler Street, #908
Miami, Florida 33130**

TAG Members Present:

Dr. William Samek	Consumer/Chairperson
Dawood Akhtar	Driver Representative
Monica Beltran	MIA Representative
Jerry Moskowitz	PSC Principal
Les Eisenberg	PSC Principal
Diego Feliciano	License Holder
Fred Wong, Jr.	Seaport Representative
Robert Singer	Consumer
Anson Jean-Pierre	Driver Representative

TAG Members Absent

Rolando Aedo	Visitor Industry Representative
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Staff Present:

Joe Mora	Division Director, For-Hire Transp.
Steven Bobes	Administrative Officer, For-Hire Transp.
Bridgette Newsome	Secretary, For-Hire Transportation
Nancy Perez	Senior Ex. Secretary, Business Affairs

Dr. Samek welcomed members and special guest Sean McCrackine, Legislative Aide to Commissioner Monestime.

Mr. Mora informed members the April 2012 meeting minutes were not available at this time. Mr. Mora reiterated, this special TAG meeting was scheduled and noticed solely for the discussion of two agenda items sponsored by Commissioner Martinez and Commissioner Monestime and therefore no additional items were to be discussed and no meeting agenda was provided.

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Commissioner Martinez's Vehicle Age Extension

Mr. Mora discussed Commissioner Martinez's proposed limousine vehicle entry age extension item and advised, if adopted would become a permanent extension to the existing ordinance.

Mr. Mora stated the proposed ordinance amends Chapter 31 of the Code relating to for-hire limousines regulations and amends vehicle age requirements. Luxury sedans and stretch limousine vehicles would be extended for two years - from (5) years to (7) years. Super stretch limousine vehicle ages would be extended from (7) years to (9) years. Under the current provisions of the limousine ordinance these vehicles will expire on December 31, 2012.

Mr. Eisenberg expressed concern that in altering vehicle age limits this amendment if adopted, could set vehicles standards that might not be considered luxurious for the limousine industry as well as, to visitors and residents of Miami-Dade County.

Mr. Moskowitz suggested he was against extending the vehicle age on for-hire vehicles stating, it would be beneficial if the proposal offered vehicles an entry system of (3) years rather than, extending the additional service years at the back-end.

**Proposed ordinance amendment requirements relating to
Chauffeur Agreements**

The proposed ordinance seeks to amend various chauffeur agreement requirements with for-hire license holders and passenger service companies. Mr. Mora stated, if implemented for-hire license holders will have to begin itemization on their chauffeur receipts and provide the following information: amount of compensation attributable to lease costs,

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insurance, dispatching, deposits and/or any other charges incurred. In addition, it would be unlawful for a for-hire license holder to require that a chauffeur purchase a taxicab lease and/or financing for the purchase of a taxicab as a condition for entering into a chauffeur's agreement.

Mr. Mora further discussed the proposed ordinance's provisions stating that all drivers' would still be required to obtain authorization from passenger service companies in order to operate a for-hire vehicle, although drivers want to rule out endorsements from passenger service companies. Drivers complain, passenger service companies' charge drivers an endorsement fee which drivers do not agree upon. Also, contract agreements must be obtained between drivers, passenger service companies and licensed holders alike. Drivers without contract agreements would not be authorized to operate a for-hire vehicle.

Mr. Moskowitz offered the motion that instead of endorsements agreements for drivers, passenger service companies should charge drivers for the actual cost of the motor vehicle registration (MVR) fee and that fee should not be charged if a driver produces a MVR within thirty (30) days; motion seconded by Mr. Feliciano, with unanimous member approval.

Mr. Moskowitz offered an additional motion: that passenger service company's receipt(s) should remain the same. This motion was seconded by Mr. Feliciano, with unanimous member approval.

Adjournment

Mr. Moskowitz proffered a motion to adjourn, seconded by Dr. Samek, with unanimous member approval.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.