FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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FOR-HIRE VEHICLE ENFORCEMENT INITIATIVE TARGETS QUALITY OF LIFE VIOLATIONS
The New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) announces an extension into Manhattan of its existing for-hire vehicle quality of life initiative. Effective January 20, 2000, the TLC’s Uniformed Services Bureau, Enforcement Division, has joined forces with various units within the New York City Police Department to target such major violations as unlicensed vehicles and drivers, illegal parking, and illegal solicitations and street hails by licensed operators. This initiative will complement the TLC’s existing citywide patrol operations.

This effort began with a January 20, 2000 operation in the borough of Manhattan, which resulted in 179 vehicle stops/investigations, the issuance of 166 summonses, the seizure of 19 unlicensed vehicles and one arrest. A second Manhattan operation, mounted January 26, yielded 426 vehicle stops/investigations, the issuance of 362 TLC and seven universal summonses, and the seizure of 29 unlicensed for-hire vehicles.

TLC-licensed for-hire vehicle drivers are required to comply with all TLC For-Hire Vehicle Rules and Regulations as well as New York City traffic regulations. Special enforcement attention will be given to the illegal pick-up of street hails by for-hire vehicle operators.

Base owners will be held jointly accountable pursuant to the appropriate For-Hire Vehicle Rules for violations committed by drivers of their affiliated vehicles, including the pick-up of street hails, for example, where the base has no record of the trip.

Base owners are required to take an active role in ensuring driver compliance with the laws, rule and regulations of the TLC, and the City and State of New York.