FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Industry Notice #00-16
April 2000

TLC RULES AMENDED TO REQUIRE COMPLIANCE WITH STATE WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAWS

Amendments to the For-Hire Vehicle, Paratransit and Commuter Van Rules have been adopted by the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC), effective March 1, 1999. These rule amendments require that each licensed base comply with State Workers' Compensation Laws, and further require that proof of compliance be furnished to the Commission. Penalties including fines, suspension and/or revocation of base licenses are provided for in the event of non-compliance.

All bases, including For-Hire Vehicle (FHV) bases, Paratransit bases, Commuter Van services, and Black Car and Luxury Limousine bases that own at least fifty (50%) percent of their affiliated vehicles, must file either proof of Workers' Compensation Insurance coverage or an Exemption Letter issued by the New York State Workers' Compensation Board. Bases that are either owned by one individual or two shareholders, and have no employees, may be eligible for an exemption. If a base does not submit an Exemption Letter, it must submit a certificate of insurance executed by an authorized agent of the insurance provider, which names the TLC as certificate holder, or a certificate of coverage from the Workers' Compensation Board. An ACORD certificate of insurance will be accepted as proof of coverage only if supplemented by a certificate from the Workers' Compensation Board within forty-five (45) days of the submission of the ACORD. You may contact your local office of the Workers' Compensation Board for additional information.

The address of the Board office in New York City is as follows:

Workers' Compensation Board
180 Livingston Street
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11248

No new or renewal application will be approved without proof of either coverage of an exemption.

Certain Black Car and Luxury Limousine bases licensed by the TLC are responsible for complying with the New York State Executive Law amendments that created the New York Black Car Operators' Injury Compensation Fund ("Fund"). A "central dispatch facility," other than a facility that owns at least fifty (50%) percent of its affiliated vehicles, must join the fund and register with the Secretary of State. Proof of registration with the Secretary of State must be submitted to the TLC as a condition of receiving a new or renewal license.

The address of the Fund is as follows:

C/O Black Car Assistant Corporation
20 Broad Street, 25th Floor
New York, N.Y. 10005

After a Black Car or Luxury Limousine base has joined the Fund, it must register by filing form DSS-1413 (9/99) with the Secretary of State. The address of the Secretary of State is as follows:

Department of State
Division of Licensing Services
84 Holland Avenue
Albany, N.Y. 12220-3490

Tier II Permit Holders
Luxury Limousines and Black Cars holding Tier II permits and affiliated with out-of-state bases are advised that their bases must comply with New York State Executive Law if they engage in any point-to-point travel wholly within New York State. Such bases may be required to collect passenger surcharges on these trips and remit the surcharges to the Fund. You may contact either the Department of State or the Black Car Assistant Corporation to learn if your affiliated base is complying with Law.