FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Industry Notice #00-22
July 2000

MODIFICATION OF TLC INDUSTRY NOTICE #00-16, REGARDING WORKER’S COMPENSATION COVERAGE

New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) Industry Notice 00-16, dated April, 2000, served to inform base owners of changes in the TLC Rules requiring that all base owners comply with the provisions of the New York State Workers’ Compensation Laws. Those rule changes were adopted to ensure that the TLC was in compliance with Section 57 of the New York State Workers’ Compensation Law, which requires that businesses comply with the State Workers’ Compensation Law as a condition of obtaining a local license, as well as the newly-enacted provisions of State Law creating the New York Black Car Operators’ Injury Compensation Fund (“Black Car Fund”).

In Industry Notice 00-16, the TLC stated that all base owners would be required to submit proof of compliance with New York State Workers’ Compensation Law requirements as a condition of licensure. Acceptable proof of compliance could be either proof of coverage or an exemption letter issued by the Workers’ Compensation Board.

By letter dated June 30, 2000, the Workers’ Compensation Board requested that the TLC forebear from enforcing its requirement that base owners provide proof of coverage or an exemption letter as a condition of licensure, as required by Section 57 of Workers’ Compensation Law, 35 RCNY § 6-04(4), and Industry Notice 00-16. The basis for this request is that the Board is undertaking a comprehensive review of Workers’ Compensation issues affecting the livery industry. A task force, comprised of members of State and local government, the livery industry and insurance carriers will conduct this review. Pending legislation authorizing the creation of this Task Force provides that a report will be issued on or about February 1, 2001.

Accordingly, effective immediately, Industry Notice 00-16 is hereby modified as follows: Until further Notice, the TLC will not require that proof of either Workers’ Compensation Coverage or an exemption be filed with a new or renewal base application. This modification to Industry Notice 00-16 does not apply to any base that derives at least ninety (90%) percent of its revenue from means other than direct cash payment to its for hire vehicle drivers. Such bases must continue to comply with the provisions of the law creating the Black Car Fund, and must continue to submit proof of registration with the Secretary of State as a condition of licensure. Bases that own at least fifty (50%) percent of their affiliated vehicles are not subject to the law creating this Fund.

This modification of TLC licensing procedures does not in any way affect a base owner’s obligations to provide Workers’ Compensation coverage as may be required by State Law. If you require any information concerning your rights and/or obligations under State Law, you may contact the Board. The Board’s address in New York City is as follows:

Workers’ Compensation Board
180 Livingston Street
Brooklyn, New York 11248

Information concerning the New York Black Car Operators’ Injury Compensation Fund may be obtained from the following:

Black Car Assistance Corporation
20 Broad Street, 26th Floor
New York, New York 10005