FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Industry Notice #00-23
July 2000

TLC EXTENDS DATE TO AUGUST 11, 2000 FOR COMPLIANCE WITH RULE REQUIRING PARTITIONS OR CAMERAS IN INDEPENDENTLY OWNED/OPERATED TLC-LICENSED VEHICLES

At an emergency meeting of the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) held Tuesday, April 28, 2000, the Commission voted unanimously to require the installation of a bullet-resistant partition or an in-vehicle digital security camera in all independently-owned/operated livery vehicles and medallion taxicabs (Medallion Owners Rule 1-17; For-Hire Vehicle Rule 6-13, as specified in Industry Notice #00-14).

While partition supply is now plentiful, we do understand that there may be some remaining supply issues with respect to the availability of in-vehicle digital security cameras. As this is the case, the TLC will extend the compliance deadline from July 21, 2000 to August 11, 2000.

It should be understood that, as of that date (August 11, 2000), all vehicle owners found to be in non-compliance with the above-mentioned requirement will be subject to the following penalties: upon conviction, the owners of medallion taxicabs found not in compliance with Rule 1-17 are subject to a $300 fine, and medallion suspension until compliance. Upon conviction, owners of livery vehicles subject to FHV Rule 6-13 found not in compliance would be subject to a fine of $350 and vehicle suspension until compliance.

The Partition/Camera Reimbursement Program remains in effect (full details on the program are reprinted below).

DETAILS OF PARTITION/CAMERA REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

As announced by Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani on Saturday, April 15, 2000, the City of New York will reimburse individuals up to a maximum of three hundred twenty five dollars ($325) toward the cost of either a new partition or a new in-vehicle digital camera system, which meets TLC specifications and is installed by an authorized vendor.

Owners of medallion taxicabs and for-hire vehicles previously exempt from the TLC partition requirement as individual owner operators may apply for reimbursement for installation of a TLC-approved safety partition or TLC-approved in-vehicle digital security camera. Each claimant may apply for a maximum of $325 toward the cost of installation of either a new partition or a new in-vehicle digital security camera system.

To participate in this program, vehicle owners must have a partition or security camera installed by an authorized partition or security camera installation center. Information and locations of these authorized centers can be found by contacting FHV bases, FHV and Taxi Associations, licensed taxicab operators or visiting the TLC web site at WWW.CI.NYC.NY.US/TAXI.

Upon completion of the installation of either device, the installer will give the vehicle owner a receipt of payment and completed reimbursement form. The owner must take the vehicle, receipt of payment, reimbursement form, NYS registration, valid TLC diamond or permit, or medallion taxi rate card to the TLC Safety and Emissions Division located at 24-55 Brooklyn Queens Expressway West, Woodside, Queens to have the safety device inspected. Safety & Emissions Unit hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 3 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. No cars will be inspected before 3 p.m.

Upon the completion of the safety device inspection, TLC personnel will certify the installation and complete the reimbursement form. They will forward the reimbursement form to the Economic Development Corporation, which will remit reimbursement to the claimant within 21 business days.

Vehicle owners may receive further instructions on the reimbursement program 24 hours a day by calling the TLC at 212-676-1055, or 212-676-1140.