FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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TLC TO IMPLEMENT LIVESCAN FINGERPRINT SYSTEM TO FURTHER EXPEDITE LICENSING PROCESS

The New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) announces its readiness to implement the LiveScan fingerprint system as of January 21, 2003. The LiveScan system will expedite the driver licensing process while increasing its efficiency.

The LiveScan system is an electronic method of imaging and transmitting applicants’ fingerprints for analysis by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), which is required under TLC regulations. By having these fingerprints electronically scanned by a technician, the new system would replace the existing method of taking applicants’ fingerprints via ink and paper and then sending the prints to the DCJS by mail. Through the LiveScan system, fingerprints will be electronically transmitted to DCJS, which would receive them a few moments after they are sent. Once they are received by DCJS, a confirmation will be electronically sent back to the TLC’s system. DCJS will then process the fingerprints, and electronically notify the TLC of any criminal history.

It is anticipated that the LiveScan system will reduce the waiting time for applicants by handling the various steps electronically, rather than relying on regular mail.