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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Industry Notice #06-08
May 10, 2006

Notice Of Important New Rule Regarding Required ”T&LC” License Plates

On April 4, 2006 at a public meeting, the Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) Board of Commissioners voted to amend Rule 6-12(e) of title 35 of the Rules of the City of New York by adding paragraph (3). This new paragraph requires that for-hire vehicles registered in New York State and licensed by the TLC bear New York State license plates that are embossed on the bottom center with the legend ”T&LC”.

Why the New Rule and Who is Affected

This regulation, which applies to all TLC-licensed liverys, black cars and luxury limousines that are registered in New York State, will assist in our efforts to enforce the TLC’s minimum mandatory insurance requirements by establishing clearly which vehicles are licensed to conduct point-to-point for-hire business in the City of New York. Vehicles with TLC Tier 2 and Tier 3 permits are not affected by this rule.

When and How to Comply

The rule will apply to all New York State-registered for-hire vehicles that are issued new or renewal for-hire vehicle licenses on or after May 15, 2006. To clarify, after May 15, 2006 the TLC will not accept renewal applications for vehicles without the appropriate license plates. Accordingly, before their TLC for-hire licenses can be renewed, all vehicle owners who currently have non T&LC-embossed livery plates (such as plates that end in ”LA”) must first surrender their current plates to the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), then file a plate transfer application with the TLC and obtain ”T&LC” embossed plates from DMV.

This must be done using the TLC’s existing appointment process; vehicle owners are reminded to contact their affiliated base to make an appointment in plenty of time before their license expiration date, to ensure continued licensure. Please note that the TLC charges vehicle owners a $25 fee to process the necessary plate transfer.

New Applicants

Please also be aware that beginning May 15, 2006, all new TLC applicants registering for-hire vehicles in New York State will be required to obtain the TLC-embossed license plates described above. Such applicants must first file an application with the TLC and then visit DMV to obtain the appropriate plates.