New Tools to Help The Riding Public Choose Safe, Legal For-Hire Vehicle Services

New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) Commissioner David Yassky today demonstrated new tools to help the riding public choose safe, legitimate, licensed livery and For-Hire Vehicle (FHV) services and to use these services in the correct ways to maximize safety and accountability.

“We have new tools to help people who use TLC-licensed for-hire vehicles to enhance their safety and convenience,” said Commissioner Yassky, “and the more people know about them, the more empowered they are to make smart, informed decisions about the services they use. The key is accountability, and our inspection of all for-hire vehicles, the new markings we’ll be seeing on all FHVs, and the posting of TLC licenses and passengers Bills of Rights we’ll see in every legitimate vehicle assures accountability.”

There are approximately 50,000 TLC-licensed For-Hire Vehicles in the City of New York, including liveries (community car services), Black Cars, luxury limousines, paratransit vehicles (ambulettes) and commuter vans. For the first time, each type of FHV licensed by the TLC will be uniformly marked with a specially-designed color coded, non-transferable decal that ensures the vehicle is affiliated with a licensed base.

- Blue for Liveries/Community Cars
- Gray for Black Cars
- Violet for Luxury Limousines
- Light Green for Paratransit (ambulettes)
- Red for Commuter Vans

Also for the first time, all FHVs will feature the posted TLC credential of their drivers, allowing passengers to know to whom they are entrusting their safety. In another first, passengers will also be seeing a “Passenger Bill of Rights” in each FHV, tailored to each of the individual industries.

“We are confident that our efforts will help people to make the smart decisions to avoid hailing illegal services with questionable drivers, inadequate or no insurance and sketchy backgrounds,” concluded Commissioner Yassky, “and bypass the risks that come with them by prearranging service with a safe, legitimate provider.”

To find a licensed FHV base, use the TLC’s “Find-A-Ride” application, available by visiting www.nyc.gov/taxi, and clicking on Passenger Information.

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