DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
VEHICLE FOR HIRE

LIVERY VEHICLE
RULES AND REGULATIONS

Issuance of Livery Owner Licenses

A livery owner may license and maintain one or more vehicles provided that the vehicle to be licensed meets all safety and vehicle standards set forth in the Vehicle for Hire Rules and Regulations, and provided that the owner has complied with all licensing requirements set forth in Section 593 of Columbus City Codes.

Livery Vehicle Age

No New Livery License shall be issued or transferred to any vehicle older than six (6) vehicle years, and or over 200,000 miles, once they are in service they will not be renewed for any vehicle over eight (8) years old. The vehicle year shall be determined by the Vehicle Identification Number.

Exemptions

The vehicle age requirement shall not apply to the following:

1. Busses defined as motor vehicles designed for the carrying of fourteen (14) or more passengers and used for the transportation of persons for hire.

2. Classic vehicles older than twenty-five (25) vehicle years may petition the Vehicle for Hire Board for a license. Issuance shall be at the discretion of the Board.

3. Wheelchair accessible vans.

4. Stretch Limousines which has under 350,000 miles and approval from the License Section Manager

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Vehicle for Hire Standards

Seats:

1. Must be firmly fixed and secure.
2. Clear of all materials, litter and debris.
3. No exposed wire or sharp edges either from metal or vinyl.
4. No broken springs, sagging or horizontal slippage.
5. Upholstery must be clean with no offensive odors.
6. Upholstery will have no holes or tears on the seat surfaces or rear of front seats visible to rear passengers.
7. Seat covers must be permanently affixed to seat of vehicle. No blankets or temporary coverings.
8. Seat belts and shoulder straps will be clean and operable.

Floors:

1. Covering materials will be secure and free of rips and folds.
2. Mat and carpet will have a clean appearance.
3. Floors will be clear and free of any objects.

Other interior:

1. No loose objects or externally mounted speakers on rear seat deck.
2. No decorations or other objects permitted to hang from mirror or other mounted fixtures.
3. Dashboards will be secure, clean and neat in appearance with no loose objects.
4. Visors will be free of holes or tears, clean and intact, with no taped repairs. Visors will
1. match vehicle's interior as nearly as possible.
5. Headliner will be free of tears, rips and will be secured to the ceiling, not sagging or
2. loose in any place.
6. Headrests will be clean.

Body:

1. Clean appearance.
2. Free of rust, cracks or other damage visible upon casual inspection. Any cited rust or
7. damage will be repaired within 14 days of citation and re-inspected for compliance.
3. Paint in good condition showing no oxidation or chipping. Touch-up paint must match
8. existing paint and blend smoothly.
4. Grills will have a neat appearance.
5. No torn, wrinkled, faded or missing lettering, striping or decals.
6. Four matching hubcaps are required.
7. No broken or cracked lights or lenses.
8. All molding, mirrors and antennas must be securely attached and in good condition.
9. Bumpers must be properly attached and in good condition with no holes and free of
9. unapproved stickers and decals.
10. Cruise lights must be securely attached, free of tape, free of damage and with no missing
11. letters.

Trunks:

1. No flammable liquid or materials.
2. Clean and neat.
3. Must have a protective floor covering.
4. Tools must be in an acceptable container.
5. Free of materials limiting space for luggage.
6. Trunk latch must be operable.

Tires:

1. Center tread must have a minimum tread of 2/32” and be free of all cuts or breaks. No bald spots.
2. Tires must be inflated to rated standard.

Windows:

1. No cracked or broken windows.
2. Clean inside and out.
3. Free of all stickers and decals except those required by License Section.
4. Tinted windows must be in compliance with state law requirements.
5. All windows must be operable.
6. Must be equipped with two operable windshield wipers, non-streaking blades and functional windshield washing system.

Doors:

1. Inside and outside door locks and handles must be fully operational and intact.
2. Handles, knobs and armrest must be fully operational and intact.
3. Door panels must be clean, intact with no tears and match vehicle interior.
4. Door hinges and stops must function properly and securely.
5. Door seals and gaskets must be intact.

Miscellaneous:

1. Taxicab and livery owners have 30 days to produce vehicle title, but must show proof of
1. purchase prior to issuance of license.
2. Scanners are not permitted in vehicles.
3. Peddling from vehicle is prohibited.
4. Transfer of all Vehicles for Hire Owner Licenses from vehicle to vehicle does not need
5. prior board approval.
6. Taxicab identification numbers may not be transferred to other vehicles currently
7. licensed as taxicabs.
6. Vehicles must be equipped with an operable heater and air conditioner, and must be used when transporting passengers.
7. Taxicab Owners must notify the License Section when there is a change in the mode of dispatching or a change in the dispatcher.

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Soiled Interior Fee

In the event that a City of Columbus Licensed Vehicle for Hire's interior is soiled with bodily fluids or solids by an inebriated passenger, a $50.00 clean-up fee may be added to the trip fare. Notice of this fee must be posted in a location inside the vehicle that is plainly visible to the passengers and the taxicab driver must verbally advise the inebriated passenger of such fee and point out the posted notice prior to the beginning of the fare.

Exemptions

1. Children or sober riders that are ill or become sick.
2. Child birth.

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