



NEW YORK CITY TAXI & LIMOUSINE COMMISSION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Industry Notice #01-21

December 19, 2001

TLC COMMISSIONER/CHAIR MATTHEW W. DAUS ANNOUNCES "OPERATION STREET HAIL"

The TLC has embarked on an ongoing major enforcement initiative entitled Operation Street Hail. As set forth in the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission's Industry Recovery Plan (see TLC web site at www.NYC.gov/taxi), Operation Street Hail was designed to combat illegal for-hire service by licensed and unlicensed liveries operating outside the scope of their license authority. This initiative involves the use of plainclothes TLC Inspectors testing livery, black car and limousine drivers for compliance with the rules requiring service by pre-arrangement, and responding to incidences of illegal for-hire solicitation by straight plated vehicles.

In the inaugural Operation Street Hail, which included the participation of TLC Commissioner/Chair Matthew W. Daus and other TLC staff as plainclothes decoys, 185 summonses were issued, and 14 vehicles were seized for illegal for-hire operation. A second operation held a week later yielded the issuance of 254 summonses and 16 vehicle seizures for illegal for-hire operation.

"Operation Street Hail is designed to protect the riding public from potentially unlicensed and uninsured livery operators, as well as to support the medallion taxicab and legitimate livery industries by combating illegal for-hire service," said Commissioner Daus. "The TLC's regulated industries have faced numerous challenges in the aftermath of the September 11th tragedy, not the least of which is unfair and illegal competition from unlicensed vehicles or licensed vehicles operating out of the scope of their authority. I am cautiously optimistic that, with dedication and a sustained effort, Operation Street Hail will help us to reach our goal of eradicating illegal for-hire service once and for all."