



NEW YORK CITY TAXI & LIMOUSINE COMMISSION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Industry Notice #03-13

March 28, 2003

SMOKE-FREE AIR ACT EFFECTIVE MARCH 30, 2003

Smoking Prohibited in TLC-Licensed Vehicles

The New York City Smoke-Free Air Act (Title 17, Chapter 5 of the New York City Administrative Code) becomes effective March 30, 2003. This Act prohibits smoking in public transportation facilities, including taxicabs, for-hire vehicles (including black cars and limousines), commuter vans and paratransit vehicles licensed by the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC).

Passengers who smoke in such vehicles are in violation of the law and may be subject to a civil penalty of \$100 for each violation. Drivers of vehicles licensed by the TLC may not smoke in these vehicles, irrespective of whether the vehicle is occupied by a passenger. Drivers are subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$200 for each violation. In addition, smoking in vehicles licensed by the TLC is prohibited by TLC rules, and may subject the vehicle operator to additional penalties.