

Matthew W. Daus, Commissioner/Chair

**Industry Notice #8-18  
For Immediate Release**

**December 10, 2008**

## **Change to TLC Courts**

### **1. Complaining witnesses now have the option to testify by telephone**

The NYC Taxi and Limousine Commission is implementing a new policy in its courts. Complaining witnesses (complainants) can now choose to testify by telephone instead of going to court. A witness is a person who makes a complaint about a TLC licensee and participates in a TLC court hearing.

Beginning December 8, 2008, complaining witnesses can decide if they want to participate by telephone or in person.

### **2. Licensees now have the option to testify at their hearings by telephone (telephone hearings in Staten Island office ONLY)**

Licensees (respondents) will have the choice to be able to testify by telephone at TLC's Staten Island facility (1893 Richmond Terrace), instead of going to a hearing in Long Island City (32-02 Queens Boulevard) or Manhattan (40 Rector Street). This is a pilot program to see how well this system works.

Beginning December 22, 2008, licensees can decide if they want to participate by telephone or in person. In order to participate by phone, licensees will need to sign a form that states they will not use mistaken identity as a defense. Respondents will still be able to claim they did not commit the offense(s) in question.