
Matthew W. Daus, Commissioner/Chair

Press Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 15, 2009

**NYS FEDERATION OF TAXI DRIVERS & FOR-HIRE INDUSTRY LEADERS
JOIN IN SUPPORT OF TLC PROPOSED ACCOUNTABILITY RULES**

The New York State Federation of Taxi Drivers today joined other For-Hire Vehicle industry leaders in voicing their support for the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission's (TLC) proposed For-Hire Vehicle Accountability Rules. The rules will be the subject of a public hearing on Thursday, April 16, 2009.

Said TLC Commissioner/Chairman Matthew W. Daus, "It has been a gratifying experience to be able to work closely together with the leaders of our regulated For-Hire Vehicle industries to create a package of regulations rooted in safety and accountability that will enhance passenger safety and customer service and further professionalize their businesses. I want to thank the Federation and the other organizations with whom we have worked so closely for their hard work in helping us to formulate these rules, but more importantly, I want to thank them for sharing our priorities of passenger safety and improved customer service.

"I very much look forward to hearing testimony from the public and the members of the industry at Thursday's meeting, as well as to discussing the proposed rules with my Board of Commissioners."

Said Fernando Mateo, Spokesperson for the New York State Federation of Taxi Drivers, "The New York State Federation of Taxi Drivers, its members and affiliates, work very hard with the TLC to create fair rules and regulations. These rules and regulations will not only protect the riding public, but will also protect the integrity of the base owners and drivers. The New York State Federation of Taxi Drivers will continue to work with the TLC in furthering any improvement that may be needed in our industry; this is a monumental moment for our industry."

Among the highlights of the proposed package are:

- Enhanced markings for community car service and other For-Hire Vehicles (FHVs) to assist passengers in identifying properly-licensed vehicles;
- Periodic inspection of For-Vehicles at the TLC's own state-of-the-art Safety & Emissions facility;
- A point-based system that will hold FHV bases accountable for their affiliated vehicles and the actions of their drivers;
- The clear display of TLC Driver Licenses in all FHVs;
- The requirement of FHV bases to quote passengers a firm price for a ride that will not change after it is quoted;
- The posting of a Passenger Bill of Rights.

A Public Hearing on the proposed rules will be held on Thursday, April 16, 2009, at 9:30 a.m., at the TLC's Headquarters, 40 Rector Street, fifth floor, New York, N.Y. 10006.

The rules may be viewed at:

http://www.nyc.gov/html/tlc/downloads/pdf/public_notice_04_16_09.pdf

A synopsis of the rules in both English and Spanish are available at:

http://nyc.gov/html/tlc/downloads/pdf/fhv_rules_guide.pdf

http://nyc.gov/html/tlc/downloads/pdf/fhv_guia_en_espanol_version_final.pdf



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