



NEW YORK CITY TAXI & LIMOUSINE COMMISSION

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TLC NEWS | PRESS RELEASES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Release #04-00

April 2000

TLC VOTES TO REQUIRE PARTITIONS OR CAMERAS IN INDEPENDENTLY OWNED/OPERATED TLC-LICENSED VEHICLES 24-HOUR INFORMATION HOTLINE: 212-676-1055, or 212-676-1140

At an emergency meeting of the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) held Tuesday, April 18, 2000, the Commission voted unanimously to require the installation of a bullet-resistant partition or an in-vehicle digital security camera in all independently-owned/operated livery vehicles and medallion taxicabs. The TLC strongly encourages the choice of the partition. Vehicle owners have 30 days from the date of the emergency rule's passage to come into compliance. That date may be extended if demand exceeds supply.

"In light of recent tragedies, we believe this was an important step to take in helping to protect New York City's livery drivers," said TLC Chairperson Diane McGrath-McKechnie. "Mayor Giuliani is fully committed to enhancing the safety of these hardworking men and women whose work is so crucial in keeping our city moving."

DETAILS OF PARTITION/CAMERA REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

As announced by Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani on Saturday, April 15, 2000, the City of New York will reimburse individuals up to a maximum of three hundred and twenty five dollars (\$325) toward the cost of either a new partition or a new in-vehicle digital camera system, which meets TLC specifications and is installed by an authorized vendor.

"By making these funds available, the City hopes to enhance the safety of our livery drivers as quickly as possible, with the goal of putting an end to the recent series of tragedies, and preventing others long into the future," said Chairperson McKechnie.

Owners of medallion taxicabs and for-hire vehicles previously exempt from the TLC partition requirement as individual owner operators may apply for reimbursement for installation of a TLC-approved safety partition or TLC-approved in-vehicle digital security camera. Each claimant may apply for a maximum of \$325 toward the cost of installation of either a new partition or a new in-vehicle digital security camera system.

To participate in this program, vehicle owners must have a partition or security camera installed by an authorized partition or security camera installation center. Information and locations of these authorized centers can be found by contacting FHV bases, FHV and Taxi Associations, licensed taximeter shops or visiting the TLC web site at www.NYC.gov/taxi.

Upon completion of the installation of either device, the installer will give the vehicle owner a receipt of payment and completed reimbursement form. The owner must take the vehicle, receipt of payment, reimbursement form, NYS registration, valid TLC diamond or permit, or medallion taxi rate card to the TLC Safety and Emissions Division located at 24-55 Brooklyn Queens Expressway West, Woodside, Queens to have the safety device inspected. Safety & Emissions Unit hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 3 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. No cars will be inspected before 3 p.m. Upon the completion of the safety device inspection, TLC personnel will certify the installation and complete the reimbursement form. They will forward the reimbursement form to the Economic Development Corporation, which will remit reimbursement to the claimant within 21 business days.

Vehicle owners may receive further instructions on the reimbursement program 24 hours a day by calling the TLC at 212-676-1055, or 212-676-1140.