

DEPARTMENT OF FOR-HIRE VEHICLES

NOTICE OF FINAL RULEMAKING

The Acting Director of the Department of For-Hire Vehicles¹ (“Department” or (“DFHV”), pursuant to the authority set forth in Sections 8(c) (2), (3), (7) and (19), 14, 15, 16, 20j and 20j-3, of the District of Columbia Taxicab Commission Establishment Act of 1985 (“Establishment Act”), effective March 25, 1986, (D.C. Law 6-97; D.C. Official Code §§ 50-301.07(c) (2), (3), (7) and (19), 50-301.13, 50-301.14, 50-301.15, 50-301.29, and 50-301.29c (2012 Repl. & 2016 Supp.)), hereby gives notice of its intent to adopt an amendment to Chapters 9 (Insurance Requirements for Public Vehicles-for-Hire) and 14 (Operation of Black Cars), of Title 31 (Taxicabs and Public Vehicles For Hire) of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (DCMR).

This final rulemaking amends Chapters 9 and 14 to expand the options for taxicab, black car, and limousine operators to comply with existing commercial insurance requirements. The rules allow operators to present vehicle inspection officers with electronic evidence of their compliance with the insurance requirements of Chapter 9 and authorize officers to verify compliance in real time; these measures will increase efficiency and improve the accuracy of the insurance information collected.

Proposed rulemaking was adopted by the Department’s predecessor, the D.C. Taxicab Commission, on November 18, 2015, and was published in the *D.C. Register* on September 23, 2016 at 63 DCR 011664. The Department received no comments during the comment period expiring October 23, 2016. The only changes made in this final rulemaking from the proposed rulemaking were to correct the agency’s name. No substantial changes have been made from the proposed rules.

The rules were adopted as final on November 4, 2016, and they will become effective upon publication in the *D.C. Register*.

Chapter 9, INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC VEHICLES-FOR-HIRE, of Title 31 DCMR, TAXICABS AND PUBLIC VEHICLES FOR HIRE, is amended as follows:

Section 900, APPLICATION AND SCOPE, is amended as follows:

Subsection 900.12 is amended to read as follows:

900.12 Each operator of a public vehicle-for-hire shall carry a hard copy, or electronic or digitally-produced insurance identification card or insurance policy, displaying proof of current insurance, in his or her name, in each vehicle he or she operates that is licensed under the provisions of D.C. Official Code § 50-314 (2015 Supp.)

¹ The District of Columbia Taxicab Commission was renamed and re-structured as the Department of For-Hire Vehicles by the Transportation Reorganization Act of 2016 (D.C. Law 21-0124) effective June 22, 2016.

at all times. The Department may issue an administrative issuance approving the forms of digital and electronic information acceptable as proof of insurance under this subsection. Failure to have current proof of insurance in his or her possession is a violation of this section subject to the penalties provided in § 907.

Chapter 14, OPERATION OF BLACK CARS, is amended as follows:

Section 1402, OPERATING REQUIREMENTS, is amended as follows:

Subsection 1402.4 is amended to read as follows:

1402.4 Each operator shall at all times carry on his or her person, or have readily available inside the vehicle for production upon demand by a District enforcement official, the following documents:

- (1) The operator's personal driver's license;
- (2) The vehicle registration;
- (3) The operator's DFHV operator's license identification card; and
- (4) An insurance card or policy, or digital or electronic version thereof, evidencing a valid and effective commercial insurance policy meeting the requirements of Chapter 9. The Department may issue an administrative issuance approving the forms of digital and electronic information acceptable as proof of insurance under this paragraph.