



**ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUANCE:
RECEIPT AND CRUISING LIGHT
CONNECTIVITY REQUIREMENT**

Series/Number: AI-2019-04

Modifies: AI-2019-02

Approved June 13, 2019

Effective June 13, 2019

I. BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

The Department of For-Hire Vehicles (“Department” or “DFHV”) issued Administrative Issuances (“AI”) AI-2018-06, on June 1, 2018, and AI-2019-02, on May 10, 2019, providing guidance and describing requirements for the Digital Taxi Solution (“DTS”) units; including the requirements that each DTS unit be capable of providing printed receipts, required by 31 DCMR § 802.2(b), and be capable of transmitting meter status (hired or not hired) to the approved cruising light, required by 31 DCMR § 602.18(a).

In response to concerns that have been raised relating to DTS printers and cruising light connectivity, the Department is issuing this AI to (a) clarify that a receipt which contains required pre-printed information in addition to handwritten information satisfies the requirement under 31 DCMR § 802.2(b); and (b) allow DTS providers additional time to provide proof of cruising light connectivity.

Taxicab receipts serve the function of promoting fare transparency and are necessary for business travelers to receive reimbursement. Additionally, clear and functional cruising lights that accurately convey the status of taxicabs are important so that potential passengers on the street can detect which taxicabs are available for hire. When receipts are unavailable and cruising lights inaccurately reflect a taxicab's availability, passengers become frustrated, lose confidence in public for-hire vehicles, and may seek alternative transportation. Furthermore, automatic (as opposed to manual) operation of cruising lights is mandatory to prevent potential discriminatory behavior.

The District's for-hire transportation market is fiercely competitive, and the Department is committed to upholding standards to ensure that public for-hire vehicles are safe, fair, appealing to the riding public, and in compliance with the requirements under Title 31 of the DCMR.

II. DEFINITIONS

“Cruising light” – a light affixed to the top of a taxicab which meets the requirements of 31 DCMR § 605.4, including a patented and licensed legacy dome light.

“Digital taxicab solution” or “DTS” - a technology solution for the operation of taxicabs that consists at a minimum of a digital taximeter running on a driver console, a passenger console, and

a credit card processing device, as such terms are defined by 31 DCMR § 9901, and any optional components that the DTS provider may choose to include.

“DTS unit” - an individual unit of a DTS that is installed in a vehicle.

III. AUTHORITY

D.C. OFFICIAL CODE §§ 50-301.07(c)(2), (3), (5), (19), (20); § 50-301.13; 31 DCMR §§ 503, 602, 605, 801, 802, and 806.

IV. PROCEDURES

A. Printed Receipts

Given the difficulties taxicab operators have encountered in acquiring and operating DTS printers, the Department will allow drivers to offer passengers receipts containing certain pre-printed information in addition to handwritten information about the trip. The receipt must contain pre-printed information showing contact information for the Department and the categories of required information. The receipt must also contain the following information which may be pre-printed or handwritten: vehicle owner's name and telephone number; vehicle PVIN number; operator's DFHV operator license (Face ID) number. The operator must add the following handwritten information: the total amount paid by the passenger, showing the total fare and the gratuity; and the URL that the passenger can use to access additional trip details.

All operators must be able to explain to passengers how to use these receipts to view additional trip details online. If the Department receives complaints of operators failing to present a satisfactory receipt, the Department's will fully enforce the use of DTS printers to fulfill the receipt requirement.

Sample Receipt Template

Operator's Name: [Pre-printed]
Phone Number: [Pre-printed]
PVIN#: [Handwritten]
FACE ID#: [Pre-printed]
Total Fare: [\$[Handwritten]
Gratuity: [\$[Handwritten]
Total Amount Paid: [\$[Handwritten]
Trip Web URL: [Pre-printed URL prefix; handwritten suffix]
Lost and Found: dfhv.dc.gov/page/lost-and-found or (855) 484-4966
Complaints: dfhv.dc.gov/service/complaints
DFHV Phone: (855) 484-4966 or (202) 645-7300

B. Taxi Light Connectivity

In addition to the legacy dome light, DFHV has approved solutions for cruising light connectivity, such as bluetooth enabled devices and pressure sensor devices. The Department is setting a deadline of August 1, 2019, for DTS providers to provide proof that their taxicabs comply with the taxi light connectivity requirement. Proof must be submitted to the Department via a signed document on the company's official letterhead outlining the following: operator's name, operator's FACE ID number, license plate number, public vehicle identification number (PVIN) and date of compliance regarding cruising light connectivity.

SO ORDERED:

DEPARTMENT OF FOR-HIRE VEHICLES

By:  _____

DAVID DO
Director