



ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUANCE
Title: Reduced DDS Bond Requirements
Series/Number: AI-2017-05
Replaces: N/A
Approved: July 12, 2017
Effective: July 13, 2017

I. BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

The Department of For-Hire Vehicles (“DFHV”) adopted a Notice of Sixth Emergency Rulemaking to amend Chapter 16 of Title 31 of the D.C. Municipal Regulations on June 30, 2017.¹ The emergency rulemaking established a bond requirement for digital dispatch services (“DDSs”) that dispatch black cars and private sedans of \$250,000, and \$100,000 for DDSs that dispatch taxicabs. The rulemaking provides for the bond for DDSs that dispatch black cars and private sedans to be lowered to a minimum of \$100,000 provided that the DDS voluntarily maintains with the DFHV current information relevant to establishing a risk profile for the nonpayment of amount(s) owed to the District, such as the number of the DDS’s associated vehicles, as set forth in an administrative issuance (“AI”). This AI implements that regulatory directive.

II. DEFINITIONS

Black Car - a luxury class vehicle which operates exclusively through advance reservation made by a digital dispatch service, which may not solicit or accept street hails, and for which the fare is calculated by time and distance.

Private Sedan - a private motor vehicle that (1) has a manufacturer's rated seating capacity of eight (8) or fewer, including the private vehicle-for-hire operator; (2) has at least four (4) doors and meets applicable federal motor vehicle safety standards for vehicles of its size, type, and proposed use; and (3) is no more than ten (10) model years of age at entry into service and no more than twelve (12) model years of age while in service.

III. AUTHORITY

D.C. OFFICIAL CODE §§ 50-301.07(c) (3), (19), (20); and 50-301.31(b); Title 31 DCMR §§ 1604 and 1605.²

¹ Notice of First Emergency Rulemaking was adopted February 10, 2016 and expired June 9, 2016; Notice of Second Emergency Rulemaking was adopted June 29, 2016 and expired October 27, 2016; Notice of Third Emergency Rulemaking was adopted October 6, 2016 and expired February 3, 2017; and a Notice of Fourth Emergency Rulemaking was adopted February 3, 2017 and was superseded by a Notice of Fifth Emergency Rulemaking which was adopted March 3, 2017 and expired July 1, 2017.

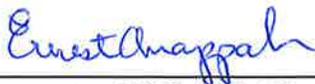
² Emergency rulemaking available at <https://dfhv.dc.gov/node/1118056..>

IV. PROCEDURES

1. A DDS that is authorized by DFHV to dispatch, or is in the process of registering with DFHV to dispatch, black cars or private sedans in the District, and that demonstrates to the satisfaction of DFHV a lower risk profile and full compliance with all applicable laws and regulations, may be permitted to provide the DFHV with a bond of \$150,000 that secures the nonpayment of funds owed the District under 31 DCMR § 1604.7, provided that:
 - a. The DDS provides DFHV with current inventories of its associated or dispatched operators and vehicles; *and*
 - b. The DDS provides DFHV with updated inventories referenced in (a) concurrent with each payment of the quarterly surcharge amount remitted pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 50-301.31 (b) (11).
2. A DDS that dispatches more than one class of service may satisfy the bond amount with one combined bond. For example, if the DDS dispatches taxicabs, private sedans, and black cars, the DDS may provide one bond of between \$400,000 to \$600,000, with the amount contingent on whether the DDS chooses to provide the DFHV with the information referenced in Section IV(1)(a).
3. The DFHV may require a \$250,000 bond for each class of service (black car or private sedan) from any DDS that fails to comply with the above requirements.

SO ORDERED:

DEPARTMENT OF FOR-HIRE VEHICLES

BY: 

ERNEST CHRAPPAH
Director