

MAY 8, 2008

Reference: PPA PUBLIC HEARING TO PRLA NEGOTIATED ITEMS

We come today to bring closure to a long outstanding matter; the Philadelphia Regional Limousine Association negotiated modifications to several (of the many) excessive Philadelphia Parking Authority regulations.

We come today not with an overwhelming willingness by the Philadelphia Parking Authority to understand the hardships they have forced upon our industry, but with the much needed support that has been garnered by the strong, professional membership of *the* Philadelphia Regional Limousine Association from the legislative body who first allowed this injustice to occur.

We come today with the legislative participation, and persuasion on the PPA, in an attempt to resolve these regulations and make the PPA aware they are under scrutiny for the outcome and what may need to occur in the future.

We come today even with the dissuasion of certain legislators who initially "promised their support to remove these onerous dual regulations from occurring". These same legislators initially offered their promise to support legislation by allowing our industry to remain solely under the regulations of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission.

We come today to fight what is wrong, defend what is right and allow this now "public hearing" to be a matter of record to bring conclusion to these needed modified regulations.

We come today to allow those legislators who have given us their support, guidance and desire to watch these proceedings and determine what more is needed to forbid this arduous task of bringing change to the 94 documented pages of onerous regulations. These regulations are interpreted and subsequently changed at the sole discretion of those in the Taxi Limousine Division. Present example would be the email dated February 15, 2008 from Manamka Jordan. In this email there is total disregard for the fact the PPA does not have regulatory control over buses. The "stretched vehicles" referenced have been identified as a bus by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (15 passenger and above), therefore companies should not be required to have them registered with the PPA.

We come today to place a stop on this practice, place a face on those that these regulations affect, place a notice to those who make these arbitrary changes that we will not allow this to continue and will use every legitimate method to bring these practices to a halt.

We come today to support the acceptance of the PRLA negotiated items that must now have these public hearings for those items requiring change to the regulations.

We come today in realization, that as suspected, the PPA could easily lift some of the burden of their regulations by a professional, productive, mutually beneficially resolution to maintain the desire in keeping the public safety at the forefront. The PPA has made the choice to make this a tedious, exhausting, non-revenue producing process for the transportation industry while failing to recognize this is not a personal attack on this agency, simply it is the passion of those involved and their failure to understand this is our livelihood. Many people count on this form of employment, many taxes are paid as a business partner, many satisfied customers have benefited by the high level of service consistently provided. It is our passion and desire to serve in this industry; to the PPA is only a job.

In closing I would like to read a paragraph from a letter dated January 25, 2008 responding to my local legislator, whom I have sought assistance and relief from these regulations. It is written by a dedicated, sincere, committed high ranking employee of the PPA, Mr. Dennis G. Weldon, Jr. (General Counsel to the PPA) and by my reading such, would like to let this general public meeting understand why the PRLA has chosen the path we must follow to seek relief from the onerous regulations of the PPA:

“Mr. Jagiela has made no attempt to conceal his goal of removing the Authority from the limousine regulatory process in Philadelphia; in as much as that remains his goal there may be little the Authority can do to fully assuage his concerns”.

I now offer my thanks to the PPA in their understanding in how very true these words are and how well they have heard our position. I ask for total adoption of these items needing such and respectfully request a continuation of respecting our need for relief to those items not yet addressed.

Respectfully,



Philip S. Jagiela

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