

Chapter 593: Livery Vehicles

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593.01 Regulation by the Vehicle for Hire Board

The Board may adopt rules and regulations to supplement this chapter.

593.02 Allowing Operation of an Unlicensed Livery Vehicle and Exceptions for an Unlicensed Livery

(a) No person shall solicit, drive, operate, or otherwise be in physical control of any livery vehicle for the purpose of carrying the public generally as passengers for hire, gift, donation, or other consideration unless:

(1) The owner of such livery vehicle has obtained a City of Columbus Vehicle for Hire Owner's License issued pursuant to Chapter 587 prior to operation and such license is not under suspension or revocation; and

(2) Each driver of the licensed livery vehicle has obtained a City of Columbus Vehicle for Hire Driver's License issued pursuant to Chapter 589 prior to operation and such license is not under suspension or revocation; and

(3) The driver identification card is properly displayed while the driver is operating, driving or otherwise in physical control of a licensed livery vehicle; and

(4) The current decal issued by the License Section is clearly displayed in the lower right hand corner of the windshield; or

(5) The operator has brought passengers from outside Columbus' corporate limits into its limits and does not pick up any passengers within these corporate limits.

(b) The provisions of this chapter shall apply to all funeral vehicles when the vehicle is used as a livery vehicle. This will require the licensing of the owner and driver as provided in Chapters 585 through 589. Vehicles loaned from a funeral director to a person or company to be used as livery must be licensed as livery vehicles in accordance with Chapters 585 through 594; and

(c) The owner of a livery vehicle for hire may pick up passengers within the city without obtaining a City of Columbus Vehicle for Hire Owner's License provided that all following requirements are met:

(1) The business address of the livery owner is located outside the corporate limits of the city;

(2) The passenger's pickup location occurred outside the corporate limits of the city;

(3) The driver picks up only the same passenger who was brought into the corporate limits of the city from outside of the city; and

(4) The livery driver possesses within the livery vehicle a written agreement signed by the passenger indicating the livery is engaged in a single, roundtrip.

(d) A vehicle for hire owner or driver that does not comply with all four (4) requirements found in Section 593.02(c) shall be required to be licensed by the Department of Public Safety pursuant to Chapters 585, 587, 589 and 593.

593.03 Livery Vehicle Standards

All licensed livery vehicles shall be reasonably clean and in safe condition so as not to cause personal injury or damage the clothing or possessions of the passenger(s). Every livery vehicle shall be equipped with the following:

- (a) A light within the passenger compartment;
- (b) Safety or shatterproof glass in all windows;
- (c) Passenger restraints such as safety belts, which may be used at the option of the passenger, numbering no fewer than the maximum occupancy of the livery; and
- (d) A two-way radio or telephone dispatch.

593.04 Temporary Licensing Procedures

(a) The owner of a licensed livery vehicle may obtain a ten (10) day temporary livery permit for use only on vehicles rented or leased temporarily from a company in the business of renting vehicles to the general public.

(b) The application for a temporary livery permit shall be on a form designated by the Director. In addition to all other requirements, a copy of the rental agreement shall be presented with the application. The fee for each permit shall be twenty dollars (\$20.00) when the rented or leased vehicle is in service for less than thirty-six (36) hours; twenty dollars (\$20.00)/day for thirty-six (36) hours and above, not to exceed one hundred and forty dollars (\$140.00), payable upon submission of the application.

(c) If the applicant meets the requirements established in C.C.C 587.03, 587.14, 587.15, 587.16 and 587.17, and the vehicle passes an inspection, a permit shall be issued.

(d) If the owner of an existing licensed livery vehicle requires the use of a rented or leased vehicle to supplement its service for a period of time less than thirty-six (36) hours, an application shall be given to the Director for approval of a temporary permit. The application shall provide information regarding the lessor, year, make, model, license number of the temporary vehicle, and the beginning and ending period of the temporary rental or lease. The fee for each temporary permit shall be twenty dollars (\$20.00) and must be submitted to the Director along with a copy of the rental agreement.

(e) The permit shall be displayed on a placard placed on the left dashboard and visible from the outside of the vehicle through the windshield.

(f) All provisions of this chapter, except Section 593.03(d) shall apply to vehicles temporarily licensed.

593.05 Grounds for Permanent Revocation, Revocation, and Suspension

The Director may permanently revoke, revoke or suspend the license of any livery driver and/or owner who engages in any of the following conduct:

- (a) Allowing employees, agents or licensed drivers to solicit or accept passengers on the streets or by any means other than through prearrangement;
- (b) Failing to operate a scheduled livery vehicle on its scheduled route and at the scheduled times; or
- (d) Carrying a passenger in a livery without charging the hourly rate.

593.99 Penalties

(a) Whoever violates Section 593.02 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(b) A violation of any other section of Chapter 593 shall be grounds for the suspension, revocation, or permanent revocation of the livery owner or driver license or in the case of a new application shall be grounds to refuse to issue such license for a determinate period of time up to ninety (90) days or permanently.