



April 26, 2022 - Vehicle for Hire Licensing Board/ Transportation Energy and Utilities Joint Committee 4/26/2022

Members present

Jack Hanson, Gene Bergman, Mark Barlow

Also Present

Sarah Montgomery, Hayley McClenahan, Arif Arif

Meeting called to order at 5:04 PM

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Agenda

Action, Procedural: 1.01 Adopt/Amend Agenda
Adopt Agenda as is

Motion by Mark Barlow, second by Gene Bergman
Final Resolution: Motion Passes
Aye: Mark Barlow, Gene Bergman, Jack Hanson

2. Election of Joint Committee Chair

Action: 2.01 Election of Joint Committee Chair
Nominate Jack Hanson

Motion by Gene Bergman, second by Mark Barlow
Final Resolution: Motion Passes
Aye: Mark Barlow, Gene Bergman, Jack Hanson

3. Public Forum

Discussion, Information: 3.01 Public Forum
No members of the public spoke at public forum.



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4. Hearings

Action: 4.01 Burlington Airport Taxi - Arif Arif

Gaetan Provost, the complainant, was not present at the meeting. Jack Hanson asked if he was notified of the meeting. Sarah Montgomery confirmed that he was notified by letter and email. The complainant did submit a written complain which is publicly available.

Arif Arif, the owner/driver of the company who received the complaint was present. Hayley McClenahan swore in Arif Arif.

Arif stated that he started his business 10 years ago here and has not received any complaints in this time. He stated that when he took th/e customer to the border, the customer indicated to border control that he had a positive Covid test recently. However, before Arif picked his customer up, he asked him if he had a negative Covid test, and the customer said yes. The customer originally indicated that he would like to be dropped up before the border, but Arif took him over so he wouldn't have to walk and carry his luggage that distance. When Arif asked him about the positive Covid test he overheard him tell the border patrol agent about, the customer indicated that the positive test was not recent, but rather was 10 or 15 days ago. After he dropped off the customer, he called the customer's father who made the original booking (Gaetan Provost) and said he would be charging him an additional \$175 because he now had to quarantine for 3 days because of a close contact and would not be able to work. Arif stated that Gaetan initially agreed, but called back five minutes later saying Arif couldn't charge him two times (once for the ride and the additional \$175 for the quarantine time). After the 3 days, he did take a Covid test and it was negative. About a month ago, Arif received a dispute claim from Paypal, and the money was refunded to the complainant. Arif stated that the complainant also said that he was driving 120 kpm in bad weather. Arif stated that was not true. Arif stated that he tried to go to customs a few days ago to get proof of the positive Covid test, but they were unable to share that information with him.

Mark Barlow asked Arif to clarify the timeline around the Covid testing. He stated that to get through customs, people need to show a test that was taken within the past 72 hours. They are able to continue through the border into Canada either way, but if it is positive they will need to quarantine once they enter Canada. Arif stated that he heard the customer tell the border patrol worker that his test was positive. Mark Barlow asked about the charges. Arif confirmed that he charged the customer an initial \$175 for the ride and an additional \$175 for lost income during the time he had to quarantine, for a total of \$350. He also confirmed that \$175 was refunded back to the customer so the total amount he collected was \$175, which is the amount that was agreed upon for the ride. Jack Hanson asked when the 2nd charge was refunded. Arif answered that it was returned 15-20 days ago through the Paypal dispute. Arif will send the email confirmation of the refund to Sarah Montgomery who will share it with the Board.

The public portion for this agenda item was closed and the board determined they would move on to the deliberative session in the coming days. Gene Bergman made a motion to allow for materials to continue to be submitted moving forward. Mark Barlow seconded. Jack Hanson suggested they leave it open till the end of the week. The board unanimously agreed on this, agreeing to accept any new materials until Friday, 4/29. Sarah Montgomery will reach out to the complaining party to let them know they are able to submit additional materials if desired. Jack Hanson stated that the Board would issue a written decision within the next couple of weeks



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5. Deliberative Session

Action: 5.01 Deliberative to session to consider hearings and denial
Enter deliberative session per 1 VSA 310

Determined to happen via email and discussion over the next few days and weeks.

6. Adjournment

Action: 6.01 Adjourn
Adjourn meeting at 5:35pm

Motion by Gene Bergman, seconded by Mark Barlow.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes
Aye: Mark Barlow, Gene Bergman, Jack Hanson