



THE DRIVER'S SEAT

By Doug Schifter
Executive Chauffeur and
Professional Driver

VOTE THEM OUT!

The NY Black Car Drivers Association is being launched.

I have created a page on Facebook for a new organization: the NY Black Car Drivers Association. The purpose of the page is for all Black Car Drivers to speak out, and for us to ORGANIZE OUR VOTES and vote as one voice. There are so many of us now, we can actually affect elections and thus can wield political power over the TLC with our numbers. We must stop the TLC from constantly adding to their never-ending list of new rules, and get them to cease their ongoing harassment, which will destroy us and our industry.

I urge everyone to join our efforts by "liking" our page and following the page. This will finally give us a say, so we can force the city to respect us. Spread the word to EVERYONE. We can help each other and there is NO COST or loss of time from work involved. It is the perfect solution. Do it now! Get in touch with all the drivers you know and tell them to get in touch with the drivers they know. Just "like" our page. It costs nothing, and can help get us everything we need. I will add an editor eventually who can translate our posts into Arabic, Urdu and Bengali, so those who have trouble reading English will not be left out.

Minimum Pricing Controls Needed

With the TLC forcefully restricting our

hours – so they can fine us for trying to survive – they need to insure a MINIMUM income per hour so we can survive financially. This must be posted industry-wide for all drivers and bases. Drivers will not mind working humane hours, but we need humane rates to do it.

It will not create a pricing control issue as the amount will be a minimum, and bases can add to it or not as they see fit – but it will guarantee rates that are fair to drivers and enable them to continue in business. The yellow and green cabs have TLC regulated rates so they can make a profit, and it is time for the TLC to give that to us as well, especially since they want to limit our hours just like they do to the Taxis. You cannot do one without the other and be reasonable. Not that "TLC" and "reasonable" are generally mentioned in the same sentence...

It just seems like the TLC is really striving to destroy our industry, besides stealing our blood money.

Stop Adding Black Cars and Taxis

The TLC needs to freeze car levels immediately. There are way too many Black Cars and Taxis out there and not enough business to support them. I know they are

inconsiderate and ignorant, but even the most ignorant bureaucrat should realize that there are limits to demand, eventually... even in New York City.

The traffic the TLC and DOIT (Dept. of Impeding Traffic) is creating is choking the streets with cars. Going from the Financial District to Midtown is no longer a 30 minute trip during the day. It now takes a good 45 minutes, and sometimes even an hour. Sometimes, ALL of the avenues on the West Side going uptown are crawling. This is also detrimental to our income as most rates do not involve time charges, and if we get \$30 for a local, that will not change if it takes 20 or 60 minutes to do the job. Times are increasing constantly, getting to pickups and doing jobs. Income is not. The bases do not have the ability to raise rates due to the unlimited and uncontrolled number of cars.

There are areas not serviced readily for our clients by other means of rapid public transportation and they are forcing them to radically change the time they allot for going to other parts of Manhattan for crucial meetings. The city risks alienating these firms, which provide tax (and other) revenue for the city, and possibly losing them to other cities and neighboring states. Time is critical for our clients, which include some

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DRIVERS WANTED

We are looking for Qualified, TLC-licensed Chauffeurs to join our fleet

Prospects Must:

- Knowledge of the Tri-state area (able to operate without GPS)
- Speak English well
- Have excellent Customer Service Skills
- Have 5 + years of driving experience
- Be able to work flexible hours (weekdays/weekends/Holidays)
- Well groomed

B02747

Qualified applicants will be eligible for a \$500 Sign-on Bonus after 90 calendar days of continuous employment (if hired in the month of August)

You can apply in person at:

88A 4th Ave,
Brooklyn, NY 11217



Call for more information:

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