

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS**

**IN RE: RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING )  
OPERATORS TRANSPORTING PASSENGERS IN )  
TAXICABS, LIMITED PUBLIC MOTOR VEHICLES ) DOCKET NO. 06 MC 08  
AND PUBLIC MOTOR VEHICLES )**

**NOTICE OF RULEMAKING AND PUBLIC HEARING**

Pursuant to the provisions of R.I.G.L. §§ 39-1-3(b), 39-1-15, 39-3-33, 39-14-20, 39-14.1-8 and 42-35-3, the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (hereinafter “Division”) will conduct a public hearing on **Thursday, February 23, 2006 at 10:00 a.m.**, in the Division’s second floor hearing room located at 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island, for the purpose of adopting Division rules titled “Rules and Regulations for Governing Operators Transporting Passengers in Taxicabs, Limited Public Motor Vehicles and Public Motor Vehicles.” These rules and regulations will govern the licensing procedure and professional conduct of drivers transporting passengers in taxicabs, limited public motor vehicles and public motor vehicles in Rhode Island.

The proposed rules and regulations are on file at the offices of the Division, located at 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island. Copies of the proposed rules may be obtained by calling the Division at (401) 941-4500, ext. 158, or in person at the offices of the Division or on the Division’s Web site at [www.ripuc.org](http://www.ripuc.org).

Since Taxicab companies, Limited Public Motor Vehicle companies and Public Motor Vehicle companies, as common carriers under R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-14-1(2) and §39-14.1 respectively, are utilities within the meaning of R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-1-2(20), and therefore under R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-3.3(d)(7), are not considered small businesses for the purposes of R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 42-35-3 and 42-35-3.3, and this rulemaking proceeding is exempt from the requirements of those sections regarding regulations affecting small businesses. Nevertheless, the Division does not believe that the proposed rules will have a significant adverse economic impact on any small business or on any city or town. The proposed rules are intended to merely clarify and reduce to writing existing regulatory policy, do not represent a substantial change in the way any of these drivers have been regulated, and therefore should not have any economic impact on these drivers or transportation businesses (or the communities in which they are located).

Interested persons wishing to offer data, views, or arguments on the proposed rules and regulations may do so either orally on the day of the hearing or by submitting their comments in writing to the following address prior to the date of the hearing:

Associate Administrator for Motor Carriers  
Division of Public Utilities and Carriers  
89 Jefferson Boulevard  
Warwick, Rhode Island 02888

**All comments must be received at the address above by no later than 3:30 p.m., Friday, February 17, 2006.**

Reference is also made to R.I.Gen.Laws Chapters 42-35, 39-1, and 39-14 specifically §§ 42-35-1, 42-35-2, 42-35-3, 42-35-3.3, 42-35-4, 42-35-5, 39-1-3, 39-1-15, 39-1-38, 39-14-2.2(e) and 39-14-20(b).

THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS IS ACCESSIBLE TO THE HANDICAPPED. INDIVIDUALS REQUESTING INTERPRETER SERVICES FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED MUST NOTIFY THE DIVISION'S OFFICE AT 941-4500, EXT. 158, SEVENTY-TWO (72) HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE HEARING DATE.

Terrence E. Mercer  
Associate Administrator for Motor Carriers  
January 31, 2006