



Limousine Associations of New Jersey

July 25, 2013

E-News

LANJ E-News is published each month expressly for the members of the Limousine Associations of New Jersey and other professionals in the livery industry.

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LANJ Aggressively Pursues Jitney Illegal Actions

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New Jersey Assembly Bill 3993 is legislation designed to deal with the illegal activities by Jitneys operating out of Atlantic City, as well as Hudson, Bergen and Union Counties, NJ.

Members of the Transportation Committee and prime sponsors of the bill are Assemblyman Charles Mainor, Assemblywoman Angelica Jimenez, Assemblywoman Marlene Caride and Assemblyman Scott Rudder.

Although Jitneys in Atlantic City are only to be operating on a fixed route and can only conduct business in the four contiguous municipalities adjacent to Atlantic City, they have taken to doing business at the Atlantic City International Airport, charter work to include weddings, proms, concerts, sporting events and other venues not within their regulatory authority, along with conducting interstate trips.

The North Jersey Jitneys do not meet the definition allowed by state law in order to be classified as a Jitney. Companies are renting out “Jitneys” to drivers who do not possess a commercial driver license. The issue gets down to enforcement.

LANJ Executive Director, Barry Lefkowitz recently met with Assemblyman Charles Mainor, prime sponsor, along with Assemblyman John Amodeo, who’s District has Jitneys and officials from Atlantic City’s Licensure Bureau responsible for ground transportation in the area.

The general consensus by all parties is that the legislation was necessary and that there needed to be strong sections added encompassing fines, enforcement by local, county and state law enforcement officials, strengthening the existing state law so that there is no ambiguities regarding how Jitneys are allowed to operate, increasing insurance requirements for Jitneys operating as they were meant to conduct business and finally if they want to conduct business similar to limousines they will be required to meet all rules and regulations governing our industry.

The New Jersey Bus Association has agreed to work with LANJ in seeking passage of the Bill and Assemblyman Charles Mainor is speaking with Senator Nicholas Sacco (D), Transportation Chair, to be prime sponsor of the Bill in the Senate.

Many thanks to Paul Rosenberg LANJ Board Alternate, for hosting a luncheon for the group after the meeting!

“Beach Buggies” Want to be Classified as Limos

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A group of young entrepreneurs have introduced to the Jersey Shore area battery operated golf type vehicles, typically found in Celebration, Florida. These 2-6 passenger vehicles provide door to door service, pick up your laundry and a host of other services. Presently they are operating in Margate, NJ.

These types of vehicles are classified as a “low speed vehicles” by the federal government, but are not classified for commercial use and may not go over 25 mph. The Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) has been approached by the attorney for “Beach Buggies” to have them classified as limousines since they are unable to get medallions as taxis, which would be a more appropriate classification for them.

Jeff Shanker, Legislative Chair and Secretary of the LANJ Board and LANJ Executive Director, Barry Lefkowitz recently had a major conference call with the MVC General Counsel and Legislation Liaison. Both made it very clear that MVC would be opening itself up to a host of problems and issues if they allowed these vehicles to be classified as limousines. Jeff Shanker provided them specific statutory cites to demonstrate our points. Additionally, putting OL plates on them would allow them to go over the 25mph speed limit, have open containers and a host of other rights that the law should not allow for “Beach Buggies.”

They have taken all of our information under advisement and will call upon us if they need further information and material.

Bill Thompson, Mayoral Candidate for NYC, Pledges Support to LANJ

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Wednesday, July 17th, Barry Lefkowitz, LANJ Executive Director, hosted a major fundraiser with Matt Daus, LANJ General Counsel, at Mr. Daus’ law firm, Windels Marx Lane & Mittendorf, LLP, in New York City for Bill Thompson, NYC Mayoral Candidate. The event was very successful as Matt Daus had a number of members from the Coalition of Transportation Associations (COTA) and other individuals engaged in the ground transportation industry present there.

Mr. Thompson was most articulate and candid. He clearly understands our industry and the specific problems plaguing LANJ members in conducting business in NYC. He committed to us that he will hire a commissioner who understands our industry and that he will be surrounded by competent staff sensitive to our interest and needs to operate in NYC.

Matt Daus and Barry Lefkowitz have helped identify individuals in the various areas of NYC that can assist with Thompson’s campaign. The polls show him gaining on Anthony Weiner and Christine Quinn. The primary will probably require A RUN-OFF between the two top vote getters and Thompson feels he is going to be one of them according to recent polling. Thompson thanked LANJ for their support.

Reduce your LANJ dues by leveraging the Chosen Payments LANJ Partnership!

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Chosen Payments strives to help LANJ grow its member base as well as add extreme value to all existing members. Chosen has offered to pay \$250 towards any current LANJ member’s dues if they cannot save you money on your credit card processing! This is a WIN-WIN as you will either save significantly on your processing fees, or you will get \$250 towards your LANJ dues! If you are not yet a member of LANJ Chosen will give you a \$150 signing bonus to become a new LANJ member, and new Chosen client. This also is a WIN-WIN as you will gain all the benefits of joining LANJ for \$150 less, and Chosen will give you an additional \$250 if we cannot save you money! Spend the 10 minutes it takes to consult with Chosen Payments and you may realize how to significantly reduce your operating costs as

well as help to support the growth of LANJ! For more information please contact Vincent Crivello at (855) 424- 6735 ext 113, vincentc@chosenpayments.com or Sarah VanBeek at (855) 424-6736 ext 128. Also please visit our new site dedicated to YOU! www.liverypayments.com

Let LANJ hear from you. Please send your comments and/or questions to kim.bubnis@limo.org.

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