



Limousine Associations of New Jersey

September 26, 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 at Forefront of Jitney Legislation

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On September 23, LANJ Board Secretary/Legislative Chair Jeff Shanker and Vice-President James Moseley, testified in front of a special hearing of the NJ Assembly Transportation Committee held in Hoboken in favor of the bi-partisan bill A3993 sponsored by Assemblyman Charles Mainor and several other members of the Assembly. Board Member Paul Rosenberg was in attendance supporting LANJ's efforts and being available as an expert witness on the Atlantic City Jitneys.

The Assembly Committee, which took testimony from, federal (FMCSA), state officials and stakeholders as a whole appear ready to move legislation to correct the serious safety problems presented by North Jersey jitney-buses and AC jitneys in South Jersey. The legislature wants to correct the obsolete laws surrounding jitney-buses and the AC jitneys and their operation. The foundation of LANJ's testimony focused on safety issues and jurisdictional authorities which are permitting the illegal operation of these vehicles which include issues of: enforcement ability of local, county, and state law enforcement officials utilizing "probable cause," the implementation of a CDL program with criminal background checks, drug and alcohol screening for all drivers and a fine structure established similar to the limousine law.

Testimony was heard from the Atlantic City Jitney Association President, Tom Woodruff, where he stated they recognized they are operating as a monopoly in the Atlantic City area. Further, they clearly stated they have been operating across state lines (illegally), especially with the Miss America Pageant with 14 jitneys picking up at Philadelphia International Airport and took people to Atlantic City with only one vehicle having USDOT Authority. They creatively (illegally) leased out the authority of one vehicle for the remaining 13. Can you imagine if a limousine company did that!!!

Woodruff stated that jitneys only operate 15 days a month in Atlantic City and in the nearly 100 years of existence, no AC jitney has ever gone out of business or filed for bankruptcy. When challenged as to what jitneys do the other 15 days of the month, Woodruff stated "maybe they are doing charter work" (illegally).

A jitney operator from North Jersey stated she owns 98 buses in her fleet and leases out an additional

100 vehicles under her one USDOT authorized vehicle to various independent owner/operators in the area (illegally).

Assemblyman Wisniewski, Committee Chair, noted these vehicles could be producing upwards of \$225 million in revenue.

The USDOT/FMSCA was represented by Christopher Rotondo, Division Administrator for NJ. His testimony and expertise was well received and educational for the legislators. In response to how these vehicles should be classified, his response was simple...if it looks like a bus...it is a bus, whether it's 13 passengers (AC Jitneys) or more (North Jersey). He stipulated that if a vehicle does not cross state lines to transport passengers to another state, FMSCA has no jurisdictional oversight capabilities, however, if it does cross state lines, his agency does have authority.

Assemblymen Wisniewski and Mainor both personally thanked LANJ for our professionalism and proactive approach towards the entire passenger transportation industry, where we are always recognized for looking out for the betterment and safety of our passengers.

It is anticipated that the A3993 and its Senate counterpart will be brought up on the Assembly and Senate floors for a vote in the next couple of months during the "lame duck" session.

LANJ Luncheon with Port Authority and NFL representative Successful

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On September 18th, LANJ held its Annual A-1 Limo-Cadillac Fleet Services luncheon. The event was co-hosted by Don Brown Bus Sales, Advantage Funding, CTEK Power and our affinity credit card partner, Chosen Payments.

Diane Pappianni of the PANYNJ was our keynote speaker along with staff members from the Authority and PA Police and Jose Hernandez, Game Day Management Group, representing the NFL.

The 100 operators and vendors were given a complete insiders look at the Tuesday through Super Bowl day view and how our industry will be utilized and positioned for this extraordinary event for the region.

LANJ will be a part of continued discussions with the Port Authority and the NFL representative. If you weren't there or represented, you missed critical information.

LANJ Breakfast at Chauffeur Driven Trade Show & Conference

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Don't miss the annual LANJ Breakfast Meeting to be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2013 at the Chauffeur Driven Trade Show and Conference at the Trump Taj Mahal, Atlantic City, NJ. Invited Keynote Speaker is Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno.

The show runs November 3-6.

LANJ to Appear on Special Panel at LCT Show East

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Tim Rose, LANJ President, and Barry Lefkowitz, LANJ Executive Director, have been requested to participate as panelists on the Congress of State and Regional Associations, a discussion on regulatory and legislative issues, led by Executive Director of the National Limousine Association, Philip Jagiela, Sunday, October 27, 12:00pm – 1:30pm, at the LCT Show East at the Atlantic City Convention Center and Caesars Palace, Atlantic City, NJ.

The show runs October 27-29.

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- 6736 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

For Your Attention! Alamo Affinity Program

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A ten-minute call with Alamo Insurance Group could 1) save your business thousands of dollars and 2) earn you an annual business development grant to cover your LANJ membership dues. Alamo offers a no-nonsense approach to managing insurance outlays using cost management technologies and administrative services that can help your organization control costs and reduce your bottom line expenses. Additionally, LANJ members that become clients of Alamo Insurance group are eligible to apply each year for a business development grant equal to that member's annual membership dues up to a maximum of \$1,500. For more information, visit www.alamoinurance.net or call (877) 55-ALAMO, press Option 9, then ext. 212.

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

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