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Limousine Association of New Jersey

E-News
October 11, 2022

The Limousine Association of New Jersey E-News is published on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month expressly for the organization's members.

Autonomous Ride-Hail and Delivery Services Soon to Be Introduced by Uber and Motional

As reported by the New York City-based law firm **Windels Marx** in an email communication to clients on October 7, "Motional and Uber Technologies announced a 10-year agreement to bring fully driverless rides and autonomous delivery to Uber's customers.

"In a press release, the companies said they will deploy the service in cities across the U.S., with the first trips expected to start later this year. Motional and Uber each declined to specify which cities will see driverless ride service first, in response to inquiries from Smart Cities Dive.

"A spokesperson for Motional, which develops Level 4 autonomous vehicles for ride-hail and delivery networks, said the company believes 'this will be the largest robotaxi deployment on a major ride-hail network.'

"The agreement builds on a partnership between Motional and Uber Eats for autonomous food delivery, which launched in Santa Monica, California, earlier this year.

"'We're excited to leverage the power of Uber's platform to help reimagine the ways people and goods move around cities,' said Noah Zych, global head of autonomous mobility and delivery at Uber, in an email. 'Through our partnership with Motional, we aspire to optimize AV operations and bring more electric vehicles to U.S. roads – creating cleaner, less congested transportation for cities and riders.'

"As part of the agreement, Uber will share select information to allocate and position Motional's vehicles efficiently, in a way that reduces vehicle downtime and unnecessary miles traveled. Smarter operations also translate into a better experience for Uber customers, ultimately leading to reduced wait times and lower fares, the companies said.

"The latest Uber partnership 'creates a clear path for robotaxi adoption,' said Phil Vidal, senior director of business development at Motional, in an emailed statement."

National Limousine Association Board Nominations Now Being Sought



The National Limousine Association (NLA) now is seeking self-nominations for five open positions for the organization's **2022 Board of Directors**. Included are one **At Large** seat (applicants may hail from any U.S. state) and one U.S. **Northeast Region** seat (applicants must hail from CT, MA, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI or VT), as well as one seat each from the U.S. Central, West and Southeast Regions.

Noted by Limousine Association of New Jersey member and NLA president **Robert Alexander** in his most recent weekly letter to NLA members, "The nominations for the upcoming annual Board election are now open and we are hoping to see passionate and committed candidates throw their hat into the ring. Over the last few years, we have seen more and more nominees run in the elections and I hope that that number will continue to rise.

"Whether you are a large or small operator, service a city, suburban, or rural area, or do corporate or retail work, we welcome you to join the Board. The more diverse, the better! Having a Board full of individuals with different perspectives and fresh ideas only benefits the NLA and makes it better for you, the members."

See [here](#) for full information about eligibility and application requirements as well as for the application itself.

The deadline for application submission is **Tuesday November 1 at 5 PM ET**.

Recommendations on

2018 Schoharie Limo Crash Released

"New York State's Stretch Limousine Passenger Safety Task Force (has) released its recommendations to the public..." according to **News Channel 13** in its September 30 online coverage.

"The state Legislature established the 11-member task force to recommend improvements to an industry fraught with safety and enforcement issues. Many of those issues were exposed following the 2018 crash of a stretch limo in (New York's) Schoharie County that killed 20 people.

"While there have been parallel investigations into the cause and culpability of the crash, there has also been an effort to make sure what happened in Schoharie never happens again...

"Among the many recommendations, the task force is calling for mandatory seatbelt use for all limo passengers, uniform training for limo drivers, and a minimum age to obtain a limo driver's license.

"In addition, older vehicles that have been on the road for 10 years or have driven 350,000 miles will be removed from service.

"One of the bigger recommendations involves better communication between state agencies...

"It was on Saturday afternoon — Oct. 6, 2018 — when a white Ford stretch limousine owned by Prestige Limousine crashed into a restaurant parking lot on Route 30 in Schoharie County, killing the driver, 17 passengers, and two bystanders.

"An accident reconstruction expert hired by investigators working with Schoharie County District Attorney Susan Mallery determined the crash was a result of the limousine's 'catastrophic brake failure.'

"The person who was operating Prestige Limousine, Nauman Hussain, is currently awaiting trial, facing 20 counts of criminally negligent homicide."

Limousine Association of New Jersey

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