

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.

## LANJ Membership Dues Collection To Be Reinstated July 1

Effective July 1, 2021, the Limousine Association of New Jersey will reinstate membership dues collection. Dues collection was suspended for all members on April 1, 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic effects on the chauffeured transportation industry in the Garden State.

Right now a personalized email is being sent to each member requesting updated contact and payment information. If you have not already received your email, please expect it to arrive within the next few days.

## In particular for operators: Since many have reduced the number of their company's vehicles during the past year, operators will be asked to verify fleet size to ensure dues are charged as they currently apply.

Dues may be paid by check on an annual basis, i.e., July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022, or by automatic credit card charge on a monthly basis beginning July 1, 2021. It is anticipated that credit card payment will be the easiest for most.

It is important to know that, while dues collection will have been suspended for 15 months, LANJ's efforts on behalf of its members have not stopped for a moment during this time. Of note, LANJ leaders are responsible for negotiating with The New York & New Jersey Port Authority to significantly reduce the charges, insurance obligation and administrative requirements for the FHV Permit from those originally planned by the Authority.

Again, if it hasn't already been received, do expect to receive a personalized email within the next several days requesting updated contact and payment information for your company's LANJ membership.

Many thanks in advance for your prompt response!

## NLA Joins Industry Alliance Against Proposed Changes to CDL Requirement

As reported to its members on June 2, 2021, the National Limousine Association (NLA), on behalf of the chauffeured transportation industry, joined three other national transportation entities to register their complaint to the leaders of the U.S. House of Representatives Transportation & Infrastructure Committee against the currently proposed changes to the Commercial Driver's License (CDL) requirement.

In part, their letter of complaint to the legislators read: "As you continue discussions on a surface transportation reauthorization, our broad-based coalition of ground transportation operators would like to share our concerns with language included in H.R. 2, the INVEST in America Act which passed the House in 2020. H.R. 2 included major changes to the federal Commercial Driver's License (CDL) requirements. We urge the Committee to remove this language from any upcoming infrastructure or reauthorization bill, as it would have a very serious negative impact on our labor force, passengers, and affordability of our services.

"The proposal, introduced as the 'End the Limo Loophole' Act (H.R. 2958), would shrink the vehicle size CDL requirement from sixteen to nine passengers, including the driver. This would place a severe regulatory and financial burden on the industry as we struggle to recover from the COVID-19 slowdown. Our operators provide an essential service in communities large and small throughout the country, and we are critical to the broader economic recovery.

"Ground transportation has long been a stable pathway to the middle class but has been decimated by COVID-19. We urge the Committee to work with us on a solution that avoids further harming those hit hardest by the pandemic, and table this proposed language."

To review the full letter of complaint, which includes an explanation of the unintended consequences of changing the CDL requirement, such as driver shortage and increased costs of service, click <u>here</u>.

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