

In the Matter of the Taxi Service
Company License
Held by Airport Connect Taxicab Service Corporation
d/b/a: Airport Connect
2010 East Hennepin Ave. # 64
Minneapolis, MN 55413

Findings of Fact,
Conclusions and
Recommendations

Minneapolis Taxi Service Company License: L256 50001

This matter came before the Department at a License Settlement Conference on Wednesday, January 19, 2011 at 10:30 a.m. in Room 1-C, Minneapolis City Hall. Appearing on behalf of the licensee was Gedion Adeda, Secretary for Airport Connect and Molla Kassa, Treasurer for Airport Connect. Appearing for the City was: Ronald Martin and Richard Tuffs, License Inspectors and Patrick Hilden, Licensing Supervisor. Based on information presented at the hearing, the Department makes the following findings of fact and conclusions:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Airport Connect Taxi Service Corporation has been a licensed taxi service company in the City of Minneapolis since July of 2002.
2. On December 16, 2006, Airport Connect was issued a violation notice for MCO 341.290, in which it was determined that the company was not maintaining 24 hour dispatching from their central business office, located at 2010 East Hennepin Avenue.
3. On Saturday, September 27, 2010, at approximately 6:40pm, License Inspector Ronald Martin conducted an inspection of Airport Connect's central business office. Inspector Martin made two phone calls to the company's advertised phone number, all of which went unanswered, and were forwarded to a cellular phone voicemail system, which was not the company's advertised phone number. Inspector Martin then called a 3rd time, and the call was answered by an unidentified person. This person stated that he was dispatching for Airport Connect, and that the office was closed at night and on the weekends. Inspector Martin subsequently issued Airport Connect a \$200 administrative citation for violation of MCO 341.290(a). This citation has been paid.

4. On Saturday, October 30, 2010, at approximately 10:55pm, License Inspector Ronald Martin, accompanied by License Inspector Richard Tuffs, conducted a re-inspection of Airport Connect's central business office. Inspector Martin made two phone calls to the company's advertised phone number, all of which went unanswered, and were forwarded to a cellular phone voicemail system, which was not the company's advertised phone number. Inspector Martin then called a 3rd time, and the call was answered by an unidentified person. This person stated that he was dispatching for Airport Connect, and that the office was closed at night and on the weekends. Inspector Martin subsequently issued Airport Connect a \$400 administrative citation for violation of MCO 341.290(a). This citation is outstanding.

5. On Sunday, November 21, 2010, at approximately 10:40am, License Inspector Ronald Martin, accompanied by License Inspector Craig Eliason, conducted a second re-inspection of Airport Connect's central business office. Inspector Martin again made several phone calls to the company's advertised phone number, all of which went unanswered, and were forwarded to a cellular phone voicemail system, which was not the company's advertised phone number. Inspector Martin then made another call, and the call was answered by Molla Kassa, who stated that he was dispatching for Airport Connect, and that the office was closed at night and on the weekends. Inspector Martin subsequently issued Airport Connect an \$800 administrative citation for violation of MCO 341.290(a). This citation is outstanding.

CONCLUSIONS

1. The licensee has violated Minneapolis Code of Ordinances 341.290(a) pertaining to the operation of licensed taxicabs in the City of Minneapolis on (4) separate occasions within a four year period, with 3 violations within a 60 day period.
2. The licensee currently has a total of (2) administrative citations outstanding, in the amounts of \$400 and \$800.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Department acknowledges the licensee's interest in resolving the issues with its licensed business. Due to the expressed willingness of all parties to bring the business into compliance with all applicable ordinances, statutes and regulations the Department makes the following recommendations:

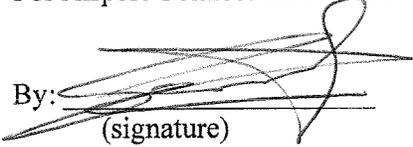
1. The City shall impose the \$400 outstanding fine for administrative citation #10-0805409. This amount shall be paid by the licensee on a plan approved by the Department, which includes four payments of \$100, with the first payment due upon the signing of this agreement, and the three remaining payments due every 30 days thereafter.
2. The City shall stay the \$800 outstanding fine for administrative citation #10-0808428 for a period of one year, provided that the licensee has no same or similar violations within that time period.
3. The licensee will be in compliance with the requirements of Minneapolis Code of Ordinance 341.290 within 30 days of the signing of this agreement.

Airport Connect Taxicab Service Corporation understands that the holding of a business license in the City of Minneapolis is both a privilege and a responsibility, and, as such, it is understood that there is a minimum standard that shall be met in order to hold such a license. Furthermore, it is understood that a license holder is responsible to ensure that its business operates in compliance with all applicable laws, ordinances and regulations. As such, it is understood and agreed that any violation of the above Recommendations shall constitute just and proper cause for the immediate imposition of any agreed upon or stayed penalties. It is further understood that compliance with the above Recommendations is a requirement for continuing to hold a license and that failure to comply with any of these conditions may result in additional adverse license action.

I have read and understand the above findings of fact, conclusions, and recommendations. I agree with their contents and I agree with the above noted Recommendations. I understand that the failure of my business to adhere to this agreement may be cause for further suspension, revocation, or denial of my license. I understand that this report must be accepted and approved by the Minneapolis City Council and Mayor.

Based upon the foregoing, this agreement is FREELY & VOLUNTARILY ENTERED INTO IN GOOD FAITH:

For Airport Connect Taxicab Service Corporation.

By: 

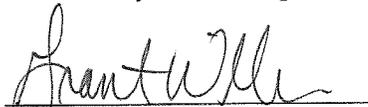
(signature)

Its: Secretary

(title)

Dated: 02/07, 2011.

For the City of Minneapolis:



Grant Wilson

Manager of Business Licenses

Dated: 2/9, 2011.