

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND

ORDER NO. 12,754

IN THE MATTER OF:

Served March 8, 2011

Application of ALEX-ALTERNATIVE)
EXPERTS, LLC, for a Certificate of) Case No. AP-2010-179
Authority -- Irregular Route)
Operations)

Applicant seeks a certificate of authority to transport passengers in irregular route operations between points in the Metropolitan District, restricted to transportation in vehicles with a seating capacity of less than 16 persons only, including the driver. The application is unopposed.

The Compact, Title II, Article XI, Section 7(a), authorizes the Commission to issue a certificate of authority if it finds that the proposed transportation is consistent with the public interest and that the applicant is fit, willing, and able to perform the proposed transportation properly, conform to the provisions of the Compact, and conform to the rules, regulations, and requirements of the Commission.

Applicant proposes commencing operations with 4 sedans and 2 vans. Applicant proposes operating under a tariff containing rates for transportation under contracts with government agencies. In fact, applicant was awarded a passenger transportation contract by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in 2010. Applicant subcontracted the service to Executive Technology Solutions, LLC, WMATC No. 985, effective October 1, 2010, which apparently is the starting date of the ICE contract. Under the subcontract, applicant furnishes some drivers but no vehicles. ETS is responsible for furnishing all vehicles and some drivers. ETS employees are responsible for supervising all drivers, including those furnished by applicant. Under Commission precedent, the entity providing the vehicles and drivers is presumed to be the carrier,¹ in this case, ETS. And although Regulation No. 62-08 prohibits a WMATC carrier from leasing vehicles and drivers from the same source, no such arrangement is reflected in the record.

Applicant verifies that: (1) applicant owns or leases, or has the means to acquire through ownership or lease, one or more motor vehicles meeting the Commission's safety requirements and suitable for

¹ *In re Applied Business Management Solutions, Inc (ABMSI) LLC*, No. AP-07-112, Order No. 10,733 at 3 (Sept. 5, 2007); *In re Carey Limo. D.C., Inc., & ADV Int'l Corp., t/a Moran Limo. Serv.*, No. AP-94-53, Order No. 4499 at 5 (Feb. 16, 1995).

the transportation proposed in this application; (2) applicant owns, or has the means to acquire, a motor vehicle liability insurance policy that provides the minimum amount of coverage required by Commission regulations; and (3) applicant has access to, is familiar with and will comply with the Compact, the Commission's rules, regulations and orders, and Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations as they pertain to transportation of passengers for hire.

Based on the evidence in this record, the Commission finds that the proposed transportation is consistent with the public interest and that applicant is fit, willing, and able to perform the proposed transportation properly, conform to the provisions of the Compact, and conform to the rules, regulations, and requirements of the Commission.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. That upon applicant's timely compliance with the requirements of this order, Certificate of Authority No. 1797 shall be issued to Alex-Alternative Experts, LLC, 4443 Brookfield Corporate Drive, #110, Chantilly, VA 20151-4023.

2. That applicant may not transport passengers for hire between points in the Metropolitan District pursuant to this order unless and until a certificate of authority has been issued in accordance with the preceding paragraph.

3. That applicant is hereby directed to present its revenue vehicle(s) for inspection and file the following documents within the 180-day maximum permitted in Commission Regulation No. 66: (a) evidence of insurance pursuant to Commission Regulation No. 58; (b) an original and four copies of a tariff or tariffs in accordance with Commission Regulation No. 55; (c) a vehicle list stating the year, make, model, serial number, fleet number, license plate number (with jurisdiction) and seating capacity of each vehicle to be used in revenue operations; (d) a copy of the for-hire vehicle registration card, and a lease as required by Commission Regulation No. 62 if applicant is not the registered owner, for each vehicle to be used in revenue operations; and (e) proof of current safety inspection of said vehicle(s) by or on behalf of the United States Department of Transportation, the State of Maryland, the District of Columbia, or the Commonwealth of Virginia.

4. That the grant of authority herein shall be void and the application shall stand denied upon applicant's failure to timely satisfy the conditions of issuance prescribed herein.

FOR THE COMMISSION



William S. Morrow, Jr.
Executive Director