

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ORDER NO. 2410

IN THE MATTER OF:

Served April 29, 1983

Application of V.I.P. TOURS for )  
a Certificate of Public Convenience )  
and Necessity to Conduct Special )  
Operations — Sightseeing Tours )  
and School Children )

Case No. AP-83-10

Application of NATION'S CAPITAL )  
SIGHTSEEING TOURS for a Certificate )  
of Public Convenience and Necessity )  
to Conduct Special Operations -- )  
Sightseeing Tours )

Case No. AP-83-12

Application of HENRY LICHTENSTEIN )  
for a Certificate of Public )  
Convenience and Necessity to )  
Conduct Special Operations — )  
Sightseeing Tours )

Case No. AP-83-13

In Case No. AP-83-10, by application filed April 21, 1983, V.I.P. Tours (V.I.P.) seeks a certificate of public convenience and necessity to engage in special operations limited to (1) ". . . transportation of private school students (e.g., Georgetown Day School)" and (2) sightseeing tours operating between points of interest within the Metropolitan District, together with mail, express and baggage in the same vehicle with passengers.

Applicant, a partnership of three individuals, operates three 15-passenger vans and proposes to provide a four-hour tour of sightseeing points in the District of Columbia at a charge of \$12.50 per person (half fare for children ages 5-11, with no charge for children under 5). A longer 'combination tour' including a stop at Arlington Cemetery, Arlington, Va., would cost \$18.75 (\$9.40 for children ages 5-11, with no charge for children under 5). Discounts for large groups, senior citizens and handicapped persons would be available. The proposed school transportation would involve an informal agreement between applicant and the student's parents based on a \$70 per child charge for each month of transportation.

In Case No. AP-83-12, by application filed April 21, 1983, Nation's Capital Sightseeing Tours (Capital), a partnership composed of two individuals, seeks a certificate of public convenience and necessity to perform special operations providing sightseeing tours between points of interest within the Metropolitan District, together with mail, express and baggage in the same vehicle with passengers.

Capital operates one 11-passenger van and one 15-passenger van and proposes to provide a six-hour tour of sites in the District of Columbia for a charge of \$12.50 per person (half fare for children ages 5-11, children under five at no charge), and an expanded seven-hour tour including a stop at Arlington Cemetery, Arlington, Va., at a cost of \$17.50 per person, (half fare for children ages 5-11, with no charge for children under 5).

In Case No. AP-83-13, by application filed April 26, 1983, Henry Lichtenstein, a sole proprietor, seeks a certificate of public convenience and necessity to engage in special operations limited to sightseeing tours. While no geographic territory is described, reference to the Washington Metropolitan Area and Arlington Cemetery is made. For purposes of this application, the Commission will assume that the Metropolitan District is the scope of territorial authority sought. A restrictive amendment may be offered by applicant prior to, or at the public hearing to be scheduled.

Applicant operates an 11-passenger van and proposes to provide the following tours: regular building tour, substitute building tour, Arlington tour and Mount Vernon tour. Each tour would cost \$15 per person.

Pursuant to Title II, Article XII, Section 4(b) of the Compact, each application must be scheduled for a public hearing to determine if the applicant is fit, willing and able properly to perform the proposed service and to abide by pertinent regulatory requirements, and to determine if the public convenience and necessity requires the proposed service. Each applicant will be assessed an amount preliminarily estimated to cover the cost of the hearing and will be required to submit a statement of projected revenue and expenses.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. That Case No. AP-83-10 of V.I.P. Tours is hereby scheduled to commence Wednesday, June 1, 1983, at 11:00 a.m., in the Hearing Room of the Commission, Room 314, 1625 I Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20006.

2. That Case No. AP-83-12 of Nation's Capital Sightseeing Tours is hereby scheduled to commence Wednesday, June 1, 1983, at 1:30 p.m., in the Hearing Room of the Commission, Room 314, 1625 I Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20006.

3. That Case No. AP-83-13 of Henry Lichtenstein is hereby scheduled to commence Thursday, June 2, 1983, at 10:00 a.m., in the Hearing Room of the Commission, Room 314, 1625 I Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20006.

4. That each applicant publish once in a newspaper of general circulation in the Metropolitan District notice of this application and hearing, in the form prescribed by the staff of the Commission, no later than Friday, May 6, 1983, and present at the hearing an affidavit of publication from the selected newspaper.

5. That any person desiring to protest any or all of the applications shall file a protest in accordance with Commission Rule No. 14, or any person desiring to be heard on these matters shall so notify the Commission, in writing, no later than Monday, May 23, 1983, and shall simultaneously serve a copy of such protest or notice, in each application, in Case Nos. AP-83-10 and AP-83-12, on counsel for applicants, Donald L. Hamer, Esquire, 1735 - 20th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20009, and in Case No. AP-83-13, on applicant, Henry Lichtenstein, 3701 Kingswood Drive, Suitland, Md. 20747.

6. Each applicant is hereby assessed \$200 pursuant to Title II, Article XII, Section 19 of the Compact, and is directed to deliver said amount to the office of the Commission, Suite 316, 1625 I Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20006 no later than Wednesday, May 25, 1983.

7. That each applicant file with the Commission no later than May 25, 1983, four copies of a statement of projected revenue and revenue deductions anticipated from its first 12-month period of operations, simultaneously serve one copy of such statement on each party of record as of May 23, 1983, and produce the original thereof at the public hearing.

FOR THE COMMISSION:

  
GREGORY PAUL BARTH  
Acting Executive Director