

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ORDER NO. 2441

IN THE MATTER OF:

Served July 8, 1983

Application of AL'S TRAVEL SERVICE,))
INC., for Temporary Authority to)
Conduct Special and Charter)
Operations Between Points in the)
Metropolitan District)

Case No. AP-83-37

By application filed June 3, 1983, Al's Travel Service, Inc., a District of Columbia corporation, seeks temporary authority to transport passengers as follows:

- (1) Transportation of tours (out of town); Arrangement for Tour Packages
- (2) Limousine Service
- (3) Sightseeing tours between points of interest in the Metropolitan District

It appears as though the first operation is that of a long-haul carrier or tour broker and falls under the jurisdiction of the Interstate Commerce Commission. "Limousine service" is otherwise undescribed and no rates are contained in the proposed tariff. Therefore, we will treat the application only as seeking temporary authority to conduct special operations limited to round-trip sightseeing or pleasure tours, between points in the Metropolitan District.

Al's proposes two specific tours. Tour A includes Ford's Theatre, the White House, Bureau of Engraving and Printing, U. S. Capitol, and the Smithsonian Institution, lasts approximately four hours and has an adult fare of \$15 per person. Tour B consists of Tour A supplemented by a riding tour of the Lincoln, Jefferson and Viet Nam Memorials and Arlington Cemetery. Tour B lasts approximately 6-1/2 hours and the per capita adult fare is \$25. On both tours, children 5-11 years of age are accommodated at half price; children under 5 travel at no charge; and groups, senior citizens, military and handicapped are eligible for discounts.

Applicant's president holds both a hacker's license and a guide permit from the District of Columbia. Al's proposes to use a 1979 15-passenger van and states that appropriate evidence of insurance will be filed. Al's balance sheet (undated) shows assets of \$79,901, equipment notes payable of \$44,800 and equity of \$35,101. It's revenue statement (for an unspecified period) shows tour package income of \$72,037, limousine service revenue of \$18,010, operating expenses of \$71,010, and net income (after provision for taxes) of \$14,030.

The Ladies Auxiliary, Knights of St. John, has used Al's service in the past and intends so to do in the future. The nature of the service provided is not divulged. Gillis Long, M.C., states that Al's has a long record of outstanding service in the Washington, D. C. area. The Genesis "4" Social Club has used Al's service, most recently for a bus trip to Atlantic City, N. J.

Hunter & Gill, Consultants, are pleased with service rendered by Al's in the past. The National Coalition of Title I, Chapter I Parents has used some aspect of Al's service in the past and intends to have Al's handle the travel for its November conference in Cleveland, Ohio. The Hospitality Community Federal Credit Union states that it has used applicant in and around the Washington metropolitan area for tours and limousine transportation, and would do so again in the future.

The William Zimmerman family used Al's service for an individual tour in March 1983. They will recommend applicant to their friends in Ohio who plan to visit the Washington area in the future. Ellworth Brewer states that he has used Al's service on many occasions and received excellent service. Finally, Herbert Barksdale states that he has used Al's for sightseeing tours and would recommend the service to family and friends.

Title II, Article XII, Section 4(d)(3) of the Compact sets forth the conditions under which the Commission may grant temporary authority. To the extent that temporary authority is granted below, we find that those conditions have been met. Accordingly, the application shall be granted subject to specified restrictions and conditions.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. That temporary authority is hereby granted to Al's Travel Service, Inc., as follows:

Special operations, restricted to lectured, round-trip sightseeing tours, between Arlington National Cemetery, Va., and points in that part of the District of Columbia south of a line beginning at the junction of Constitution Avenue,

N. W., and Rock Creek Parkway, N. W., thence along Constitution Avenue, N. W., to 17th Street, N. W., thence along 17th Street, N. W. to Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W., thence along Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W., to 10th Street, N. W., thence along 10th Street, N. W., to F Street, N. W., thence along F Street, N. W., to 9th Street, N. W., thence along 9th Street, N. W., to Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W., thence along Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W., to Constitution Avenue, N. W., thence along Constitution Avenue to its junction with 2nd Street, N. E.

RESTRICTED to the transportation of passengers in vehicles with a manufacturer's designed seating capacity of 15 passengers or less (including the driver); and

FURTHER RESTRICTED against the solicitation of passengers on any public space south of a line beginning at the junction of the east side of East Executive Avenue and the center line of Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W., thence along Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W., and a line extending along the northern boundary of the White House and the Executive Office Building to the west side of 17th Street, N. W. */

2. That the temporary authority granted herein shall be effective on the date on which applicant files an acceptable certificate of insurance, an affidavit of compliance with Commission Regulation No. 68-03 governing identification of vehicles, an affidavit that all advertising materials contain the statement required by Commission Regulation No. 71 (formerly Regulation No. 69), and two copies of WMATC Tariff No. AP-83-37 in accordance with Commission Regulation No. 55, and shall continue in effect for 180 days unless otherwise ordered by the Commission.

3. That applicant is directed to file the materials specified in the preceding paragraph within 10 days from the date of service of this Order.

*/ D. C. Police Regulations (January 1983), Article II, §8(e)(7).

4. And that, except to the extent granted herein, the application in Case No. AP-83-37 is hereby denied.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION, COMMISSIONERS WORTHY, SCHIFTER AND SHANNON:


GREGORY PAUL BARTH
Acting Executive Director