

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND

ORDER NO. 17,068

IN THE MATTER OF:

Served July 5, 2017

Application of US LIMO WORLD INC.)
for a Certificate of Authority --)
Irregular Route Operations)

Case No. AP-2016-222

This matter is before the Commission on applicant's request for reconsideration of Order No. 16,895, served March 21, 2017, which assessed a \$1,000 civil forfeiture against applicant for unlawfully advertising service requiring WMATC authority, but otherwise approved the issuance of a certificate of authority subject to payment of the forfeiture.

Payment of the forfeiture originally was due within 30 days, or by April 20, 2017. That deadline was subsequently extended, at applicant's request, to September 18, 2017.¹

Under Article XIII, Section 4, of the Compact, a party affected by a final order or decision of the Commission may file within 30 days of its publication a written application requesting Commission reconsideration of the matter involved.² The 30-day deadline is fixed by statute and may not be waived.³ The deadline for reconsideration of Order No. 16,895 was April 20, 2017. Applicant did not file its request until April 26, 2017.

We further note that the grounds urged for reconsideration are that respondent's CEO, Mr. Haider Ali, was unaware of Commission advertising regulations on December 28, 2016, when applicant's unlawful advertising occurred. This allegation is contrary to the record in Case No. AP-2015-207 concerning the application of another company headed by Mr. Ali, DC Limo World Inc.

Mr. Ali was president of DC Limo World Inc when it filed an application for WMATC authority in 2015. During the course of that proceeding, WMATC staff challenged DC Limo World Inc's advertising of WMATC service through the website www.dclimoworld.com. Mr. Ali replied as follows: "On the request of WMATC, I have removed the website content and will wait for the WMATC Certificate of authority." Ultimately, the DC Limo World application was denied because of

¹ *In re US Limo World Inc.*, No. AP-16-222, Order No. 17,017 (May 25, 2017).

² Compact, tit. II, art XIII, § 4(a).

³ *Paramed Med. Transp., Inc.*, No. MP-02-50, Order No. 7085 (Mar. 10, 2003).

advertising violations committed by yet another company headed by Mr. Ali in 2011.⁴

It is clear then, that as of December 28, 2016, Mr. Ali was well aware that WMATC applicants may not legally advertise WMATC service until their certificates of authority have been issued.

The request for reconsideration is accordingly denied without prejudice to applicant's option to request a payment plan.⁵

IT IS SO ORDERED.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION; COMMISSIONERS HOLCOMB, DORMSJO, AND RICHARD:



William S. Morrow, Jr.
Executive Director

⁴ *In re DC Limo World Inc*, No. AP-15-207, Order No. 16,214 (Feb. 19, 2016).

⁵ *See In re Swift Sedans LLC*, No. MP-16-015, Order No. 16,969 (Apr. 25, 2017) (approving forfeiture payment plan).