

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ORDER NO. 2415

IN THE MATTER OF:

Served May 10, 1983

Application of ARTHUR J. THOMAS)
T/A GOLDEN EAGLE SIGHTSEEING)
TOURS for a Certificate of Public)
Convenience and Necessity to)
Conduct Special Operations --)
Sightseeing Tours)

Case No. AP-83-17

Application of GRIFFIN M. MURPHY)
T/A MAXI-BUS TOURS for a)
Certificate of Public Convenience)
and Necessity to Conduct Charter)
Operations and Special Operations)
-- Sightseeing Tours)

Case No. AP-83-20

Application of SAMUEL HOWELL T/A)
HOWELL SIGHTSEEING TOURS for a)
Certificate of Public Convenience)
and Necessity to Conduct Special)
Operations -- Sightseeing Tours)

Case No. AP-83-22

Application of JAMES WARREN DICKENS)
for a Certificate of Public)
Convenience and Necessity to)
Conduct Special Operations --)
Sightseeing Tours)

Case No. AP-83-23

In Case No. AP-83-17, by application filed May 3, 1983, Arthur J. Thomas trading as Golden Eagle Sightseeing Tours seeks a certificate of public convenience and necessity to engage in special operations limited to "sightseeing tours operating between points of interest within the Metropolitan District . . ." together with mail, express and baggage in the same vehicle with passengers. The application is restricted to the use of equipment designed to seat 15 passengers or less (including the driver).

Applicant, a sole proprietor, operates a 15-passenger van and proposes to provide a four-hour building tour at a charge of \$12.50 per adult, \$6.25 for children ages 5-11 and free to children under 5. A combination tour, including building tour plus a riding tour of Arlington Cemetery and several additional memorials, would last approximately six and one-half hours and would cost \$18.75 per adult, \$9.40 for children 5-11 and no charge for children under five. Discounts could be available for groups, senior citizens and military and handicapped persons.

In Case No. AP-83-20, filed May 4, 1983, Griffin M. Murphy, a sole proprietor, trading as Maxi-Bus Tours, seeks a certificate of public convenience and necessity to perform both special and charter operations providing ". . . sightseeing of the historical and important buildings and sights in Washington Metropolitan area." */

Mr. Murphy operates one 14-passenger van and proposes to provide two specific tours. Tour No. 1 consists of stops at the White House, Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Capitol, Smithsonian Institution and Arlington Cemetery and would last about six hours. The charge would be \$15 for adults and \$7.50 for children age 3-11. Presumably children under three would ride free. The second tour, called the "City Tour" consists of ". . . a mobile tour of Tour No. 1 for sightseeing and the taking of pictures with inside visits." This tour would last approximately two and one-half hours and be priced at \$7.50 for adults and \$3.75 for children age 3-11.

In Case No. AP-83-22, filed May 4, 1983, Samuel Howell, trading as Samuel Howell Sightseeing Tours, seeks a certificate of public convenience and necessity to engage in special operations limited to "sightseeing tours operating between points of interest within the Metropolitan District." The application limits service to use of a 15-passenger van and states that applicant would transport mail, express and baggage in the same vehicle with passengers.

Applicant, a sole proprietor, proposes to provide a four-hour building tour of specified cites at a charge of \$12.50, \$6.25 for children age 5-11, and no charge for children under five. A combination tour, including a building tour plus a riding tour of Arlington Cemetery and several additional memorials, would last approximately six and one-half hours and would cost \$18.75 per person, \$9.40 for children 5-11 and no charge for children under five. Discounts would be available for groups, senior citizens and military and handicapped persons.

*/ The proposed tariff filed with the application contains rates and a tour description relevant to special operations only.

In Case No. AP-83-23, filed May 5, 1983, James Warren Dickens seeks a certificate of public convenience and necessity to provide sightseeing tours of Washington, D. C., and Arlington and Mount Vernon, Va. Service would be provided in an eight-passenger van and would originate in the area of the Washington Monument, Washington, D. C.

Applicant, a sole proprietor, proposes to offer a regular building tour priced at \$12, a substitute building tour priced at \$8, a tour of Arlington for \$12 and a Mount Vernon tour priced at \$17. Children ages six to 12 would be charged half price. Presumably, children under six would ride free.

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.

In several of the applications contained herein, there is no restriction regarding the size of equipment to be used or specification of the territory to be served. The applications are to be scheduled as is, but applicants may proffer restrictive amendments where restrictions have not been already specified.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. That Case No. AP-83-17 of Arthur J. Thomas, trading as Golden Eagle Sightseeing Tours is hereby scheduled to commence Thursday, June 2, 1983, at 1:30 p.m., in the Hearing Room of the Commission, Room 314, 1625 I Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20006.
2. That Case No. AP-83-20 of Griffin M. Murphy, trading as Maxi-Bus Tours is hereby scheduled to commence Monday, June 6, 1983, at 9:00 a.m., in the Hearing Room of the Commission, Room 314, 1625 I Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20006.
3. That Case No. AP-83-22 of Samuel Howell, trading as Samuel Howell Sightseeing Tours is hereby scheduled to commence Monday, June 6, 1983, at 11:00 a.m. in the Hearing Room of the Commission, Room 314, 1625 I Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20006.
4. That Case No. AP-83-23 of James Warren Dickens is hereby scheduled to commence Monday, June 6, 1983 at 1:30 p.m., in the Hearing Room of the Commission, Room 314, 1625 I Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20006.

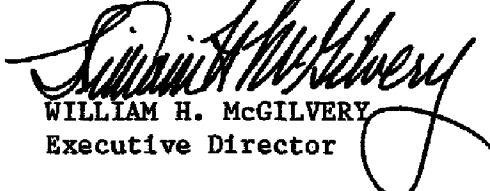
5. That each applicant publish once in a newspaper of general circulation in the Metropolitan District notice of this application and hearing, in the form prescribed by the staff of the Commission, no later than Monday, May 16, 1983, and present at the hearing an affidavit of publication from the selected newspaper.

6. 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 Tuesday, May 31, 1983, and shall simultaneously serve a copy of such protest(s) or notice(s), in Case Nos. AP-83-17 and AP-83-22, on counsel for applicants, Donald L. Hamer, Esquire, 1735 - 20th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20009; in Case No. AP-82-20, on counsel for applicant, Melvin Washington, Esquire, 1100 - 6th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20001; and in Case No. AP-82-23, on applicant, James Warren Dickens, 1904 Bender Court, Palmer Park, Md. 20785.

7. 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, June 1, 1983.

8. That each applicant file with the Commission no later than Wednesday, June 1, 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 31, 1983, and produce the original thereof at the public hearing.

FOR THE COMMISSION:


WILLIAM H. MCGILVERY
Executive Director