

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC

ORDER NO. 5023

IN THE MATTER OF:

Served February 10, 1997

Application of LAIDLAW TRANSIT,)
INC., for Approval of Acquisition)
of Control and Transfer of)
Certificate No. 100 from NATIONAL)
SCHOOL BUS SERVICE, INC.)

Case No. AP-97-08

By application filed February 5, 1997, Laidlaw Transit, Inc., a Delaware corporation, and National School Bus Service, Inc. (NSBS), WMATC Carrier No. 100, (collectively applicants), seek Commission approval of Laidlaw's acquisition of control of NSBS through stock ownership and subsequent merger of NSBS into Laidlaw.

Laidlaw operates through various subsidiaries and has been described as the largest provider of school bus transportation in the United States. See Laidlaw Acquisition Corp. v. Mayflower Group, Inc., 636 F. Supp. 1513 (S.D. Ind. 1986). Safe Ride Services, Inc., a second-tier subsidiary of Laidlaw, has applied for its own certificate of authority.¹ Another Laidlaw subsidiary, Laidlaw Transit (Virginia) Inc., held Certificate No. 64 until its transfer to Williams Bus Lines, Inc., last year.²

After the merger, Laidlaw proposes conducting operations with school buses acquired from NSBS, along with some of its own vehicles. Laidlaw will refile the NSBS tariff as its own.

The Commission may approve this application under Article XI, Section 11, and Article XII, Section 3, of the Compact, if the Commission finds the acquisition of control and subsequent merger consistent with the public interest.³

Pursuant to Commission Rule No. 6, this order and fulfillment of its requirements will provide notice of the application.

¹ In re Safe Ride Servs., Inc., No. AP-97-03, Order No. 4995 (Jan. 7, 1997).

² In re Laidlaw Transit (Virginia) Inc., & Williams Bus Lines, Inc., No. AP-96-46, Order No. 4957 (Oct. 24, 1996).

³ In re Cavalier Transp. Co., Inc., t/a Tourtime America, Ltd. & Tourtime America Motorcoach, Ltd., No. AP-96-21, Order No. 4926 (Sept. 12, 1996); In re Boston Coach-Wash. Corp., No. AP-93-21, Order No. 4163 (Sept. 13, 1993); In re Peter Pan Bus Lines, Inc., No. AP-93-19, Order No. 4149 (Aug. 11, 1993).

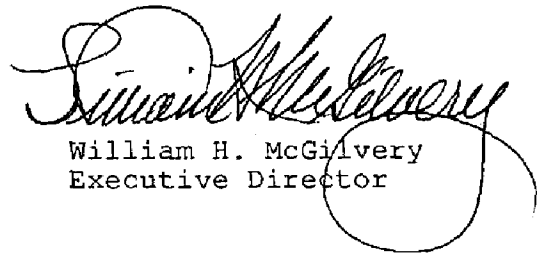
THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. That applicants shall publish once in a newspaper of general circulation in the Metropolitan District, no later than February 21, 1997, notice in the form prescribed by the staff of the Commission.

2. That applicants shall file with the Commission, no later than March 14, 1997, an original and four copies of an affidavit that notice has been published as required in the preceding paragraph.

3. That the deadline for filing protests, comments, applications for intervention, and requests for formal hearing is March 14, 1997, and that copies must be served on applicants' attorney, Mark J. Andrews, Esquire, 1401 Eye Street, N.W., Suite 500, Washington, DC 20005.

FOR THE COMMISSION:



William H. McGilvery
Executive Director