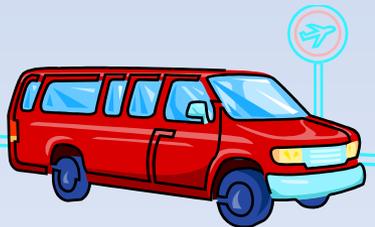




# Commercial Passenger Transportation

Traffic Safety Summit 2014



# Bus & Limousine Regulatory Unit Staff

- Michael Frezell – Supervisor
- Robbie Smith – Regulatory Analyst
- Michelle Weber-Currie – Regulatory Analyst
- Rob Latimer – Commercial Bus Inspector
- Brian Barnum– Commercial Bus Inspector
- Tim Smith – Commercial Bus Inspector
- Andy Powers - Commercial Bus Inspector

# What do we Regulate?

- For-Hire Limousines (Act 271 – Limousine Transportation Act)
- For-Hire Buses & Motorcoaches (Act 432 – Motor Bus Transportation Act)

# What is For-Hire?

- *Per Acts 271 & 432, for hire means remuneration or reward of any kind, paid or promised, either directly or indirectly.*



# What are Limousines?

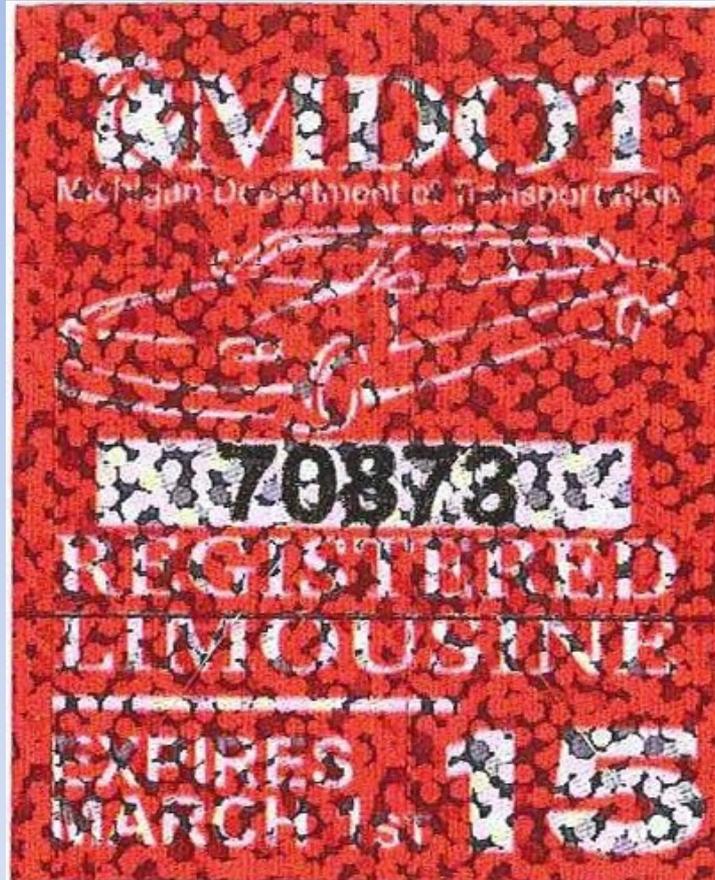
- Up to 15 passengers (including the driver)
- Traditional & Stretched Limos
- Executive Cars
- Party & Limo Buses
- Vans
- Non-emergency Medical Transportation
- “Taxis” operating on a flat rate without a meter.



# MDOT Limousine Requirements

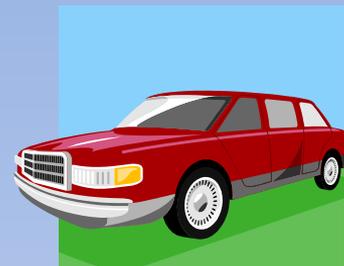
- Certificate of Authority to operate
- Annual Vehicle Inspection & Renewal Fees
- Liability Insurance
  - \$1,000,000 (1 to 9 passengers)
  - \$2,000,000 (10 to 15 passengers)
- Personal and property protection insurance
- Decal affixed to the driver's side

# Limousine Decal Sample





# Taxis vs Limousines



- Act 271 does not apply to “metered” vehicles identified as taxi with a maximum seating capacity of 3 to 9 passengers.
- A taximeter must be installed in the vehicle and fares charged from the meter.
- Many taxi companies are operating vehicles without meters and charging a flat rate. These vehicles are required to be registered as a limo with MDOT.



# What are Buses?

- 16 passengers and over (including the driver)
- Motorcoaches
- Party & Limo Buses
- For-hire school bus companies and school districts providing charter transportation.



# MDOT Bus Requirements

- Certificate of Authority to operate
- Annual Vehicle Inspection & Renewal Fees
- Liability Insurance
  - \$5,000,000
- Personal and property protection insurance
- Inspection decal affixed to the driver's side

# Bus Inspection Decal Sample



# Exemptions to 271 & 432

- Public transit buses
- Funeral limousines
- Taxis with meters generating fares from the meter
- Public & private owned or operated school buses providing pupil transportation.
- Commuter Vans/Pools (Michivans)
- Private transportation not available to the general public or not charging fares or fees to the general public for the transportation (if a person or a group can ride the bus for free) If there is a charge or a donation it is for hire and needs to be licensed.
- Certain nonprofit organizations providing transportation
- Parking shuttles/bar shuttles not charging fees for the service
- Exempt operations are still subject to FMCSA regulations as adopted by PA 181

# Reasons for Licensing & Enforcement

- Promote SAFETY!!!
- Protect the travelling public
- Track licensed carriers
- Set standards

# Regulatory Challenges

- “Ma and Pa” carriers
- Limos vs Taxis
- Transportation Network Companies like Uber, Uber X, and Lyft
- Safety standards for modified vehicles
- Enforcement of illegal carriers

# In the News

- 1/23/2013 - 2/10/2013 – Ann Arbor Police investigate three sexual assaults by taxi drivers. City of AA cracks downs on taxis.
- 2/3/2013 – Fatal bus crash in California kills eight people. Federal Motor Carrier orders company to stop operating because buses are not maintained or inspected and drivers were not qualified.
- 5/4/2013 – Fatal limo fire kills five people in California. The cause of the fire was a ruptured air spring causing friction.

# California Limo Fire



(AP Photo/Oakland Tribune-Bay Area News Group, Jane Tyska)

# Illegal Motorcoach



# BLRIS

- Bus & Limousine Regulatory System
- Data system containing information about limousine and bus companies
- Displays authorized and unauthorized companies and vehicles
- Available to law enforcement for searching
- Upgraded in 2013.

# BLRIS Search Screen

BLRIS Home | MSP Citation Codes | Quick Reference Guides Welcome, | Logout | Contact Us

 **BLRIS** Michigan Department of Transportation  
Bus & Limo Regulatory Information System

Home > Law Enforcement Search Reset Search

**Carrier**

Carrier Name  USDOT #

**Vehicle**

Plate #  Decal #  VIN

**Home**  
Search  
Add  
**Law Enforcement**  
Administration  
Reports

# Green - Authorized

MSP Citation Codes | Quick Reference Guides | Welcome, | Logout | Contact Us



Home > Law Enforcement Search Reset Search

**Carrier**

Carrier Name  USDOT #

**Vehicle**

Plate #  Decal #  VIN

**Carrier Results** Export

Carrier Name/DBA ^	USDOT #	Carrier	Fleet	Paid
Green Cab Of Ingham Co Llc - Limo - Lansing		Authorized	Authorized	Yes

**Vehicle Results** Export

Authorized	Type	Plate #	VIN	Decal #	Fleet #	Make	Model
Authorized	Limo	CD88573	JTDKB20U487760839	67788	1	Toyota	Prius
Authorized	Limo	CD88069	4T3ZF13C22U435800	67789	7	Toyota	Sienna
Authorized	Limo	CD88817	2A4GP44R56R634861	67793	1100	Chrysler	Town&Ctry
Authorized	Limo	CD88883	JTDKN3DU6B0273505	67791	1010	Toyota	Prius
Authorized	Limo	DA08476	1GNDV23137D129380	67792	1013	Chevrolet	Uplander LS
Authorized	Limo	CD88107	JTDKB20U683312464	67790	8	Tovota	Prius

# Red - Unauthorized



## BLRIS Michigan Department of Transportation Bus & Limo Regulatory Information System

- Home
- Search
- Add
- Law Enforcement**
- Administration
- Reports

Home > Law Enforcement Search Reset Search

**Carrier**  
Carrier Name  USDOT #

**Vehicle**  
Plate #  Decal #  VIN

**Carrier Results** Export

Carrier Name/DBA ^	USDOT #	Carrier	Fleet	Paid
Conquest Limousine Llc - Limo - Dearborn		Revoked	Unauthorized	Yes
Conquest Transportation Inc - Bus - Ecorse	1819881	Revoked	Unauthorized	Yes



# Vehicle Information

Vehicle Information Window				✕			
<b>Vehicle Report</b>				<input type="button" value="Export"/>		<input type="button" value="Show All Vehicles for Carrier"/>	
Vehicle Status:		Unauthorized		Status Date:		09/18/2013	
Failure Reason(s):		MCL: 474.105 [8990] - Operating without Carrier Authority					
		MCL: 474.109(2) [8991] - Operating without Sufficient Insurance					
		MCL: 474.116 [8994] - Operating without a Passed Inspection					
		MCL: 474.117 [8992] - Operating without Paying Fees					
Carrier Name:		Conquest Transportation Inc		AKA Name:		Conquest Transportation Inc	
Fleet Number:		2004		Decal Number:		54147	
Type/Capacity:		Bus/55		Vehicle Make:		MCI	
Vehicle Model:		E4500		Vehicle Year:		2000	
VIN:		1M8TRMPA3YP061274		Plate Number:		CC49467	
Registration State:		MI		Registration Status:		Suspended	
<b>Inspection History:</b>							
INSPECTION:				Date:		04/23/2012	
Result:		Fail		Next Inspection:			
INSPECTION:				Date:		04/25/2011	
Result:		Pass		Next Inspection:		04/25/2012	
INSPECTION:				Date:		04/15/2011	
Result:		Fail		Next Inspection:			

# More Sample Results

- Home
- Search
- Add
- Law Enforcement**
- Administration
- Reports

Home > Law Enforcement Search Reset Search

**Carrier**

Carrier Name  USDOT #

**Vehicle**

Plate #  Decal #  VIN

**Carrier Results** Export

Carrier Name/DBA ^	USDOT #	Carrier	Fleet	Paid
Trinity Cars - Limo - Wyandotte		Authorized	Authorized	Yes
Trinity Coach LLC - Bus - Wyandotte	1419991	Authorized	Unauthorized	Yes
Trinity Inc - Bus - Wyandotte	822553	Authorized	Authorized	Yes
Trinity Physical Therapy & Rehab Inc - Limo - Oak Park		Revoked	Unauthorized	Yes
Trinity Shuttle - Limo - Wyandotte		Authorized	Authorized	Yes
Trinity Transport LLC - Limo - Sterling Heights		Revoked	Unauthorized	Yes
Trinity Travel LLC - Bus - Muskegon	1567061	Revoked	Unauthorized	Yes

# Recognizing Illegal Carriers

- No valid MDOT limo or bus decals
- Vehicles in poor condition
- Vehicles without identifiable markings
- Driver acting suspicious
- Complaints from other carriers

# Staff Contacts

- Michael Frezell (517) 335-0904
- Robbie Smith (517) 241-0679
- Michelle Weber-Currie (517) 241-0680

# Questions?

