

## NEW YORK CITY TAXI AND LIMOUSINE COMMISSION

### Notice of Public Hearing and Opportunity to Comment on Proposed Rules

**Notice is hereby given in accordance with section 1043(b) of the Charter of the City of New York ("Charter") that the Taxi and Limousine Commission ("TLC") proposes amended rules governing items that are required to be in a taxicab or a for-hire vehicle that must be visible to passengers.**

These rules are proposed pursuant to sections 1043 and 2303(b)(11) of the Charter and section 19-503 of the Administrative Code of the City of New York. These proposed rules are included in the TLC's regulatory agenda for Fiscal Year 2010.

A public hearing on these proposed rules will be held by the TLC at its offices at 40 Rector Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, New York 10006 on October 21, 2010, at 10:00 A.M. Persons wishing to testify at the hearing may notify the TLC in advance, either in writing or by telephone to the TLC's Office of Legal Affairs at the address and telephone number given below. Any request for a sign language interpreter or other form of reasonable accommodation at the hearing for a disability must be submitted to the Office of Legal Affairs in writing, by telephone no later than October 15, 2010.

Written comments in connection with these proposed rules must be received no later than October 20, 2010. Comments may be submitted through the NYC Rules website at [www.nyc.gov/nycrules](http://www.nyc.gov/nycrules), or may be submitted to the Office of Legal Affairs at:

Charles R. Fraser  
*Deputy Commissioner of Legal Affairs/General Counsel*  
Taxi and Limousine Commission  
40 Rector Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, New York 10006  
Telephone: 212-676-1135  
Fax: 212-676-1102  
Email: [tlcrules@tlc.nyc.gov](mailto:tlcrules@tlc.nyc.gov)

Written comments and a transcript of the public hearing will be available for public inspection at that office.

New material is underlined. [Except underlined, italicized subdivision headings]  
[Material inside brackets indicates deleted material.]

Section 1. It is hereby proposed that Section 1-03 of Chapter 1 of Title 35 of the Rules of the City of New York be amended by adding two new definitions, in alphabetical order, to read as follows:

**Taxicab Identification Braille Plaque** is a plaque required to be attached to the interior of a taxicab that identifies in Braille its medallion number, and contains in Braille the word COMPLAINTS and a telephone number.

**Taxicab Identification Raised Lettering Plaque** is a plaque required to be attached to the interior of a taxicab that identifies in raised lettering its medallion number, and contains in raised lettering the word COMPLAINTS and a telephone number.

Section 2. It is hereby proposed that the title of Section 4-23 and Subdivision (b) of Section 4-23 of Chapter 4 of Title 35 of the Rules of the City of New York be amended to read as follows:

**§4-23 Vehicle – Items Required to be in the Vehicle**

*(b) Clear View for Passengers.*

(1) A driver must not block a Passenger’s view of the Taximeter, his or her Driver’s License, [or] the Rate Card, or the Passenger Information Monitor of the T-PEP System, and must not block in any way a Passenger’s access to the medallion number on the Taxicab Identification Raised Lettering Plaque or the Taxicab Identification Braille Plaque.

§4-23(b)(1)	Fine: \$50	Appearance NOT REQUIRED
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Section 3. It is hereby proposed that the title of Section 5-23 be amended and a new subdivision (c) and a penalty be added to Section 5-23 of Chapter 5 of Title 35 of the Rules of the City of New York, to read as follows:

**§5-23 Vehicle – Items Required to be in the Vehicle [During Operation]**

*(c) Clear View for Passengers. A Driver must not block a Passenger’s view of his or her Driver’s License, the For-Hire Vehicle License and, in a Livery, the Livery Passengers’ bill of rights.*

§5-23(c)	Fine: \$50	Appearance NOT REQUIRED
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### **Statement of Basis and Purpose of Rules**

This proposed rule clarifies which of the items required to be present in a taxicab or a for-hire vehicle must be visible to passengers and imposes penalties on drivers who block passengers' view of those items. The purpose of the proposed rule is to ensure that a passenger is able, if he or she wishes, to file a complaint with the Commission against the driver of a taxicab or for-hire vehicle. This proposed rule amends the version of the Commission's rules that becomes effective January 1, 2011.