



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

HACKNEY CARRIAGE DIVISION

831 Massachusetts Avenue, 1st Floor,
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139



Officer Benny Szeto
Hackney Officer

Elizabeth Y. Lint
Executive Director

Memorandum

To: All Cambridge Medallion Owners, Managers, Lessors and Interested Parties

C.C.: Chairman Michael P. Gardner; Commissioner Robert P. Haas; Commissioner Gerald C. Reardon; Hackney Officer Benny Szeto; Corey R. Pilz, License Commission/Consumer Division

From: Elizabeth Y. Lint, Executive Director

Date: July 30, 2012

RE: Taxicab Windshields and Windows Obscured by Nontransparent Materials

The License Commission has been asked to provide its opinion relative to the use of window tint on motor vehicles bearing a City of Cambridge medallion as it applies to the rules and regulations for Cambridge taxicabs. Currently, no regulation exists regarding the use of window tint; however, the Commission recognizes the need for guidance due to the public safety issues surrounding its use. Thus, we defer to both state and federal laws regarding this issue. Please be advised:

According to Massachusetts General Law c. 90 §9D, no window tint, reflective film or nontransparent material shall be used on a vehicle's windshield, front side windows, rear side windows and rear window.

M. G. L. c. 90, §9D(1) provides an exception for motor vehicles manufactured with windshields and window glass areas equipped in accordance with specifications of 49 Code of Federal Regulations 571.205 as authorized by 15 USC 1407.

This language means that vehicles purchased to be used as taxicabs which contain manufactured windshields and window glass with window tint that are in compliance with the federal law and regulation, are exempt from G.L. c. 90, § 9D. *This exemption does not include tinting or glazing which is done aftermarket, which must be removed immediately from all vehicles currently operating.*

Please do not hesitate to contact Corey R. Pilz with any questions or concerns. He can be reached at 617.349.6154 or cpilz@cambridgema.gov.