



**Office of the City Clerk
License Division**

Ronald D. Leonhardt
City Clerk

Rebecca N. Barron
License Division Manager

July 12, 2006

Honorable Common Council
City Hall, Room 205

Re: Ordinance relating to establishing a graduated penalty for persons convicted of operating unlicensed public passenger vehicles, or providing radio dispatch service to unlicensed public passenger vehicles.

Dear Council Members:

The License Division respectfully requests that the attached ordinance be referred to the appropriate committee for consideration.

The attached ordinance establishes a graduated penalty for operating unlicensed public passenger vehicles, or providing radio dispatch service to unlicensed public passenger vehicles. The ordinance is necessary in order to provide a greater deterrent to the operation of unlicensed taxicabs. Recent investigations of complaints filed by taxicab riders and licensed operators have confirmed the persistent operation of unlicensed taxicabs. Often unlicensed operators are displaying on their vehicles unassigned permit numbers in order to avoid detection.

This ordinance establishes that the penalty for persons convicted of operating unlicensed public passenger vehicles, or providing radio dispatch service to unlicensed public passenger vehicles is a forfeiture of not less than \$250 nor more than \$1000. The forfeiture amount would increase within the penalty range depending upon the number of previous violations within a 24-month period.

Currently, the penalty is a forfeiture of \$25 to \$500, regardless of the number of violations. The Municipal Court deposit schedule indicates that a forfeiture of \$138.29 has been established, which is lower than the \$150 biennial taxicab permit fee.

Sincerely,

Richard G. Pfaff
Assistant Manager License Division

Attachments