



# MEMORANDUM

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## LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

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**To:** Richard Pfaff, Manager  
**From:** La-Wanda G. Fletcher, Legislative Fiscal Analyst-Senior  
**Date:** 12/17/2014  
**Subject:** U.S. Cities Taxicab Color Provisions

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This memo is in response to your request relating to code provisions specifying body colors of taxicabs in comparable U.S. cities. The LRB conducted a survey of 26 comparable cities. The following cities do not designate specific colors for taxicabs: Albuquerque, Atlanta, Baltimore, Chicago, Columbus, Denver, Indianapolis, Jacksonville, Kansas City, Las Vegas, Louisville, Memphis, Minneapolis, Nashville, Oakland, Oklahoma, Omaha, Portland, Raleigh, San Antonio, Seattle and Tucson. Most of the cities surveyed require an approval of a taxicab fleet color scheme to avoid similarities in color with other companies; however colors are not specified in the ordinances.

Three of the cities surveyed, Boston, Miami and Washington, DC, designate specific color schemes for taxicabs.

### **Boston**

The Boston Police Commissioner licenses taxicabs and designates the color scheme. Boston taxicab vehicles must be painted white as originally manufactured, including all doors, door jambs, trunk lid interiors and any other portion of the vehicle visible to the public.

### **Miami-Dade County**

The Miami-Dade code of ordinances authorizes the County Consumer Services Department to approve the uniform decorative color scheme for all licensed taxicabs. The specified taxicab color is school-bus yellow.

### **Washington D.C.**

The D.C. Municipal Regulations and D.C. Register designate the uniform color scheme for taxicabs as red in color to match the D.C. Circulator: 3M Controltac Graphic Film color Geranium 180C-63. In addition, the vehicle should include a model specific stripe decal on both sides that aligns with the bottom of the taxicab tail light at the rear of the vehicle, made of 3M Controltac Plus Film (vinyl adhesive film) or equivalent, and match the Pantone Warm Gray 2 in color.

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