



## LICENSE DIVISION Interdepartmental Correspondence

## MEMO

TO:

**Public Safety Committee Members** 

FROM:

Richard Pfaff, License Division Assistant Manager

DATE:

July 18, 2007

RE:

Survey of other municipalities regarding restricting the operation of

vehicles under an executive sedan classification.

The License Division is in receipt of public passenger vehicle permit applications relating to the operation of the Ford Crown Victoria and hybrid vehicles (Toyota Highlander and Prius), as luxury limousines under the executive sedan classification per s. 100-3-11-b, MCO.

Because the vehicles listed above are of a make and model of vehicle that has not been approved for use under the executive sedan classification, the City Clerk has administratively denied the applications. Pursuant to s. 100-66-2, MCO, the applicants request a hearing before the Public Safety Committee relating to an appeal of the City Clerk's determination.

The applicants' appeals have been held in committee to the call of the chair pending the provision of additional information, specifically the results of a survey of other municipalities regarding regulations restricting the operation of vehicles in an executive sedan or similar classification.

Subsequently, the License Division conducted a survey of 44 of the 59 municipalities (74.6%) with populations greater than 300,000. The results of the survey indicate that for the following 23 municipalities (52.3%) of the 44 surveyed, no regulations have been established which would restrict the operation of the vehicles under an executive sedan or similar classification:

Anaheim	Fresno	Mesa	San Francisco
Atlanta	Indianapolis	Oakland	San Jose
Bakersfield	Kansas City	Omaha	Santa Ana
Baltimore	Long Beach	Phoenix	Tuscon
Boston	Los Angeles	Sacramento	Washington, DC
Cleveland	Memphis	San Diego	

Table 1 below summarizes for the remaining 21 municipalities of the 44 surveyed the regulations, which have been established restricting the operation of any vehicles under an executive sedan or similar classification. The table indicates that the municipalities surveyed restrict vehicles based on one or more of the following criteria:

1. Whether the class size of the vehicle is large (full-size).

a certain dollar amount.

 Whether the vehicle is characterized or classified as a luxury vehicle.
Whether the vehicle has a 6-person seating capacity, including the driver. 4. Whether the original manufacturer's suggested retail price is greater than

5. Whether the wheelbase of the vehicle is greater than a certain length.

6. Whether the rear leg room and shoulder room of the vehicle is greater than a certain length.

Summary of Regulations in Certain Other Municipalities Restricting the Operation of Vehicles Under an Executive Sedan Classification.

	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Large Vehicle	Luxury Vehicle	6-Person	Minimum	Minimum	
	Class Size	Classification	Seating Capacity	Original MSRP	Wheelbase	Other
	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required	Requirements
Austin		Χ.				·
Charlotte	Х	Х	Х			
Chicago						Restricted to approved vehicle list
Cincinnati		Х				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Columbus		Х				Min. 38 in. rear leg room, 58 in. rear shoulder room
Dallas		Х		>\$35,000		-
Denver	Х	Х	Х	>\$50,000, if 1,3 not met		
Detroit	Х	Х	X			
El Paso	X	X	X			
Fort Worth	Х	Х				
Jacksonville			Х		105 in.	
Louisville	Х	X				·
Miami	,	Х		>\$43,000		
Minneapolis		X		>\$25,000		
Oklahoma City	Х	Х				
Philadelphia		Х			109 in.	
Pittsburgh		X			109 in.	:
Portland	Х	Х				
San Antonio		X			109 in.	
Seattle					114.5 in.	

Source: City Clerk's Office -License Division survey of other municipalities conducted July 12 - 17, 2007.

Table 2 on page 3 indicates certain vehicle specifications related to the 2007 models of the Ford Crown Victoria and Toyota Highlander Hybrid and Prius. In addition, the table indicates when compared to the criteria indicated in Table 1. and considering the number of municipalities that have established no restrictions, the percentage of the 44 municipalities surveyed which would

authorize the operation of each vehicle under an executive sedan or similar classification.

Further, the License Division was unable to substantiate that the manufacturer in sales or promotional materials regularly distributed to the public characterizes any of the vehicles listed in Table 2 as a luxury vehicle. Therefore, calculation of the percentage of municipalities that would authorize the operation of each of the vehicles assumes that none of the vehicles would meet requirements related to luxury vehicle classification.

Table 2. Summary of Specifications of Certain Vehicles and Percentage of Other Municipalities Authorizing Operation Under an Executive Sedan Classification.

	Vehicle Class Size	Seating Capacity	Original MSRP	Wheelbase Length	Rear Leg room	Rear Shoulder room	% Authorized
2007 Ford Crown Victoria	Large Car	6	\$24,620 - \$27,615	114.6 in.	38.0 in.	60.0 in.	61.4%
2007 Toyota Highlander Hybrid	Sports Utility	5	\$32,490 - \$36,550	106.9 in.	34.6 in.	57.1 in.	59.1%
2007 Toyota Prius	Mid-size Car	5	\$22,175 - \$23,070	106.3 in.	38.6 in.	52.9 in.	54.5%

Source: www.edmunds.com, July 17, 2007; License Division analysis.

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