

CabbyGo Statement RE: Uber&Lyft En Banc

Hi, my name's Joshua Freedman. I'm the CEO of CabbyGo, a PA voter, and lifelong resident of The Great State of Pennsylvania. CabbyGo is based in Pittsburgh, PA in the Strip. CabbyGo Provides free technology tools for existing carriers.

We launched NYE last year in Pittsburgh with our Minimum Viable Product before any other Push-A-Button-Get-A-Ride apps(what I call PABGAR) had launched in Pittsburgh. We crushed it, doing around 30 rides our first night. It was a good start and very surprising, considering our app was so clunky and had many issues. We did a steady five or ten rides a day and continually grew and improved our app until we recently launched our patent pending bidding system a few weeks ago, that ensures that a ride request will be proposed to multiple carriers and bid on as quickly as possible. This framework and the business model that I built was intentionally setup in this way to be legally compliant, specifically legally compliant with the laws of the state of PA. CabbyGo only use licensed carriers in its system, and we're not compensated by the rider or driver for arranging the ride.

I did this because in a prior life, I owned a mortgage brokerage and I became familiar with the licensing system for the PA Department of Banking. I also knew that if I were to ever do a loan and not have a license, I would have my head handed to me by the PA Department of Banking.

That's why I was surprised when the PA PUC gave a slap on the wrist to these Scofflaws. And then to top it off, these foreign companies continue to do business in violation of a state court order. They are basically thumbing their noses at the PA judiciary, the citizens of PA, the existing carriers in the state of PA and the PA PUC. By rewarding this behavior, you are sending a message to foreign corporations that if they have money, they can do whatever they want in the state of PA, without fear of repercussions. In fact, their bad behavior will be rewarded. The message you send to the citizenry is that there is a level of unfairness inherent in the legal and political system, and that our commonwealth is not for the benefit of its citizens, but for the benefit of big business.

I'm not asking for an era of protectionism, I'm asking you to enforce the laws that you already have on the books. I'm providing the technology tools for existing carriers to compete against each other, and to improve their service. I'm just asking you to do your job with a level of fairness that instills faith in a system that was designed to serve PA residents.