

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission,	:	
Bureau of Investigation & Enforcement	:	
	:	
v.	:	C-2024-3044158
	:	
Latino Taxi Service, LLC	:	

INTERIM ORDER
CURING EX PARTE COMMUNICATION AND
REQUIRING RESPONDENT TO OBTAIN LEGAL COUNSEL
TO PARTICIPATE IN EVIDENTIARY HEARING

This Interim Order: (1) cures Respondent’s ex parte communication with the Presiding Officer; and (2) directs Respondent to cause the entry of appearance of legal counsel to participate in the evidentiary hearing set for this matter on Wednesday, December 3, 2025.

HISTORY OF THE PROCEEDING

On or about December 7, 2017, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (Commission) issued Latino Taxi Service, LLC (Respondent) a Certificate of Public Convenience for common carrier passenger service providing local transportation on either an exclusive or nonexclusive basis, with service characterized by passengers hiring the vehicle and its driver either by telephone call or by hail, or both. *In Re: Application of Latino Taxi Service, LLC*, Docket No. A-2017-2613993. The granted authority was issued at Certificate of Public Convenience, A-6320054.

On January 10, 2024, the Commission’s Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement (I&E), by and through its Motor Carrier Enforcement section, filed a Complaint with the Commission alleging that Respondent: (1) allowed a vehicle to be operated with an expired

Pennsylvania state inspection sticker, in violation of Sections 29.403 and 29.405 of the Commission's regulations; (2) failed to have a current criminal history on file, in violation of Section 29.505 of the Commission's regulations; (3) failed to have a driver's current criminal history on file, in violation of Section 29.505 of the Commission's regulations; and (4) failed to retain completed log sheets, in violation of Section 29.313 of the Commission's regulations. 52 Pa. Code §§ 29.313(c), 29.403(8), 29.405, 29.505, 29.505(b)(2).

For relief, I&E requested that the Commission order Respondent to pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$350.

On January 10, 2024, the Commission attempted service of the Complaint on Respondent by certified mail to 25 East Broad Street, West Hazleton, Pennsylvania, 18202.

The United States Postal Service returned the Complaint, marked undeliverable, to the Commission.

On February 24, 2024, I&E caused the Complaint by publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* at 54 Pa.B. 1028.

On March 11, 2024, the Respondent filed responsive documents that the Secretary's Bureau deemed an "Answer to BIE Commission Complaint."

On July 9, 2025, Counsel for I&E entered an appearance.

On August 15, 2025, the Commission issued an in-person hearing notice, setting this matter for an evidentiary hearing to be held on October 6, 2025.

On August 15, 2025, I issued a prehearing order that set forth the rules that would govern the October 6, 2025 hearing.

On August 25, 2025, I&E filed a Motion for Default Judgment (Motion) against the Respondent, in which I&E requested that the Commission sustain the Complaint due to the Respondent's failure to file an answer to the Complaint.

A Notice to Plead endorsed the Motion, which informed Respondent to file a written response to the Motion within 20 days from the date of service of the Motion.

Respondent did not file a written response to the Motion.

On September 22, 2025, I issued an Interim Order denying the Motion.

On September 22, 2025, the Commission issued a Hearing Type Change Notice, which converted the evidentiary hearing scheduled for October 6, 2025, to a prehearing conference. The Hearing Type Change Notice provided, in relevant part:

REPRESENTATION. If you are an individual, you may represent yourself or you may have an attorney represent you. All others, including a **limited liability company**, partnership, corporation, trust, association, or governmental agency or subdivision, **must be represented by an attorney licensed to practice law in Pennsylvania, or admitted *pro hac vice***. Only an attorney may represent someone else.

See, Hearing Type Change Notice (emphasis in original).

On October 6, 2025, the prehearing conference convened as scheduled. Counsel for I&E, Grant Rosul, Esq., was present, along with the court reporter. Tr. 3. Respondent nor anyone on behalf of Latino Taxi Service, LLC attended the prehearing conference. Tr. 4.

Respondent nor anyone on behalf of Latino Taxi Service, LLC contacted me or the Office of Administrative Law Judge requesting a continuance of the prehearing conference nor indicating their unavoidable absence at the prehearing conference.

On October 30, 2025, the Commission issued an In-Person Evidentiary Hearing Notice (Notice) setting a hearing in this matter for Wednesday, December 4, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. The Notice provided:

If you are an individual, you may represent yourself or you may have an attorney represent you. **All others, including a partnership, corporation, limited liability company, trust, association, or governmental agency or subdivision, must be represented by an attorney licensed to practice law in Pennsylvania, or admitted pro hac vice. Only an attorney may represent someone else.**

Notice ¶ REPRESENTATION (emphasis in original).

On October 30, 2025, I issued a Prehearing Order for In-Person Hearing (Prehearing Order) to provide the parties with the requirements and procedures for the December 3, 2025, Hearing. The Prehearing Order provided, *inter alia*:

2. REPRESENTATION. If you are an individual, you may represent yourself or you may have an attorney representing you. **All others, including a partnership, corporation, limited liability company, trust, association, or governmental agency or subdivision, must be represented by an attorney licensed to practice law in Pennsylvania, or admitted *pro hac vice*.** 52 Pa. Code §§ 1.21, 1.22. Unless you are an attorney, you may not represent someone else.

See, Prehearing Order ¶ 2 (emphasis in original).

On October 30, 2025, Respondent contacted the OALJ legal assistant via email (October 30th email), who in turn forwarded the communication to me. Respondent did not copy counsel for I&E. Attached hereto as Appendix A is Respondent's email, thus curing any appearance of ex parte communication with me.

In response to Respondent's October 30th email, in accordance with the Commission's regulations, Respondent, Latino Tax Service, LLC, must cause the appearance of

APPENDIX A

Farren, Emily

From: Jackson, Lakisha T
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 10:44 AM
To: Farren, Emily
Subject: FW: [External] Re: C-2024-3044158

Good morning, Emily,

Please see the email below.

Thank you,



PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION: This email, including any attachments, may be privileged, confidential, proprietary, and/or otherwise protected from disclosure, and is intended only for the use of the designated recipient(s). Any dissemination, disclosure, distribution, copying, or other use of this communication without the approval of the sender is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful. If you have received this communication in error, please immediately notify the sender, delete the original electronic email and destroy any printed copies. Receipt by anyone other than the intended recipient is not a waiver of any attorney-client or work-product privilege. Email transmission cannot be guaranteed to be secure or error-free, therefore sender does not accept liability for any errors or omissions in the contents of this message, which arise as a result of email transmission.

From: latino taxi service <1atinotaxi809@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 10:35 AM
To: Jackson, Lakisha T <lakjackson@pa.gov>
Subject: [External] Re: C-2024-3044158

ATTENTION: This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown senders. To report suspicious email, use the [Report Phishing button in Outlook](#).

Dear Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Staff,

We are writing to ask for a brief, plain-language explanation of the enforcement action filed against Latino Taxi Service LLC.

Case Information:

- Docket Number: C-2024-3044158
- Respondent: Latino Taxi Service LLC
- Filing Party: Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement (I&E)

We have received notice of this complaint and the subsequent Motion for Default Judgment, but we are a

small business operating without legal counsel and find the legal documents difficult to understand.

Could you please provide a simple, short explanation that summarizes:

1. What is the case specifically about (the core problem or violation)?
2. What is the next immediate step or deadline we need to know about?

We understand this is an enforcement action, but any guidance you can provide to help us understand the charges and what is required to respond would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your time and assistance.

Sincerely,

Latino Taxi Service LLC
570-501-0710

Sent from [Outlook](#)

From: mail@pa.gov <mail@pa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 8:57 AM
To: 1atinotaxi809@hotmail.com <1atinotaxi809@hotmail.com>
Subject: C-2024-3044158

Good morning,

Please see the attached prehearing order regarding your case and review the information.

Additionally, the PUC is encouraging all parties to sign up for eService. Also attached to this email are step by step instructions for setting up the service, which will allow you to have access to your case and all correspondence. These instructions can also be found on the PUC website at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/filing-resources/efiling/>. For more guidance, please see this "Quick eFiling User Guide" provided by the PUC: https://www.puc.pa.gov/Documentation/EFiling_Guide.pdf

Thank you,

C-2024-3044158 - BUR OF INVESTIGATION & ENFORCEMENT v. LATINO TAXI SERVICE LLC

Revised 10/30/2025

LATINO TAXI SERVICE LLC
25 EAST BROAD STREET
WEST HAZLETON PA 18202
latinotaxi809@hotmail.com

Served via USPS First-class mail October 31, 2025

Served via email October 31, 2025

GRANT ROSUL COUNSEL
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSON
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION & ENFORCEMENT
400 NORTH STREET
3RD FLOOR
HARRISBURG PA 17120
717.783.5243

grosul@pa.gov

Served via eService October 31, 2025

ANN SCOTT WESLOWSKI
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION & ENFORCEMENT
400 NORTH STREET
HARRISBURG PA 17120
570.963.4590

aweslowski@pa.gov

Served via eService October 31, 2025