

CHAPTER 60

VEHICLES FOR HIRE

(Ordinance 2012-70)

1. **DEFINITIONS.** The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this Chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this Chapter, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

- A. "City" shall mean the City of Decatur, Illinois.
- B. "Driver" shall mean the person in actual physical control of a vehicle for hire.
- C. "Licensee" shall mean the owner of a vehicle for hire or the driver of said vehicle.
- D. "Limousine" shall mean a vehicle used to carry passengers for hire based primarily on a trip or zone rate rather than mileage or time rate.
- E. "Occasional Use" shall mean not more than ten (10) special events, (including but not limited to weddings, anniversary parties, celebrations, school dances or similar events) per calendar year. (Amended Ordinance 2012-73)
- F. "Operating" shall mean operating a vehicle for hire and shall include owning a vehicle for hire.
- G. "Operator" shall mean the operator of a vehicle for hire and shall include the owner of a vehicle for hire.
- H. "Public Transportation Vehicle" shall mean a privately-owned vehicle which is required to have registration plates with a "PT" suffix and designed to lawfully carry ten (10) or more passengers, including, but not limited to, passenger vans.
- I. "Taxi" also referred to as a "taxicab" and "cab", shall mean any vehicle in the city to carry passengers for hire based on mileage.

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J. "Taximeter" shall mean any mechanical or electronic device that records and indicates a charge or fare measured by distance traveled, waiting time and extra passengers.

K. "Vehicle for hire" shall mean any motor vehicle engaged in the business of carrying persons for a fee on the streets of the City of Decatur, including taxicabs, limousines and public transportation vehicles.

2. APPLICABILITY.

A. The provisions of this chapter shall be applicable to all vehicles for hire, whether transporting persons within or outside the corporate limits of the City of Decatur, and to the drivers of such vehicles.

B. This chapter shall not apply to:

- (1) vehicles operated as school buses as defined by the Illinois Vehicle Code;
- (2) vehicles provided by employers for the exclusive use of their employees;
- (3) vehicles devoted exclusively for funeral use;
- (4) vehicles used exclusively by religious organizations;
- (5) vehicles when used for ride-sharing or carpooling purposes;
- (6) vehicles used in operation of a metropolitan transit authority;
- (7) vehicles as shuttles or courtesy vehicles by a business for the convenience of its customers and at no charge to said customers; or,
- (8) vehicles specifically designed, constructed or modified and equipped, and which are intended to be used for, and are maintained or operated exclusively for the emergency or non-emergency transportation of person for compensation for the purpose of obtaining medical services.

3. **LICENSE REQUIRED.** No vehicle for hire shall be operated or driven on the streets and public ways of the City of Decatur without a license therefore, nor unless it conforms to the requirements of this Chapter. No person shall operate a vehicle for hire upon the streets of the City of Decatur unless the driver of said vehicle shall have first obtained and shall have then in force a current vehicle for hire driver's license issued under the provisions of this Chapter.

4. **FEE FOR VEHICLE FOR HIRE LICENSE.** The annual license fee shall be One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for each vehicle for hire licensed.

(Amended, Ordinance No. 2016-87, November 21, 2016)

5. **APPLICATION FOR VEHICLE FOR HIRE LICENSE.**

A. No person shall operate a vehicle for hire without first having obtained a Vehicle for Hire License. Application for Vehicle for Hire license shall be made in writing by the owner of each vehicle for which licensing is sought, on forms approved by the City. A completed application shall include all documentation required in this Chapter, including but not limited to the full name, address, and phone number of every owner; a description of each vehicle to be licensed, including the year of manufacture, make, model, color, vehicle identification number (V.I.N.), and state registration (license plate) number; the licensee's principal place of business including address and phone number, and the name address and phone number of the licensee's manager if different than the owner; the name, address, State driver's license number, and City vehicle for hire driver's license number of each person who will operate the licensee's licensed vehicles.

If the owner is a corporation, a completed application shall include the name of the corporation, the names and addresses of the officers and stockholders holding more than five (5) percent ownership in the corporation, the current registered agent of the corporation including

address, a certificate of good standing issued by the State of Illinois, and the name address and phone number of the manager or person to be in charge of and responsible for the vehicles for hire licensed to the corporation.

If the owner is a partnership, a completed application shall include the names and addresses of each partner; and the name, address, and phone number of the manager or person to be in charge of and responsible for the vehicles for hire licensed to the partnership.

It shall be a violation of this Chapter for any licensee to fail to provide the City, within five (5) days of any material change(s) in the information submitted on the most recent application, written notice of such material change(s).

B. No vehicle for hire shall pick up passengers or originate a trip within the City without a Vehicle for Hire License duly issued pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter. No vehicle for hire shall pick up passengers or originate a fare within the City without a Vehicle for Hire License duly issued pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter. A vehicle for hire currently licensed by another jurisdiction and operated by a driver currently licensed in another jurisdiction may discharge passengers within the City but only if the trip originated outside the City, provided however that it shall be a violation of this Chapter for any such vehicle for hire or driver to fail to produce proof of current licenses upon request together with proof of the location of origin of the fare.

C. Any person, firm or corporation who solicits or transports passengers for hire, and the registered owner of any motor vehicle who permits such solicitation and transportation, in violation of this chapter, shall be subject to fines, vehicle impoundment and other applicable penalties.

D. Every act or omission constituting a violation of any provision of city ordinances or state law by any officer, director, manager, agent, driver or employee of any vehicle for hire licensee shall be deemed and held to be the act of such vehicle for hire licensee, and the licensee shall be punishable in the same manner as if such act or omission had been done or omitted by the licensee personally.

E. No applicant shall be granted a license to engage in the business of vehicles for hire who has been convicted of a felony under any Federal or State law, unless such person has been sufficiently rehabilitated to warrant the public trust as determined by the City's Chief of Police, or designee, in accordance with the provisions of 235 ILCS 5/6-2, as amended. The burden of proof of sufficient rehabilitation shall be on the applicant.

F. No license to engage in the business of vehicles for hire shall be issued to or held by any person whose license to operate a vehicle for hire business in any jurisdiction has been suspended or revoked during the preceding twelve (12) months.

G. All vehicle for hire licenses shall expire on the 30th day of April each year. Completed license renewal applications shall be submitted no later than sixty (60) days prior to current license expiration date. Renewal applications submitted less than sixty (60) days prior to expiration and incomplete applications shall not be processed without payment of an additional processing fee of Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00), plus Ten Dollars (\$10.00) per day for each day after the 60th day prior to expiration, that no application or an incomplete application is submitted.

H. No vehicle for hire license issued pursuant to this chapter may be sold, assigned or transferred.

I. No vehicle for hire license shall be issued for a vehicle not owned by the applicant unless the applicant demonstrates to the City's satisfaction that the applicant possesses a defined beneficial interest in the vehicle.

6. **ADDITIONAL VEHICLES.** A licensee shall submit, on forms provided by the City, an application to add or remove vehicle(s) from the original application, as the case may be. Every vehicle added shall comply fully with the requirements of this Chapter. Application to add vehicle(s) shall be denied for any vehicle failing to meet the requirements of this Chapter.

7. **ISSUANCE OF LICENSES.** The City Manager or designee shall approve the issuance of all licenses hereunder upon evidence that the applicant has satisfactorily submitted completed application forms as required, and provided all required documentation, including but not limited to:

- a) A certificate or certificates of insurance showing insurance coverage as required herein for the entire term of the license, for each licensed vehicle, showing the City as named additional named insured, requiring the insurer to provide the City prompt notice of cancellation or lapse in coverage; and
- b) A certified report by a currently certified ASE mechanic for each licensed vehicle that it complies with requirements set forth herein out; and,
- c) For vehicle for hire licensees operating taxi cabs, a report by a currently certified ASE mechanic that the taximeter of each licensed taxi is accurate to within five (5) per cent of the measured test distance travelled by said taxi; and
- d) For corporate licensees, a certificate of good standing for the corporation; and
- e) Payment of all required fees.

8. USE OF LICENSE. After a vehicle for hire license has issued, the privileges there under shall be actively exercised. Suspension or the exercise of said privileges for a period of 90 days may be cause for revocation of such license absent the showing of substantial reasons for the same not within the control of the licensee.

9. IDENTIFICATION CARD REQUIRED; FORM; POSTING. When any vehicle for hire is licensed in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter, a license card of such size and form as may be prescribed by the City shall be provided to the owner of each licensed vehicle - in addition to the license. The license card shall include the license year, license number, vehicle number, vehicle make, model, color, and registration number, and the name, address, and phone number of the licensee. The license card shall at all times be conspicuously displayed within the interior of the vehicle, such that it is visible to the passenger(s). No person shall operate a licensed vehicle for hire carrying any person or persons, in which a currently valid license card for that vehicle is not conspicuously displayed. No licensee shall operate, own or possess a licensed vehicle for hire carrying any person or persons, in which a currently valid license card is not conspicuously displayed. It shall be a violation of this Chapter to alter, mutilate the card or to alter any entry or information placed thereon pursuant to the terms of this section. (Amended, Ordinance 2012-73)

When any vehicle for which a license card has been issued shall no longer be used to transport passengers for hire, the vehicle for hire licensee shall promptly notify the City.

10. NUMBERING OF VEHICLES. Every vehicle for hire shall have conspicuously painted on both sides thereof and on the rear of said vehicle in distinct and legible numbers at least four (4) inches in height, the city-issued vehicle number. The number must at all times be

visible and not obscured. Licensed vehicle numbers shall be issued by the City and shall not be transferred to another vehicle without prior City authorization.

11. DRIVERS' LICENSES REQUIRED.

A. No vehicle for hire as defined herein may be operated on the highways, streets, or public ways of the City without a currently valid vehicle for hire driver's license.

B. No vehicle for hire licensee shall employ any person to operate any vehicle for hire on the highways, streets, or public ways of the City who does not have a currently valid vehicle for hire driver's license issued to such person by the City.

12. APPLICATION FOR VEHICLE FOR HIRE DRIVER'S LICENSE.

A. Every applicant for a vehicle for hire driver's license must certify that he/she meets the following requirements:

(1) Must be at least twenty-one (21) years of age;

(2) Must be of sound physique, with good eyesight, and not subject to epilepsy, vertigo, heart trouble, or any other infirmity of body or mind which might render him unfit for the safe operation of the vehicle;

(3) Must be able to speak, read and write the English language plainly;

(4) Must be clean in dress and person, and not addicted to the use of alcohol or drugs;

(5) Must complete a verified application for a vehicle for hire driver's license upon a form provided by the City. The application shall state the full name of the applicant, his/her date of birth, social security number, State of Illinois driver's license number, residence address, whether a citizen of the United States, whether or not he/she has ever been convicted of a felony, whether or not he/she has previously been licensed

as a vehicle for hire driver, and if so, when and by whose authority, whether or not his/her driving privileges have ever been revoked or suspended, and if so, for what cause, and the name of the vehicle for hire licensee for whom he/she will be driving. Such verified application shall be reviewed by the Chief of Police, and shall not be effective until it shall have endorsed on it the approval of the Chief of Police. Any false statements made by the applicant for a vehicle for hire driver's license may be promptly reported by the Police Chief to the Macon County State's Attorney. Every vehicle for hire driver's license application shall include three (3) copies of a recent photograph of the driver not less than 4 inches by 4 inches in size, at least 75 per cent of which shall show the applicant's face, including head and shoulders. Every application for a vehicle for hire driver's license shall be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of Eighty Dollars (\$80.00). (Amended, Ordinance No. 2016-87, November 21, 2016)

B. No applicant shall be granted a vehicle for hire driver's license as required by this Chapter, if he or she has, within the preceding twelve (12) months, had a prior application for a vehicle for hire license denied.

C. No applicant shall be granted a vehicle for hire driver's license who has been convicted of a felony under any Federal or State law, unless such person has been sufficiently rehabilitated to warrant the public trust as determined by the City's Chief of Police, or designee, in accordance with the provisions of 235 ILCS 5/6-2, as amended. The burden of proof of sufficient rehabilitation shall be on the applicant.

13. DRIVER'S IDENTIFICATION CARD.

A. The City shall issue to all qualified applicants a vehicle for hire driver's license card in such form as may be prescribed by the City. The driver's license card shall prominently

display at a minimum the driver's full name, his photograph, his vehicle for hire driver's license number, and the name, address and phone number of the vehicle for hire licensee who owns the vehicle operated by the driver. Multiple vehicles for hire driver's license cards may be issued to a single driver, upon the written approval of the licensee whose vehicle the driver seeks licensure to operate. No vehicle for hire driver's licensee shall operate any vehicle for hire except one owned by the licensee described on the driver's license card displayed in the vehicle for hire. It shall be a violation of this Chapter to alter, mutilate, or in any way obscure the information displayed on the driver's license card. (Amended, Ordinance 2012-73)

B. The driver of a vehicle for hire shall conspicuously display his/her vehicle for hire driver's license card whenever there is any passenger in the vehicle. The driver's license card shall be displayed in such a fashion as to be readily visible to any passenger. If a driver has lost or destroyed his/her city-issued vehicle for hire driver's license card, he/she may submit a written sworn statement to the City stating that the driver's license card has been lost or destroyed, with three (3) additional photographs meeting the requirements of this Chapter. The City shall issue a replacement driver's license card upon payment of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) for each license so replaced.

14. **INSURANCE.** Each operator must carry automobile liability insurance on each licensed vehicle for hire in the amount of at least Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) minimum bodily injury per person, and Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) minimum bodily injury per accident, and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) minimum property damage per accident which shall name the City of Decatur as an additional named insured, and shall required the insurer to notify the City, within five (5) days of cancellation or lapse of coverage. Such insurance must be kept in force at all times and if any

such insurance expires, such operator must at once cease operation of any vehicles for hire on the streets of the City. Every vehicle for hire licensee shall provide the City with a certificate or certificates of insurance showing insurance coverage as required herein for the entire term of the license, for each licensed vehicle. The certificate shall show the City as additional named insured, and shall require the insurer to provide the City prompt notice of cancellation or lapse in coverage. The insurance company issuing any such certificate shall be licensed to do business in the State of Illinois.

15. STANDARDS FOR VEHICLES FOR HIRE. No vehicle shall be licensed until it has been examined and certified by a currently certified ASE mechanic that it complies with the requirements of this Chapter, including the requirements that it is clean, of good appearance and well painted. Each such vehicle shall be examined and certified by a currently certified ASE mechanic semi-annually and a report of such test shall be filed with the City not later than November 15 of each year. After any accident involving a vehicle for hire, the Chief of Police, or his designee may require that said vehicle for hire again be tested by a currently certified ASE mechanic. The City Manager or designee may revoke or suspend a vehicle for hire license if any vehicle licensed therein shall fail inspection as required herein, or be found unclean, not of good appearance or not well painted. No such suspension or revocation shall issue for any vehicle for which the licensee submits an affidavit in a form provided by the City, stating under penalty of perjury that the vehicle has been removed from service, that the vehicle identification numbers and names required to be painted on the vehicle have been permanently rendered no longer visible, and the licensee will not use the vehicle for hire until such time as the vehicle is again certified as meeting the requirements of this Chapter. Similarly, vehicle for hire licenses suspended or revoked for failing inspection, or being found unclean, not of good appearance or

not well painted may be reinstated by the City Manager or designee upon submission of an affidavit in a form provided by the City, stating under penalty of perjury that the vehicle has been removed from service, that the vehicle identification numbers and names required to be painted on the vehicle have been permanently rendered no longer visible, and the licensee will not use the vehicle for hire until such time as the vehicle is again certified as meeting the requirements of this Chapter. (Amended, Ordinance 2012-73)

16. **OCCASIONAL USE LICENSE.** Vehicles used for hire only occasionally for special events such as weddings, anniversaries, parties, celebrations, school dances, or similar events may be issued an occasional use license. No occasional use license shall be issued unless an appointment has been made by a patron in advance for the special event for which the license is sought. Each special use shall require a separate license. Application shall be made on forms provided by the City. Approval by the City shall be expedited. Occasional use shall mean not more than ten (10) special events per calendar year. An occasional use license shall authorize use of the licensed vehicle only during the special event, including a reasonable time before the event begins and after the event ends, and shall specify the special event for which the license is issued. The carrying of passengers for any use other than described in the occasional use license is prohibited. The fee for an occasional use vehicle for hire license shall be Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00). The annual fee for an occasional use vehicle for hire driver's license shall be Ten Dollars (\$10.00). Application for each shall be made on forms approved by the City. All requirements of this Chapter shall be applicable to occasional use licenses, except the provisions requiring vehicle marking and posting the schedule of rates within the vehicle shall not apply to vehicles licensed under this section. (Amended, Ordinance 2012-73)

17. **NAME OF OWNER.** Every vehicle for hire licensed under the provisions of this Chapter except those licensed as occasional use vehicles for hire shall have the name of the owner thereof plainly painted in letters at least four (4) inches in height on the center of the main panel of each front or rear door of said vehicle.

18. **REGISTER OF NAMES.** The City shall keep a register of the name of each person owning or operating any vehicle or vehicles for hire licensed hereunder, together with the vehicle for hire license number, vehicle registration number, vehicle make, model, year and color, the name and address of the insurer or bonding company, the date of expiration of such insurance or bond, and of all renewals, suspensions and revocations of the license. This record shall be open to the inspection of the public at all reasonable times.

19. **TAXIMETERS.**

A. It shall be unlawful for any vehicle for hire that is not used as a taxicab to have a taximeter installed in said vehicle.

B.. Every vehicle for hire operated as a taxicab on the streets of the City shall be licensed per the requirements of this Chapter, and shall have installed therein an operating taximeter which has been inspected and found to be accurate and in compliance with the provisions of this Chapter. A taximeter shall be deemed to be accurate if the distance registered thereby is within 5% of the measured test distance traveled by said taxicab.

C. It shall be unlawful for any person to owner, operate or drive a taxicab in the City unless the fare to be charged is determined by an approved taximeter, and no other or different fare shall be charged to passengers than is recorded on the reading face of said taximeter for the trip except as herein otherwise provided.

D. No taximeter shall be used between sunset and sunrise unless the face thereof shall be illuminated by a suitable light so arranged as to throw a continuous, steady light thereon, and no person shall use or permit to be used or drive for hire a taxicab equipped with a taximeter the case of which shall be unsealed, and which does not have its cover and gear intact.

E. No driver of a taxicab equipped with a taximeter while carrying passengers or under employment shall display the signal affixed to such taximeter in such position as to denote that such vehicle is not employed, or in such position as to denote that such vehicle is employed at a rate of fare greater than that to which it is entitled.

F. The Chief of Police or his authorized agent may check each taximeter for accuracy.

20. TAXICABS – TELEPHONE AND 24-HOUR SERVICE. Every vehicle for hire licensee operating a taxicab must maintain a working telephone by which to receive calls for taxi service. The number shall be listed in the telephone directory under the operator's business name. The vehicle for hire licensee shall provide twenty-four (24) hour taxicab service and at no time shall there be less than one (1) taxicab in operation.

21. REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF VEHICLE FOR HIRE DRIVER'S LICENSE.

A. Vehicle for Hire driver's licenses may be revoked or suspended by the City Manager or his designee following reasonable notice and hearing, for making charges in excess of those provided by this Chapter, for violating any ordinances of the City of Decatur, or of any of the traffic or criminal laws of the State of Illinois, or for operating a vehicle for hire while there is, in the driver's blood, breath or urine, any amount of a drug, substance or compound resulting from the consumption of cannabis or a controlled substance (as defined in the Illinois Controlled Substance Act, as amended); any amount of alcohol; or any amount of any drug, substance or

compound, whether taken pursuant to direction of a licensed physician, or not, provided, that in the case of any drug, substance or compound other than controlled substances, cannabis or alcohol, there is evidence the driver is impaired in his or her ability to safely operate a motor vehicle. Such driver's licenses may also be suspended or revoked following reasonable notice and hearing, for any conduct involving moral turpitude or for violations of any of the provisions of this Chapter.

B. Each licensed vehicle for hire driver shall, within thirty (30) days of the entry of any judgment of conviction, report the fact of said conviction to the City of Decatur. The City Manager, or his designee, is authorized to suspend or revoke the vehicle for hire driver's license of any driver who fails to so report.

C. Each licensed vehicle for hire driver shall be deemed to have given his or her consent to chemical testing of his or her breath, blood or urine, upon the request of a police officer, made upon reasonable, articulable suspicion that said driver may be impaired as a result of having, within his or her system, any amount of alcohol or drugs. The City Manager, or his designee, is authorized to suspend or revoke the vehicle for hire driver's license of any person who fails to submit to the request of a Police Officer, made upon reasonable, articulable suspicion that said driver may be impaired due to the effects of any amount of alcohol or drugs.

D. For every suspension or revocation of a vehicle for hire driver's license, the City Manager, or his designee, shall issue a written notice, which shall be mailed via first class mail to the last known address of both the driver and the owner, stating briefly the basis for the suspension or revocation, the effective date of the suspension or revocation, and affording the driver's licensee an opportunity to appear and be heard. An order of suspension or revocation

entered pursuant to this Chapter shall be a final administrative decision for purposes of appeal under the Administrative Review Act. (Amended, Ordinance 2012-73)

22. REVOCATON OR SUSPENSION OF VEHICLE FOR HIRE LICENSES.

The City Manager or his/her designee may suspend or revoke vehicle for hire license privileges for violation or any provision of this Chapter or any State or Federal regulation or law by either an owner or operator of a vehicle for hire. For every suspension or revocation of a vehicle for hire license, the City Manager or his/her designee shall issue a written notice, which shall be mailed via first class mail to the last known address of the owner, stating briefly the basis for the suspension or revocation, the effective date of the suspension or revocation, the duration of the suspension or revocation, and affording the licensee an opportunity to appear and be heard. An order of suspension or revocation entered pursuant to this Chapter shall be a final administrative decision for purposes of appeal under the Administrative Review Act. (Amended, Ordinance 2012-73)

23. SCHEDULE OF RATES. Each person, firm or corporation owning, operating or controlling a vehicle for hire service in the City shall before making any charge for service file a schedule of rates with the City to be kept on file and available for public inspection. Said schedule or rates shall also be conspicuously posted in the passenger area of the vehicle so as to be readily visible to any passenger. Said rates shall be uniform as to class of service. No charge for service shall be made by any said person, firm or corporation, or any agent or employee thereof in excess of the rate shown for that service on the schedule so filed with the City. No such person, firm or corporation, agent or employee shall discriminate between persons or entities in making charges for service. No new, modified or amended rate shall become

effective, or any charge be made based thereon, unless or until a schedule setting forth the same has been on file with the City for ten (10) days.

24. TRIP LOGS.

A. Each operator shall maintain a record of the daily activity of the vehicle for hire and driver, on forms provided by the City. The daily activity record shall include the following information:

- (1) Day, month, year and time of day;
- (2) Driver's name and badge number;
- (3) Number of vehicle for hire and name of company;
- (4) Beginning mileage of each fare;
- (5) Mileage at conclusion of each fare;
- (6) Address or location of commencement and conclusion of each fare;
- (7) Amount charged to each passenger;
- (8) Other information as may be required by the City.

B. Daily activity records shall be kept maintained intact at the vehicle for hire licensee's principal place of business where they shall be provided upon request to police officers or representatives of the City. Every vehicle for hire licensee shall maintain original daily activity records for each licensed vehicle for the entire period of the license and for not less than 90 days following the end of each license year.

25. USE OF VEHICLE FOR HIRE FOR UNLAWFUL ACT. It shall be unlawful for any licensed operator or driver of any vehicle to misrepresent the name of his employer, or to knowingly receive or transport any person, or persons, who intend to commit any unlawful act in said vehicle during the trip or at the termination thereof, whether within said vehicle or not, and

it shall be unlawful for any person to solicit or procure or to aid, or to assist in soliciting, or procuring, any person to ride in any vehicle hereunder, with intent to commit any unlawful act therein during the trip or at the termination thereof, and upon conviction thereof, such driver shall have his vehicle for hire license revoked in addition to any fine imposed. The vehicle for hire shall not be used for the personal use of the operator or driver.

26. **DRIVER LEAVING VEHICLE.** The driver of any vehicle for hire shall remain upon the driver's seat, or inside his vehicle, or stand beside the vehicle at all times, while such vehicle is standing, but nothing in this section shall prohibit the driver from leaving his position in the car for such time as may be necessary to assist passengers into or out of his vehicle. Loitering or stand in the lobbies or entrances of buildings or businesses is prohibited.

27. **SEEKING PATRONS.** No owner of a vehicle for hire, operator or other employee or agent, shall solicit patronage of persons assembled at the termini of any common carrier, nor at intermediate points along any established route of such carrier, when such persons have so assembled for the purpose of using the service of such common carrier, nor shall they make a practice of following the established routes of such common carriers. This rule is not intended to prohibit or interfere with response to any call for service made by telephone or by signal from a pedestrian, or from accepting patronage of debarking passengers of any such common carrier.

28. **HORNS.** Unnecessary, loud, or continuous blowing of the horn is prohibited.

29. **CITY DEBT.** No vehicle for hire license or vehicle for hire driver's license shall be issued to any person, firm, partnership, or corporation which owes any delinquent debt to the City of Decatur.

30. **PENALTY.**

A. Any owner or driver of a motor vehicle not licensed as a vehicle for hire in accordance with the provisions hereof, or where the license has been suspended or revoked, who operates said vehicle on the streets or public ways of the City for the purpose of carrying persons for hire or reward, or who solicits for hire passengers on the streets or public ways, shall, upon conviction, be fined not less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for each offense, and each day on which a violation occurs or continues shall be considered as a separate offense.

B. Any persons not having been duly licensed as a vehicle for hire driver, or any person whose license as such driver has been suspended or revoked, and who, during the time of such suspension or revocation, drives a vehicle for hire on the streets of the City shall, upon conviction, be fined not less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for each offense, and each day on which a violation occurs or continues shall be considered a separate offense.

C. Any person, firm or corporation who shall violate any of the provisions of this Chapter for which no fine is provided in the foregoing subsections A and B, shall, be fined not less than Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) nor more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for each offense, and each day on which a violation occurs or continues shall be considered as a separate offense.

31. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage and approval. Currently valid licenses issued under former Chapters 60 or 61 of the City Code of the City of Decatur shall remain valid as issued for the remaining term of the license term, subject to the procedural revisions enacted herein.