

May 16, 2008

Mr. James S. Simpson
Administrator
Federal Transit Administration
Department of Transportation
Washington DC

Re: Expedited Petition to the Administrator Under 49 CFR 604.11(2) – Hardship Based
on Deadhead Time.

Dear Mr. Simpson:

OVRTA/EORTA, the public transportation provider for the Wheeling Urbanized Area, respectfully requests an expedited exemption to the charter service regulations under 49 CFR Section 604.11 (2) - Hardship.

The service we are requesting an exemption for would be scheduled on Saturday, May 24, 2008 at 1:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. In accordance with the charter service regulations, OVRTA/EORTA sent out a notice to all the registered charter providers listed as Registered Charter Providers in our geographic area when the potential customer, Brenda Adamovich, called on Wednesday, May 14, 2008 to request service. The customer requested a bus to accommodate 50 passengers to transport her guests from their Resort to the church (five miles away) for her wedding. We would then wait for the service to conclude and then return them to their Resort for the reception. This service was for a period of three hours. Being that this service was to occur in less than 30 days private charter companies had 72 hours to respond that they were interested in providing this service.

A Goff Limo Company based in Ruckersville, Virginia, indicated to OVRTA/EORTA that they were interested in providing this service. A Goff Limo attached a charter service bid to their response to us that we have attached to this petition for you to review. In the charter service bid A Goff Limo states that their cost for this service is \$4,950.00 which is extremely high! The deadhead time to perform this service exceeds the number of hours that is needed to provide the service by approximately two hours and 37 minutes. If a local company were to perform this service the customer would not be charged such an excessive amount for distance, fuel and lodging for a three hour charter service. As well as A Goff Limo is not actually in our geographic area, they are located 307.18 miles from us. Their location puts an undo hardship on potential customers in our geographic area.

We have attached a copy of the charter services bid from A Goff Limo Company, as well as Map Quest documents indicating how far away Ruckersville, Virginia is from our location in Wheeling, West Virginia.

Thank you for your immediate review and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Melissa M. Weishar
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