

CHAPTER 33 - VEHICLES FOR HIRE

ARTICLE I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 33-003. Definitions.

Charter service shall mean a ground transportation service that uses vehicles with a capacity of **16 or more passengers** to transport passengers belonging to a specified group and that is:

- (a) Offered only upon a pre-arranged basis, the pre-arrangement being made at least one hour in advance of the time the transportation is to begin and on a pre-sold basis; and
- (b) Is used to transport a specified group of passengers from the same or various points of origin to a same point of destination.
- (c) has registered with the State Department of Motor Vehicles as a commercial vehicle.

Limousine service shall mean a ground transportation service that uses vehicles with a capacity of 4 to 15 passengers to transport passengers for a fare based on a one hour or more hiring period and:

- (a) On an pre-arranged basis only; and,
- (b) On irregular routes and schedules.

The term, "limousine service," may also refer to any or all of the following:

- (1) A facility from which the service is operated;
- (2) Vehicles for hire used in the operation of the service; or
- (3) A person who owns or operates said service.

A limousine service vehicle shall not be equipped with a taximeter.

Limo-bus shall mean a motor vehicle that:

- (a) Has been so designated by the director; and
- (b) Has a manufacturer's or modifier's rated seating capacity at least **nine and not more than 45 passengers**.

- (c) If the rated seating capacity is more than 15 passengers, has registered with the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles as a commercial vehicle.

Mini-bus shall mean a motor vehicle that has a manufacturer's rated seating capacity of at least **nine and not more than 45 passengers.**

Motor coach shall mean a motor vehicle that:

- (a) Has a manufacturer's seating capacity of more than 40 passengers;
- (b) Has luggage storage compartments located below the passenger area; and
- (c) Is normally associated with interstate bus service.

Stretch limousine shall mean a motor vehicle that:

- (a) Is a luxury vehicle with a wheelbase which has been extended 100 inches or more beyond the original manufacturer's specification;
- (b) Is in compliance with the rated seating capacity as required by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) approved manufacturers or modifier's data plate or weather proof label on the door jamb;
- (c) Possesses a DOT approved manufacturer's or modifier's data plate or weatherproof label on the door jamb; and
- (d) Is used for the transportation of persons from a location in the city to another location either inside or outside the city.
- (e) If the rated **seating capacity is more than 15 passengers**, has registered with the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles as a commercial vehicle.