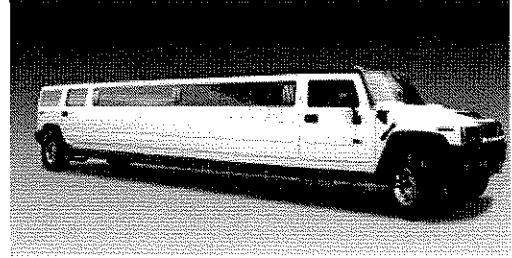


PARENTS,

Please read this Advice from the Maryland Limousine Association

BEFORE you sign a contract or pay a deposit for your child's prom night transportation, talk directly to the company. Do not rely on the internet. Many times, the internet will provide false or misleading information. **DON'T** place a reservation on-line with someone you have not talked with first. Take a moment to verify their authority to operate.

1. Review the licensing required for the type of vehicle you want to hire.
2. Ask the company questions to determine if they have the appropriate licensing. If they avoid answering or cannot immediately answer these questions... cross them off your list and call the next limousine company!
3. When the vehicle you've hired arrives, check the driver's licenses of the chauffeur and check that the appropriate stickers and tags are on the vehicle.



KNOW THE LICENSING REQUIRED

If hiring one of the following type vehicles, check for compliance with the following:

Limousines/Sedan – These vehicles could be 1 – 14 passengers (examples: Standard Lincoln Town Car Sedan, Standard SUV, 6, 8, 10, 12 or 14 passenger stretch limo, Van, 14 passenger or under shuttle or mini limo coach).

- Any person operating any of the above vehicles is **REQUIRED** to hold (in their possession) a PSC (Public Service Commission) For Hire Driver's License along with their Maryland Driver's License.
- All vehicles must display a yellow Authority sticker and a Red & White sticker on the lower portion of their front windshield. Also, the MD MVA tags should end with a "B", "LM" or "P". If any other tag is displayed, then the company **DOES NOT HAVE MARYLAND AUTHORITY TO OPERATE THE VEHICLE**
- To check if the company is licensed to operate in Maryland, go to the PSC website at: http://webapp.psc.state.md.us/Intranet/Transport/GetCarrier_new.cfm or call 410-767-8000 – Transportation Division

If hiring one of the following type vehicles, check for compliance with the following:

SUV Stretch, Limo Coaches, Buses – These vehicles are for 15 or more passengers (examples: stretch SUV's, Stretch Hummers, Limo Coaches, Limo Bus, Limo Party Bus, Shuttle Bus, Motor Coaches and Lim-Bus-ines).

- Any person operating any of the above vehicles is **REQUIRED** to hold (in their possession) a CDL Driver's License with Passenger Endorsement along with their Maryland Driver's License.
- They are **REQUIRED** to hold USDOT Authority and display their USDOT #'s on both sides of their vehicle.
- All vehicles must display a yellow Authority sticker and a Red & White have a "P" within the tag number. If any other tag is displayed, then the company **DOES NOT HAVE MARYLAND AUTHORITY TO OPERATE THE VEHICLE.**
- To check if the company is legal to operate, go to: <http://safer.fmcsa.dot.gov/CompanySnapshot.aspx>

QUESTIONS TO ASK TRANSPORTATION COMPANIES PRIOR TO CONTRACTING

When looking for a responsible company that is properly insured and licensed, be sure to ask plenty of questions. **After all.....would you knowingly put a family member or loved one in a vehicle that you know nothing about?**

1. What is the size, color and what year is the limo? The company should be able to tell you exactly the vehicle you will be getting
2. What is the TOTAL cost for the rental of the limo? Does their TOTAL cost include gratuity (tip) for the chauffeur?
3. Is a contract written? When are the deposit and the signed contract due back to the limousine company? Is the Deposit refundable or non-refundable?
4. Is the Chauffeur properly trained and properly licensed in the State of Maryland?
5. Does the Chauffeur have a current PSC For-Hire license?
6. Is this company currently holding a VALID PSC certificate? If so, what is their courier number? (Every limousine and transportation company **MUST** be registered with the Public Service Commission.)
7. Is the company properly insured in the State Of Maryland?
8. Tell the company that you will be checking the vehicle and asking the chauffeur/driver to show you the licenses and stickers required.
9. Did the company sign the Baltimore County Safe & Sober Transportation Company Pledge? See below

All companies listed in the Baltimore County Department of Health **Safe and Sober Parent Guide & Pledge Book** are licensed with the Public Service Commission and meet all Maryland licensing requirements. Find this publication at www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/health/healthservices/substanceabuse/prevention

What is the Safe & Sober Pledge????

The Baltimore County Safe and Sober Transportation Company Pledge is part of a voluntary program aimed at protecting the lives of young people during the prom and graduation season.

The company and its operators agree to adhere to the following for prom-related events:

- Tobacco products will not be used or transported by minors in our vehicles
- Alcohol will not be supplied or transported in our vehicles
- Alcohol use will not be allowed in our vehicles
- Illegal drug use or possession will not be permitted
- Companies should monitor what passengers bring into vehicles
- Vehicles should be checked each time passengers depart from the vehicle
- Appropriate number of staff should be provided to properly monitor the passengers