

COMMISSIONERS

W. KEVIN HUGHES
CHAIRMAN

HAROLD D. WILLIAMS
ANNE E. HOSKINS
JEANNETTE M. MILLS
MICHAEL T. RICHARD

STATE OF MARYLAND



CONTACT: Tori Leonard
410-767-8054
443-680-1619 (c)
tori.leonard@maryland.gov
 

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

For Immediate Release

What to Know When Renting a Limo for Your Wedding or Prom

(BALTIMORE, MD-March 29, 2016) – Prom and wedding season increases the demand for limousines, and the Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC) wants the public to be well-informed when selecting a transportation service. As the state’s regulator of limousine services, the Commission has helpful information to keep in mind when choosing a limousine or similar vehicles (known as ‘limo buses’ or ‘party buses’) for these special occasions.

The PSC licenses and regulates all limousines that operate in Maryland, which includes annual vehicle inspections, driver background checks, verification of insurance coverage and rate filings. State law requires any company that provides limousine services in Maryland to have a [PSC carrier number](#). The PSC also regulates Transportation Network Companies including UberX and Lyft.

“Special events should also be safe and enjoyable,” said PSC Chairman Kevin Hughes. “The Commission is committed to ensuring that the public has the vital information needed to select a reliable limousine company.”

Before signing a contract, prospective limousine customers should:

- Ask for the company’s PSC carrier number.
- Inspect the vehicle personally, if possible.
- Know the difference between a limousine broker/booker and the actual company providing the limousine service and vehicle.
- Review all terms outlined in the contract.
- Contact the [PSC](#) to verify that a company is authorized and that rates quoted are correct—companies can only charge rates that are on file with the Commission.

WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER TOWER 6 ST. PAUL STREET BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21202-6806

410-767-8000 Toll Free: 1-800-492-0474 FAX: 410-333-6495

MDRS: 1-800-735-2258 (TTY/Voice) Website: www.psc.state.md.us

- While customers can reserve a limo ahead of time and be assured of a rate, consumers should be aware that if using an on-demand service such as UberX or Lyft, there is a chance that surge pricing could be in effect, particularly during times of high demand.

When hiring transportation for proms, reputable limousine companies should also adhere to state laws regarding underage drinking. Families should be aware that a driver may refuse to transport students home if they appear to be drunk, are combative or have tobacco or drugs. Some companies may also have restrictions concerning what items students can bring into the vehicle, such as outside beverages, snacks, backpacks, large pocketbooks or containers.

Customers can contact the Transportation Division at 410-767-8128 with questions concerning transportation services or visit the Commission's website, www.psc.state.md.us/transportation for more information.

About the Public Service Commission:

The Maryland Public Service Commission regulates electric and gas utilities, telephone companies (land lines), certain water and sewer companies, passenger motor vehicle carriers for hire (sedans, limousines, Uber, Lyft), taxicab companies (in Baltimore City and County, Cumberland and Hagerstown) and bay pilot rates.

*Like us on Facebook: [Facebook.com/MarylandPSC.gov](https://www.facebook.com/MarylandPSC.gov)
Follow us on Twitter @MarylandPSC*

WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER TOWER ☐ 6 ST. PAUL STREET ☐ BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21202-6806
410-767-8000 ☐ Toll Free: 1-800-492-0474 ☐ FAX: 410-333-6495
MDRS: 1-800-735-2258 (TTY/Voice) ☐ Website: www.psc.state.md.us