

## PREFERENCES PROHIBITED

6.36.135 BMC

It is unlawful for any person, having the ability or authority to control the selection of taxicabs for hire at any premises, to solicit a fee or other compensation or favor for the purpose of granting preference or priority rights to any taxi.

The Burlingame Police Department encourages taxi cab drivers and owners to report to the Traffic Sergeant any employee who solicits a fee or other compensation or favor for the purpose of granting preference or priority to any taxi. When reporting any violation of this municipal code, your cooperation is needed for a successful investigation.

You may remain anonymous, but more specific information (hotel, employee name, etc.) is beneficial to the investigation.

## PERMIT DISPLAY

6.36.170 BMC

The driver's permit shall be fixed in a conspicuous place in the taxicab so as to be seen from the passenger's compartment. It shall display a photo of the driver and shall set forth the name, address and telephone number of the owner of the taxicab and the name of the driver.

## DIRECT ROUTE

6.36.140 BMC

Any driver employed to transport passengers to a definite point shall take the most direct route that will take the passengers to their destination, safely and expeditiously.

## PERMIT SUSPENSION

6.36.100 BMC

Any permit issued under this chapter shall be subject to suspension or revocation by the city manager for violation of, or for causing or permitting violation of, any provision of this chapter or for any grounds that would warrant the denial of such permits in the first instance.



## PERMIT REQUIRED

6.36.020 BMC

It is unlawful for any person to engage in the business of operating any taxicab company, where passenger pick-up is within the city, without first obtaining an owner's permit from the police department. It is unlawful for any person to drive a taxicab, where passenger pick-up is within the city, without first obtaining a driver's permit from the police department. All permits shall be non-transferable.

## REFUSAL OF SERVICE

6.36.160 BMC

It is unlawful for any driver, operating under a permit issued pursuant to the terms of this chapter, to refuse, when the vehicle is in service and not otherwise engaged, to provide service to or from any location in the city or to refuse to transport any person who presents him or herself for carriage in a sober and orderly manner and for a lawful purpose.



**CITY OF BURLINGAME  
BURLINGAME POLICE DEPARTMENT**



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## INTRODUCTION

As a taxi driver, you provide an important personalized transport service to the public. The way you drive affects the way passengers feel about each taxi trip they take with you.

To encourage passengers to want to keep using your service, you must provide good customer service and conduct yourself in a way that makes them comfortable and at ease.

The goal of this pamphlet is to explain Burlingame's taxi city ordinance and to achieve greater customer satisfaction and increased confidence in the taxi industry.

## DEFINITIONS

"Driver" means every person in charge of, or operating, any taxicab as defined in this chapter, either as owner or employee or under the direction of owners or employees.

"Owner" means every person who in any manner has the proprietary use, ownership or control of any taxicab.

"Taxicab" means a motor-propelled passenger-carrying vehicle of a distinctive color or colors and which is of such a public appearance as is customary for taxicabs in common usage in this country, and which is operated at rates per mile or upon a waiting time basis or both, and is equipped with a taximeter, and which motor-propelled vehicle is used for the transportation of passengers for hire over and along public streets, not over a defined route, but as to route and destination in accordance with, and under the direction of the person hiring such vehicle.



## PERMIT APPLICATION

### 6.36.030 BMC

Any person desiring a permit to own or drive a taxicab shall first make an application therefor by filing with the license collector a sworn application in writing on a form to be furnished by the license collector which shall give the following information. An owner-driver may make a single application and pay a single fee.

- (a) Name, residence and telephone number;
- (b) The previous address of the applicant during the five (5) years immediately prior to the present address of the applicant;
- (c) Social Security number and driver's license number, if any;
- (d) Birth certificate or other written proof acceptable to the police department that the applicant is at least eighteen (18) years of age;
- (e) Fingerprints (taken by the police department for criminal history investigation);
- (f) Business, occupation or employment of the applicant for the five (5) years immediately preceding the date of application;
- (g) The business license and permit history of the applicant, including a list of other jurisdictions in which the applicant holds a current owner's or driver's permit; whether such person, in previously operating in this or another city or state, under license or permit has had such license or permit revoked or suspended, the reason therefor, and the business activity or occupation subsequent to such action of suspension or revocation;
- (h) Owner or owner-driver applications shall include license number, make, model and year of all vehicles the applicant proposes to operate, the location of any proposed depots and offices, and the color scheme or insignia to be used to designate the vehicle or vehicles of the applicant.

(i) Whether such person has ever been convicted of any crime, except misdemeanor traffic violations. If any person mentioned in this subsection has been so convicted, a statement must be made giving the place and



court in which such conviction was had, the specific charge under which the conviction was obtained and the sentence imposed as a result of such conviction;

(j) Such other identification and information necessary to discover the truth of matters hereinbefore specified as required to be set forth in the application;

(k) The application will also include a separately signed waiver and release authorizing the city of Burlingame, its agents, and employees to seek information and to conduct an investigation into the truth of the statements made on the application and the qualifications and record of the applicant.

(l) The applicant shall provide two (2) passport size photos taken within the last thirty (30) days.

## TAXI INSPECTIONS

### 6.36.120 BMC

(a) All public passenger vehicles for hire shall be under the supervision and control of the chief of police, and he or she shall not permit any driver to operate any taxicab in the city while the same or any equipment used thereon, or therewith, is unsafe, defective or in an unsanitary condition. Every taxicab shall be at all times subject to the inspection of any police officer of the city.

(b) At least every twelve (12) months every taxicab shall be safety checked by an independent state licensed auto service or repair facility which is an approved brake and lamp station. Written proof of the safety check shall be carried in each vehicle.

(c) Before placing any taxicab in operation under a permit issued pursuant to this chapter, the taxicab operator shall present the taxicab to the police department for inspection to ensure that the taxicab complies with the requirements of this chapter.