

It is in violation of Sec. 407-99 of the City of Cincinnati Municipal Code for the operator of a public vehicle having no Cincinnati license, to accept, or offer to accept any passengers for compensation, or accept any business whatsoever, within the limits of the city of Cincinnati.

This basically means that if a taxicab picks you up within the limits of the city of Cincinnati and you realize that there is no City of Cincinnati License in the lower left-hand corner of the windshield, that driver can not accept compensation from you for your taxicab ride. He can NOT expect to be paid.

With your knowledge of this, you can expect your taxicab ride to be FREE.

If the taxicab driver demands payment and threatens to call the police on you, you can inform him that if he calls the Cincinnati Police, he shall be arrested and his taxicab shall be impounded.

Sec. 407-135. Impoundment of Vehicles Violating Public Vehicle Code.

When any police officer of the city shall discover any vehicle operating in violation of Section 407-3, 407-97, 407-99 or 407-101, the officer shall impound the vehicle and shall arrest any person in charge thereof.

Sec. 407-999-A. Violation of Section 407-3, 407-97, 407-99 or 407-101.

Whoever violates any provision of Section 407-3, 407-97, 407-99, or 407-101, shall be punished for a first offense by a fine of not more than \$500, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both; for a second offense within three years after conviction for first offense, by a fine of not more than \$500, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both; for a third offense and each subsequent offense within three years, by a fine of not less than \$500, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both.

Here is what to look for:

Make certain there is NO City of Cincinnati Insignia in the Lower Left-hand Corner of the Windshield



(ALL Legal Cincinnati Taxicabs will have this Insignia in Lower Left-hand Corner of the Windshield)

The following taxicabs do NOT have a City of Cincinnati Insignia (License)

- * ALL - At Your Service taxicabs
- * ALL - Scorpion taxicabs (picks up often after Bengal's & Red's games)
- * ALL Hebron taxicabs
- * Cross County Taxi (known to pickup in Mt. Lookout & at Annies)
- * Dano Taxi (known to pickup in Mt. Lookout & at Annies)
- * Community Yellow taxicabs with Silver bumpers

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If you find yourself in one of these unlicensed taxicabs after being picked up within the limits of the city of Cincinnati, you can thank the driver for your free taxicab ride and point out to him that he is not allowed to accept or expect compensation from you. And you can kindly explain to him what will happen if he chooses to call the Cincinnati Police on you for refusing to pay the fare.

Pick-up MUST be INSIDE the City of Cincinnati AND Drop-off MUST be INSIDE the City of Cincinnati in order to expect a FREE Ride without complications
Cities within Cincinnati will NOT enforce City of Cincinnati Municipal Codes and small city police officers WILL arrest YOU
Examples of small cities within Cincinnati are:
Norwood, College Hill, North College Hill, Mt. Healthy, Cheviot, Delhi, Elmwood, Lockland, Reading, Sharonville, etc...

However, there are still options that you can exercise to defend your right to your free taxicab ride IF the taxicab driver elects to call the police on you.

Wait for the police to respond – (This option might take some time)

Agree to pay the taxicab fare in front of the Officer (this will keep you from being arrested)
Request that a police report be written designating why the police were initially called, listing exactly where you were picked up at, along with the taxicab driver's name and information, taxicab number, license plate number etc. and also that you paid the fare. Request a Detailed Receipt from the driver. (This report will be your proof of the incident and where your trip originated)
Once this police report is available to you:

File a Complaint against this taxicab driver and the Taxicab Company:

Send a copy of the Police Report and your signed receipt to the City of Cincinnati Public Vehicles Office and request that they cite this driver for violating Sec 407-99 of the City of Cincinnati Municipal Code. Because he picked you up within the City of Cincinnati city limits and upon completion of your trip, he demanded compensation, and called the local police on you for refusing to pay the fare.

Another Much EASIER Option (Without Police Involvement) - You have a Right to a Receipt

Without causing suspicion, Pay the taxicab fare and ask for a receipt:

Request a RECEIPT from the taxicab driver, designating your EXACT pick-up point and drop-off point
Make absolutely certain that the Taxicab Number is on the receipt, along with the License Plate Number
Make absolutely certain that the taxicab driver's name is printed and he SIGNS the dated receipt.
(This detailed receipt will be your proof of where your trip originated)

With Proof In Hand of exactly where the taxicab driver picked you up:

Now tell the driver of your intentions and request an immediate full refund.

If the taxicab driver knows that you are now going to report him to the City of Cincinnati, after if he accepted compensation from you and gave you a detailed receipt, he might elect to give you your money back and simply bid you farewell

Do NOT return the receipt back to him until AFTER he gives you your money back.

Remember, HE is the one who violated the laws of the City of Cincinnati, NOT YOU

If the taxicab driver does NOT refund your money

File a Complaint against this taxicab driver and the Taxicab Company:

Send a copy of your signed receipt to the City of Cincinnati Public Vehicles Office and request that they cite this driver for violating Sec 407-99 of the City of Cincinnati Municipal Code because he picked you up within the City of Cincinnati city limits and upon completion of your trip, he expected compensation.

Keep this pamphlet on you at ALL times

Not all Cincinnati Police officers are familiar with Chapter 407 of the City of Cincinnati Municipal Code. It is very important that you have these codes with you in case the unlicensed taxicab driver decides to call the police on you. This way you can easily point out to the Cincinnati Police officer why you are entitled to FREE transportation by this unlicensed taxicab. (All City of Cincinnati Municipal Codes, needed to show the Cincinnati Police Officer, are listed on the back of this pamphlet)

Sec. 407-3. License Fees.

No person, either as owner or as agent, employee or driver for, or lessee of, shall operate or permit to be operated any vehicle as a public vehicle, or shall proffer the services of such vehicle as a public vehicle by solicitation by voice, sign, public advertisement, light, or otherwise unless the proper license has been issued to the owner thereof and is in force.

Every license shall expire on January 14 of the year following the date on which the license was issued. License fees for each public vehicle shall be payable to the city treasurer in the following amounts per year: Taxicab . . . \$161

Sec. 407-35. Insignia.

The department shall furnish free of charge a decal which is to be affixed in the lower left-hand corner of the windshield, except animal-drawn carriages, and pedicabs, where the decal shall be affixed to a glass (plexiglass) plate 4" x 5" provided by the licensee. The plate shall be secured (easily removed) to the exterior of the carriage or pedicab as approved by the director. The decal shall indicate vehicle license number and type of license (taxi, limousine, handicapped livery vehicle, tour vehicle, or animal-drawn carriage or pedicab). When the vehicle is retired from service, the decal is to be removed and destroyed. Operation of a public vehicle without the proper decal or failure to properly destroy a decal shall be cause for revocation. If a public vehicle license is transferred from vehicle to vehicle, a new license decal shall be furnished by the department subject to the above conditions. It shall be unlawful to display public vehicle equipment and insignia on any vehicle other than a licensed vehicle.

(C.O. 407-35; a. Ord. No. 341-1958, eff. Oct. 24, 1958; a. Ord. No. 518-1964, eff. Jan. 15, 1965; a. Ord. No. 384-1965, eff. Oct. 9, 1965; a. Ord. No. 132-1968, eff. May 3, 1968; a. Ord. No. 254-1969, eff. July 25, 1969; reordained as C.M.C. 407-35, eff. Jan. 1, 1972; a. Ord. No. 489-1974, eff. Jan. 1, 1975; a. Ord. No. 264-1982 eff. July 23, 1982; a. Ord. No. 260-1995, eff. Sept. 1, 1995; a. Ord. No. 124-2000, eff. May 19, 2000)

Cross references: Penalty, § 407-999-B.

Sec. 407-99. Public Vehicles Licensed Outside of Cincinnati.

The operator of a public vehicle duly licensed by some other proper governmental authority, but having no Cincinnati license, the place of business of the owner or operator of which is not in the city of Cincinnati, may transport passengers into Cincinnati by means of such public vehicle, but may not accept, or offer to accept any passengers for compensation, or accept any business whatsoever, within the limits of the city of Cincinnati; provided, however, that this section shall not apply to operators of public vehicles duly licensed by other governmental authority, when such public vehicles are engaged in transporting school children domiciled outside the corporate limits of the city of Cincinnati to and from their homes and a school located within the corporate limits of the city of Cincinnati.

(C.O. 407-99; reordained as C.M.C. 407-99, eff. Jan. 1, 1972)

Cross references: Penalty, § 407-999-A.

Sec. 407-135. Impoundment of Vehicles Violating Public Vehicle Code.

When any police officer of the city shall discover any vehicle operating in violation of Section 407-3, 407-97, 407-99 or 407-101, the officer shall impound the vehicle and shall arrest any person in charge thereof. The vehicle shall remain in the possession of the city of Cincinnati until such time that the vehicle has been licensed as a public vehicle under the provisions of Chapter 407 of the Cincinnati Municipal Code or an application to license the vehicle as a public vehicle pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 407 of the Cincinnati Municipal Code has been denied.

Before obtaining the release of a vehicle impounded under this section, the owner of the vehicle shall pay those fees set forth in Section 513-7 of the Cincinnati Municipal Code for automobiles which have been impounded pursuant to the provisions of Section 513-1 of the Cincinnati Municipal Code.

(Sec. 407-134; ordained by Ord. No. 259-1957, eff. July 26, 1957; renumbered to C.M.C. 407-135, eff. Jan. 1, 1972; a. Ord. No. 50-1990, eff. Feb. 22, 1990)

Sec. 407-999-A. Violation of Section 407-3, 407-97, 407-99 or 407-101.

Whoever violates any provision of Section 407-3, 407-97, 407-99, or 407-101, shall be punished for a first offense by a fine of not more than \$500, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both; for a second offense within three years after conviction for first offense, by a fine of not more than \$500, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both; for a third offense and each subsequent offense within three years, by a fine of not less than \$500, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both.

(C.O. 407-135; a. Ord. No. 259-1957, eff. July 26, 1957; a. Ord. No. 414-1970, eff. Dec. 23, 1970; renumbered to C.M.C. 407-999-A, eff. Jan. 1, 1972)

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To the Citizens of the City of Cincinnati Free Taxicab Handbook

FREE Taxicab Service

Within the Cincinnati City Limits

Compliments of the drivers of unlicensed taxicabs

Watch for them after Bengal's games & Red's games.

Watch for them at ANY downtown main events

Tall Stacks, Oktoberfest, US Bank Arena Events

Even from Riverbend Concerts

(IF the taxicab is West of Coney Island's Main Gate, inside the City Limits)

FROM DOWNTOWN CINCINNATI

If you hail a taxicab from any point inside the City of Cincinnati

Then find yourself an **unlicensed ILLEGAL taxicab**

If you are lucky & spot one of these unlicensed taxicabs,
you can easily flag it down almost anywhere in Cincinnati.

USE THEM OFTEN

Your taxicab ride will be FREE

WHY?

Because these taxicab drivers are **Operating ILLEGALLY &**
They have **NO Legal Right** to pick you up in the City of Cincinnati

They have **NO Legal Right** to offer taxicab service to you

Unless it is **FREE**

There is absolutely **NOTHING** that they can do to you,
when you refuse to pay them at the end of your trip

In Fact, here is what shall happen to **THEM**

If they call the Cincinnati Police on you

THEY will be Arrested & the Taxicab will be Impounded

Full Details Inside this pamphlet

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