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VIA MESSENGER

OUR FILE NO. 381854-000001

Pelayo Llamas
Deputy City Attorney
Oakland City Attorney
City Hall, 6th Floor
1 Frank Ogawa Plaza
Oakland, California 94612

Re: *Singh v. Driver/Owner Leasing Co., Inc. & Taxicab Medallion Issuance*

Dear Mr. Llamas:

As the Oakland City Attorney is aware, Baljit and Surinder Singh are involved in a claim against A. John Merlo's estate in *Singh v. Driver/Owner Leasing Co., Inc.*, RG09450232, California Superior Court, Alameda County ("the Matter"). The Matter was divided into two phases: law and equity. The legal phase began on April 29, 2013 while the equity portion recommences on August 12, 2013. This Matter concerns ownership of an Oakland taxicab company Driver Owner Leasing Co., Inc. ("DOLCO") and its 41 taxi cab medallions. The Singhs claimed ownership of DOLCO and the medallions pursuant to an oral or implied contract with A. John Merlo, an attorney now deceased.

Although the jury did not return a favorable verdict, a number of appellate issues exist for the Matter. To be sure, the Singhs will exhaust all avenues to ensure ownership of DOLCO and the 41 medallions.

During this ongoing Matter, we respectfully request that the City Attorney not issue the medallions to the prevailing party at trial until there is a final ruling on appeal. Issuing the medallions prior to a final appeal will cause irrevocable damage. Furthermore, Deputy City Administrator Arturo M. Sanchez acknowledged during his cross-examination at trial that there is no immediate need for the 41 medallions on the streets of Oakland and that he does not plan on asking the City of Oakland to re-issue the 41 temporary medallions while the Matter is pending. (*See attached Ex. A*)

If the City of Oakland decides to issue the medallions prior to a final appeal, the Singhs will have no choice but to bring the City of Oakland into this litigation.

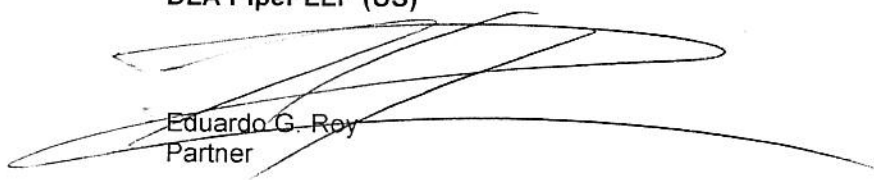
If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.



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Very truly yours,

DLA Piper LLP (US)



Eduardo G. Roy
Partner

Enclosure: Exhibit A-Trial Testimony of Arturo M. Sanchez

Exhibit A

Trial Testimony of Arturo M. Sanchez

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 2013

80:19 CROSS-EXAMINATION OF MR. SANCHEZ

80:20 BY MR. BAUTISTA:

80:21 Q. Good morning, Mr. Sanchez.

80:22 A. Good morning.

80:23 Q. Just a couple questions here.

80:24 This meeting that you had with Surinder Singh

80:25 that you just testified to --

80:26 A. Yes, sir.

80:27 Q. -- where you said to her essentially that to go

80:28 talk to her attorneys and that the City didn't have a dog

81:1 in the fight, when did that meeting take place?

81:2 A. Having never had preset meetings in my calendar

81:3 and then popping in on occasion, it could have been, most

81:4 likely, in the summer of 2010.

81:5 Essentially by -- my recollection of those

81:6 conversations relate more to there having been a

81:7 temporary restraining order of some type or an injunction

81:8 being in effect in the summer of 2010 which is when this

81:9 really became an issue that affected the decisions of the

81:10 City.

81:11 Q. Now, you testified earlier that the 41 temporary

81:12 medallions, they're currently being used by Friendly Cab,

81:13 slash, Cabs Incorporated. Correct?

81:14 A. Yes.

81:15 Q. And are those renewed on an annual basis?

81:16 A. They are for a two-year time period only. They

81:17 will expire this year and will not be renewed for 2014.

81:18 Q. And at that time does the City have any plans as

81:19 to how they're going to proceed? Are they going to have

81:20 another issue of temporary medallions?

81:21 A. I'm not planning to take that to City Council,

81:22 and it would require City action, so no.

81:23 Q. Is the City waiting for the result of this

81:24 lawsuit to take action on that issue?

81:25 A. Yes, sir.

81:26 Q. Now, in 2010 when the -- when Friendly Cab was

81:27 -- had tacit approval I imagine of the City to operate

81:28 the medallion -- well, operate the taxicabs without

82:1 medallions and not being enforced, was the purpose of

82:2 that to ensure that the public continued to have taxi

82:3 service?

82:4 A. Yes.

82:5 Q. Okay. That action had nothing to do with

82:6 whether or not the operation was necessarily permissible

82:7 or considered permissible by the City. Correct?

82:8 A. Yes.

82:9 THE COURT: So with regard to this temporary

82:10 situation, that's a two-year?

82:11 THE WITNESS: We were authorized for a two-year
82:12 time period.
82:13 THE COURT: Two-year time period.
82:14 And then the 41 went to Friendly Cab under this
82:15 temporary situation. Is that right?
82:16 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
82:17 THE COURT: And that was in 2010?
82:18 THE WITNESS: 2011.
82:19 THE COURT: 2011.
82:20 And then was Friendly Cab required to apply for
82:21 renewal for 2012?
82:22 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
82:23 THE COURT: Did Friendly Cab do so?
82:24 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
82:25 THE COURT: And it was approved under the
82:26 temporary program?
82:27 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
82:28 THE COURT: And was Friendly Cab required to
83:1 apply for renewal for 2013?
83:2 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
83:3 THE COURT: And did it do so?
83:4 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
83:5 THE COURT: And the application was approved and
83:6 is still operating those 41 medallions under the
83:7 temporary program. Is that right?
83:8 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
83:9 THE COURT: All right. Go ahead.

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