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## Member Alert

**To: ABA Bus Operator Members**

**From: Peter J. Pantuso, CTIS  
President & CEO**

**Date: February 24, 2010**

**Re: FTA Sending Out Notices to Continue Charter Bus E-Mail Alerts For Operators**

Many bus operators have recently received email notices from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) related to their registration status on the [FTA's Charter Registration website](#).

Per the federal regulations governing the charter bus rules (49 CFR 604.13[e]), bus operators seeking registration as a charter operator are required to provide updated contact and fleet information every 2 years. The FTA is now beginning the process of notifying operators of the update and re-registration requirement as operators approach their 2 year anniversary date on the website. These email messages have commonly been titled "**Charter Service Registration Expiration.**"

Upon receipt of a notification from the FTA, operators are expected to simply fill out a new registration form online on their anniversary date. As many operators who have tried to make changes to their profiles know well, the FTA's charter website does not allow for updates, only the creation or deletion of records. So re-registration is necessary.

The FTA's charter bus rules continue to protect the private bus industry from federally subsidized and illegal competition from public transit agencies. Through the [FTA's Charter Registration website](#), nearly 1150 private operators have been able to be electronically notified of charter business opportunities. You also need to be a registered charter operator before you can bring a complaint against illegally operating transit agencies.

If operators would like to continue to receive these important electronic charter business alerts from the transit agencies in their service areas, we encourage them to re-register in correspondence with their anniversary date. If you have any technical questions or concerns about the implementation of the charter bus rule you should contact the FTA's ombudsman, Ms. Crystal Frederick at (202) 366-4063, [ombudsman.charterservice@dot.gov](mailto:ombudsman.charterservice@dot.gov).