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Member Alert

To: ABA Operator Members

From: ABA President & CEO Peter Pantuso

Date: August 11, 2008

RE: Save the Date for East Coast Charter Rules Meeting August 20; FMCSA NPRM To Discontinue Route Filling Procedure For Regular Route Motor Carriers

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has announced an upcoming session on charter regulations review for the bus industry on Wednesday, August 20 near Baltimore, MD. The specific details are:

**Regional Meeting on FTA Bus Charter Rules
Wednesday, August 20th from 1:00-4:30 pm.
Westin Baltimore Washington Airport Hotel
1100 Old Elkridge Landing Road
Linthicum, MD 21090
(443) 577-2300**

ABA with invitation of the FTA, urges East Coast independent operator members to attend this critical session. It will be similar to those recently held in Illinois, New Jersey, Texas and other locations. This is a critical opportunity for private operators to learn and ask questions about the new charter rules, as ABA has been encouraging all operator members to register online with the FTA as soon as possible in every jurisdiction or state in which they wish to receive information on new charter opportunities. Registration can be done at the [FTA Registration website](#).

Last week, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in which the Agency proposed to discontinue the current requirement that a carrier seeking authority to transport passengers over regular routes submit a detailed description and map of the route(s) over which they propose to operate. The Agency would register the regular route carriers without requiring designation of specific regular routes and fixed endpoints and carriers would no longer have to seek additional Agency approval in order to change or add routes.

FMCSA believes this action will reduce the burden on both the carrier and the Agency. Carriers will still be subject to full federal, state, and local safety oversight and enforcement programs. The FMCSA request comments be submitted by September 22. To read the full NPRM go [online](#).

As always, please feel free to call me with any questions at 1-800-283-2877, or to email me at ppantuso@buses.org.