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## Member Alert

To: ABA Members

From: ABA President & CEO Peter Pantuso

Date: June 4, 2008

**RE: SAVE THE DATE FOR JUNE 17 FTA MEETING IN NEW JERSEY**

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The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has announced it will be holding a session on charter regulations review for the bus industry on the afternoon of **Tuesday, June 17** in New Jersey, the location of which will be announced shortly.

ABA urges all operator members to save the date for this critical meeting, which targets operators in the mid-Atlantic and New England region. It will be similar to the sessions held recently in Texas and Florida.

The FTA has received numerous petitions from operators for waivers to provide charter work. As a result, ABA and its coalition partners at International Motorcoach Group and United Motorcoach Association are working with FTA to bring private operators together for a charter education program for the Northeast similar to the one held in Austin, Texas May 6<sup>th</sup>.

FTA has invited and encouraged interested private operators to attend the special meeting. Interested operators based in Virginia, Maryland, DC, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont and Maine should attend.

This is a critical opportunity for private operators to get a seat at the table and make the case for how public-private partnerships including ABA member bus fleets are part of the transportation solution on a wide range of issues. ABA has been encouraging all operator members to register with the FTA as soon as possible in every jurisdiction of a transit operator or state in which they wish to receive information on new charter opportunities.

**MARK THE CALENDAR NOW FOR JUNE 17 – DETAILS TO FOLLOW.**