



**City of Santa Barbara**  
Police Department

**Memorandum**

**DATE:** January 23, 2014  
**TO:** Fire and Police Commission  
**FROM:** Holly Perea, Police Technician  
**SUBJECT:** Ramon E. Preciado Duenas- Appeal of Denial of Taxi Driver Permit

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On August 22, 2013, Ramon E. Preciado Duenas submitted the required New Driver Application for a taxicab driver permit to the Santa Barbara Police Department. A review of the applicant's information revealed that Mr. Preciado Duenas was convicted of two moving violations within the year prior to his application:

On July 25, 2013 Mr. Preciado Duenas was convicted of 22349(A) VC for speeding. On August 23, 2013, Mr. Preciado Duenas was convicted of 22350 VC for speeding. Each conviction resulted in a point on his California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) driving record, for a total of two points in the past 12 months.

Based on the above discovery during the background check, Mr. Preciado Duenas's permit application was denied per **Santa Barbara Municipal Code (SBMC) §5.29.190 Denial** "A public vehicle driver's permit shall not be issued to any person for whom any of the following is applicable: **(I) "Has 2 or more moving violation convictions within 1 year immediately preceding an application...."** It should be noted that the above section does not use the discretionary term "may not be issued," but instead states that a "permit shall not be issued," thereby requiring the Chief of Police to deny the permit under the above-listed circumstances. (See Attachment 1.).

Mr. Preciado Duenas was given written notice of this denial on November 12, 2013. Per the requirements of **SBMC §5.29.250 Appeal Procedure** (Attachment 2), on November 25, 2013, Mr. Preciado Duenas filed a letter of appeal (Attachment 3) with the City Clerk's office. However, due to the lack of a quorum, the December meeting of Fire and Police Commissioners was canceled, and the appeal was subsequently rescheduled for the next regularly-scheduled meeting in January 2014.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Santa Barbara Police Department recommends that the Fire and Police Commission upholds the decision to deny this application.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. SBMC §5.29.190 Denial
2. SBMC §5.29.250 Appeal Procedure
3. Letter of appeal

**5.29.190 Denial.**

A public vehicle driver's permit shall not be issued to any person for whom any of the following is applicable:

- A. Has been a licensed driver for less than 6 months in the United States.
- B. Does not possess a valid Class C driver's license issued by the State of California.
- C. Is less than twenty-one (21) years of age, unless the applicant possesses a valid Class B driver's license issued by the State of California and is 18 years or older.
- D. Is currently required to register pursuant to Section 290 of the California Penal Code or is required to register in another state or country as a sex offender in a manner comparable to Penal Code Section 290.
- E. Has been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude, narcotics or dangerous drugs, unless a period of not less than three (3) years shall have elapsed since the date of conviction or the date of release from confinement for such offense, whichever is later.
- F. Has been convicted for driving a vehicle recklessly within the two (2) years immediately preceding application for a permit or renewal.
- G. Has been convicted of operating a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs two (2) or more times within seven (7) years immediately preceding the application for a permit or a renewal application, or one (1) time within one (1) year immediately preceding application for a permit or renewal.
- H. Has a history of chronic alcohol-related criminal convictions, as evidenced by three (3) or more public intoxication convictions within two (2) years immediately preceding an application for or renewal of permit.
- I. Has two (2) or more moving violation convictions within one (1) year immediately preceding an application for a permit, or three (3) moving violation convictions within one (1) year, or four (4) moving violation convictions within two (2) years for renewal. "Moving violation" conviction shall mean those violations set forth in State Vehicle Code Section 12810.
- J. Has been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor hit and run.
- K. Has falsified or omitted material and relevant facts on the public vehicle driver's permit application.
- L. Has failed to comply with all applicable provisions of Section 5.29.175 of this Chapter. (Ord. 5360, 2005; Ord. 4974, 1996; Ord. 4277, 1984; Ord. 4206, 1983.)

**5.29.250 Appeal Procedure.**

**A. Appeals to the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners**

1. Any decision of the Chief of Police denying a permit, or denying an amendment to a permit, or imposing a suspension or revocation of any owner's or driver's permit shall not become final until fifteen (15) days after the date of transmittal of the written notice to the person affected by such decision, during which period the party to the action may appeal the decision in the manner provided herein at any time prior to the expiration date of the fifteen (15) day period. If no appeal is taken before the expiration of the fifteen (15) day period, the decision of the Chief of Police shall be final.

2. The appeal of any decision shall be in writing signed by the party to the action briefly setting forth the reasons why such decision is not proper, stating an address at which the appellant will receive notices, and filed with the Clerk of the City.

3. Upon filing an appeal, the party to the action shall be entitled to a hearing by the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners at the next regular meeting.

4. The appellant or appellant's representative shall have the right to present his or her case in person.

5. The Board of Fire and Police Commissioners shall consider the case record as well as any statements offered by interested parties. The hearing will be conducted according to administrative rules relating to evidence and witnesses as adopted by the Commission.

6. If the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners refuses to issue, amend or restore a license or an owner's permit, the party to the action or such party's agent shall not file a new application within three hundred sixty five (365) days from the date of final action by the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners.

7. If the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners suspends an owner's permit or a license, the Chief of Police shall determine a period of suspension of not more than thirty (30) days, which is in accordance with the schedule of penalties developed by the Chief of Police.

8. If the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners' action is to grant or restore a certificate or a license, the Commission shall direct the Chief of Police to issue or restore the certificate or license.

**B. Appeals to the City Council**

1. Appeals to the City Council from the decision of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners shall be made pursuant to the provisions of Section 1.30.050 of this Code. (Ord. 5360, 2005; Ord. 5136, 1999; Ord. 4206, 1983.)

Att: City Hall

Nov 25, 2013  
RECEIVED

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CITY OF

This Taxi Driver Permit Denial has been detrimental for my survival. I've been without steady employment for a while now & this has been the only ~~the~~ job available to me. I've been through the training I've invested all my time & effort on this opportunity. ~~I~~ I have no immediate family here except for my Daughters. I'm losing my housing at the end of December. I'm ~~also~~ already signed up for Driver ~~training~~ training so that one of those infractions will be removed from my record. I'm just trying to provide for me & my girls. This job will help both me & my girls maintain dignity & independence from other aid. Please allow me to drive for green cabs. the owner has been incredibly helpful toward me & needs my help getting his new company established.

Thank you for you time & please reconsider ~~for my~~ application. you will be helping a family remain together & a new business to flourish. Respectfully,

Ronald E. Quintero