

ORIGINAL

Decision 84 06 177

JUN 20 1984

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application)	
of VISIT U.S.A. BUREAU--SAN)	Application 84-04-123
FRANCISCO, INC. for a Class B)	(Filed April 26, 1984)
charter bus certificate from)	
home terminal in San Francisco.)	
_____)	

O P I N I O N

Visit U.S.A. Bureau--San Francisco, Inc., a California corporation, has applied for a certificate of public convenience and necessity as a Class B charter-party carrier of passengers (Public Utilities (PU) Code Section 5371 to 5375).

Applicant has been operating chartered tours under its TCP permit (TCP-639-P) since 1979. It has operated charter tours for smaller tour groups referred from various travel agencies and airlines specializing in the handling of tour groups from Japan. It has operated airport transfers, city tours, and tours from San Francisco to Monterey/Carmel and other points of interest in Silicon Valley and San Jose.

Applicant states that it intends to operate eight motor vehicles (three sedans, two limousines, and three vans) in providing the proposed transportation service. Applicant asserts that the proposed operations are required:

"Applicant has found that the proposed service is needed and in the best interests of the public. There has been and continued to exist, a constant stream of Japanese tour groups coming to California, particularly San Francisco. The Applicant has found that most Japanese tourists have serious difficulties in speaking the English

language and are unaware and naive to the customs and norms of the American culture. The Applicant has found that because of its personnel, who have the knowledge and understanding of the Japanese culture and her people, the proposed services will help tourists enjoy and appreciate the sights and points of interest visited by means of Applicant's services."

Applicant's total assets are \$111,852, \$27,377 of which is attributed to applicant's motor vehicles. It is projected that the typical year's mileage will be 60,000 miles producing a revenue of \$90,000.

Notice of the filing of this application appeared in the Commission's Daily Transportation Calendar of May 1, 1984. No protests have been received.

Findings of Fact

1. Applicant has the ability, experience, equipment, and financial resources to perform the proposed service.
2. Public convenience and necessity require the service proposed by applicant.
3. Applicant should be authorized to pick up passengers within a radius of 40 air miles from its home terminal at 505 Geary Street, San Francisco.
4. No protest has been received and a public hearing is not necessary.
5. It can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment.

Conclusions of Law

1. Public convenience and necessity have been demonstrated and a certificate should be granted.
2. This order should become effective immediately as public convenience and necessity have been demonstrated.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. A certificate of public convenience and necessity, to be renewed each year, is granted to Visit U.S.A. Bureau--San Francisco, Inc. authorizing it to operate as a Class B charter-party carrier of passengers, as defined in PU Code § 5383, from a service area with a radius of 40 air miles from applicant's home terminal at 505 Geary Street, San Francisco.

2. Applicant shall:

- a. Obtain California Highway Patrol (CHP) clearance for each vehicle to be used in this Class B charter-party operation.
- b. Notify the Commission and CHP of any addition or deletion of vehicles used in the service prior to use.
- c. Establish the authorized service within 360 days after this order is effective.
- d. Remit to the Commission the Transportation Reimbursement Fee required by PU Code § 403 when notified by mail to do so.

3. The Passenger Operations Branch will issue the annual renewable certificate on Form PE-695 as authorized by Resolution PE-303 when it receives CHP clearances and evidence of liability protection in compliance with General Order Series 115.

4. In providing service under the certificate, applicant shall comply with General Orders Series 98 and 115 and the CHP safety rules.

5. Prior to initiating service to any airport, applicant shall notify the airport authority involved. This certificate does not authorize the holder to conduct any operations on the property of or into any airport unless such operation is authorized by both this Commission and the airport authority involved.

6. The Class B certificate of public convenience and necessity granted by this order does not authorize round-trip sightseeing-tour service, which is not subject to regulation by this Commission. It does, however, permit applicant to offer charter service to a sightseeing-tour operator.

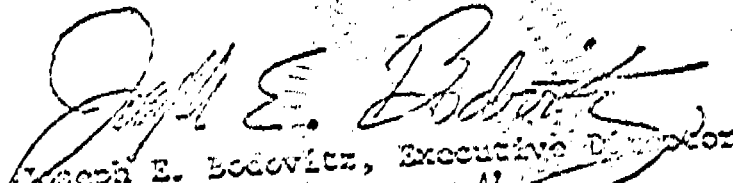
7. The application is granted as set forth above.

This order is effective today.

Dated JUN 20 1984, at San Francisco, California.

LEONARD M. GRIMES, JR.
President
VICTOR CALVO
FRISCIILLA C. GREW
DONALD VIAL
WILLIAM T. BAGLEY
Commissioners

I CERTIFY THAT THIS DECISION
WAS APPROVED BY THE ABOVE
COMMISSIONERS TODAY.


Joseph E. Bodovitz, Executive Director

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. A certificate of public convenience and necessity, to be renewed each year, is granted to Visit U.S.A. Bureau--San Francisco, Inc. authorizing it to operate as a Class B charter-party carrier of passengers, as defined in PU Code Section 5383, from a service area with a radius of 40 air miles from applicant's home terminal at 505 Geary Street, San Francisco.

2. Applicant shall:

- a. Obtain California Highway Patrol (CHP) clearance for each vehicle to be used in this Class B charter-party operation.
- b. Notify the Commission and CHP of any addition or deletion of vehicles used in the service prior to use.
- c. Establish the authorized service within 360 days after this order is effective.

3. The Passenger Operations Branch will issue the annual renewable certificate on Form PE-695 as authorized by Resolution PE-303 when it receives CHP clearances and evidence of liability protection in compliance with General Order Series 115.

4. In providing service under the certificate, applicant shall comply with General Orders Series 98 and 115 and the CHP safety rules.

5. Prior to initiating service to any airport, applicant shall notify the airport authority involved. This certificate does not authorize the holder to conduct any operations on the property of or into any airport unless such operation is authorized by both this Commission and the airport authority involved.