

295

News



Teamsters Local Union 295
Air Freight Chauffeurs,
Handlers, Warehousemen &
Allied Workers, International
Brotherhood of Teamsters

WINTER 2005

New CDL Regulations Mean Stiffer Penalties for Violations

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Act (FMCSA), enacted in July 2002, contains a new set of regulations that became effective October 1, 2005. These regulations revise the agency's Commercial Driver's License (CDL) Program. They are designed to enhance the safety of commercial motor vehicle (CMV) operations on our nation's highways by ensuring that only safe drivers operate CMV's. Very simply put, you have one driver's license. Citations issued while driving your private vehicle or an employer's CMV may affect your CDL driving privileges.

Local 295 has done an analysis of these rules and has sent out a notice to be posted in all Local 295 shops to alert members about the new penalties. CDL holders can lose their CDL if they are convicted of committing violations while operating a non-commercial/passenger vehicle under the new rules. States are now required to revoke, suspend or cancel a CDL upon conviction of a disqualifying offense in a non-commercial vehicle. The new regulations also require

that CDL drivers serve the same period of disqualification regardless of whether a violation occurred in a CMV or a non-commercial vehicle.

"We urge all of our members to get familiar with these new penalties. They are quite severe and could have a damaging affect on your CDL," said Local 295 President Lou Calemine. "In order to protect your job, wages and benefits – and that means protecting you and your family – you must protect your license and endorsements that are required by your employer. Drive safely and please pass this message to your fellow brothers and sisters of Local 295."

Local 295's analysis of the new regulations and penalties is available on the "News and Events" page of the Local 295 Web site, www.teamsterslocal295.org.

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TEAMSTERS LOCAL UNION No. 295
AIR FREIGHT CHAUFFEURS, HANDLERS, WAREHOUSEMEN & ALLIED WORKERS
AFFILIATED WITH INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS

EXECUTIVE OFFICES
33 WEST HAVTHORNE AVE., SUITE 30
VALLEY STREAM, NEW YORK 11580
TELEPHONE (516) 568-1970
FAX (516) 568-1973

November 29, 2005

ATTENTION ALL LOCAL 295 MEMBERS

Re: New Commercial Driver's License Disqualification Standards

Recently, the new federal regulations implementing the Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act (MCSIA) of 1999 took effect. Local 295 has done an analysis of these rules and is sending this letter to you as an attempt to warn you about their possible negative impact on your CDL and your livelihood. Under the new rules, a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) holder who is convicted of a disqualifying offense while operating a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) will be required to have their CDL suspended or revoked for a certain period of time, regardless of whether the violation occurred in a CMV or a non-commercial vehicle.

To compare the new rules regarding disqualification standards for CDL holders in New Jersey, New York, and Connecticut, please refer to the table below.

Major Offenses	New Jersey	New York	Connecticut
Operating any vehicle under the influence of drugs or alcohol	First conviction – 1 year (3 years if transporting hazard) Second conviction – Life (with possible 10-year reinstatement)	First conviction – 1 year (3 years if transporting hazard) Second conviction – Life (with possible 10-year reinstatement)	First conviction – 1 year (3 years if transporting hazard) Second conviction – Life (with possible 10-year reinstatement)
Blood alcohol level of .04 or greater while operating a CMV	First conviction – 1 year (3 years if transporting hazard) Second conviction – Life (with possible 10-year reinstatement)	n/a	First conviction – 1 year (3 years if transporting hazard) Second conviction – Life (with possible 10-year reinstatement)
Refusing to take an alcohol test while operating any vehicle	First conviction – 1 year (3 years if transporting hazard) Second conviction – Life (with possible 10-year reinstatement)	First conviction – 1 year (3 years if transporting hazard) Second conviction – Life (with possible 10-year reinstatement)	First conviction – 1 year (3 years if transporting hazard) Second conviction – Life (with possible 10-year reinstatement)
Leaving the scene of an accident involving any vehicle	First conviction – 1 year (3 years if transporting hazard) Second conviction – Life (with possible 10-year reinstatement)	First conviction – 1 year (3 years if transporting hazard) Second conviction – Life (with possible 10-year reinstatement)	Accidents involving a CMV only! First conviction – 1 year (3 years if transporting hazard) Second conviction – Life (with possible 10-year reinstatement)

To obtain more information on this topic, you can also go to the FMCSA Web site (www.fmcsa.dot.gov) and/or your state's Department of Transportation site: Connecticut (www.ct.gov/dot); New Jersey (www.state.nj.us/transportation); or New York (www.dot.state.ny.us).



**A Strong Legacy
A Powerful Future**

We're Making History

The working men and women of the Teamsters and the rest of the labor movement have helped spur many of the great changes that occurred over the last 100 years in industrialization, transportation and social justice. Our struggles and triumphs helped create the middle class, empower workers through collective bargaining and provide them with the on-the-job protections of health, safety and retirement security. Unions have established a powerful voice for workers and dignity in the workplace.

Throughout these historic struggles, the Teamsters Union has always led the way.

"Our members work really hard every day to make a living and provide for their families," said Local 295 President Lou Calemine. "Sometimes we get so caught up in the day-to-day that we



What Does It Mean To Be A Union Member?

For starters, it means having a good job that provides decent wages, health benefits and retirement security. It also means having a voice on the job and getting respect from your employer.

But it's a lot more than that. We are also part of a larger movement that fights for social and economic justice for all workers. Without the labor movement, workplace safety regulations, child labor laws and overtime protections among others, would not be around. We wouldn't have weekends because we'd all be working around the clock, seven days a week. Unions have also played a major role in the civil and women's rights movements.

Imagine what life would be like without unions?

As we enter the holiday season, it seemed like a good time to reflect on these issues. It's really easy to forget about the big picture. We have difficult, dangerous jobs to do. We have bosses breathing down our necks. We have families to raise and provide for.

It's important to remember that as union members we have a responsibility to carry on the fights of those who came before us. They paved the way for us, fighting for and winning the benefits that we enjoy – and may even take for granted.

But we can never rest and get comfortable. As soon as we do, management and labor's enemies will jump at the chance to take everything we've ever fought for away.

We have a responsibility and a duty to carry on the struggle and keep making America better and stronger. Labor unions and our members are the conscience of America. We stand up for the little guy against multi-national corporations.

The Teamsters, under General President Jim Hoffa and General Secretary-Treasurer Tom Keegel, are again leading the way with the formation of the Change to Win federation. By leaving the AFL-CIO and forming this new labor organization, we are taking a stand for workers. We will be organizing the unorganized and growing the labor movement. This is a revolutionary step and one to be proud of.

We are part of an amazing movement with a tremendous history of success. Remember to talk about these issues over the dinner table with your families. They are a part of the struggle too. We need their support to be successful. Local 295 has 3,500 members and retirees. If you add in our immediate families, we stand over 14,000 strong.

Talk to your families, friends and neighbors. Let them know about our

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history and what we have meant for America. Most will have no idea, but, once they do, they will be our allies in future struggles.

Being a union member is an honor and a responsibility. Remember to show your Teamster pride!

We should also be proud that our union has had quite a few of our members and their children serving and protecting our country overseas. Some have been returning from duty in recent days. We thank and salute all of you. And we pray for the fast and safe return of all still serving. God bless you and God bless America.

Finally, the Executive Board wishes all of you a merry Christmas and a safe, happy and healthy holiday season!

Moving?

If you change your address, it is very important to let the union and funds' offices know. Please call the office as soon as possible to make sure we have the correct contact information for you, so benefit and other important information can reach you.

Teamsters Local Union 295

Air Freight Chauffeurs, Handlers,
Warehousemen & Allied Workers,
International Brotherhood of Teamsters

33 West Hawthorne Avenue, Suite 30
Valley Stream, NY 11580
Tel: (516) 568-1970
Fax: (516) 568-1973
Web: www.teamsterslocal295.org

Executive Board
Lou Calemine *President*
Charlie Russo *Sec.-Treasurer*
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LAX & Miami DHL Gateway Teamsters Approve First Contracts:

150 workers at the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) and 130 at the Miami International Airport (MIA) DHL gateway facilities overwhelmingly approved their first Teamster contracts, gaining wage increases, pension plans and job security language. By ratifying the contracts, they became the second and third DHL gateway locations to be protected by Teamster agreements – after we did it earlier this year at Building 263.

UPS/CSI Workers Overwhelmingly Approve Contract:

Workers at UPS Cartage Services, Inc. (formerly Menlo Worldwide Forwarding) have overwhelmingly approved a new contract that will consolidate more than two-dozen separate contracts into one supplement to the national UPS agreement, and will provide card-check/neutrality at nonunion centers. By a vote of 456 to 133, the workers approved the new contract, which will run through July 31, 2008 — the date the national UPS contract expires. Under the new contract, the nearly 1,000 workers will receive the same health, welfare and pension contribution rates and the same percentage wage increases that UPS workers receive under the national UPS contract. UPS/CSI plans to open five freight hubs within the next year, with the expected employment of more than 1,500 workers. The new freight hubs will be located in Louisville, KY; Rockford, IL; Philadelphia, PA; Columbia, SC; Dallas, TX; and Ontario, CA. UPS bought Menlo Worldwide Forwarding in 2004 has since renamed the company UPS Cartage Services, Inc. Local 295 has 56 members working at Cartage Services, Inc. at JFK Airport.

Extreme-Weather Tips for Freight Workers from the Teamsters Safety and Health Department:

With the hot summer months over, freight workers will be facing the cold temperatures of late fall and winter. Employers are responsible for providing a safe and healthful workplace for their employees. For tips on staying safe working in the cold, the Teamsters Safety and Health Department has published a fact sheet on cold stress and other health issues. Print one out and follow the tips on staying safe. For more information, visit www.teamster.org/resources/sh/shfacts.htm#healthhazards.



FIGHT NIGHT

On Friday, November 4, the Joint Association of Boxers, a Teamsters affiliate, held a boxing card at the Hammerstein Ballroom in Manhattan. Local 295 officers and members came out to support this great event. Seen above: JAB fighters square off and Teamsters General President Jim Hoffa spent some time with 295 members.



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We're Making History

forget about the bigger picture. We are members of the greatest union in the world. The Teamsters have been a force for good throughout our history. It's important for us all to remember the part we are playing in history."

Local 295 recently purchased copies of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters' 100th anniversary commemorative history book. The beautiful coffee table books and accompanying DVDs will be distributed to members at the shops by Local 295 Business Agents. We encourage you to spend some time reading them and sharing them with your families.



Teamsters Local Union 295
33 West Hawthorne Avenue, Suite 30
Valley Stream, NY 11580

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Victory Through Unity!

Get A Withdrawal Card When You Leave Your Job

Be sure to request a withdrawal card within 90 days from when you are laid off, called to active duty, terminated, retire, go on disability or leave the craft. The charge for the withdrawal card is \$0.50. All initiation fees and back dues must be up to date before the withdrawal card is issued. Mail or bring in the form below to the Local 295 office along with your check or money order for \$0.50. It is your responsibility to obtain a withdrawal card. Failure to obtain a withdrawal card might obligate you to pay extra dues and re-initiation fees.



Withdrawal Card Request Form

Name _____

Social Security No. _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Last Day of Work _____

Name of Employer _____

Reason for Leaving (Quit, Laid Off, Terminated, etc.) _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Season's Greetings!

The Executive Board of Teamsters' Local 295 wishes
you and your family a joyous holiday season and a New
Year filled with health, peace and prosperity!

Upcoming Meetings

General Membership Meetings

take place on the last Tuesday of every month at the Local 295 Union Hall at 6:00 PM. Upcoming meetings will be held on:

- January 31
- February 28
- March 28

2006 IBT Convention Delegate Nomination Meeting

will be held at the Local 295 Union Hall at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, January 3.

Reporting Allegations of Corruption

Donald F. Schwally, Corruption Officer

The job of the Corruption Officer is to continue the efforts to keep organized crime and corruption out of Local 295. If you have any information concerning allegations of wrongdoing or corruption, contact the officer at: 1-800-613-4295 or by mail at P.O. Box 512, Valley Stream, NY 11582. All correspondence will be kept strictly confidential.