



California Public Utilities Commission  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

Docket #: R.12-12-011

## **CPUC STRENGTHENS TNC DRIVER BACKGROUND CHECKS**

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 9, 2017 - The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) today strengthened the background checks that are required of drivers of a Transportation Network Company (TNC).

The CPUC will now require that TNCs utilize companies that are accredited by the National Association of Professional Background Screener's Background Screening Credentialing Council in the background checks they conduct on their drivers. Further, each TNC must receive proof of accreditation of the background check company and provide that proof to the CPUC. The background screening for each TNC driver must be conducted prior to a driver driving for a TNC and repeated at least once per year thereafter, for as long as the TNC driver is authorized to operate on the TNC's platform. The TNC must provide proof of annual screening of its drivers to the CPUC.

After much consideration and public comment, the CPUC declined to require a TNC to conduct a biometric background check of a TNC driver (i.e., the use of a person's physical characteristics, such as fingerprints, and other traits), finding that doing so would not add a greater level of safety over and above the current background check protocols.

Said Commissioner Liane M. Randolph, who is assigned to the proceeding, "Our decision today requires that TNCs perform background checks of every driver every year for as long as the driver is authorized to operate on the TNC's platform. Our actions strengthen our existing protections for consumers while being responsive to today's transportation market."



The new requirements approved today augment those already in place, which include:

- A TNC or a third-party working on the TNC's behalf must perform a search of a multistate and multi-jurisdiction criminal records locator or other similar commercial nationwide database with validation; and conduct a search of the U.S. Department of Justice National Sex Offender public website.
- A TNC may not contract with, employ, or retain persons currently registered on the Department of Justice National Sex Offender public website; or convicted of either a violent felony or a violation of certain Penal Code sections.
- A TNC may not contract with, employ, or retain persons convicted of any of the following offenses within the previous seven years: misdemeanor assault or battery; domestic violence offense; driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs; a felony violation; or a violation of certain Penal Code sections.

The document voted on is available at

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M198/K780/198780048.pdf>.

For more information on the CPUC, please visit [www.cpuc.ca.gov](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov).

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