

Agenda Item: 6

Adoption of Findings for Grasshopper Alec Kaplan Medallion Number  
9062 [ACTION]

CITY AND COUNTY OF  
SAN FRANCISCO



TAXI COMMISSION  
MAYOR GAVIN C. NEWSOM

HEIDI MACHEN  
*Executive Director*

February 12, 2008

**PROPOSED FINDINGS**

**SUBJECT:** Revocation of Color Scheme Permit, Medallion, and A-card for Grasshopper Cab Co. and Grasshopper Alec Kaplan. Municipal Police Code (MPC) Section 1090 (a) allows for revocation of any permit issued under this article upon showing of "good cause," including violation of any applicable statute, ordinance rule or regulation pertaining to the operation or licensing of the vehicles and services regulated by this Article. It also provides for mandatory suspension or revocation in the event that the permittee made false statements to Taxi Commission or its agents.

**PERMIT HOLDER:** Grasshopper Cab Co., Alec Kaplan, current address unknown, c/o Zadik Shapiro, 819 Eddy Street, San Francisco, CA 94109

The following findings are proposed after hearing on January 22, 2008:

**FINDING 1:** Grasshopper Cab Co. and Mr. Kaplan violated multiple rules and regulations pertaining to the operation of a color scheme and a medallion including: 4.A.1, 4.A.2., 4.A.5, 5.A.1, 5.A.2, 5.A.3, 5.A.4, 5.F.1., 5.F.2, 5.H.(failure to have a business premise), 6.A.1, 6.A.2, and 6.C.12.

**FINDING 2:** Grasshopper Cab Co. and Mr. Kaplan operated a taxicab vehicle on a suspended permit, and therefore operated without a permit, in violation of MPC §§ 1120 and 1187.1.

**FINDING 3:** Mr. Kaplan was found guilty of M.P.C. 1088 (a) (driving without a medallion) and sentenced to six months in county jail; in addition, he was found guilty of Penal Code 422 (making terrorist threats) and sentenced to nine months in county jail. These sentences can run concurrently.

**FINDING 4:** Grasshopper Cab Co. and Mr. Kaplan operated a taxicab vehicle without dispatch service in violation of MPC § 1123(a).

**FINDING 5:** Grasshopper Cab Co. and Mr. Kaplan made false statements to the Taxi Commission and the Taxi Detail in violation of MPC § 1110 and Rule 4.A.12 by stating on August 3, 2007 that Grasshopper Cab Co. did not intend to operate as a taxicab vehicle and that all taxicab markings had been removed from the vehicle.

**FINDING 6:** Grasshopper Cab Co. and Mr. Kaplan violated MPC § 1148.5 by repeatedly refusing paratransit pickups.

**FINDING 7:** Although Mr. Kaplan was not sentenced on other charges, numerous other complaints rose to the level of criminal conduct. For instance, he was accused of false imprisonment, battery and threatening a public official.

**FINDING 8:** For public safety, Taxi Commission suspended Mr. Kaplans permits; this same reason compels the revocation of Mr. Kaplan's permits.