

# **NEVADA TAXICAB AUTHORITY ENFORCEMENT DIVISION**



## **2017 ELECTRIC DAISY CONCERT (EDC) POST EVENT ACTION REPORT**

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On June 16, 17 and 18, 2017 Las Vegas hosted the Annual Electric Daisy Concert. The concert event was held at the Las Vegas Speedway. According to EDC officials, there were an estimated 135,000 concert goers attending each night of the three day event.

### **EDC Taxicab Stand**

- For 2017 the taxicab stand was moved to the far northeast side of the property. This year Insomniac/EDC contracted with a new transportation management company called BWG. Jess Cortese was the local contact person for BWG. Despite the efforts of Chief R. Aquino and Sgt. C. Rivers, suggestions made regarding passenger safety and an efficient model to operate a taxicab stand were not implemented.
- A recommendation is to have the taxicab industry work with EDC organizers earlier in the process to improve the experience of the riding public taking taxicabs. The taxicab industry in future events may be able to address some of the challenges as addressed below.
- **TA observed the following issues in regard to the EDC taxicab stand:**
  1. **Poorly staffed and managed ;**
  2. **Poor lighting;**
  3. **Inadequate number of restroom facilities;**
  4. **No shade area for riding public waiting for taxi;**

5. Lacked adequate watering stations for the riding public to properly hydrate;
6. No ADA loading area;
7. Inadequate signage directing concert goers to taxi loading area; and
8. The location and distance of taxicab stand presented an issue for concert goers. They may have not known or were informed that there was other transportation besides TNCs, shuttle buses and limousines.



2017 EDC Taxicab Line

## Enforcement Activities

- Undercover Taxicab Authority investigators conducted numerous undercover sting operations.
- Investigators began their investigative operations one week (1) prior to the event by monitoring activities at the airport and the Las Vegas Strip; monitoring Craigslist ads; and gathering information from other law enforcement agencies.
- During EDC week, investigators cited at least 7 illegal motor carriers providing passenger transportation. Each of them were also cited into Justice Court for operating without a business license. All the vehicles used for illegal passenger transportation were impounded. All the respondents were found guilty in administrative court and fined.
- One of the individual's caught in the "sting operation" was arrested for possessing methamphetamine. Some were in possession of marijuana.
- Some of the drivers did not have a valid driver's license; or vehicle registration; or vehicle insurance; and/or a combination of not having any of the three (3) requirements.
- The investigative team also successfully disrupted a group of individuals who had "rented" five (5) vehicles from a local car dealership and operated a temporary taxicab business near the EDC event property. One of the individuals was caught and his vehicle was impounded. The individual was fined a \$10,000.00 impoundment fee. The investigation is ongoing.
- Three of the seven persons caught were current or former TNC drivers; and/or taxicab drivers.



## Observed TNC Activities

- Prior to the EDC event, TA investigators learned that a TNC company had made an exclusive deal with Insomniac/EDC to provide “app rides” to the concert goers. Investigators learned that the TNC company’s operational plans may not be compliant with existing State laws. The information was immediately reported to the Nevada Transportation Authority. The NTA immediately contacted the TNC company and was assured the operational plans would be modified to conform with State laws.
- TA investigators conducting surveillance activities for illegal motor carriers observed large numbers of TNC app users waiting up to several hours before their driver actually arrived to pick them up. Many were complaining of poor cell service and could not connect onto the app; and/or that the network was temporarily shut down.
- TA investigators also learned that drivers of the *other* TNC company were cancelling their app rides because they could not link up with their passengers. This complaint came from numerous stranded passengers who were upset and were looking for passenger transportation service. These passengers were directed by the TA investigators to go to the taxicab loading area.

**Waiting to get on ride app...**

