

October 27, 2025

**OFFICE OF THE HEARING EXAMINER
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON**
Telephone (206) 477-0860
hearingexaminer@kingcounty.gov
www.kingcounty.gov/independent/hearing-examiner

REPORT AND DECISION

SUBJECT: King County For-Hire Licensing file no. 25632

XIAOSHAN YIN
For-Hire Driver Enforcement Appeal

For Hire no.: 145136

Appellant: **Xiaoshan Yin**

[REDACTED]
Sammamish, WA 98075

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

King County: King County For-Hire Licensing
represented by Tyson Taylor
King County For-Hire Licensing
201 S. Jackson Street Suite 206
Seattle, WA 98104
Telephone: (206) 263-1373
Email: ttaylor@kingcounty.gov

Overview

1. After hearing the witnesses' testimony and observing their demeanor, studying the exhibits admitted into evidence, and considering the parties' arguments and the relevant law, we deny Mr. Yin's appeal.

Procedural Background

2. On August 14, 2025, Licensing issued Citation 25632 to Xiaoshan Yin for failing to display his TNC vehicle endorsement decal and failing to have his for-hire permit in his possession on August 6, 2025. Ex. 5. Mr. Yin filed a timely appeal on August 18. Ex. 6.

3. We went to hearing on October 27. Participating in the hearing were: Tyson Taylor representing Licensing Services, and appellant, Xiaoshan Yin.

Appeal Issues

Per the Notice of Hearing, the issues identified for consideration on appeal are as follows:

4. Is the violation of KCC 6.64.660.C for not being in possession of a valid for-hire permit and the associated \$125 penalty supported by a preponderance of the evidence and appropriate under the facts of this case?
5. Is the violation of KCC 6.64.650.A for not having a TNC endorsement decal in the vehicle and the associated \$250 penalty supported by a preponderance of the evidence and appropriate under the facts of this case?

Factual Findings

Weighing all the evidence, the hearing examiner finds the following facts by a preponderance of the evidence:

6. Mr. Yin has worked for Lyft since September 2024. He is a recent immigrant and went through “lots of process” to be licensed as a for-hire driver. Testimony of Mr. Yin.
7. When he applied in September 2024, Lyft told Mr. Yin that they would let him know when his decal and permit were ready to be picked up. Testimony of Mr. Yin. Mr. Yin testified that, as of August 6, 2024, Lyft had not contacted him. Testimony of Mr. Yin.
8. Mr. Yin completed the for-hire driver training in 2024, which informed him that he was required to carry his for-hire permit and have the TNC endorsement decal visible on his car while working as a Lyft driver. Testimony of Mr. Yin.
9. On August 6, 2025, Mr. Yin picked up Licensing undercover inspectors Cockbain and Thomas as Lyft passengers. At that time it was determined that Mr. Yin did not have his TNC endorsement decal visible on his car and did not have his for-hire driving permit with him. Inspector Stenson met Mr. Yin at the drop off point and told Mr. Yin that he would be getting a citation for driving without his for-hire permit and the TNC endorsement decal. Testimony of Mr. Taylor; Ex. 1. She further informed him that he needed to go pick them up from Lyft. Testimony of Mr. Taylor; Ex. 1.
10. Mr. Yin picked up his permit and decal on August 18, the same day he submitted his appeal of this citation. Testimony of Mr. Taylor; Ex. 1.
11. Mr. Yin admitted during the hearing that he continued to work as a Lyft driver between August 6 and August 18, after he was told by Licensing that he was being cited for not having his decal and license, but before he picked up the decal and license from Lyft.

Conclusions of Law

12. The hearing examiner has jurisdiction pursuant to KCC 20.22.040.
13. Licensing bears the burden of proving by a preponderance of evidence both the violation and the appropriateness of the remedy it has imposed. KCC 20.22.080.G; .210.B. We do not grant substantial weight or otherwise accord deference to agency determinations. Exam. R. XV.F.3.
14. Mr. Yin does not dispute the facts underlying the citations in this case. He appears to take issue only with the monetary penalty, arguing that the process was confusing for a new immigrant and that he did not intentionally violate the code.
15. Mr. Yin's position is diminished by his deliberate decision to continue taking rides between August 6 and August 18. If he was confused by the requirements and thought it was acceptable to drive without his permit or endorsement decal, that misunderstanding was cleared up by Ms. Stenson on August 6. Mr. Yin needed to pick up his permit and decal from Lyft before accepting additional rides. Instead of picking them up, he continued to accept rides for another 12 days in ongoing violation of the code. Mr. Yin's choice dictates against any reduction in the penalties for the appealed infractions.

DECISION:

Mr. Yin's appeal is DENIED.

ORDERED October 27, 2025.



Devon Shannon
Hearing Examiner

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

King County Code 20.22.040 directs the Examiner to make the County's final decision for this type of case. This decision shall be final and conclusive unless appealed to superior court by *November 26, 2025*. Either party may appeal this decision by applying for a writ of review in superior court in accordance with chapter 7.16 RCW.

**MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 27, 2025, HEARING IN THE APPEAL OF
XIAOSHAN YIN, KING COUNTY FOR-HIRE LICENSING FILE NO. 25632**

Devon Shannon was the Hearing Examiner in this matter. A verbatim recording of the hearing is available in the Hearing Examiner’s Office.

The following exhibits were offered the department and entered into the record:

Exhibit no. 1	King County For-Hire Licensing staff report
Exhibit no. 2	Ride Documentation
Exhibit no. 3	Accela Permit Pickup Record – FDP-24-005488 – FH 145136
Exhibit no. 4	Accela Vehicle Endorsement Pickup Record – FVEH-24-008843 – CMU6700
Exhibit no. 5	Notice and Order of Violation – Case #25-632
Exhibit no. 6	Mr. Yin’s Statement of Appeal

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

SUBJECT: King County For-Hire Licensing file no. **25632**

XIAOSHAN YIN
For-Hire Driver Enforcement Appeal

I, Jessica Oscoy, certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that I transmitted the **REPORT AND DECISION** to those listed on the attached page as follows:

- EMAILED to all County staff listed as parties/interested persons and parties with e-mail addresses on record.
- placed with the United States Postal Service, through Quadient-Impress, with sufficient postage, as FIRST CLASS MAIL in an envelope addressed to the non-County employee parties/interested persons to addresses on record.

DATED October 27, 2025.



Jessica Oscoy
Administrator

Bailey, Kendall

Finance and Admin Svcs, Consumer Protection Div

Cantu, Eddie

King County For-Hire Licensing

City of Seattle Hearing Examiner

Megow, John

Finance and Admin Svcs, Consumer Protection Div

Newhouse, Cregan

Finance and Admin Svcs, Consumer Protection Div

Taylor, Tyson

King County For-Hire Licensing

Yin, Xiaoshan

Hardcopy