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## News from Commissioner Dana Murphy

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### RIDE SAFE

*Corporation Commissioner Dana Murphy urges limo customers to do some homework*

The prom, wedding, and spring/summer party season is underway, and for many that means renting a limousine or planning a trip on so-called "party buses." Oklahoma Corporation Commissioner Dana Murphy says when it comes to these rentals, a little homework now can prevent a lot of grief later.

"No one wants to think that an accident could happen," Murphy said. "But if it does and injuries result, we want to ensure that the required insurance coverage is in place. We don't want anyone who suffers a loss to find out the hard way that the company he or she trusted can't pay damages for which it might be legally responsible."

Commission Transportation Division Director Marchi McCartney says under state law, any limousine service operating between at least two incorporated cities or towns must be licensed by the Corporation Commission. In order to get that license, it must be properly insured.

"Vehicles for hire that can carry up to 15 passengers are required to have \$1 million of liability insurance," McCartney said. "Vehicles with a seating capacity of 16 or more passengers are required to keep \$5 million of liability insurance."

Commissioner Murphy pointed out that even barring an accident, your trip on an unlicensed carrier can come to an abrupt end.

"There have been instances where the vehicle was stopped by authorities and found to be operating illegally," explained Murphy. "In some of those cases, the passengers were stranded, and had to arrange other rides."

To check on a for-hire carrier, you can call the Commission at 405-521-2251, or go to the Commission's web site, [www.occeweb.com](http://www.occeweb.com). The only for-hire motor carriers not required to have a license from the Corporation Commission are those that operate solely within city limits, with the exception of taxicabs, who are all required to have a license from the Corporation Commission.

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