

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2026**

MINUTE ORDER NO. 2

SUBJECT: SHERIFF - ADOPT AN ORDINANCE ADDING CHAPTER 9 TO TITLE 2, DIVISION 1; AMENDING TITLE 2, DIVISION 1, CHAPTER 1 AND AMENDING TITLE 2, DIVISION 1, CHAPTER 3 OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CODE OF REGULATORY ORDINANCES RELATING TO LICENSE REQUIRED FROM THE SHERIFF, FOR-HIRE VEHICLE DRIVERS, AND TAXICABS AND TAXICAB OPERATORS (01/28/2026 - FIRST READING; 02/10/2026 - SECOND READING UNLESS ORDINANCE IS MODIFIED ON SECOND READING) (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

The San Diego County Sheriff's Office (Sheriff's Office) License Division currently issues all taxicab drivers in the unincorporated San Diego County as provided by Title 2, Division 1, Chapter 3 of the San Diego County Code.

In 1997, at the request of the Metropolitan Transit Development Board, the Sheriff's Office agreed to assume the responsibility for licensing drivers of jitneys, low-speed vehicles, nonemergency medical vehicles, charters, and sightseeing vehicles in addition to taxicabs. San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) Ordinance No. 11 was accordingly revised, and the Sheriff's Office began issuing all non-taxicab for-hire driver ID cards pursuant to Ordinance No. 11. However, the San Diego County Code was never revised to formalize this transfer of responsibilities. The Sheriff's Office began licensing for-hire vehicle drivers, except for taxicabs, in accordance with Ordinance No. 11 while MTS maintained responsibility for the denial, revocation or appeal. Due to a lack of authority to receive criminal history information and stated due process concerns, MTS is not processing revocations, denials or appeals for the for-hire drivers, raising significant public safety concerns.

Today's item requests that the San Diego County Board of Supervisors review and approve the introduction of an ordinance relating to for-hire vehicle drivers. The ordinance would formalize the transfer of responsibility that took place in 1997 and provide the Sheriff's Office with the authority to deny, suspend, revoke, and process appeals for all for-hire vehicle drivers. This ensures that for-hire vehicle drivers are complying with eligibility requirements designed to protect the safety of both passengers and the public. The ordinance would also amend the County's taxicab regulations for consistency with the new for-hire vehicle driver ID card regulations. The ordinance will be introduced on January 28, 2026, and, if approved, it will be scheduled for adoption on February 10, 2026.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

SHERIFF

On January 28, 2026:

Consider the recommendation to approve the introduction of the For-Hire Vehicle Driver Ordinance (first reading):

AN ORDINANCE ADDING CHAPTER 9 TO TITLE 2, DIVISION 1; AMENDING TITLE 2, DIVISION 1, CHAPTER 1 AND AMENDING TITLE 2, DIVISION 1, CHAPTER 3 OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CODE OF REGULATORY ORDINANCES RELATING TO LICENSE REQUIRED FROM THE SHERIFF, FOR-HIRE VEHICLE DRIVERS, AND TAXICABS AND TAXICAB OPERATORS.

If, on January 28, 2026, the Board takes action within recommendation #1 above, then on February 10, 2026:

Consider and adopt the For-Hire Vehicle Driver Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE ADDING CHAPTER 9 TO TITLE 2, DIVISION 1; AMENDING TITLE 2, DIVISION 1, CHAPTER 1 AND AMENDING TITLE 2, DIVISION 1, CHAPTER 3 OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CODE OF REGULATORY ORDINANCES RELATING TO LICENSE REQUIRED FROM THE SHERIFF, FOR-HIRE VEHICLE DRIVERS, AND TAXICABS AND TAXICAB OPERATORS

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The proposed Ordinance will enhance public safety by ensuring that all for-hire drivers are subject to clear and consistent standards regarding the issuance, suspension, or denial of their licenses. Adopting the proposed Ordinance would ensure that all for-hire drivers licensed by the Sheriff's Office have the right to appeal in the case of a denial or revocation.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The proposed action supports the County of San Diego's Sustainability Goal #2 of providing just and equitable access to County services to promote equity, transparency, and community trust.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with today's request to review and approve the amended Ordinance. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, seconded by Supervisor Aguirre, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent, and took action to further consider and adopt the Ordinance on February 10, 2026.

AYES: Aguirre, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

ABSENT: Anderson

State of California)

County of San Diego)

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Original entered in the Minutes of the Board of Supervisors.

ANDREW POTTER
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors



Signed

by Andrew Potter