

Here's a DEFINITION of the "motor vehicles" that are REQUIRED to be REGISTERED in California that is PLAIN ENGLISH. Courtesy of the Court of Appeals of California.

"We conclude that the lower court's construction of Vehicle Code section 260 more reasonably conforms to the legislative intent and that the term "for hire" modifies the word "transportation," so that a commercial vehicle is one in which persons or property are transported for hire. Thus, "commercial vehicles" are of two types: (1) those put to the use of transporting persons for hire, and (2) those designed, used or maintained primarily for the transportation of property. In other words, vehicles used for the traditional purposes of public livery or conveyance, such as buses, taxicabs or other vehicles functioning as common carriers or otherwise, operate for a profit. Under appellants' reasoning, the act of renting a passenger automobile for consideration places the vehicle in the commercial category.

We hold the fact that a vehicle is hired is not enough to make the vehicle "commercial." In the context of section 11580.9, subdivision (b) of the Insurance Code, the predominate factor which determines whether a vehicle is "commercial" is apparently the use the lessee makes of the vehicle." Government Employees Ins. Co. v. Carrier Ins. Co. (1975), 45 Cal.App.3d 223

<http://login.findlaw.com/scripts/callaw?dest=ca/calapp3d/45/223.html>

And coincidentally, it also corresponds to the DEFINITION of a MOTOR VEHICLE in United States Code TITLE 18.

Title 18 – Crimes and Criminal Procedure
Part I – Crimes
Chapter 2 – Aircraft and Motor Vehicles

18 USC 31 Definitions:

(a) Definitions — In this chapter, the following definitions apply:

(6) Motor vehicle — The term "motor vehicle" means every description of carriage or other contrivance propelled or drawn by mechanical power and used for commercial purposes on the highways in the transportation of passengers, passengers and property, or property or cargo.

(10) Used for commercial purposes — The term "used for commercial purposes" means the carriage of persons or property for any fare, fee, rate, charge or other consideration, or directly or indirectly in connection with any business, or other undertaking intended for profit.

http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/html/uscode18/usc_sec_18_00000031----000-.html

See also: <http://pacer.mad.uscourts.gov/dc/opinions/young/pdf/richardreid.pdf>

IMAGINE THAT... "If you tell the truth you don't have to remember anything." -- Mark Twain