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Uber Gets Green Light in Virginia While Battling \$2 Million Lawsuit Over Driver's 'Sexually Inappropriate Behavior' with a Child

ROCKVILLE, Md. – Uber and Lyft will officially become legal tomorrow in Virginia, even as a Virginia Beach [family sues one of the companies for sexual assault against a minor](#).

The Transportation Network Company law, signed in February by Gov. Terry McAuliffe, goes into effect tomorrow, July 1. It outlines regulations on vehicle registration and identification, yet fails to incorporate a comprehensive background check involving fingerprinting for its drivers.

The 'Who's Driving You?' campaign has repeatedly warned that Uber's lax background checks are creating opportunistic conditions for dangerous and unprofessional drivers. Uber's negligent background check failed to flag the Virginia Beach Uber driver's infraction records, which included driving under the influence, speeding, reckless driving and failure to yield when entering a highway.

The 'Who's Driving You?' campaign calls for government officials to require Uber, Lyft and other Transportation Company Networks to take security seriously by fingerprinting their drivers—an added cost that Uber and Lyft have steadfastly refused. In the last year, the [number of sexual assault, rape and kidnapping](#) cases by Uber and Lyft riders have steadily been on the rise.

"This isn't the first incident of an Uber driver harming a passenger and, unfortunately, it certainly won't be the last," says Rebecca Walls, spokesperson for the 'Who's Driving You?' campaign. "We see more and more of these cases all across the country, and the common denominator is that these cases happen in jurisdictions that aren't requiring Uber to fingerprint their drivers."

Just this month, a [study](#) from the John Jay College of Criminal Justice found that fingerprint-based criminal background checks are **43 times more effective** than the name-based checks currently used by Uber and Lyft.

ABOUT US:

'Who's Driving You?' is a safety and awareness campaign designed to educate the public about the dangers of unlicensed transportation companies. It is an initiative of the Taxicab, Limousine & Paratransit Association, an international non-profit trade association whose membership consists of 1,100 licensed transportation companies. For more information, visit www.WhosDrivingYou.org, follow us on Twitter (@WhosDrivingYou) and follow us on Facebook (facebook.com/WhosDrivingYou)