## RELEASE

## Family of Cab Driver Lost in Fatal Accident Receives \$50,000 Black Car Fund Benefit

## BCF members and their families are protected with driver death benefits

The Black Car Fund presented a check for \$50,000 to the recently bereaved family of Kuldip Singh, who passed earlier this year after being struck by a bullet in the crossfire from a shootout involving his passenger and a pedestrian. The Black Car Fund death benefit is meant to ensure that families of deceased drivers will not also suffer financially. Mr. Singh, who was 21 years old, had become the family breadwinner. He leaves behind his mother Dalvinder Kaer and father Bir Bohaolor Singh, who is too grief-stricken to work. Mr. Singh was also supporting his 24-year-old brother and 26-year-old sister in India.

"The Black Car Fund is always there for our drivers and their families with benefits to keep them healthy, safe, and financially protected--even when the worst tragedy imaginable strikes," said Ira Goldstein, the Executive Director of The Black Car Fund. "While we are heartbroken over the loss of Mr. Singh, we are pleased to offer this guaranteed death benefit to his family and all of our members. Driving requires a supportive workforce model, and we want our members and their families to know that they are protected in the event something should happen on the job."

"The Black Car Fund is here to offer support to drivers and their families with a supportive workforce model. Since 2017, we've offered death benefits to keep families of drivers going when tragedy happens on the job. We offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Singh and hope this benefit helps provide relief as the family grieves," **said Berj Haroutunian, Executive Chairman of The Black Car Fund.** 

"My sincere condolences go out to the family and loved ones of Kuldip Singh, the Uber driver who was struck and killed by a stray bullet. We must continue working with our community partners and the NYPD to combat gun violence," **said Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez, Chairman of the Transportation Committee.** "I thank the Black Car Fund for the work they are doing to help Mr. Singh's grieving family. No amount of money will bring back their son, however, I hope that the Black Car Funds Driver Death Benefit will help the Singh family with any financial difficulties they might be experiencing during this time. We need to make sure that this never occurs again and that we are taking all the steps necessary to bring the people responsible for this to justice."

At the recommendation of Executive Director Goldstein, the fund's Board of Directors established the death benefit shortly after the passing of Mr. Roohul Ameen in 2017, in order to protect families of member drivers in the event of work-related deaths. This death benefit is in addition to any other death benefit member drivers' families may have under the workers compensation law. This is the third death benefit Black Car Fund has distributed this year.

Black car drivers are independent contractors who enjoy workers' compensation coverage and additional health and wellness related benefits through The Black Car Fund. The Fund also pays drivers to attend wellness seminars and safety trainings to meet the highest professional standards, serving as a model in the new "gig economy."