

CITY OF MILWAUKEE

2007 NOV 19 PM 1:16

RONALD L. ARDT  
CITY CLERK

3166 S 95 Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53227  
November 14, 2007

CITY OF MILWAUKEE

2007 NOV 19 PM 3:59

OFFICE OF  
CITY ATTORNEY

City Clerk  
Attn: Claims  
200 E Wells Street, Room 205  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 532023567

Dear Sir or Madam:

On Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, I was doing laundry. After washing a second load, I notice black soot/dirt and water all over our basement floor. I noticed that it was coming from the floor drain. I looked around and could not find any other possible source for the water/dirt other than the floor drain. I did not do anymore laundry nor did I use any "excess" water. I moped up the mess and found that a entertainment center was ruined from the water.

When my husband came home on Sunday he too investigated the problem and determined that it was backing up. We were careful about using any water for fear that it would backup again. The family limited flushes used hand sanitizer instead of water and turned off water during a shower so we would not have the water backup again. On Monday, he called a plumber to come out to look at the drain. Tuesday morning a plumber came out and used machinery to try and drill through the clog. After several hours and a broken bit he was hitting clay. He determined that it was about 60-75 feet out. He recommended that we call someone from the City to investigate because it might be our main connection. There had been some work done in that area last winter and we were without water for several hours while they worked through the night.

I called the Water Department and was transferred over to the Sewage District. Two gentlemen came out and checked the sewage connection. They said that the connection looked fine from the street and questioned me about the problem. They told me that the best thing to do before calling the Water Department again was to find a contractor/plumber who had a TV that could follow the pipe and determine where the problem was and what it might be.

On Wednesday evening, we had Badger Plumbing Excavating come out with their equipment to determine where the problem might be. They followed the pipe and determined that the blockage was about 2-3 feet from the main connection. Unfortunately it was so blocked that he could not follow the pipe to the main connection. The plumber suggested that we dig a hole to better investigate what the problem was. We hired Badger to do the work on Friday, he stated he would acquire the proper permits and once the excavation was done, contact the City Water Department to have a supervisor come out and look at the problem. They thought that the actual problem was in the street under the concrete where the City was working last winter. Meanwhile we have now gone over 4 days catching water in buckets so it does not go down the drain and carrying them to the yard to throw out, showers are down to only a few minutes of running water and spaced far enough apart so the water has time to seep into the ground.

Friday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, the excavation crew dug up a section between the street and sidewalk. He had promised that he would have our lateral fixed enough so we could take showers again, do laundry, run the dishwasher, etc. Friday afternoon he contacted my husband to tell him that the City inspector had come out and verified that the problem was the City's. I believe his name was Jay Lloid, the City also instructed our contractor where to cut the concrete in the road to repair the damage. The concrete work was to begin on Monday so we had to go another 2 days without proper water drainage.

On Monday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, the concrete in the road was cut and removed. Again Badger Plumbing called the City to come investigate the problem. They were instructed to go ahead and repair the damage. They thought that when the other repair was being made last winter, they may have broken the sanitary sewer lateral that connects our house. Monday evening the repairs were completed and we were able to use our water as usual.

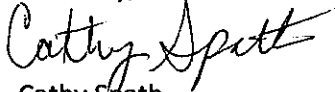
We are seeking reimbursement for the expenses we have paid to have this repaired by our property, 3166 South 95<sup>th</sup> Street. The breakdown of the expenses is below:

Plumber, initial attempt to unclog debris from sewer	\$ 125.00
15 hours of labor by Badger Plumbing	4,500.00
Materials used by Badger Plumbing	1,175.00
Permits obtained by Badger Plumbing	<u>450.00</u>
TOTAL reimbursement requested	\$6,250.00

We are asking that the total amount that we incurred be reimbursed to have the sanitary sewer repaired. We are not asking for the replacement cost for the entertainment center, I found a used one for \$25, nor are we seeking "pain and suffering" for the inconvenience and added expense of going to the laundromat and lugging buckets of water outside after doing dishes.

If you have any questions or need clarification you can contact my husband or me. Our contact information is at the bottom of the letter. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

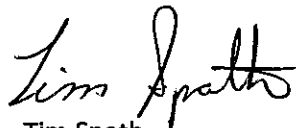
Sincerely,



Cathy Spath

Wk: 414 382-6331

Hm: 414 543-7213



Tim Spath

cell: 414 303-7575

297026

# STATEMENT

DATE 11/1/07

TO  
 Tim Spath  
 3166 S. 95<sup>ST</sup>  
 Milwaukee WI 53227

TERMS  
 CELL #  
 303-7575

IN ACCOUNT WITH  
**BADGER PLUMBING  
 EXCAVATING**  
 10343 W. Fond Du Lac Av.  
 Milwaukee, WI 53224  
 414-464-6760

		Repair broken Sanitary			
		sewer Lateral			
15	hrs	Labor	#	4500	00
		Materials	#	1175	00
		Permits	#	450	00
		Total Due	#	6125	00