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November 8, 2016

To the Honorable Common Council  
of the City of Milwaukee  
Room 205 – City Hall

Re: C.I. File No. 1044-2016-1220  
Communication from: Bryan Adams  
3620 North 49<sup>th</sup> Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53216

Dear Council Members:

Bryan Adams alleges that his vehicle was improperly released by the tow lot to the wrong person. Mr. Adams claims \$5,321.00 in damages.

The investigation of this claim indicates that the vehicle had a “Wiz Vin.” A Wiz Vin is a replacement VIN number given by the State of Wisconsin that differs from the VIN number that is permanently attached to the car and visible through the windshield. Owners who have received a Wiz Vin number are required to display the certificate showing that new VIN number in the car at all times. At the time this vehicle was towed and in the possession of the tow lot, the Wiz Vin was not displayed. As a result, the tow lot released the vehicle to the owner of record for the original VIN number. The tow lot followed applicable regulations for the notice and release of the vehicle. In addition, the claimant knew that the vehicle was at the tow lot and that it could be claimed; however, he made no arrangements with the tow lot regarding the vehicle.



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Because the City followed proper procedures, the City would not be liable.  
Therefore, we recommend that this claim be denied.

Very truly yours,

GRANT F. LANGLEY  
City Attorney

PATRICIA A. FRICKER  
Assistant City Attorney

PAF:cdr

Enclosures

c: Charmaine Wilks (Tow Lot)

1044-2016-1220/234077