

CIRCUMSTANCES OF CLAIM

Jerome Cockerham
3042A N. 45th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53210

February 25, 2023

City Clerk
ATTN: CLAIMS
200 E. Wells St.
Room 205
Milwaukee, WI 53202-3567

To Whom It May Concern:

I am submitting this claim as the City of Milwaukee was by statute negligent in handling the affairs of my car (Wisconsin License: AMT3352, Vin: 2GKALWEK9C6129234), which was unlawfully destroyed on 11/12/2023. I purchased this vehicle in full only months earlier.

On 12/28/2022, through no fault of my own, I was struck by another vehicle on the driver's side, resulting in my being injured. The driver at fault was not insured. Due to the extent of my injury, I was transported to St. Joseph's hospital via ambulance. I was unable to care for my affairs for an extensive amount of time due to my injury from the accident, both while in the hospital and after I was released. I then learned that my vehicle was towed to the city. I went to the city on 11/11/23 to discuss the return of my vehicle. I subsequently learned that my visit was on the day before my vehicle was to be unlawfully destroyed. No one said *anything* to me about my vehicle being destroyed. Additionally, when I arrived on that visit, the attendant and I started the car and we both remarked about how the car was still in good condition. I.e. It was salvageable. On 11/12/23 the vehicle that I'd just purchased in full only months earlier was deliberately destroyed. The City cannot commit these egregious errors, destroy my life and leave me holding the bag. I am seeking the blue book value of my car, ie. \$14,000 in damages. The following details why and how Milwaukee City employees acted unlawfully and negligently in committing this act.

Violations:


- By statute, the City of Milwaukee employees must first try to auction a car before destroying it. The City employees did not do that.
- By statute, the City of Milwaukee employees did not have a mechanical lien on my car which is required by law before destroying a vehicle.
- By statute, the City of Milwaukee must notify the owner of a vehicle before destroying it. While I was still trying to recuperate from my injuries (from which I still suffer), the City of Milwaukee had instead notified the *previous owner*.
- *2nd Notice: A second notice is sent to the vehicle owner if the vehicle is of substantial value.* Not only did I not receive a second notice because I never received the first, but my car was still of substantial value.

CITY OF MILWAUKEE
2023 MAR 14 PM 3:02
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
OFFICE OF CITY ATTORNEY
15 MAR '23 AM 09:30

The City of Milwaukee is at fault for all of the above. My exhibits are enclosed. Thank you in advance for the amicable resolution to this issue.

Sincerely,

Jerome Cockerham
1-414-793-2369



Enclosures

STATEMENT OF RELIEF

Jerome Cockerham
3042A N. 45th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53210

OFFICE OF CITY ATTORNEY
15 MAR '23 AM09:31

February 17, 2023

City Clerk
ATTN: CLAIMS
200 E. Wells St.
Room 205
Milwaukee, WI 53202-3567

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Jerome Cockerham. My address is above. I am seeking relief in the amount of \$14,000 in monetary damages for the unlawful crushing of my newly purchased vehicle. The blue book value of what was my vehicle is \$14,000.

Thank you in advance for the amicable resolution to this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jerome Cockerham". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jerome Cockerham
1-414-793-2369