## TEARMAN SPENCER City Attorney

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October 4, 2023

Mailed 10-10-2023

Mr. Ryan Montgomery 1952 N. Commerce Street Milwaukee, WI 53212

RE: Communication from RYAN MONTGOMERY

C.I. File No. 1030-2023-1316

Dear Mr. Montgomery:

We are in receipt of your claim regarding your personal items that allegedly were disposed of by City of Milwaukee Sanitation Services on June 13, 2023, located at 1952 N. Commerce Street.

Our investigation reveals that you initially contacted Sanitation Services on June 6, 2023, and you reported the disposal of your personal items that included a vertical garden planter, and two stand-alone planters with tomato rings, and a rug.

The Milwaukee Clean and Green was scheduled for services in your area the week of May 22, 2023, and services were extended to collect additional items near garbage carts. The personal items mentioned in your claim was too close to the garbage cart. The crew's recollection that day is that they saw the items in the prior weeks and correctly assumed the items were for pick up. Accordingly, we are denying your claim.

**HEIDI WICK SPOERL** KATHRYN Z. BLOCK THOMAS D. MILLER PETER J. BLOCK PATRICK J. MCCLAIN HANNAH R. JAHN JULIE P. WILSON MEIGHAN M. ANGER ALEXANDER R. CARSON **ALEXANDER T. MUELLER ALEXANDER D. COSSI** LISA A. GILMORE TAVISS K. SMITH KATHERINE A. HEADLEY L. ANTHONY JACKSON STACY J. MILLER MICHAEL C. RADAVICH JORDAN M. SCHETTLE THERESA A. MONTAG **ALEXANDER E. FOUNDOS JAMES D. LEWIS** TRAVIS J. GRESHAM **KYLE W. BAILEY** JOSEPH M. DOBBS WILLIAM K. HOTCHKISS CLINT B. MUCHE JOANNA FRACZEK Assistant City Attorneys





Mr. Ryan Montgomery October 4, 2023 Page Two

If you wish to appeal this decision, you may do so by sending a written statement requesting a hearing within 21 days of the postmarked date of this letter to the Milwaukee City Clerk, 200 East Wells Street, Room 205, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202. Please include a photocopy of this letter's envelope, showing the postmark, and retain the original in the event further proof is needed.

Very truly yours,

TEARMAN SPENCER

City Attorney

Investigator Adjuster

MG/cdr

1030-2023-1316/287432



PRESORTED FIRST CLASS

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Mr. Ryan Montgomery 1952 N. Commerce Street Milwaukee, WI 53212



To whom it may concern,

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Please review prior letter u | additional notes

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Re: vertical planter

From: Ryan Montgomery <mr.ryanmontgomery@gmail.com>

Sent: Thu, Oct 26, 2023 at 5:31 pm To: milwaukee erie@dcopy.net

On Wed, Jul 26, 2023 at 1:17 PM monty <awd4monty@gmail.com> wrote: Hello there,

My name is Ryan Montgomery and I reside at 1952 N Commerce St, Milwaukee, WI 53212. On 6/13/23, the City of Milwaukee garbage disposal service took more than they should have. At approximately 7:50-AM, the garbage along with my vertical planter/garden, 2 stand alone planters with tomato rings and a rug were thrown in the back of the truck. I went down an hour or so after the pick up and realized everything was gone and immediately filed a claim on the website (claim number 13818109). I got a call back from Mike Stolowski later that morning. After some looking into it, he was able to confirm with the driver that this did indeed happen. Feel free to reach out to him @ 414.708.5840 and he can verify this.

It took 4 weeks to get the enclosed form sent to me because the envelope that was mailed to me didn't have a city or state on it (also enclosed) and Mike hand delivered it to me (also quite frustrating). A few things to keep in mind here. We have had the same setup by our garage for 3 seasons now. Mike verified that the same drivers pick up on that route so these individuals have seen this set up literally dozens of times. They claimed the plants looked dead. Not the case. I just took a few hours not more than 2-3 weeks prior to planting all of these plants and they were not only alive, but green and thriving. Not to mention this vertical planter would have weighed in excess of 100-150 lbs. Wouldn't you typically demand extra money for something like this to be removed? Mike and I went over the distance from the garbage cans etc. and agreed that these should not have been taken. It's been an extra stress in my life and without a doubt should be reimbursed. You will find a receipt for the plants/soil I just bought along with the receipt for the planter in this letter. I do not have a receipt for the additional planters, tomato rings and the rug that were also thrown away. Conservatively, that cost is \$150. I won't get into the time/frustration/lack of getting to benefit from the vegetables but if that could be taken into consideration that would be outstanding.

At the very minimum, I feel that I am owed the planter, soil/plants and additional \$150 for the other materials that were out there. This may not matter but my wife was diagnosed with a rare lung disease in April of 2022 so my life is very busy and stressful and this was just not needed and I find to be quite careless.

I look forward to hearing from whomever on the matter. My cell or email is the best way to reach me. Cell is 414.331.1081 and the best email is Mr.ryanmontgomery@gmail.com

Thank you for your time,

C.I. File NO 1030-2023-1316

Now indicate a "Clean and green" service on may 22. That date would be prior to the 6.13.23 date of the incident, therefore not having an impact on this case.

This planter was without a doubt, for enough away from garbage cans and should not have been considered "trash".

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