

February 24, 2007

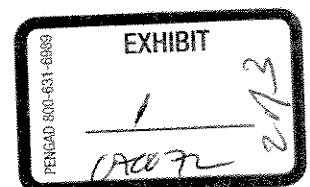
Alderman James Bohl
City Hall
200 East Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Bohl:

As per our conversation at the Mad Mug at a previous Block Watch meeting, I am writing to you about numerous issues with the Family Dollar store located at 7924 West Burleigh Street. Family Dollar is not a cooperative neighbor in the neighborhood.

The first and foremost issue is the trucks making deliveries to Family Dollar and blocking the alley directly behind the store for hours at a time while they unload. There is a delivery once every week. There is no way any emergency vehicle could get through. The drivers can use Family Dollar's lot to unload, but I've seen only two drivers use their lot. I know it can be done. If there were a fire in the back of K. J.'s Beauty Salon or one of the other buildings on North 80 Street, the only access would be the Family Dollar lot off Burleigh Street. I spoke with Dave, a Performance Manager, who just happened to be at Family Dollar when I called to complain about the trucks and other issues. I asked that drivers be instructed to use the lot to unload. His response was they use many carriers, it would be impossible. I've seen Schneider and Warner trucking companies the most, once in awhile Swift. Family Dollar was able to instruct the drivers on which door to use to unload. Family Dollar does very well on providing lip service.

Another issue is the drivers using a lot adjacent to Family Dollar which belongs to another business to park their rig and sleep if they arrive after store hours. Some drivers use Family Dollar's lot to park overnight. They leave their truck running which isn't quiet, whether it's heat or air that's operating. On two occasions I've had to call the police to have a parking checker come out and have the drivers move their rig. One was parked for the night in the alley ready to unload in the morning. The other driver parked in the alley directly behind the store. In both instances they were asked to leave by the parking checker. On another occasion after a driver had unloaded, he got back into his rig (air conditioning running) and went to sleep. I waited for about a half hour and called Family Dollar. The manager came out and rapped on the driver's window and was able to wake the driver. I also went out and met her face-to-face after I had called the parking checker. We had a few words about the alley being blocked by the trucks and other issues. The driver did leave when the parking checker. We shouldn't have to call every week to have a truck moved.



Yet another problem is drivers parking in the alley to unload while the truck's air conditioning is left running. My mother's side door is adjacent to the alley and the cab aligns with my mother's door. In summer she has to close her door just to listen to TV and has to turn up the volume, not to mention the fumes from the truck wafting into her house. My mother resides at 3120 North 80 Street. Her backyard is directly across the alley from Family Dollar's lot.

Litter is out of control. Family Dollar never cleans up their parking lot. They sell automotive products and bottles are left empty and strewn about the lot. Patrons of Family Dollar purchase fast food prior to arriving, eat in their car, and when finished throw their trash in the lot. The site of all the trash on the ground and the dumpsters left open is not very appealing when you're looking out my mother's kitchen window, especially when you're eating.

The dumpsters are left open. At various times of the day and night people drop off their personal garbage and others who may be patrons of Family Dollar or riding a bike or even walking by the dumpsters, will go inside the dumpsters. That's not a very safe or pleasant feeling returning home after dark and finding someone climbing into or out of one of their two dumpsters. My mother's side door is across the alley from those dumpsters.

When I spoke with Dave last Spring I mentioned the problem with the dumpsters being left open and cardboard, packing tape and papers being blown into the alley, my mother's yard, in the alley closest to 79th Street and even in my front yard. I reside at 3121 North 80 Street, directly across from my mother's house. I'm especially concerned with summer approaching, there may be food items left in the trash patrons discard in the lot, potentially drawing mice or rats. I have to pick up trash almost on a daily basis in summer, especially if it's windy, and as usual, the dumpsters are left open. There are two dumpsters located at the northwest corner of Family Dollar's lot by the alley. I have taken pictures of trash in my mother's yard on Wednesday, February 21st and of the trash in Family Dollar's lot on Thursday, February 22nd. These pictures saved on my cell phone which I hope to share with you at the block Watch meeting. My mother is elderly and both of us have bad backs. I also have a bad knee which makes it difficult for either of us to pick up the trash in her yard or in the alley.

Family Dollar leaves their red shopping baskets out all night. At the writing of this letter there is a basket in the alley behind their store which they most likely don't even know is there.

Loud music is an ongoing problem. People park in the lot with the music blaring. Most of the occupants in the car go into the store while the remaining occupants turn up the music even louder while waiting for the shoppers to return, sometimes up to a half hour or more. That is so annoying. We also hear loud music from cars parked on 80th Street as well as those going up or down the street. Not all the neighbors hear what my mother

and I hear being so close to their lot. There was a time during the summer when the shoppers had left the car and the remaining occupants turned up the music even louder and started dancing in the lot.

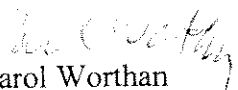
Last summer someone had taken red spray paint and splattered it on the side of K. J.'s Beauty Salon on North 80th Street. In the last couple of weeks there is the start of graffiti on the rear of Family Dollar's building at the far northeast corner. I'm concerned that the graffiti may start spreading to homes and/or garages in the neighborhood. Family Dollar probably doesn't even realize the graffiti is there or choose to ignore it.

Just a quick comment: Family Dollar pays more attention as to how their floors look than to being a good neighbor and attending to the exterior problems I've mentioned in my letter. There's an extremely large hole in their parking lot. A customer, if not paying attention to where they were walking, could easily sustain an injury to their ankle, knee or leg.

Should you have any questions or if I can be of further assistance, I can be reached at work 414-449-4777, my cell phone 640-8671 or in the evening at my mother's at 414-444-5670.

I look forward to working with you in resolving the issues with Family Dollar I've mentioned in my letter.

Sincerely,


Carol Worthan
3121 North 80 Street
Milwaukee, WI 53222