

CITY OF MILWAUKEE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

Thursday, June 11, 2020

COMMITTEE MEETING NOTICE

AD 15

PEHOWSKI, Jason W, Agent ALWAYS TOWING & RECOVERY, INC P O BOX 69

Menomonee Falls, WI 53052

You are requested to attend a virtual hearing to be held on:

Tuesday, June 23, 2020 at 02:30 PM

Regarding:

Your Recycling, Salvaging, or Towing Premises License (Recovery, INC" for "ALWAYS TOWING & RECOVERY, INC" for "ALWAYS TOWING & RECOVERY" at 1511 N 31ST St.

This meeting will be held via GoToMeeting. Please see the enclosed best practices document for further instructions. The access code is https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/828960621. If you wish to call in, please call https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/828960621. If you wish to call in, please call https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/828960621. If you wish to call in, please call https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/828960621. If you wish to call in, please call https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/828960621.

There is a possibility that your application may be denied for one or more of the following reasons: The recommendation of the committee regarding the application shall be based on evidence presented at the hearing. Per MCO 85-4-4, unless otherwise specified in the code, probative evidence concerning non-renewal, suspension or revocation may include evidence of the following: failure of the applicant to meet municipal qualifications, pending charges against or the conviction of any felony, misdemeanor, municipal offense or other offense, the circumstances of which substantially relate to the circumstances of the particular licensed or permitted activity, by the applicant or by any employee or other agent of the applicant. If the activities of the applicant involve a licensed premises, whether the premises tends to facilitate a public or private nuisance or has been the source of congregations of persons which have resulted in any of the following: disturbance of the peace; illegal drug activity; public drunkenness; drinking in public; harassment of passers-by; gambling; prostitution; sale of stolen goods; public urination; theft; assaults; battery; acts of vandalism including graffiti, excessive littering, loitering, illegal parking, loud noise at times when the licensed premise is open for business; traffic violations; curfew violations; lewd conduct; display of materials harmful to minors, pursuant to s. 106-9.6; or any other factor which reasonably relates to the public health, safety and welfare, or failure to comply with the approved plan of operation. See attached police report or correspondence.

Notice for applicants with warrants or unpaid fines:

Proof of warrant satisfaction or payment of fines must be submitted at the hearing on the above date and time. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in a delay of the granting/denial of your application.

Failure to attend this meeting may result in the denial of your license, individual applicants and partnership applicants must attend or attend by an attorney. The agent or attorney for corporate or limited liability applicants must attend. If you wish to do so and at your own expense, you may be accompanied by an attorney of your choosing to represent you at this hearing.

You will be given an opportunity to speak on behalf of the application and to respond and challenge any charges or reasons given for the denial. No petitions can be accepted by the committee, unless the people who signed the petition attend the virtual hearing and are willing to testify. You may present witnesses under oath and you may also confront and cross-examine opposing witnesses under oath. If you have difficulty with the English language, you should request an interpreter attend the meeting with you, at your expense, so that you can answer questions and participate in your hearing.

PLEASE NOTE: Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through sign language interpreters or other auxiliary aids. For additional information or to request this service, contact the Council Services Division ADA Coordinator at (414) 286-2998, Fax - (414) 286-3456, TDD - (414) 286-2025.

JIM OWCZARSKI, CITY CLERK

: ______Jessica Celella

BY:

License Division Manager

If you have questions regarding this meeting, please contact the staff assistant, Molly Kuether-Steele at (414) 286-2775 or molly.kuether-steele@milwaukee.gov.

200 E. Wells Street, Room 105, City Hall, Milwaukee, WI 53202. www.milwaukee.gov/license
Phone: (414) 286-2238 Fax: (414) 286-3057 Email Address: License@milwaukee.gov

MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT LICENSING

CRIMINAL RECORD/ORDINANCE VIOLATION/INCIDENTS SYNOPSIS

Date: 02/05/20 License Type: Recycling, Salvaging & Towin New: Renewal:	No. 306236 Application Date: 02/04/20
License Location: 1511 N 31 st St Business Name: Always Towing & Recovery, Inc	
Licensee/Applicant: PEHOWSKI, Jason W	

(Last Name, First Name, MI)

Date of Birth: 12/13/77

Home Address: N63 W13412 Hummingbird Way

City: Menomonee Falls State: WI Zip Code: 53051

Home Phone: 414-870-6088

This report is written by Police Officer Corstan D. COURT, assigned to the License Investigation Unit, Days.

The Milwaukee Police Department's investigation regarding this application revealed the following:

 On 03/08/2013 the applicant was cited in the City of Milwaukee at 3700 W. Wells St for Secondhand Motor Vehicle Dealer License Required.

Charge:

Secondhand Motor Vehicle Dealer License Required

Finding:

Guilty

Sentence:

Fined \$175.00

Date:

07/25/2013

Case:

13043813

2. On 04/07/2015 officers responded to Always Towing, 3700 W. Wells St for a recovered stolen auto. The investigation revealed that Always Towing had towed a car from a private lot without

calling Parking Enforcement first to obtain a tow reference number. After getting to the storage lot at 3700 W. Wells St the check was done and it was discovered the car was listed as stolen. A check revealed 12 other calls to this location for the same violation since January 2015.

- 3. On 03/31/16 at 9:24 am, Milwaukee police were dispatched to subject with a gun at 3700 W Wells. Investigation revealed Always Towing had a tow a car from 8827 N. 95th Street. The owner of that vehicle later found that Always Towing towed the car to their lot located at 3700 W Wells. The owner and a friend drove to Always Towing where the owner climbed their fence to the lot, located her auto and drove it to the gate where she attempted to crash through the fence in order to leave the lot. Employees attempted to stop her and told her she needed to pay the fees before they'd let her drive the auto out of the lot. The owner yelled to her friend to go get her gun from the car they drove in to the business, in which the friend did and gave it to car owner. The woman started waving the gun yelling at employees to "give me my shit and let me out". Police arrived on scene and arrested both subjects.
- 4. On 05/15/16 at 2:21 am, Milwaukee police were dispatched to 3700 W Wells for an entry complaint. Investigation found 3 males were attempting to climb a fence in order to obtain their motorcycle that was towed from 2131 N 17th Street. Police identified one of the subjects as the owner of the motorcycle. The motorcycle had been towed due to it being on private property and the owner of the bike stated he was the property manager of the location where it was towed from and that he had permission to park there. Police informed that subject to speak with the property owner in the morning and conduct the business with Always Towing in the morning when they opened at 8 am.
- 5. On 08/10/16, Milwaukee police investigated a complaint from a citizen whose car was towed by Always Towing from the parking lot of where she lives and where Always Towing is employed to patrol and tow autos. Investigation found the complainant's car should not have been towed and the owner of the Always Towing was cited for a violation found through the investigation of the complaint. On 09/23/16, police conducted follow up at 3700 W Wells and met with Jason Pehowski and Mike Tarantino to issue the citation. Pehowski and Tarantino were both upset with the citation with Tarantino becoming argumentative with the officer. The officer explained to both that their posting of fees set forth by Wisconsin State Statue was incorrect as to the fee for indoor storage. It was listed as \$50 which is more than allowed by state law. Tarantino stated they don't have indoor storage and the officer stated he could cite for that violation, but didn't. The officer was trying to conduct a license premise check and Tarantino refuse to provide the officer what he was requesting. Tarantino called his attorney and handed the phone to the officer who stated he did not need to speak with Tarantino's attorney that he was simply checking to ensure that each tow truck was properly stickered and had proper signage.

Charge:

Towing-Non Consensual Requirements

Finding:

Dismissed

Sentence:

Date:

08/30/2017

Case: 17001283

- 6. On 10/05/16, Milwaukee police conducted a license premise check at 3700 W Wells. No violations were found.
- 7. On 04/29/17, Milwaukee police were investigating a complaint by a citizen whose car was towed from her resident parking lot. Investigation found the car was illegally towed by Always Towing and the agent, Jason Pehowski, was cited for failing to notify the police prior to the vehicle removal for non-consensual tows.

Charge: Towing-Non consensual Requirements

Finding: Guilty

Sentence: Fined \$1,250.00

Date: 10/06/2017 Case: 17025227

- 8. On 06/17/17 at 10:16 am, Milwaukee police were dispatched to subject with a weapon at 3700 W Wells. Investigation found several customers were attempting to claim their autos when they were told by Always Towing employees that the computer system was down. The towing employees were using profane language and refused to let some customers retrieve personal property (purses, ID's and credit cards) that were left in the autos when towed. Police attempted to gain access to the business and found the door locked. Police rang the doorbell, no one answered. Officers called the business with an employee answering the phone and the officer explained why they were there. Someone finally came to the door and police were met by a female employee and GM Michael Tarantino. Tarantino refused to provide information they were requesting from him and refused to cooperate with police and asked for a supervisor. One arrived and Tarantino finally agree to let a customer retrieve her purse from her auto. Police attempted to contact the license agent, Jason Pehowski, but the number listed was no longer in service. Police advised Tarantino to let the Pehowski know of this incident.
- 9. On 07/11/17 at 3:21 pm, Milwaukee police were dispatched to 3700 W Wells for an entry complaint. Investigation found that two subjects attempted entered the business lot and attempted to remove their auto from the lot of Always Towing without paying for the fees. When confronted by employees, the subjects became argumentative and starting to drive recklessly, almost hitting employees with the auto. Police obtained several video surveillance that depicted the incident. One of the subjects was issued a citation for trespassing and the driver of the auto was charged with RES.
- 10. On 12/19/17, Milwaukee police along with members from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation Dealer Unit conducted inspections at 1511 N 31st St which is the listed business address for 24 Hours Towing and Always Towing. The building and property was found to be filthy and littered with garbage. There was no gas meter for the building which had been capped off. The front door was labeled with business names and hours which were open on Wednesdays from 10am-2pm. On the south end of the property, observed was a fenced in lot with numerous cars. An officer spoke with a neighboring business owner who stated that they had purchased this lot and fenced it in and that it has nothing do with the tow trucks there. Contact was made with someone from Always Towing who stated that all records for the businesses were at 3700 W Wells Street. MPD and DOT proceeded to 3700 W Wells for further follow up. The officer observed that a copy of city ordinances was not posted in the front lobby. The officer had given several past warnings to have the City Ordinances posted. Inspectors from DOT found files of salvaged vehicles that were stamped with one company's name, but had been junked by another company's name. They also found some vehicles were not in the correct companies books. This was in violation of State Statue 136.03. This was pointed out to Jason Pehowski with each set of salvage files before being confiscated. Further review of 24 Hr Towing log book found vehicles were not recorded as required by state law. Pictures were downloaded to a disc and placed on MPD inventory.

Re: Alway's Towing and Recovery:

Charge 1: Recycle/Salvage/Tow-Record Vehicle Salvage

2: Towing Regulations to be Posted

Finding 1: Dismissed

2: Dismissed

Sentence:

Date:

Case 1: 18022512

2: 18022513

Item #10 updated with disposition on 09/17/2019

- 11. On 03/13/2019 an officer conducted a licensed premise check at Always Towing, 3700 W. Wells St. The officer found one minor issue, which was prices not being displayed in the vehicle. The manager, Michael TARANTINO, stated the prices are available with the driver electronically.
- 12. On 04/07/2019 officers observed a tow truck operating in the 1600 block of S Farwell Av with no lights. They observed the same tow truck fail to stop at several stop signs. The officers stopped the truck and found it to be labeled as Always Towing. The driver, Keith GRADY, stated he runs his own business, Keith's Towing LLC, and just rents the truck from Always. A check revealed GRADY does not have a RST license. He further stated he operates without lights to sneak around when he is picking up a car. On 04/17/2019 an officer spoke with Michael TARANTINO and Jason PEHOWSKI, via speaker phone, regarding the 04/07/2019 incident. They stated GRADY was a contracted employee. The officer advised them that GRADY had stated he was towing for his own company and not Always Towing but he does not have a RST license. The officer advised them that per ordinance they are responsible for any person driving their tow trucks. The officer then spoke with GRADY and advised him he could not tow cars until he got a RST license.
- 13. On 11/29/19 at 4:00pm, Milwaukee Police were contacted by an employee of Always Towing who wanted to report his firearm lost at the location of 3700 W. Wells Street. Investigation revealed that the employee was returning a vehicle to a customer and he thought he lost his firearm inside the vehicle he was returning. The vehicle owner was contacted and said the firearm was not inside his vehicle. A report was filed.
- 14. On 12/18/19 at 10:40am, Milwaukee Police were dispatched to 3700 W. Wells Street for a Reckless Use of Weapon Complaint. Investigation revealed that a subject entered the establishment to retrieve their vehicle but did not have enough money to pay the fees. Officers spoke with Michael Paige (employee) who stated the subject owed \$401.28. He further stated he told the subject he was willing to waive the insurance fee of the tow which would reduce the price to \$348.48. The subject could not pay the fees but was allowed to enter the lot to obtain some belongings left inside the vehicle. When he was in the lot, he sprinted to his vehicle, entered it, and attempted to leave the property. While trying to leave, employees had to dodge the fleeing vehicle, a wrecker was rammed causing damage, and the front gate was damaged when the subject tried to escape with his vehicle. The subjects' vehicle was disabled and the subject was subdued until police arrived. The subject was arrested.

749 W. State Street Milwaukee, WI 53233

414-933-4444

Case #:190720029

OtherEvent #: 19-LP-0203

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Incident

3700 W WELLS ST Milwaukee, WISCONSIN 53208

Incident Date/Time::

03/13/2019 07:42:36

GAD Number::

190720590

District::

3

Beat::

350

Reporting Area::

4443

Business Agent (1)

PEHOWSKI, JASON W

Person Involvement: (Must choose , Agent

AGENT from drop down):

DOB::

12/13/1977

Sex::

MALE

Race::

MINCE

Tenderit.

WHITE

Phone 1 Number::

(414)-870-6088

Phone 1 Type::

Cell

Address::

N63W13412 HUMMINGBIRD WAY

City::

MENOMONEE FALLS

State::

WISCONSIN

Zip Code::

53051

Licensed Persons Involved (1)

TARANTINO, MICHAEL PAUL

Person involvement::

Employee

DOB::

12/09/1977

Sex::

MALE

Race::

WHITE

Phone 1 Number::

4148706076 CELL

Phone 1 Type:: Address::

6902 W MEDFORD AV

City::

Milwaukee

State::

WISCONSIN

Zip Code::

53218

Licensed Premise Data (1)

ALWAYS TOWING

Phone 1 Number::

(414)-933-7666

Phone 1 Type::

Work

Address::

3700 W WELLS ST

City::

MILWAUKEE

State::

WISCONSIN

Zip Code::

53208

License Type::

Recycling/Salvage/Towing

Licensee Notification Was Made::

Yes

Licensee Notified Date/Time::

03/13/2019 14:00:00

749 W. State Street Milwaukee, WI 53233 414-933-4444

Case #:190720029

OtherEvent #: 19-LP-0203

Business Was Cited For Violation:: No

Licensee was cooperative: (If not Yes

explain in narrative):

Licensee or Manager was on premises at time of

violation/incident::

Narrative (1)

LICENSE PREMISE REPORT

See, Jeanine 012877

03/13/2019

This report is typed by P.O. Jeanine SEE, assigned to CIB-Property, Day Shift.

On 03/13/19 I conducted a license premise check at 3700 W Wells St, Always Towing.

I spoke with manager Michael P TARANTINO (w/m-12-09-77).

TARANTINO was cooperative. I found only one minor record keeping issues; no display of prices in vehicle. TARANTINO told me the prices are available with the driver electronically.

I spoke with agent Jason W PEHOWSKI on 03/13/19, via phone, and notified PEHOWSKI I was at his property.

Always Towing has been in business since 1999. The vehicles are scraped at Mill Valley Recycling after proper hold time and notification.

Officer (2)

Reporting Officer:

See, Jeanine (012877)

03/13/2019 07:50:12

Section: (Work Location):

91

Approving Officer:

Raden, Chad M (010032)

03/14/2019 10:50:32

Section: (Work Location):

27

749 W. State Street Milwaukee, WI 53233

414-933-4444

Case #:190970142

OtherEvent #: 19-LP-0346

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Incident

1683 N VAN BUREN ST Milwaukee, WISCONSIN 53202

Incident Date/Time::

04/08/2019 23:35:00

CAD Number::

190972583

District::

1

Beat::

130

Reporting Area::

3981

Business Agent (1)

GRADY, KEITH LARAYTO

Person Involvement; (Must choose

Agent

AGENT from drop down): DOB::

08/29/1972

Sex::

MALE

Race::

BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN

Phone 1 Numbers:

(414)-759-7168

Address::

2857 N 54TH ST

City::

Milwaukee

State::

WISCONSIN

Zip Code::

53210

Licensed Persons Involved (1)

GRADY, KEITH LARAYTO

Person Involvement::

Agent (License Holder)

DOB::

08/29/1972

Sex::

MALE

Race::

Address::

BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN 2857 N 54TH ST

Cîty::

Milwaukee

State::

WISCONSIN

Zip Code::

53210

Licensed Premise Data (2)

ALWAYS TOWING

Phone 1 Number::

(414)-933-7666

Phone 1 Type::

Main

Address::

3700 W WELLS ST

City::

Milwaukee

State::

WISCONSIN

Zip Code:: License Type:: 53208

Licensee Notification Was Made::

Other

Business Was Cited For Violation:: No

Licensee was cooperative: (if not

explain in narrative);

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749 W. State Street Milwaukee, WI 53233 414-933-4444

Case #:190970142

OtherEvent #: 19-LP-0346

Licensee or Manager was on premises at time of

violation/incldent::

No

KEITH'S TOWING

Phone 1 Number::

(414)-388-9701

Phone 1 Type::

Cell

License Type::

Other

Licensee Notification Was Made::

No

Business Was Cited For Violation:: No Licensee was cooperative: (If not

explain in narrative):

Licensee or Manager was on

No

premises at time of violation/incident::

Narrative (1)

INITIAL INVESTIGATION

Kohler, John G 021483

04/08/2019

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This report was written by PO John KOHLER, assigned to District 1, Early Shift, Squad 1240, with my partner, PO Sean Koscielak.

On 4/7/2019 we observed a tow truck parked on the east side of the street in the 1600 hundred block of S Farwell Av with no rear lights on of any kind. The vehicle appeared to be maneuvering to possibly tow a vehicle, but quickly changed course and drove away.

We followed the vehicle to the parking lot of 1638 N Van Buren St where we conducted a traffic stop. The reason for the stop was due to failing to stop for several stop signs, operating with no head lamps, and suspicious activity.

The driver (GRADY) stated that he operates without lights, like the Police due to sneak around when he is going to pick up a car. He stated he went through the stop signs so he could get to the other lot quickly to pick up a car. GRADY stated that he rents the truck from Always Towing for \$100 per month, but he works for / owns his own company called Keith's Towing LLC. He does not own a truck himself therefore rents this one.

VEHICLE REGISTRATION

Registration: GD79641

VIN: 3C7WRMDL7JG244014

Vehicle: 2018 Ram Truck 5500, white

VEHICLE OBSERVATION

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749 W. State Street Milwaukee, WI 53233 414-933-4444

Case #:190970142

OtherEvent #: 19-LP-0346

Company Name: Always Towing

Phone: "933-7666"

US DOT #: 1340637

Other #: "RST 2318 DMVSAL792 LC68800"

Color: black

DRIVER

Name: Keith L Grady (B/M 08/29/1972)

BUSINESS CHECK

A check with Wisconsin LLC's revealed the business he claimed to work for (Keith's Towing LLC), was administratively dissolved on 3/16/2019.

Officer (2)

Reporting Officer:

Kohler, John G (021483)

04/07/2019 23:52:00

Section: (Work Location):

12

Approving Officer:

Borst, Gregory D (017777)

04/20/2019 19:06:50

Section: (Work Location):

12

749 W. State Street Milwaukee, WI 53233

414-933-4444

Case #:191210043

OtherEvent #: 19-LP-0388

x

Incident

3700 W WELLS ST Milwaukee, WISCONSIN 53208

Incident Date/Time::

04/07/2019 22:00:00

CAD Number::

190972583

District::

3

Beat::

350

Reporting Area::

4443

Business Agent (1)

PEHOWSKI, JASON WILLIAM

Person Involvement: (Must choose Agent

AGENT from drop down):

DOB::

12/13/1977

Sex::

MALE

Race::

BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN

Phone 1 Number::

(414)-870-6088

Phone 1 Type::

Cell

Address::

N63W13412 HUMMINGBIRD WAY

City::

MENOMONEE FALLS

State::

WISCONSIN

Zip Code::

53051

Licensed Persons Involved (1)

TARANTINO, MICHAEL PAUL

Person Involvement::

Employee

DOB::

12/09/1977

Sex::

MALE WHITE

Race::

4148706076

Phone 1 Numbers: Phone 1 Type::

CELL

Address::

6902 W MEDFORD AV

City::

Milwaukee

State::

WISCONSIN

Zip Code::

53218

Licensed Premise Data (1)

ALWAYS TOWING

Phone 1 Number::

(414)-933-7666

Address::

3700 W WELLS ST

City:: State::

Milwaukee WISCONSIN

Zip Code::

License Type::

63208

Recycling/Salvage/Towing

Licensee Notification Was Made::

04/17/2019 15:00:00

Licensee Notified Date/Time:: Business Was Cited For Violation:: No

Printed On 02/05/2020

Page 1 of 2

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749 W. State Street Milwaukee, WI 53233 414-933-4444

Case #:191210043

OtherEvent #: 19-LP-0388

Licensee was cooperative: (If not explain in narrative):

Yes

Licensee or Manager was on

Nο

premises at time of violation/incident::

Narrative (1)

LICENSE PREMISE PHONE CALL

See, Jeanine 012877

05/01/2019

This report is typed by P.O. Jeanine SEE, assigned to CIB-Property, Day Shift.

On 04/16/19 | left a voicemail for the manager, Michael P TARANTINO (w/m-12/09/77). TARANTINO, along with agent Jason W PEHOWSKI (w/m-12/13/77), on speaker phone, called me back on 04/17/19.

I informed TARANTINO and PEHOWSKI that one of their tow trucks was involved in a traffic stop of Ketih L GRADY (CAD #190972583). Officers John KOHLER and Sean KOSCIELAK wrote a license premise report (#190970142) regarding.

TARANTINO and PEHOWSKI told me GRADY was an employee, but an 19 employee, meaning he is contracted and does not get a W2, he gets and I9. I told TARANTINO and PEHOWSKI the circumstances of the traffic stop and GRADY did not have a RST license. Because GRADY identified himself as his own business owner and was renting the Always Towing truck. I explained GRADY should not be towing vehicles, in Milwaukee. I also informed TARANTINO and PEHOWSKI about Chapter 93, specifically 93-49 (12), which states Always was responsible for any person driving their tow vehicles.

I spoke with GRADY, via phone, on 04/16/17 and told him he was no longer able to operate his business until he got a RST license. As of 05/01/19, GRADY did not get a RST license. On 05/01/19 | left GRADY a message reminding he needed a RST license before he preforms any more tows.

Officer (2)

Reporting Officer:

See, Jeanine (012877)

05/01/2019 09:51:00

Section: (Work Location):

91

Approving Officer:

Raden, Chad M (010032)

05/02/2019 10:22:02

Section: (Work Location):

27

749 W. State Street Milwaukee, WI 53233 414-933-4444

Case #:193330091

OtherEvent #: 19-LP-1320

Incident

3700 W WELLS ST Milwaukee, WISCONSIN 53208

Incident Date/Time::

11/29/2019 15:30:00

GAD Number::

193331654

District::

3

Beat::

350

Reporting Area::

4443

Business Agent (1)

PEHOWSKI, JASON WILLIAM

Person Involvement: (Must choose Agent

AGENT from drop down): DOB::

12/13/1977

Sex::

MALE

Race::

BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN

Phone 1 Number::

(414)-870-6088

Address::

N63W13412 HUMMINGBIRD WAY

City;;

MENOMONEE FALLS

State::

WISCONSIN

Zip Code::

53051

Licensed Persons Involved (1)

TURNER, ERIC LIONEL

Person Involvement::

Employee

DOB::

07/09/1971

Sex::

MALE

Race::

BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN

Phone 1 Number::

4145261328

Phone 1 Type::

CELL

Address::

5337 N 55TH ST

City;;

Milwaukee

State::

WISCONSIN

Zip Code::

53218

Licensed Premise Data (1)

ALWAYS TOWING & RECOVERY, INC

Phone 1 Number::

(414)-933-7666

Phone 1 Type::

Work

Address::

3700 W WELLS ST

City::

Milwaukee WISCONSIN

State:: Zìp Code::

License Type::

Recycling/Salvage/Towing

Licensee Notification Was Made:: Business Was Cited For Violation:: No

749 W. State Street Milwaukee, WI 53233 414-933-4444

Case #:193330091

OtherEvent #: 19-LP-1320

Licensee was cooperative: (If not explain in narrative):

explain in narrative): Licensee or Manager was on

No

premises at time of violation/incident::

Narrative (1)

INITIAL INVESTIGATION

Duncan, Joseph A 018630

11/29/2019

This report is written by Police Officer Joseph DUNCAN, assigned to District Three, Early Shift. On Friday, November 29, 2019 at approximately 4 PM, while working the front desk I took a walk-in complaint regarding a lost firearm that occurred at Always Towing, located at 3700 West Wells Street. This location is within the city and county of Milwaukee.

WALK-IN (ID) / EMPLOYEE

ERIC L. TURNER Male Black 07/09/1971

5'11" 173 lbs Brown Eyes Black Hair Organ Donor: Y

5337 N 55th St

Milwaukee, WI 53218-3209 USA County: Milwaukee

DOT Address Updated: 02/25/2014

Drivers License or ID Card # T656-2127-1249-04

Cell phone: 414-526-1328

LOST FIREARM

Black and silver/chrome 9 mm Taurus PT11

SER#TKN23605 VALUE\$200

TURNER said that during his employment at approximately 3:30 PM while returning a 2002 Chevrolet suburban SUV to Michael Manning parish date of birth 10/23/1957 he lost the above firearm and believe that this gun fell inside this vehicle between the seats.

VEHICLE CONTACT

2002 Chevrolet Suburban Sportutility Truck Green/Green

VIN 3GNFK16ZX2G345042 Title # 19149RE0099

749 W. State Street Milwaukee, WI 53233 414-933-4444

Case #:193330091

OtherEvent #: 19-LP-1320

Owner(s) Parrish, Michael Manning

AFT9011 Automobile Plate

Expiration 05/28/2020

Owner(s):

Parrish, Michael Manning

DOB: 10/23/1957

DL: P6205535738300

555 S Layton Blvd # 509

Milwaukee, WI 53215-1256

414-998-47564

I contacted PARRISH by phone, 414-998-4754 who confirm that this property was not within his vehicle.

This lost property will be teletype by MWP3-149.

TURNER was cooperative.

CASE PENDING LOCATION OF FIREARM

Officer (2)

Reporting Officer:

Duncan, Joseph A (018630)

11/29/2019 19:44:00

Section: (Work Location):

32

Approving Officer:

Captain, Laura L (011309)

11/29/2019 22:24:36

Section: (Work Location):

32

749 W. State Street Milwaukee, WI 53233 414-933-4444

Case #:193520046

OtherEvent #: 19-LP-1417

Incident

3700 W WELLS ST Milwaukee, WISCONSIN 53208

Incident Date/Time::

12/18/2019 10:40:00

CAD Number::

193520896

District::

3

Beat::

350

Reporting Area::

4443

Business Agent (1)

Licensed Persons Involved (1)

PEHOWSKI, JASON WILLIAM

Person Involvement: (Must choose AGENT from drop down):

se Agent

DOB::

12/13/1977

Sex

MALE

Race::

BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN

Phone 1 Number::

(414)-870-6088

Address::

N63W13412 HUMMINGBIRD WAY

Clty::

MENOMONEE FALLS

State::

WISCONSIN

Zip Code::

53051

TARANTINO, MICHAEL PAUL

Person Involvement::

Agent (License Holder)

DOB::

12/09/1977

Sex::

MALE

Race::

WHITE

Phone 1 Number::

4149337666

Phone 1 Type::

WORK

Address::

3700 W WELLS ST

City::

Milwaukee

State::

WISCONSIN

Zip Code::

53208

749 W. State Street Milwaukee, WI 53233 414-933-4444

Case #:193520046

OtherEvent #: 19-LP-1417

Victim (1)

ALWAYS TOWING

Phone 1 Number::

(414)-933-7666

Phone 1 Type::

Work

Address::

3700 W WELLS ST

City::

Milwaukee

State::

WISCONSIN

Zip Code::

53208

Licensee Notification Was Made::

Business Was Cited For Violation:: No

Licensee was cooperative: (If not

explain in narrative):

Licensee or Manager was on

premises at time of violation/incident::

Narrative (1)

INITIAL INVESTIGATION

12/20/2019

This report was written by P.O. Miles KOWALIK, assigned to District 3, Day Shift, Squad 3140.

On Wednesday, December 18, 2019 at 10:46 a.m., my squad partner, (P.O. Stuart SADJAK), and I, were dispatched to 3700 W. Wells St., (Always Towing), located in the City and County of Milwaukee, State of Wisconsin for a Reckless use of a Weapon complaint.

While traveling to this location, we were advised that the subject was attempting to ram the gate of the business and leave the location without paying.

Upon our arrival, we were immediately flagged down Nelson K. VICTOR, (b/m, 11/10/71), who continued to state that he, (the subject), was on the other side of the fence. VICTOR informed us that we would have to walk to the front entrance to gain access to the lot.

P.O. SADJAK and I, then proceeded through the front office of Always Towing and exited the rear door for access to the lot. Once on the lot, we approached the front gate where one employee, (Eric L. TURNER, b/m, 7/9/71), was standing in the driver side door attempting to keep the occupant, later identified as Ladarius D. DAVIS-HUGHES, (b/m, 9/26/00), was standing partially out of the front driver side door, as I could hear him state, "This is my first car."

DAVIS-HUGHES was arrested and placed into the rear of my squad car during this investigation. DAVIS-HUGHES was later transported to District 3 for processing by Squad 3130, (P.O. Joseph CARLSON and P.O. Joseph WALTER).

I then spoke to Michael W. PAIGE, (b/m, 4/23/71), who stated that DAVIS-HUGHES came into the front lobby area trying to plea with him for his car. PAIGE stated that he originally informed DAVIS-HUGHES that the tow and storage fees would cost him \$401.28 for him to release his

749 W. State Street Milwaukee, WI 53233 414-933-4444

Case #:193520046

OtherEvent #: 19-LP-1417

motor vehicle. DAVIS-HUGHES became verbally upset, and informed PAIGE that he didn't have that much money on him. PAIGE stated that he could waive the insurance fee on the tow and reduced the price to \$348.48, in which DAVIS-HUGHES replied that he didn't have that much on him and he only had \$124.00. PAIGE again told DAVIS-HUGHES that 348.48 was the lowest he could go, but would allow him to obtain his personal belongings from the motor vehicle.

PAIGE then contacted another employee Eric L. TURNER, (b/m, 7/9/1971), to take him onto the lot and let him obtain these items. As then proceeded to walk onto the lot, DAVIS-HUGHES, took off at a high rate of speed directly for his motor vehicle. TURNER reported that he observed him get into the motor vehicle and start it up, and immediately shift the vehicle in reverse and back up towards him. TURNER reported that DAVIS-HUGHES was driving in such a reckless manner that he had to move himself between to parked motor vehicles to avoid being struck by DAVIS-HUGHES' motor vehicle. As DAVIS-HUGHES proceeded to back up to the gate, TURNER observed him jump out of the vehicle, and attempt to open the gate to leave the property. As DAVIS-HUGHES ran from his car door to open the gate, TURNER immediately rushed the front driver side door and slam it shut. DAVIS-HUGHES then returned and confronted TURNER, in which TRUNER described as Tussling with DAVIS-HUGHES for several seconds.

TURNER then ran around to the front of the gate in an attempt to keep it shut, when he observed another employee, (Victor K. NELSON, b/m, 11/10/1971), who was sitting in a 2018 black Dodge Ram 5500 Flatbed truck, and yelled to him to bring the truck up to help brace the fence. As TURNER attempted to lock the gate, DAVIS-HUGHES again rammed the gate forcing TURNER to run away from the fence and retreat closer to the tow truck for temporary safety.

TURNER the returned to the fence in an attempt to lock the gate shut, as his boss and lot owner, (Michael P. TARANTINO w/m, 7/31/63), was backing another Tow truck towards DAVIS-HUGHES vehicle. TURNER observed DAVIS-HUGHES again back up and strike the 2nd tow truck. As it proceeded to move forward, Michael, engaged the hydraulics to lift the rear of the vehicle approximately 4 feet in the air to prevent DAVIS-HUGHES from causing any further damage to the property or put any other person in danger.

This occurred approximately 2 minutes before P.O. SADJAK and I arrived on scene.

I then spoke to NELSON who stated the following: While outside and parked along the curb, he observed quick movement through the holes in the galvanized steel fence. He stated that he observed TURNER moving fast towards the rear of the lot. Within a few seconds he the observed a small car back up to the fence which was shut, and a subject run from the car. NELSON stated that after a few more seconds he observed TURNER appear on the side of the fence he was on, and started motioning for him to pull his tow truck up to the fence for support. NELSON stated that as he pulled his Tow Truck up to the fence, he observed the small vehicle strike the fence that then struck his Tow Truck, and cause the fence to get caught in the fender, where it was then unmovable during the remainder of this incident.

I then spoke to TARANTINO who stated the following: He was inside his office and was on the phone with a client while speaking to Lerone A. TOWNS, (b/m, 7/11/82). TARANTINO stated that he has a large screen in his office which allows him to see live cameras recording the front lot gate. While in his office he observed a vehicle darting across the lot followed by a lot of

749 W. State Street Milwaukee, WI 53233 414-933-4444

Case #:193520046

OtherEvent #: 19-LP-1417

commotion at the front gate. He then ran out to the lot and jumped in another Tow Truck, where he then immediately reversed at an angle approaching the motor vehicle DAVIS-HUGHES was in. While in the process of backing up, and as he came close to the vehicle, he placed the rear hooks to the ground, when the motor vehicle went in reverse and strike his Tow Truck. Almost right after the vehicle struck his Truck, he activated the hydraulics on the rear forks and lifted the motor vehicle in the air.

I then spoke to Lerone TOWNS, who stated the following: just a short time before everything happened in the lot, he remembered seeing DAVIS-HUGHES in the front lobby speaking to PAIGE. He remembered PAIGE complaining of the fees, and heard him state, "I aint got that much," while pleading about the fees. When the events started to happen, TOWNS grabbed one of the guard dogs and remained near the rear of the lot in case things escalated.

I then spoke to TARANTINO again who estimated the cost of the following damages:

TARANTINO estimated the lot's gate would be in the range of \$2,000.00 dollars to fix. \$2,400.00 for the rear claws, on his Tow Truck, (2018 Dodge Ram 5500 3C7WRMDL7JG244014), and approximately \$1,000.00, to fix the rear bumper. No damages were reported on the Tow Truck NELSON was operating as it has a heavy duty modified steel bumper designed to absorb minor damages.

TARANTINO did not give DAVIS-HUGHES consent to drive his motor vehicle on his property or cause any of the damages.

Eric TURNER did not give DAVIS-HUGHES consent to cause him any fear of his personal safety or almost strike him with his motor vehicle.

P.O. SADJAK recovered video from the business and took overall photographs of the damages and scene and placed them onto inventory. Please see his supplemental report regarding.

Both Eric TURNER and Michael TARANTINO were ordered into the A.D.A.'s office on Thursday, December 19, 2019 at 8:30 a.m.

Always Towing is located on the n/w corner at the intersection of 3700 W. Wells St. The main entrance door is along the same corner and opens to a small lobby for the exchange of monies for the recovery of ones vehicle. This small lobby opens to a hallways that allows access to the main office as well as the managerial officer where calls are received and drivers are dispatched to different locations across s/e Wisconsin. This managerial office has a back door that leads to the rear parking lot where recovered motor vehicles are placed until they can be claimed by the owners. Once a vehicle is claimed the person is walked outside to the main rolling gate, where they are allowed to walk to their vehicle and recover their personal property from a motor vehicle, or the motor vehicle itself. The owners of the vehicle are then allowed to exit the same gate they entered. The business lot of Always Towing has a recording system on the gate and lobby as well as the office area and can be reviewed by the main office.

Officer (2)

Approving Officer:

Hewitt, RAymond M (015481)

12/18/2019 15:38:38

749 W. State Street Milwaukee, WI 53233 414-933-4444

Case #:193520046

OtherEvent #: 19-LP-1417

Section: (Work Location):

31

Arresting Officer:

Kowalik, Miles (018938)

12/18/2019 13:52:00

Section: (Work Location):

Moon Siefert, Linda

From:

License

Sent:

Wednesday, December 26, 2018 12:21 PM

To:

Moon Siefert, Linda

Subject:

FW: License complaint for Always Towing & Recovery, Inc.

Jim Cooney License Specialist III City of Milwaukee License Division 200 E Wells St #105 Milwaukee, WI 53202 414-286-2238





From:

Sent: Wednesday, December 26, 2018 11:34 AM

To: License

Subject: License complaint for Always Towing & Recovery, Inc.

Hello, .

Always Towing & Recovery, Inc. is apparently towing cars from lots owned by Ogden Property Management. I was not aware the lot I parked in was private, or that I would be at risk of being towed. We left our car parked next to Halliday's Lounge at 1729 N Farwell Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53202 around 11pm on Saturday 12/22. I have several complaints, but specifically the 'Special Equipment Fee' they are charging all vehicles they are towing. I own a 2014 BMW i3 and has a gross weight under 3,000lbs. The lot my car was towed from only had one other car in it at the time I was towed. Though that seemed odd at the time, it also should have presented little issue for them to tow my car.

- This company is charging exorbitant fees in excess of the normal fees authorized by the city. The total charge was \$348.48 and I retrieved my vehicle as soon as they made it available to me on Sunday 12/23.
- I told the Company directly that I did not think the additional fee was warranted according to the city ordinance, and asked for a refund of that specific fee. I advised them that I would be in contact with the City of Milwaukee License Committee.
- I think that visitors to the area are being preyed on and it is terrible for local business. It is not good for the City of Milwaukee or residents. There are plenty of issues with parking and people violating the laws, but this Company is using unethical practices. I should also note that IF Ogden Property Management was concerned about cars being parked in their lots unauthorized, they would make that clearly posted at the entrance/exit of the lot OR block off their lot 'after hours' (I also was not aware FedEx was closed since all of their lights were on and it was before Midnight).

Thank you,

Schafer, Nathan

From:

License

Sent:

Wednesday, September 4, 2019 2:15 PM

To:

Schafer, Nathan

Subject:

FW: Complaint Against Always Towing & Recovery Inc

Keren Becker
License Specialist III
City Clerk – License Division
O: (414) 286-2238
F: (414) 286-3057
License@Milwaukee.gov
www.Milwaukee.gov/license

REDACTED RECORD



From:

Sent: Wednesday, September 4, 2019 1:25 PM

To: License

Subject: Complaint Against Always Towing & Recovery Inc

Hello, Per Yadira's instructions I am formally filing a complaint/objection against Always Towing & Recovery Inc. Additionally I would like to suggest Always Towing have their license/certification w the City of Milwaukee revoked. Below is the reason for my complaint/objection.

On 6/27/19 our 2009 Toyota Corolla was towed from Walgreens on Brady st. (1400 E Brady). We were charged a special equipment fee of \$125. On 6/28/19 we were told when we picked up our car and paid \$348.48 that they used the special equipment to protect our car from damage since they did not have our car keys. This turned out to be false. Fox 6 news did an investigation on towing companies and actually filmed our car being towed which showed NO special equipment being used. We were also interviewed by Fox6 news for this investigation (link below to fox6 news investigation piece)

https://fox6now.com/2019/07/24/we-got-taken-special-fee-has-towed-drivers-angry-and-city-exploring-action/

We contacted Always Towing via email (per their request) on August 7 asking to be reimbursed the special equipment fee of \$125 plus compensation for potential damage caused to our car because special equipment was NOT used. We rec'd an email back from Mike Tarantino of Always Towing on August 7 w the following response...

Dear __

Please be advised, we have reviewed the entire process of your vehicle or being towed, prompted by the FOX6 report. The report shows one portion of the process [loading], it does not show the vehicle being unloaded. The story aired for the public didn't mention or show the "unloading", perhaps intentionally or possibly just "overlooked" by an investigative report.

1

Based upon the review, a request for reimbursement is not warranted, and therefore the request is declined.

Respectfully,

Mike Tarantino
General Manager
Always Towing & Recovery, Inc.
3700 W. Wells St.

Milwaukee, WI 53208



Upon receiving the above email we responded back to Mike Tarantino on August 9 w the below email... And have NOT heard back from Mike Tarantino or Always Towing since.

Dear Mike,

Your response and decision came as a total surprise. We are trying to understand the use of special equipment to unload but NOT for loading. Could we please meet in person or speak by phone for further clarification beyond your initial email.

To resolve our complaint we would like at a minimum the \$125 special equipment fee. Plus we would like Always Towing's license/certification renewal revoked. Please assist us w this situation. If it means attending the next License Committee meeting we will be happy to attend and testify. Just give us the date/time and location.

Respectfully

Sent from my iPhone

HIM Name IS

WIY Car got fow, no 12/22/18

Be HIMD MY Expaisor HBY ALMAX towns

3700 WEST WELL COMMENCE MY Adress, s

I do

Have a Permit Red giring by Land Lord

Disability Sticks

Still got towns

Fixin come

REDACTED RECORD

Martin, Faviola

From:

Celella, Jessica

Sent:

Thursday, May 30, 2019 7:52 AM

To: Cc: Martin, Faviola Byrd, Yashica

Subject:

FW: Predatory Towing Policy Change?

Attachments:

IMG_2288.jpeg; IMG_2298.jpeg; IMG_2343.jpeg

Follow Up Flag:

Follow up

Flag Status:

Flagged

Please add

Jessica Celella License Division Manager 200 E Wells St Room 105, Milwaukee, WI 53202 (414) 286-2365





From: Johnson, Cavalier

Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2019 6:23 AM

To:

Cc: Gradus, Michael < Michael. Gradus@milwaukee.gov>; Celella, Jessica < Jessica. Celella@milwaukee.gov>

Subject: Re: Predatory Towing Policy Change?

Hi and I'm sorry to hear about this experience. If you indeed parked in an area that wasn't marked as 1 hour parking but were towed anyway, then I will lodge your complaint with the Licenses Division. When the license for this company is up for review, you will be notified and able to testify to your experience.

Unfortunately, the rates for towing charges are set by the State not the City so we're unable to change those.

I know that you took photos but would suggest that you take photos of the spot that you parked in along with the sign posted that you believe regulated that spot. Perhaps it might even be useful to have a snapshot of the strip mall, identify the 1 hour parking and the other parking, and then the identify the stall that you parked in.

What I'm saying is to make sure that you have your case prepared and ducks in a row if you feel that you are compelled to testify.

Thanks,

Chevy

Cavalier Johnson

Alderman, 2nd District | City of Milwaukee

(o) 414-286-3777 (e) cavalier.johnson2@milwaukee.gov City Hall 200 E. Wells Street room 205 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:



From: '

To: "Gradus, Michael" < Michael. Gradus@milwaukee.gov >, "Johnson, Cavalier"

<Cavalier.Johnson2@milwaukee.gov>

Subject: Predatory Towing Policy Change?

Hey Chevy and Michael - I'm writing because I got caught up in the Always Towing predatory towing scheme (I'm sure you've aware) over the Memorial Day weekend.

Our car got towed while my sister and I were couponing on Sunday evening at Walgreens and CVS on Brady St and held for a \$370 ransom by Always Towing from Sunday night until Tuesday.

By doing some Googling it seems we're part of a larger problem caused by a 2015(ish) policy change that allows private lots to contract with towing companies for free so that they can charge \$400 for towing your car (it used to be \$150), which incentivizes them to engage in predatory towing.

https://fox6now.com/2015/07/26/theyre-like-bandits-towing-company-takes-cars-in-the-middle-of-the-night-shocks-tenants-with-new-maximum-fees

In our case, we drove downtown on Sunday night to coupon at Walgreens and CVS on Brady street (coupons expire at midnight). We got there just before 10pm because our Northside CVS (Capitol/Appleton/76th) closes at 9pm. We shopped until 11:40 and when we came outside our car was gone. We thought it was stolen and called the police. It was only when we found another couple searching for their car that we realized it was towed away. The police told us there was nothing they could do. The police, Walgreens employees, and CVS manager were all sympathetic and it sounds like this happens often. The number we found to the towing company was not answered and the company was closed during the holiday. Police confirmed Always Towing had it and it wasn't stolen. So we Ubered home to Northwest side and were careless Memorial Day.

I'm sure you're aware of the corner lot, it's labeled clearly as "customer parking" and there are no 1hr parking signs at the entrances or the middle spots where we were parked. In hindsight, there are a few 1hr signs along the Walgreens building next to individual spaces, which was used as the reason for our towing while we were shopping.

We paid \$370 cash to get our car back this morning, and the whole thing feels like a shakedown. They even charged us an extra \$50 for "towing" our car back out of the lot, which was just the guy driving it out.

I'm writing not only about us being treated unfairly, but that this is another example of a predatory practice and a poverty fee in Milwaukee. And one that's seemingly legal within our current laws. Lots must be labeled, consequences must be lowered, towing companies must be

open to return your car if they take it, and predatory practices like deliberately preying on 1hr shoppers customers like us must be stopped. An appropriate consequence for parking over 1hr parking is a \$25 ticket not \$370 and losing use of your car for 2 days. That's ridiculous.

Have you taken action on this before at the city level? Are you able to help us get in touch with the owner of the lot, help us lodge some kind of complaint against Always Towing for our \$370, and/or pass this on to state policymakers/DOT as rationale for revisiting this state policy? Or are there other actions we should take?

We're happy to share our story and testify wherever you need us I order to draw attention to and change this policy for all.

Appreciate your support,

REDACTED RECORD

Martin, Faviola

From:

Celella, Jessica

Sent:

Tuesday, July 16, 2019 6:34 PM

To: Cc: Martin, Faviola Byrd, Yashica

Subject:

FW: Predatory Towing Policy Changè?

Follow Up Flag:

Follow up

Flag Status:

Flagged

Please add

REDACTED RECORD

From:

Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2019 4:56 PM

To: Johnson, Cavalier

Cc: Celella, Jessica; Byrd, Yashica; Miller, Todd **Subject:** Re: Predatory Towing Policy Change?

Thank you Chevy!

On Tue, Jul 16, 2019 at 4:47 PM Johnson, Cavalier < Cavalier. Johnson 2@milwaukee.gov > wrote:

Our conversation thread is contained in the email chain. I'll just copy the License Division Manager and request that she add your objections so that you are notified when the hearing of Always Towing is held.

Please also respond with you address for mailing purposes.

Thanks,

Cavalier Johnson

Alderman, 2nd District | City of Milwaukee

(o) 414-286-3777 (e) cavalier.johnson2@milwaukee.gov

City Hall 200 E. Wells Street room 205

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 16, 2019, at 2:53 PM,

I haven't lodged the formal complaint, would you know how I do that? I understand my friend was successful today at blocking the renewal of Jay's Towing, so I'm feeling more optimistic! K

On Tue, Jul 16, 2019 at 2:42 PM Johnson, Cavalier < <u>Cavalier.Johnson2@milwaukee.gov</u>> wrote:

Kyle -

It hasn't come up yet to my knowledge. I don't know if I asked if you had lodged your complaint with the Licenses Division. Did you?

If you do, you'll be notified when the hearing comes up.

Thanks,
Cavalier Johnson
Alderman, 2nd District | City of Milwaukee
(o) 414-286-3777 (e) cavalier.johnson2@milwaukee.gov
City Hall 200 E. Wells Street room 205
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

REDACTED RECORD

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 16, 2019, at 2:05 PM,

Hi Chevy - Do you know when this opportunity to testify against license renewal will be?

On Tue, Jun 4, 2019 at 7:13 AM Johnson, Cavalier < Cavalier. Johnson 2@milwaukee.gov > wrote:

Sure thing. License renewal is granted by the Common Council. I believe the body can only consider complaints that have occurred during the current license period. So if someone felt like they were wronged five years ago, that is of course outside of the licensing period of the last year.

If there is indeed grey area provided by state law, that would be considered as well and the city has a policy of progressive discipline so we don't strip licenses away on the first incident unless there was egregious malfeasance for example.

Thanks,
Cavalier Johnson
Alderman, 2nd District | City of Milwaukee
(o) 414-286-3777 (e) cavalier.johnson2@milwaukee.gov
City Hall 200 E. Wells Street room 205
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 3, 2019, at 6:52 PM,

Thanks for this thoughtful answer Chevy. I've gotten in touch with state lawmakers about testifying for changing the state policy loophole that allows the \$400 predatory towing charge. I have photos of the entrance and the spot where we parked, but I

can go back and take a phone of the 1hr signs on the spots along the wall. Should we be organizing others to testify against his license or is it not likely to make the difference? Who decides on license renewal?

Thanks!

REDACTED RECORD

On Fri, May 31, 2019 at 4:20 PM Johnson, Cavalier < Cavalier. Johnson 2@milwaukee.gov wrote:

Sorry about the late reply. I thought that I had sent it days ago but it instead saved to my drafts.

Thanks,
Cavalier Johnson
Alderman, 2nd District | City of Milwaukee
(o) 414-286-3777 (e) cavalier.johnson2@milwaukee.gov
City Hall 200 E. Wells Street room 205
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Sent from my iPhone

On May 28, 2019, at 3:17 PM,

Hey Chevy and Michael - I'm writing because I got caught up in the Always Towing predatory towing scheme (I'm sure you've aware) over the Memorial Day weekend.

Our car got towed while my sister and I were couponing on Sunday evening at Walgreens and CVS on Brady St and held for a \$370 ransom by Always Towing from Sunday night until Tuesday.

By doing some Googling it seems we're part of a larger problem caused by a 2015(ish) policy change that allows private lots to contract with towing companies for free so that they can charge \$400 for towing your car (it used to be \$150), which incentivizes them to engage in predatory towing.

https://fox6now.com/2015/07/26/theyre-like-bandits-towing-company-takes-cars-in-the-middle-of-the-night-shocks-tenants-with-new-maximum-fees

In our case, we drove downtown on Sunday night to coupon at Walgreens and CVS on Brady street (coupons expire at midnight). We got there just before 10pm because our Northside CVS (Capitol/Appleton/76th) closes at 9pm. We shopped until 11:40 and when we came outside our car was gone. We thought it was stolen and called the police. It was only when we found another couple searching for their car that we realized it was towed away. The police told us there was nothing they could do. The police, Walgreens employees, and CVS manager were all sympathetic and it sounds like this happens often. The number we found to the towing company was not answered and the company was closed during the holiday. Police confirmed Always Towing had it and it wasn't stolen. So we Ubered home to Northwest side and were careless Memorial Day.

I'm sure you're aware of the corner lot, it's labeled clearly as "customer parking" and there are no 1hr parking signs at the entrances or the middle spots where we were parked. In hindsight, there are a few 1hr signs along the Walgreens building next to individual spaces, which was used as the reason for our towing while we were shopping.

We paid \$370 cash to get our car back this morning, and the whole thing feels like a shakedown. They even charged us an extra \$50 for "towing" our car back out of the lot, which was just the guy driving it out.

I'm writing not only about us being treated unfairly, but that this is another example of a predatory practice and a poverty fee in Milwaukee. And one that's seemingly legal within our current laws. Lots must be labeled, consequences must be lowered, towing companies must be open to return your car if they take it, and predatory practices like deliberately preying on 1hr shoppers customers like us must be stopped. An appropriate consequence for parking over 1hr parking is a \$25 ticket not \$370 and losing use of your car for 2 days. That's ridiculous.

Have you taken action on this before at the city level? Are you able to help us get in touch with



the owner of the lot, help us lodge some kind of complaint against Always Towing for our \$370, and/or pass this on to state policymakers/DOT as rationale for revisiting this state policy? Or are there other actions we should take?

We're happy to share our story and testify wherever you need us I order to draw attention to and change this policy for all.

Appreciate your support,



<IMG_2298.jpeg>

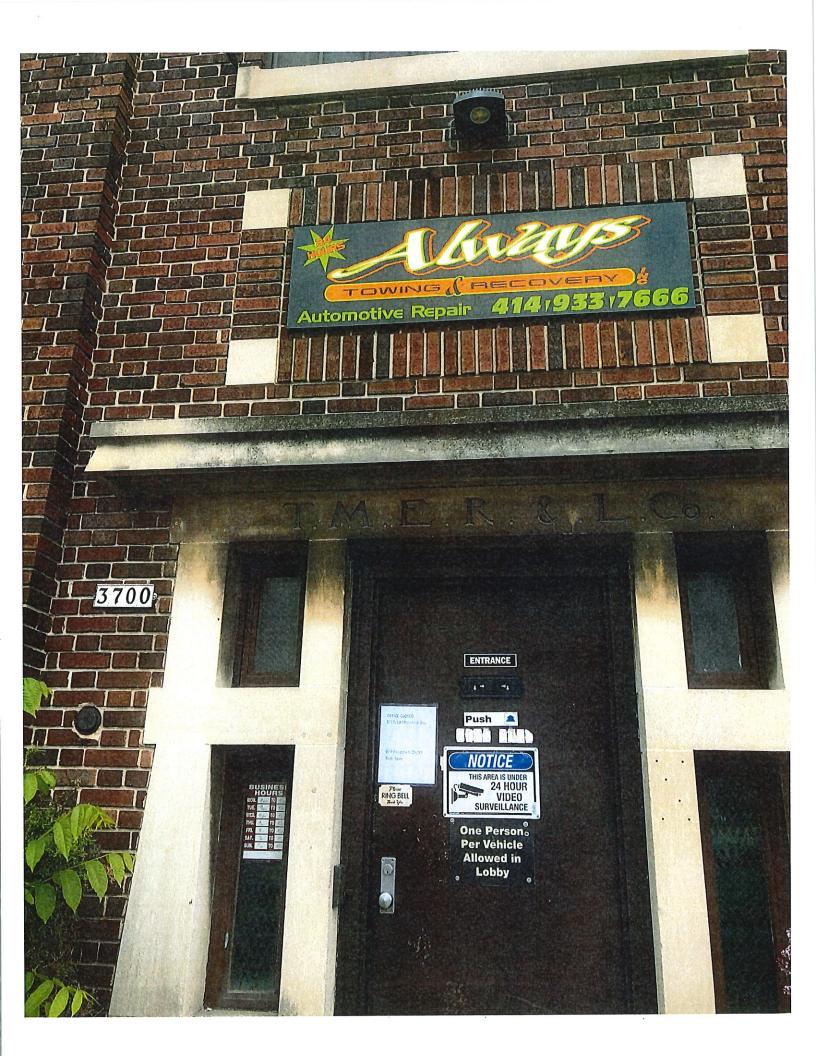
<IMG_2343.jpeg>

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BRADY PLACE
CUSTOMER
PARKING ONLY

UNAUTHORIZED VEHICLES
WILL BE TWEETED AND/OR





Moon Siefert, Linda

From:

License

Sent:

Monday, June 11, 2018 9:48 AM

To:

Moon Siefert, Linda

Cc:

Wagner, Janice

Subject:

FW: City of Milwaukee License Division

Follow Up Flag:

Follow up

Flag Status:

Flagged

Categories:

Red Category

Please add

REDACTED RECORD

Keren Becker
License Specialist III
City Clerk – License Division
O: (414) 286-2238
F: (414) 286-3057
License@Milwaukee.gov
www.Milwaukee.gov/license



From:

Sent: Monday, June 11, 2018 9:40 AM

To: License

Subject: City of Milwaukee License Division

Hello my name is ... have a problem with Always towing I was visiting my family on single circle on east capitol dr.i was given permission from my family member to park there I was park for about 15 minutes came outside to leave the tow truck driver told me I would have to pay \$400.00 for him to drop my car I was told with the new city ordinance I could pay \$50.00 fee if the tow truck driver had not hookup truck but the tow truck driver told.me once he take a picture of the truck he have to take it.

I can be reach at

Thanks

From:

License

Sent:

Monday, July 29, 2019 3:55 PM

To: Cc: Moon Siefert, Linda Martin, Faviola

Subject:

FW: Always towing over charge

Follow Up Flag: Flag Status:

Follow up Flagged

Categories:

Red Category

Keren Becker
License Specialist III
City Clerk – License Division
O: (414) 286-2238
F: (414) 286-3057
License@Milwaukee.gov
www.Milwaukee.gov/license



From:

Sent: Monday, July 29, 2019 3:10 PM

To: License

Subject: Re: Always towing over charge

REDACTED RECORD

On Fri, Jul 26, 2019 at 11:58 AM J

Hello, my name is My vehicle was recently towed by Always towing and they had charged me \$348.48 for them just towing it the same day. I felt off about the whole price because at first over the phone they disclosed it would be \$125. Then they tried to say they used special equipment. When I asked for proof they wanted me to leave. How do I go about filing a settlement for this? Is there a class action suit being filed against this company? How do I go about a Reimbursement

for this fraudulent charge? I took a picture of the prices the day of because the prices didn't feel right. I also was looking into the laws in front of the man at the desk. Please contact me via email or

my name is

thank you have a nice day.

From:

License

Sent:

Thursday, July 25, 2019 7:46 AM

To:

Moon Siefert, Linda Martin, Faviola

Cc: Subject:

FW: Always towing

Follow Up Flag: Flag Status:

Follow up Flagged

Categories:

Red Category

Please add to file for always

Keren Becker
License Specialist III
City Clerk – License Division
O: (414) 286-2238
F: (414) 286-3057
License@Milwaukee.gov
www.Milwaukee.gov/license

REDACTED RECORD

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2019 12:13 AM

To: License

Subject: Always towing

I just recently saw that always towing was under investigation.... I was towed by always towing last year and was charged a ridiculous amount of money for both cars to get out of tow \$750 one of which the car belonged to the property and when I asked why it cost so much they stated for use of special equipment....

Sent from my iPhone

From:

License

Sent:

Tuesday, July 30, 2019 3:30 PM

To: Cc: Moon Siefert, Linda Martin, Faviola

Subject:

FW: Always Towing Complaint

Follow Up Flag: Flag Status:

Follow up Flagged

Categories:

Red Category

Keren Becker
License Specialist III
City Clerk – License Division
O: (414) 286-2238
F: (414) 286-3057
License@Milwaukee.gov
www.Milwaukee.gov/license





From:

Sent: Tuesday, July 30, 2019 2:54 PM

To: License

Subject: Always Towing Complaint

Good Afternoon,

Last evening my car was towed by this company off of private property which is where I happen to live. Even though I explained to them that I live there and I brought my rental lease and everything to prove it I was still charged \$348 to retrieve my vehicle. My car had a visible parking permit on the windshield and a handicap identifier. I was told that we can park anywhere in back of my townhome as long as my permit is on my vehicle.

From:

License

Sent:

Thursday, September 26, 2019 9:38 AM

To:

Moon Siefert, Linda

Cc:

Martin, Faviola

Subject:

FW: Always Towing & Recovery inc special equipment fee.

Follow Up Flag: Flag Status:

Follow up Flagged

Categories:

Red Category

Keren Becker
License Specialist III
City Clerk – License Division
O: (414) 286-2238
F: (414) 286-3057
License@Milwaukee.gov

www.Milwaukee.gov/license

REDACTED RECORD

----Original Message----

From:

Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2019 9:20 PM

To: License

Subject: Always Towing & Recovery inc special equipment fee.

I was wondering who I can contact about Always Towing & recovery inc. on August 21 they towed my car from 1709 N Farwell ave. My bill was \$348.48. And I got charged \$125 special equipment fee. I saw the story about it on fox6. And was wondering if I should file a claim about it with you. Thank you in advance for your help.

Sent from my iPhone

From:

License

Sent:

Thursday, September 26, 2019 3:58 PM

To:

Moon Siefert, Linda

Cc: Subject: Martin, Faviola

FW: Car towed

Follow Up Flag: Flag Status:

Follow up Flagged

Categories:

Red Category



Keren Becker License Specialist III City Clerk - License Division O: (414) 286-2238 F: (414) 286-3057 License@Milwaukee.gov www.Milwaukee.gov/license

----Original Message----

Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2019 2:51 PM

To: License

Subject: Car towed

Hello,

My car was recently towed out of the apartment complex i love in in Greenfield WI. I pay for my parking permit every month but the company "always towing" claimed my parking pass was not visible. When I went to pick up my car I was charged \$348.48, which I believe is higher than allowed (\$150). There was no special equipment needed to tow my car. What are my options here? Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

From:

Celella, Jessica

Sent:

Friday, October 11, 2019 11:06 AM

REDACTED RECORD

To:

Moon Siefert, Linda

Cc:

Byrd, Yashica; Martin, Faviola

Subject:

FW: Dear Alderman Kovac

Follow Up Flag: Flag Status:

Follow up

Flagged.

Categories:

Red Category

Can you please add?

Jessica Celella License Division Manager 200 E Wells St Room 105, Milwaukee, WI 53202 (414) 286-2365



From: Kovac, Nik < nkovac@milwaukee.gov > Sent: Friday, October 11, 2019 11:05 AM

To: Celella, Jessica < Jessica.Celella@milwaukee.gov >

Subject: FW: Dear Alderman Kovac

Here is the complaint to be added to Always Towing's file.

From:

Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2019 6:26 AM

To: Kovac, Nik
Cc: Kovac, Nik

Subject: Re: Dear Alderman Kovac

Yes, that would be great.

Thank you!

From: Kovac, Nik < nkovac@milwaukee.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, October 9, 2019 12:50:32 PM

To:

Cc: Kovac, Nik < nkovac@milwaukee.gov>
Subject: RE: Dear Alderman Kovac

Hi

Thank you for your email. Would you like me to add this email to their licensing file so that you are noticed and permitted to speak at their next license renewal hearing?

Amanda

Amanda (Williams) Cervantes Legislative Assistant Alderman Nik Kovac, 3rd District 200 E. Wells St. Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202 414.286.3447 / aide3@milwaukee.gov



From:

Sent: Monday, September 16, 2019 11:13 AM

To: Kovac, Nik

Subject: Dear Alderman Kovac

I was visiting my daughter which was Sunday and her parking rules are there's no parking from 6 p.m. to 7 a.m. I was parked for less than 10 minutes and my car was towed at 8 in the morning which was the hours that visitors could park in the parking ramp for Seaway Terrace Apartments and right away by car was told I came up to use the restroom came out car gone they wanted now charged me \$400 for my car being parked somewhere where it was within the hours of where visitors could park this was also due to harassment on their end because I called Saturday night and complained about a possible sex offender employee that they have he was trying to talk to my 14 year old daughter and I really truly believe that this is a form of harassment and retaliation because of next day they towed my car. I don't see how many protecting my daughter's safety should cost me \$400 in a car that was towed out of spite.

I ended up paying 706.00 to get the car out . I saw a special on fox 6 news pertaining to tow companies charging a special equipment fee which is totally false and I am glad that these tow companies are being called out for it. When I told Always towing that they will get caught eventually the owner said they will never get caught and prettt much they can charge what they want. I do plan on suing Always towing for an illigal tow. What i didnt mention is that on the recipt it said they picked my car up at 9:08 am which was way after the time when no parking was inforced. I have the notice from seway apt stating the times u could park.

Times visitor parking was allowed. If you need my assistance in anything to help correct their fraudulent ways I am more then happy to assist.

Thank u.

The City of Milwaukee is subject to Wisconsin Statutes related to public records. Unless otherwise exempted from the public records law, senders and receivers of City of Milwaukee e-mail should presume that e-mail is subject to release upon request, and is subject to state records retention requirements. See City of Milwaukee full e-mail disclaimer at www.milwaukee.gov/email_disclaimer

From:

License

Sent:

Tuesday, December 3, 2019 1:25 PM

To:

Moon Siefert, Linda

Cc: Subject: Martin, Faviola FW: Always Towing Inc.

Follow Up Flag:

Follow up

Flag Status:

Flagged

Categories:

Red Category

REDACTED RECORD

Please add and respond. Thank yoU!

Keren Becker
License Specialist III
City Clerk – License Division

O: (414) 286-2238 F: (414) 286-3057

<u>License@Milwaukee.gov</u> <u>www.Milwaukee.gov/license</u>



From:

Sent: Tuesday, December 3, 2019 12:32 PM

To: License

Subject: Always Towing Inc.

Hello, my name is

and I am emailing you in regards to Always Towing Inc. of Milwaukee,
Wisconsin. On 10/08/2019 My

vas towed away from my apartment complex while it
was legally parked, legally registered, not disabled, and with the proper permit sticker on the windshield. I had
my property manager come down to Always Towing Inc.'s facility to confirm that the permit sticker was there.

It was and we asked why it was towed, but the guy did not have an answer. I was not able to look inside the
truck before getting my vehicle back. They did not charge me because they were in the wrong, but Once I got it
back many items were damaged in the bed of the truck. I have contacted them several times to discuss
reimbursement for damaged items and possibly loss of use since I missed work for the day because of this. They
have not responded to me at all. I was told to email you guys. I'm not sure what you guys can do if anything,
but just let me know! Thank you!

From:

License

Sent:

Monday, December 16, 2019 8:02 AM

To: Cc: Moon Siefert, Linda Martin, Faviola

Subject:

FW: Your BBB review against Always Towing & Recovery

Attachments:

12-15-19, 3_20 PM Office Lens.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Flag Status: Follow up Flagged

Categories:

Red Category

Keren Becker License Specialist III City Clerk – License Division O: (414) 286-2238 F: (414) 286-3057 License@Milwaukee.gov

www.Milwaukee.gov/license

REDACTED RECORD



From:

Sent: Sunday, December 15, 2019 3:31 PM

To: License; Kovac, Nik

Cc: Susan Bach

Subject: Re: Your BBB review against Always Towing & Recovery

Dear Sirs,

Hope this email finds you well!

I'd like to write about my experience with Always Towing & Recovery. First of all, let me intrduce myself. My name is and I'm an international Phd student at Marquette University since Jan 2019. On Sun, Nov 24, I was invited by one of my friends who lives in Park East Enterprise Lofts (1407 N Doctor M. L.K. Jr Dr.) to celebrate the graduation of some friends. I had parked my car on a parking lot which located behind this building at 9:30 pm. I left the party earlier (at about 11:30 pm) because I had a final exam the next day, but unfortunately, I did not find my car. I thought at the beginning, my car was stolen but after I talked to my friend, he told me that your car might be towed. So, I went with my friend to the location of Always Towing & Recovery and it was closed. We waited there for about five minutes and then the truck that towed my car came. Unfortunately, my car was not on the flatbed of the truck, it was towed by a tow bar. I've talked to the guy who towed my car to released it and he said I can't, tomorrow morning you can release your car.

The next day, early morning at 9 am, I went to their office. They asked me to pay about \$348.48! When I checked the invoice, they add other charges, such as storage fee for 1 day (\$25), special equipment (\$125?!).

The invoice is attached.

So, this is my story. I don't what is the special equipment they used!!! and if they charge for the storage fee, they should open 24 hours. The best description for this company is "Money Hungry". I can't believe I paid \$348.48 because I parked my car for less than two hours!!! This is really preposterous.

Note:

- 1. When I was living in Colorado, I used to park on a parking lot of the friends' apartments, even though there is a sign that informs that is a property private parking. Because they accepted visitors' cars for some hours and your car may be towed if it is parked for a day or two, not only two hours.
- 2. I got the worst grade on that exam and I might get A- instead of A on that course.

Regards.

REDACTED RECORD

On Tue, Dec 3, 2019 at 12:16 PM Susan Bach < sbach@wisconsin.bbb.org> wrote:

Dorra,

Thank you so much for taking the time to file a review with our office against the above company.

Based on a <u>recent TV story</u>, we wanted to let you know that you can also write a letter detailing your experience to the following:

<u>license@milwaukee.gov</u> -- The licenses division staff email <u>nkovac@milwaukee.gov</u> -- Alderman Nik Kovac's email

In addition, you may also wish to file a complaint with the state's Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection: https://mydatcp.wi.gov/Complaints/complaint/create/da42c589-da19-e511-af89-0050568c06ae

Sincerely,

Susan Bach
Investigator
Better Business Bureau Serving Wisconsin
(414) 847-6023
bbb.org/wisconsin

Error! Filename not specified.

REDACTED RECORD



Always Towing & Recovery Inc

3700 W. Wells St. Milwaukee, WI 53208 Malling Address PO Box 69

Menomonee Falls, WI 53052

Date Towed Nov 24, 2019 @ 10:5	54PM		
Date In Nov 24, 2019 @ 11:3	32PM	• •	
Date Out Nov 25, 2019 @ 9:28	BAM	. ,	. 4. 4

30204	Nov 25, 2019
Locati	On: 1407 N. Martin Luther King Dr. (Park East ** Lotts)
Addre	1407 N Martin Luther King Dr Milwaukee, WI
	ard: 3700 W. Wolls St. Milwaukee, WI 53208
Reason for T	No Permit For Property
Vohl	CIO HYUNDAI ELANTRA SELVALUE/LIMITED
Co	ilor Silver
ARTHUR WAY	onr. 2018

Date Out Nov.25, 2019 @ 9:28AM	Released By MP
DATE ON HOUSE TO SEE THE SEE T	(1) 12 (1) 12 (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1)
Service Charge Description	Amount St. \$150,001
	\$150,000
Tow Fee	\$0.00
Storage Fee for 1 day(s)	\$30.00
Administrativo Fee	\$125.00
Municipal Recording Fee	1572 Public of the Company of the
Special Equipment	\$18.48
Adjustments	。 全國是 東京東京和東京和東京東京東京 (1975年)
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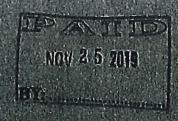
Nov 25, 2019

Releases Signature

Nov 25, 2019

Aways Towing & Recovery Inc. is releasing this vehicle to the person/company above. Always Towing & Recovery Inc. can no longer be held liable for this vehicle or any damage to property left in the vehicle or any damage to property left in a vehicle. Always Towing & Recovery inc is not responsible for any property left in the vehicle or any damage to growing & Recovery inc is releasing this vehicle in the same condition it was in before it was towed and cannot be held responsible for damage to a vehicle.

The tripholder above assumes all responsibility for this vehicle including, but not finited to, insurance ciains, police reports, vehicle payments to the



From:

Celella, Jessica

Sent:

Monday, January 6, 2020 8:57 AM

To:

Moon Siefert, Linda

Cc:

Martin, Faviola; Byrd, Yashica

Subject:

FW: Always Towing Illegal Tow on 12/23 (From Behind 2929 W Wisconsin)

Follow Up Flag:

Follow up

Flag Status:

Flagged

Categories:

Red Category

REDACTED RECORD

Please add as possible objection to always towing

Jessica Celella Deputy City Clerk 200 E Wells St Room 105, Milwaukee, WI 53202 (414) 286-2362/(414) 286-2365



From: Lemmer, Jodi

Sent: Monday, January 06, 2020 8:53 AM

To: Stephens, Adam

Cc: Bauman, Robert; District, Three; Norman, Jeffrey; Celella, Jessica; Byrd, Yashica **Subject:** Always Towing Illegal Tow on 12/23 (From Behind 2929 W Wisconsin)

Good Morning Adam,

Please see below report:

1.3.20;			Constituent:	illegally towed on 12/23 by Always
4:45PM				Towing; our building uses Action
	7.	· · · · · ·		towing but another tenant called them
				claiming she was the building owner
				ordering the tow; it was towed from
				behind my building; I had just paid for
				a permit but didn't have it on the
		12		vehicle yet; my management called
				Always Towing to let them know I had
(2)	5		*	authorization to park there but they
				still won't release my car; I paid my
				\$25 for the permit to park there; had
8				receipt but gave it back to my
				management; called MPD since
		1		Always Towing won't release the
12		`		vehicle

This looks like a legal issue to me but I wanted to double check. Do you recommend any further action I can take to assist this constituent?

Thanks for your time.

Best,

Jodú Lemmer

Legislative Assistant

Milwaukee Common Council

Alderman Robert Bauman | 4th District

200 East Wells Street – Room 205 | Milwaukee, WI 53202

(414) 286-2886 Office | (414) 286-3456 Fax

Jodi.lemmer@milwaukee.gov



Schafer, Nathan

From:

License

Sent:

Friday, January 24, 2020 3:40 PM

To:

Schafer, Nathan

Subject:

FW: Complain

REDACTED RECORD

Keren Becker
License Specialist III
City Clerk – License Division
O: (414) 286-2238
License@Milwaukee.gov
www.Milwaukee.gov/license



From: '

Sent: Friday, January 24, 2020 3:06 PM

To: License

Subject: Complain

Hi

My car has been towed in this morning. When I came to pick it up they charge me for a special equipment fee for 125 dollars! I do not think my car needs any specific equipment to tow. So I wish they can return this part of fee back to me. Could you guys report this and talk to them? Also, my name is Yuqin Weng. They typed it wrong! If you can contact them and help me out. I would appreciate you guys so much! Thank you!

Best Regards

se Invoice 301600 ABROS lan 24, 2020 Location; 2040 W! Wisconsin-The Marq Addition 2040 W. Wisconsin Ava Milwaukae, W. Tow Yard 3700 W. Wells St. Milwaukae, W. 53200 Reason for Tow -Timeil Parking Expired Always Towlng & Mailing Address DODGE CHARGER GT Recovery Inc 3700 W. Wells St. Milwaukee, WI 53208 Colon Gray Year 2019 Menomondo Falls, WI 53052 VIN License Plate Date In Jan 24/2020 @ 2:00AM Driver KG Trilck 43 Date Out | Jan 24, 2020 @ 11:28AM Released By MP Tow.Feet. \$150.00 Storage Fee for 1 day(s) \$25.00 \$0,00 Administrativa Fee; Municipal Recording Fee \$30,00 \$125,00 Special Equipment \$18,48 \$348.48 Abjount Pald Mostercard: \$348,48 50.00 Released To Payor License Releasee Phone If the undersigned, do hereby carlify that I am legally authorized to take possession of the vehicle referenced above.

Releasee Signature

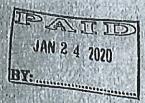
Jan 24, 2020 Date

Payer Signature

Jan 24, 2020

ys. Towing & Recovery Inc. is releasing this vehicle to the person/company above. Aways Towing & Recovery Inc. can no longer be hold Rebis for vehicle. Always Towing & Recovery Inc is not responsible for any property left in the vehicle or any damage to property left in a vehicle. Always ing & Recovery Inc is releasing this vehicle in the semic condition it was in hefere (twas towed and cannot be held responsible for damage to a

washedder above assumes all responsibility for this vehicle including, but not limited to, insurance claims, police reports, vehicle payments to the



From:

Martin, Faviola

Sent:

Friday, January 31, 2020 11:16 AM

To:

Moon Siefert, Linda

Subject:

FW: Illegally Towed

Follow Up Flag: Flag Status:

Follow up Flagged

Categories:

Red Category

Please handle

Faviola Martin License Specialist III City Clerk - License Division 200 E. Wells St. Rm. 105 Milwaukee, WI 53202 Office: 414-286-2238 REDACTED RECORD

----Original Message-----

From: License

Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 9:48 AM

To: Martin, Faviola

Subject: FW: Illegally Towed

Keren Becker
License Specialist III
City Clerk – License Division
O: (414) 286-2238
License@Milwaukee.gov
www.Milwaukee.gov/license

----Original Message----

From: !

Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 9:20 AM

To: License

Subject: Illegally Towed

Hello my name is and I was referred/informed by Brian Polcyn(Fox 6 news) to file complaints against Always Towing & Recovery for illegally towing my vehicle from a private lot. On 12/23/19 approximately 755am as I was attempting to take my son to daycare, I noticed my vehicle was gone. Upon calling around Milwaukee county, I

discovered Always Towing & Recovery had my car. When I called and asked why they have it and how can I retrieve it?, I was told I'd have to pay \$348.48! I asked how is it that much when you haven't even had my vehicle for 12 hrs at least and they couldn't provide a legitimate reason. At first I was going to ask has anyone else had any bad experiences/encounters with Always Towing, but then I researched and seen they have no good reviews, they're notorious for illegally/unlawfully towing cars and are currently being investigated by the City of Milwaukee.

https://fox6now.com/2019/09/12/aldermen-call-for-itemized-receipts-from-towing-companies-after-fox6-investigation/

https://fox6now.com/2019/09/08/vehicle-owners-fight-back-over-tow-companys-special-fee/

https://fox6now.com/2019/07/24/we-got-taken-special-fee-has-towed-drivers-angry-and-city-exploring-action/

https://fox6now.com/2015/07/26/theyre-like-bandits-towing-company-takes-cars-in-the-middle-of-the-night-shocks-tenants-with-new-maximum-fees/

Long story short I reside at an apartment building where tenants only, can park in the back parking lot. There aren't any signs designating which tenants can park there, nor are there any ASSIGNED parking spots nor any lines at all to decipher any spots/parking spaces. However, another TENANT called and had my vehicle towed under false pretenses. Always Towing alleges a woman named Elizabeth Posey/Posie, claimed she was the apartment building owner and I had allegedly parked in her spot. Without any proper identification/verification she's actually an owner/manager/authorized representative, Always Towing towed my car (which is illegal according to Wisconsin SS 349.13(3m). Once I was informed (by Always Towing) that a woman named Elizabeth Posey/Posie was the caller/owner I was instructed to get ahold of her. When I informed Always Towing that I've never heard of a woman with that name, and that's impossible and continued to inform Always Towing of the actual owners/building managers/landlords names as well as presented my lease(with the exact address of the location where my vehicle was illegally towed as well as landlord/managers information) to confirm that whoever Elizabeth is, is not an owner/manager or authorized representative to do anything to a tenant and/or their property, I was then told if I had the real owner/manager call he would release my car. After about 10-15 mins of frustratingly attempted calls to my landlord/building managers I couldn't get ahold of them. I informed Always Towing they weren't answering and I'd have the actual managers/landlord give them a call from the number(s) listed on my lease. After walking 9 blocks back to the establishment I had the landlord/building managers call them as I recorded the conversation. At first he(Always Towing) tried telling them that the owner came down personally and said my vehicle was in her spot then when the managers informed Always Towing the actual owner doesn't actually live on the premises and who authorized that, Always Towing rebutted with Elizabeth Posey said she was a manager of the property and once again the legitimate managers corrected him(Always Towing) stating that she (Elizabeth Posey/Posie) isn't in any form an owner, building manager and/or authorized representative of their facility/property. After about 30 secs he comes back on the line and says she (Elizabeth) stated that she is an authorized representative so the contract they have is legally binding. Once again the actual landlord/building managers informed him who they were, who the actual owner is and that she (Elizabeth) is just a regular tenant as much as I am and has no such power and furthermore Always Towing should have verified Elizabeth was actually an owner/manager and/or authorized representative before they illegally towed my car off a private lot that they're paying a company named Action Towing to handle. Always Towing insists this lady (Elizabeth) has authority to do so, even though the legal managers/landlord informed him she (Elizabeth) is just a regular tenant as I am and they exclusively pay/work with Action Towing as well as have signs in the back of the premises clearly reading "Action Towing" all over them visibly clear to any and everyone. After having the real landlord/managers call and speak with them(like Always Towing instructed me to do) Always Towing still refuses to release my car even though they came to a private lot where I reside and have authorization from the landlord/building managers to park, on top of a woman posing as an owner, when she isn't in the first place. I lost my job yesterday behind not having a vehicle and I shouldn't have to pay \$348.48 for someone calling Always Towing under false pretenses. I'm not a random person I actually reside here, I have my lease confirming that, as well as valid license and registration. Always Towing is totally in the wrong and will not rectify their mistakes.



Thursday, June 11, 2020



Notice of Public Hearing

blank			
notice			

PEHOWSKI, Jason W, Agent ALWAYS TOWING & RECOVERY at 1511 N 31ST St Recycling, Salvaging, or Towing Premises License Renewal Application

Tuesday, June 23, 2020 at 2:30 PM

To whom it may concern:

The above application has been made by the above named applicant(s). This requires approval from the Licenses Committee and the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee. The hearing before the Licenses Committee will take place virtually on 6/23/2020 at 2:30 PM. This is a public hearing. Those wishing to view the proceeding are able to do so via the City Channel – Channel 25 on Spectrum Cable – or on the Internet at http://city.milwaukee.gov/citychannel. Those wishing to provide oral testimony will be asked to do so by phone or internet and are asked to contact the staff assistant, Molly Kuether-Steele at (414) 286-2775 or molly.kuether-steele@milwaukee.gov for necessary information. Please make such requests no later than one business day prior to the start of the meeting. You are not required to attend the hearing, but please see the information below if you would like to provide testimony. Once the Licenses Committee makes its recommendation, this recommendation is forwarded to the full Common Council for approval at its next regularly scheduled hearing.

Important details for those wishing to provide information for the Licenses Committee to consider when making its recommendation:

- 1. The license application is scheduled to be heard at the above time. Due to other hearings running longer than scheduled, you may have to wait some time to provide your testimony.
- 2. You must testify as to matters that you have personally experienced or seen. (You cannot provide testimony for your neighbor, parent or anyone else; this is considered hearsay and cannot be considered by the committee.)
- 3. No letters or petitions can be accepted by the committee (unless the person who wrote the letter or the persons who signed the petition are willing to testify).
- 4. Persons opposed to the license application are given the opportunity to testify first; supporters may testify after the opponents have finished.
- 5. When you are called to testify, you will be sworn in and asked to give your name, and address. (If your first and/or last names are uncommon please spell them.)

- 6. You may then provide testimony.
- a. Include only information relating to the above license application.
- b. Include only information you have personally witnessed or seen.
- c. Provide concise and relevant information detailing how this business has affected or may affect the peaceful enjoyment of your neighborhood.
- d. If by the time you have the opportunity to testify, the information you wish to share has already been provided to the committee, you may state that you agree with the previous testimony. Redundant or repetitive testimony will not assist the committee in making its recommendation.
- 7. After giving your testimony, the members of the Licenses Committee and the licensee may ask questions regarding the testimony you have given or other factors relating to the license application.
- 8. Business Competition is not a valid basis for denial or non-renewal of a license.

Please Note: If you have submitted an objection to the above application your objection cannot be considered by the committee unless you personally testify at the hearing.

OCCUPANT	MAIL ADDRESS	CITY, STATE ZIP
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3022 W CHERRY ST	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	1523 N 30TH ST	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	1527 N 30TH ST	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3015A W CHERRY ST	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3015 W CHERRY ST	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	1521 N 30TH ST	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	1523A N 30TH ST	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3022A W CHERRY ST	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3014 W CHERRY ST	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3012 W CHERRY ST	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3025 W CHERRY ST	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3023 W CHERRY ST	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
blank	notice	
Vignale, Giovanni	1314 White Oak LA #304	Columbia WI 65203
Pfister, Kyle	9319 W Ryan CT	Milwaukee WI 53224
Luckett, Andriah	4151 N 56TH ST	Milwaukee WI 53216
Schmitting, Karen	3460 N Murray AV	Milwaukee WI 53211
Ryan, Kevin	3460 N Murray AV	Milwaukee WI 53211
Walker, Marquise	2929 W WISCONSIN AV	Milwaukee WI 53208
Jones, Esther	8827F N 95TH ST	Milwaukee WI 53224

Total Records: 12

Radius: 250.0 feet and Center of Circle: 1511 N 31st St





RECYCLING, SALVAGING OR TOWING PREMISES LICENSE SUPPLEMENTAL RENEWAL APPLICATION

Office of the City Clerk License Division 200 E. Wells St. Room 105, Milwaukee, WI 53202 (414) 286-2238 e-mail address: <u>license@milwaukee.gov</u>

Legal Entity Name:	ALWAYS TOWING & RECOVERY, INC
Business Address: 1	1511 N 31ST ST
1. Current Approved	Activities
Your current approved activit	ties: NON-CONSENSUAL TOWING, JUNK/ VALUABLE METAL, WASTE TIRES, SALVAGE VEHICLE PARTS
2. Adding Activities?	
Do you wish to add any activi	
If Yes, check ONLY those you	wish to ADD:
Non-Consensual Towing:	Provide the address within the City of Milwaukee where vehicles will be towed:
Junk/Valuable Metal:	☐ Dealing, Storing and/or Transporting ☐ Removing and/or Recycling
Waste Tires:	☐ Dealing, Storing and/or Transporting ☐ Removing and/or Recycling
Salvaged Motor Vehicle Parts (including secondhand tires/l	
No activity changes can take	place until approved by Common Council and a new license has been issued and posted on the premises.
3. Removing Activition	A STATE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE
Do you wish to remove any b	usiness activities? No
If Yes, list activities you wish	to remove:
4. Business Operatio	ns
Are you adding any motor ve	hicles to the business operations? XNo 🗌 Yes
If Yes, list how many?	and provide vehicle information on page 2.
Are there any changes to the	current hours of operation (as shown on your license)? No Yes
	must follow all recordkeeping, reporting and operating regulations in MCO 93-43-49? Yes No Yes No
5. Additional Storage Ya	ards RSTP-1/226
If Yes, list the address of any	e yards, are there any changes? No Yes new yard or cross out any yard no longer in operation. Currently licensed yards are listed below.
3700 W. Well	o Street
ddd Alleshad'r 1980 fe'i mae'i ddidd ddior ddiddd ddiodi, Alfannos Peres, yd ddigaeth gwyr gwyr gyr ym y men m	
and a short the control of the contr	
6. Signature	
	les fueresur
Signaturg	of Sole Proprietor; a Partner; or if a Corporation or LLC, the Agent must sign
	ALSO COMPLETE REVERSE SIDE



CITY OF MILWAUKEE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

Thursday, June 11, 2020

COMMITTEE MEETING NOTICE

AD 15

PEHOWSKI, Jason W, Agent Always Towing & Recovery, Inc PO Box 69

Menomonee Falls, WI 53052

You are requested to attend a virtual hearing to be held on:

Tuesday, June 23, 2020 at 02:30 PM

Regarding:

Your Recycling, Salvaging or Towing Premise-Additi Yard License Renewal Application as agent for "Always Towing & Recovery, Inc" for "Always Towing & Recovery" at 3700 W Wells St.

This meeting will be held via GoToMeeting. Please see the enclosed best practices document for further instructions. The access code is https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/828960621. If you wish to call in, please call https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/828960621. If you wish to call in, please call https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/828960621. If you wish to call in, please call https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/828960621. If you wish to call in, please call https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/828960621.

There is a possibility that your application may be denied for one or more of the following reasons: The recommendation of the committee regarding the application shall be based on evidence presented at the hearing. Per MCO 85-4-4, unless otherwise specified in the code, probative evidence concerning non-renewal, suspension or revocation may include evidence of the following: failure of the applicant to meet municipal qualifications, pending charges against or the conviction of any felony, misdemeanor, municipal offense or other offense, the circumstances of which substantially relate to the circumstances of the particular licensed or permitted activity, by the applicant or by any employee or other agent of the applicant. If the activities of the applicant involve a licensed premises, whether the premises tends to facilitate a public or private nuisance or has been the source of congregations of persons which have resulted in any of the following: disturbance of the peace; illegal drug activity; public drunkenness; drinking in public; harassment of passers-by; gambling; prostitution; sale of stolen goods; public urination; theft; assaults; battery; acts of vandalism including graffiti, excessive littering, loitering, illegal parking, loud noise at times when the licensed premise is open for business; traffic violations; curfew violations; lewd conduct; display of materials harmful to minors, pursuant to s. 106-9.6; or any other factor which reasonably relates to the public health, safety and welfare, or failure to comply with the approved plan of operation. See attached police report or correspondence.

Notice for applicants with warrants or unpaid fines:

Proof of warrant satisfaction or payment of fines must be submitted at the hearing on the above date and time. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in a delay of the granting/denial of your application.

Failure to attend this meeting may result in the denial of your license. Individual applicants and partnership applicants must attend or attend by an attorney. The agent or attorney for corporate or limited liability applicants must attend. If you wish to do so and at your own expense, you may be accompanied by an attorney of your choosing to represent you at this hearing.

You will be given an opportunity to speak on behalf of the application and to respond and challenge any charges or reasons given for the denial. No petitions can be accepted by the committee, unless the people who signed the petition attend the virtual hearing and are willing to testify. You may present witnesses under oath and you may also confront and cross-examine opposing witnesses under oath. If you have difficulty with the English language, you should request an interpreter attend the meeting with you, at your expense, so that you can answer questions and participate in your hearing.

PLEASE NOTE: Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through sign language interpreters or other auxiliary aids. For additional information or to request this service, contact the Council Services Division ADA Coordinator at (414) 286-2998, Fax - (414) 286-3456, TDD - (414) 286-2025.

JIM OWCZARSKI, CITY CLERK

BA:

Jessica Celella

License Division Manager

If you have questions regarding this meeting, please contact the staff assistant, Molly Kuether-Steele at (414) 286-2775 or molly.kuether-steele@milwaukee.gov.

200 E. Wells Street, Room 105, City Hall, Milwaukee, WI 53202. www.milwaukee.gov/license Phone: (414) 286-2238 Fax: (414) 286-3057 Email Address: License@milwaukee.gov

From:

License

Sent:

Wednesday, December 26, 2018 12:21 PM

To:

Moon Siefert, Linda

Subject:

FW: License complaint for Always Towing & Recovery, Inc.

Jim Cooney License Specialist III City of Milwaukee License Division 200 E Wells St #105 Milwaukee, WI 53202 414-286-2238





From:

Sent: Wednesday, December 26, 2018 11:34 AM

To: License

Subject: License complaint for Always Towing & Recovery, Inc.

Hello,

Always Towing & Recovery, Inc. is apparently towing cars from lots owned by Ogden Property Management. I was not aware the lot I parked in was private, or that I would be at risk of being towed. We left our car parked next to Halliday's Lounge at 1729 N Farwell Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53202 around 11pm on Saturday 12/22. I have several complaints, but specifically the 'Special Equipment Fee' they are charging all vehicles they are towing. I own a 2014 BMW i3 and has a gross weight under 3,000lbs. The lot my car was towed from only had one other car in it at the time I was towed. Though that seemed odd at the time, it also should have presented little issue for them to tow my car.

- This company is charging exorbitant fees in excess of the normal fees authorized by the city. The total charge was \$348.48 and I retrieved my vehicle as soon as they made it available to me on Sunday 12/23.
- I told the Company directly that I did not think the additional fee was warranted according to the city ordinance, and asked for a refund of that specific fee. I advised them that I would be in contact with the City of Milwaukee License Committee.
- I think that visitors to the area are being preyed on and it is terrible for local business. It is not good for the City of Milwaukee or residents. There are plenty of issues with parking and people violating the laws, but this Company is using unethical practices. I should also note that IF Ogden Property Management was concerned about cars being parked in their lots unauthorized, they would make that clearly posted at the entrance/exit of the lot OR block off their lot 'after hours' (I also was not aware FedEx was closed since all of their lights were on and it was before Midnight).

Thank you,

Schafer, Nathan

From:

License

Sent:

Wednesday, September 4, 2019 2:15 PM

To:

Schafer, Nathan

Subject:

FW: Complaint Against Always Towing & Recovery Inc

Keren Becker
License Specialist III
City Clerk – License Division
O: (414) 286-2238
F: (414) 286-3057
License@Milwaukee.gov
www.Milwaukee.gov/license





From:

Sent: Wednesday, September 4, 2019 1:25 PM

To: License

Subject: Complaint Against Always Towing & Recovery Inc

Hello, Per Yadira's instructions I am formally filing a complaint/objection against Always Towing & Recovery Inc. Additionally I would like to suggest Always Towing have their license/certification w the City of Milwaukee revoked. Below is the reason for my complaint/objection.

On 6/27/19 our 2009 Toyota Corolla was towed from Walgreens on Brady st. (1400 E Brady). We were charged a special equipment fee of \$125. On 6/28/19 we were told when we picked up our car and paid \$348.48 that they used the special equipment to protect our car from damage since they did not have our car keys. This turned out to be false. Fox 6 news did an investigation on towing companies and actually filmed our car being towed which showed NO special equipment being used. We were also interviewed by Fox6 news for this investigation (link below to fox6 news investigation piece)

https://fox6now.com/2019/07/24/we-got-taken-special-fee-has-towed-drivers-angry-and-city-exploring-action/

We contacted Always Towing via email (per their request) on August 7 asking to be reimbursed the special equipment fee of \$125 plus compensation for potential damage caused to our car because special equipment was NOT used. We rec'd an email back from Mike Tarantino of Always Towing on August 7 w the following response...

Dear __

Please be advised, we have reviewed the entire process of your vehicle or being towed, prompted by the FOX6 report. The report shows one portion of the process [loading], it does not show the vehicle being unloaded. The story aired for the public didn't mention or show the "unloading", perhaps intentionally or possibly just "overlooked" by an investigative report.

1

Based upon the review, a request for reimbursement is not warranted, and therefore the request is declined.

Respectfully,

Mike Tarantino
General Manager
Always Towing & Recovery, Inc.
3700 W. Wells St.
Milwaukee, WI 53208



Upon receiving the above email we responded back to Mike Tarantino on August 9 w the below email... And have NOT heard back from Mike Tarantino or Always Towing since.

Dear Mike,

Your response and decision came as a total surprise. We are trying to understand the use of special equipment to unload but NOT for loading. Could we please meet in person or speak by phone for further clarification beyond your initial email.

To resolve our complaint we would like at a minimum the \$125 special equipment fee. Plus we would like Always Towing's license/certification renewal revoked. Please assist us w this situation. If it means attending the next License Committee meeting we will be happy to attend and testify. Just give us the date/time and location.

Respectfully

Sent from my iPhone

HIM Name 15

WIY Car got fow, of 12/22/18

Be HIMO my expaisor by Almaxtowing

3700 west well concludites my Adress, s

I do

Have a Permit Red giving by Land Lord

Disabiled Sticks

Still gut towins

Fixin come

REDACTED RECORD

Martin, Faviola

From:

Celella, Jessica

Sent:

Thursday, May 30, 2019 7:52 AM

To:

Martin, Faviola Byrd, Yashica

Cc: Subject:

FW: Predatory Towing Policy Change?

Attachments:

IMG_2288.jpeg; IMG_2298.jpeg; IMG_2343.jpeg

Follow Up Flag:

Follow up

Flag Status:

Flagged

Please add

Jessica Celella License Division Manager 200 E Wells St Room 105, Milwaukee, WI 53202 (414) 286-2365





From: Johnson, Cavalier

Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2019 6:23 AM

To:

Cc: Gradus, Michael < Michael. Gradus@milwaukee.gov>; Celella, Jessica < Jessica. Celella@milwaukee.gov>

Subject: Re: Predatory Towing Policy Change?

Hi and I'm sorry to hear about this experience. If you indeed parked in an area that wasn't marked as 1 hour parking but were towed anyway, then I will lodge your complaint with the Licenses Division. When the license for this company is up for review, you will be notified and able to testify to your experience.

Unfortunately, the rates for towing charges are set by the State not the City so we're unable to change those.

I know that you took photos but would suggest that you take photos of the spot that you parked in along with the sign posted that you believe regulated that spot. Perhaps it might even be useful to have a snapshot of the strip mall, identify the 1 hour parking and the other parking, and then the identify the stall that you parked in.

What I'm saying is to make sure that you have your case prepared and ducks in a row if you feel that you are compelled to testify.

Thanks,

Chevy

Cavalier Johnson

Alderman, 2nd District | City of Milwaukee

(o) 414-286-3777 (e) cavalier.johnson2@milwaukee.gov City Hall 200 E. Wells Street room 205 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:



From: '

To: "Gradus, Michael" < Michael. Gradus@milwaukee.gov >, "Johnson, Cavalier"

<Cavalier.Johnson2@milwaukee.gov>

Subject: Predatory Towing Policy Change?

Hey Chevy and Michael - I'm writing because I got caught up in the Always Towing predatory towing scheme (I'm sure you've aware) over the Memorial Day weekend.

Our car got towed while my sister and I were couponing on Sunday evening at Walgreens and CVS on Brady St and held for a \$370 ransom by Always Towing from Sunday night until Tuesday.

By doing some Googling it seems we're part of a larger problem caused by a 2015(ish) policy change that allows private lots to contract with towing companies for free so that they can charge \$400 for towing your car (it used to be \$150), which incentivizes them to engage in predatory towing.

https://fox6now.com/2015/07/26/theyre-like-bandits-towing-company-takes-cars-in-the-middle-of-the-night-shocks-tenants-with-new-maximum-fees

In our case, we drove downtown on Sunday night to coupon at Walgreens and CVS on Brady street (coupons expire at midnight). We got there just before 10pm because our Northside CVS (Capitol/Appleton/76th) closes at 9pm. We shopped until 11:40 and when we came outside our car was gone. We thought it was stolen and called the police. It was only when we found another couple searching for their car that we realized it was towed away. The police told us there was nothing they could do. The police, Walgreens employees, and CVS manager were all sympathetic and it sounds like this happens often. The number we found to the towing company was not answered and the company was closed during the holiday. Police confirmed Always Towing had it and it wasn't stolen. So we Ubered home to Northwest side and were careless Memorial Day.

I'm sure you're aware of the corner lot, it's labeled clearly as "customer parking" and there are no 1hr parking signs at the entrances or the middle spots where we were parked. In hindsight, there are a few 1hr signs along the Walgreens building next to individual spaces, which was used as the reason for our towing while we were shopping.

We paid \$370 cash to get our car back this morning, and the whole thing feels like a shakedown. They even charged us an extra \$50 for "towing" our car back out of the lot, which was just the guy driving it out.

I'm writing not only about us being treated unfairly, but that this is another example of a predatory practice and a poverty fee in Milwaukee. And one that's seemingly legal within our current laws. Lots must be labeled, consequences must be lowered, towing companies must be

open to return your car if they take it, and predatory practices like deliberately preying on 1hr shoppers customers like us must be stopped. An appropriate consequence for parking over 1hr parking is a \$25 ticket not \$370 and losing use of your car for 2 days. That's ridiculous.

Have you taken action on this before at the city level? Are you able to help us get in touch with the owner of the lot, help us lodge some kind of complaint against Always Towing for our \$370, and/or pass this on to state policymakers/DOT as rationale for revisiting this state policy? Or are there other actions we should take?

We're happy to share our story and testify wherever you need us I order to draw attention to and change this policy for all.

Appreciate your support,

PEDACTED MECOPD

Martin, Faviola

From:

Celella, Jessica

Sent:

Tuesday, July 16, 2019 6:34 PM

To:

Martin, Faviola Byrd, Yashica

Cc: Subject:

FW: Predatory Towing Policy Change?

Follow Up Flag:

Follow up

Flag Status:

Flagged

Please add

REDACTED RECORD

From:

Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2019 4:56 PM

To: Johnson, Cavalier

Cc: Celella, Jessica; Byrd, Yashica; Miller, Todd **Subject:** Re: Predatory Towing Policy Change?

Thank you Chevy!

On Tue, Jul 16, 2019 at 4:47 PM Johnson, Cavalier < Cavalier Johnson2@milwaukee.gov > wrote:

Our conversation thread is contained in the email chain. I'll just copy the License Division Manager and request that she add your objections so that you are notified when the hearing of Always Towing is held.

Please also respond with you address for mailing purposes.

Thanks,

Cavalier Johnson

Alderman, 2nd District | City of Milwaukee

(o) 414-286-3777 (e) cavalier.johnson2@milwaukee.gov

City Hall 200 E. Wells Street room 205

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 16, 2019, at 2:53 PM,

I haven't lodged the formal complaint, would you know how I do that? I understand my friend was successful today at blocking the renewal of Jay's Towing, so I'm feeling more optimistic! K.

On Tue, Jul 16, 2019 at 2:42 PM Johnson, Cavalier < <u>Cavalier.Johnson2@milwaukee.gov</u>> wrote:

Kyle -

It hasn't come up yet to my knowledge. I don't know if I asked if you had lodged your complaint with the Licenses Division. Did you?

If you do, you'll be notified when the hearing comes up.

Thanks,

Cavalier Johnson

Alderman, 2nd District | City of Milwaukee

(o) 414-286-3777 (e) cavalier.johnson2@milwaukee.gov

City Hall 200 E. Wells Street room 205

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202.

REDACTED RECORD

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 16, 2019, at 2:05 PM,

Hi Chevy - Do you know when this opportunity to testify against license renewal will be?

On Tue, Jun 4, 2019 at 7:13 AM Johnson, Cavalier < Cavalier. Johnson 2@milwaukee.gov > wrote:

Sure thing. License renewal is granted by the Common Council. I believe the body can only consider complaints that have occurred during the current license period. So if someone felt like they were wronged five years ago, that is of course outside of the licensing period of the last year.

If there is indeed grey area provided by state law, that would be considered as well and the city has a policy of progressive discipline so we don't strip licenses away on the first incident unless there was egregious malfeasance for example.

Thanks,

Cavalier Johnson

Alderman, 2nd District | City of Milwaukee

(o) 414-286-3777 (e) cavalier.johnson2@milwaukee.gov

City Hall 200 E. Wells Street room 205

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 3, 2019, at 6:52 PM,

Thanks for this thoughtful answer Chevy. I've gotten in touch with state lawmakers about testifying for changing the state policy loophole that allows the \$400 predatory towing charge. I have photos of the entrance and the spot where we parked, but I

can go back and take a phone of the 1hr signs on the spots along the wall. Should we be organizing others to testify against his license or is it not likely to make the difference? Who decides on license renewal?

Thanks!

REDACTED RECORD

On Fri, May 31, 2019 at 4:20 PM Johnson, Cavalier < Cavalier. Johnson 2@milwaukee.gov > wrote:

Sorry about the late reply. I thought that I had sent it days ago but it instead saved to my drafts.

Thanks,
Cavalier Johnson
Alderman, 2nd District | City of Milwaukee
(o) 414-286-3777 (e) cavalier.johnson2@milwaukee.gov
City Hall 200 E. Wells Street room 205
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Sent from my iPhone

On May 28, 2019, at 3:17 PM,

Hey Chevy and Michael - I'm writing because I got caught up in the Always Towing predatory towing scheme (I'm sure you've aware) over the Memorial Day weekend.

Our car got towed while my sister and I were couponing on Sunday evening at Walgreens and CVS on Brady St and held for a \$370 ransom by Always Towing from Sunday night until Tuesday.

By doing some Googling it seems we're part of a larger problem caused by a 2015(ish) policy change that allows private lots to contract with towing companies for free so that they can charge \$400 for towing your car (it used to be \$150), which incentivizes them to engage in predatory towing.

https://fox6now.com/2015/07/26/theyre-like-bandits-towing-company-takes-cars-in-the-middle-of-the-night-shocks-tenants-with-new-maximum-fees

In our case, we drove downtown on Sunday night to coupon at Walgreens and CVS on Brady street (coupons expire at midnight). We got there just before 10pm because our Northside CVS (Capitol/Appleton/76th) closes at 9pm. We shopped until 11:40 and when we came outside our car was gone. We thought it was stolen and called the police. It was only when we found another couple searching for their car that we realized it was towed away. The police told us there was nothing they could do. The police, Walgreens employees, and CVS manager were all sympathetic and it sounds like this happens often. The number we found to the towing company was not answered and the company was closed during the holiday. Police confirmed Always Towing had it and it wasn't stolen. So we Ubered home to Northwest side and were careless Memorial Day.

I'm sure you're aware of the corner lot, it's labeled clearly as "customer parking" and there are no 1hr parking signs at the entrances or the middle spots where we were parked. In hindsight, there are a few 1hr signs along the Walgreens building next to individual spaces, which was used as the reason for our towing while we were shopping.

We paid \$370 cash to get our car back this morning, and the whole thing feels like a shakedown. They even charged us an extra \$50 for "towing" our car back out of the lot, which was just the guy driving it out.

I'm writing not only about us being treated unfairly, but that this is another example of a predatory practice and a poverty fee in Milwaukee. And one that's seemingly legal within our current laws. Lots must be labeled, consequences must be lowered, towing companies must be open to return your car if they take it, and predatory practices like deliberately preying on 1hr shoppers customers like us must be stopped. An appropriate consequence for parking over 1hr parking is a \$25 ticket not \$370 and losing use of your car for 2 days. That's ridiculous.

Have you taken action on this before at the city level? Are you able to help us get in touch with

the owner of the lot, help us lodge some kind of complaint against Always Towing for our \$370, and/or pass this on to state policymakers/DOT as rationale for revisiting this state policy? Or are there other actions we should take?

We're happy to share our story and testify wherever you need us I order to draw attention to and change this policy for all.

Appreciate your support,

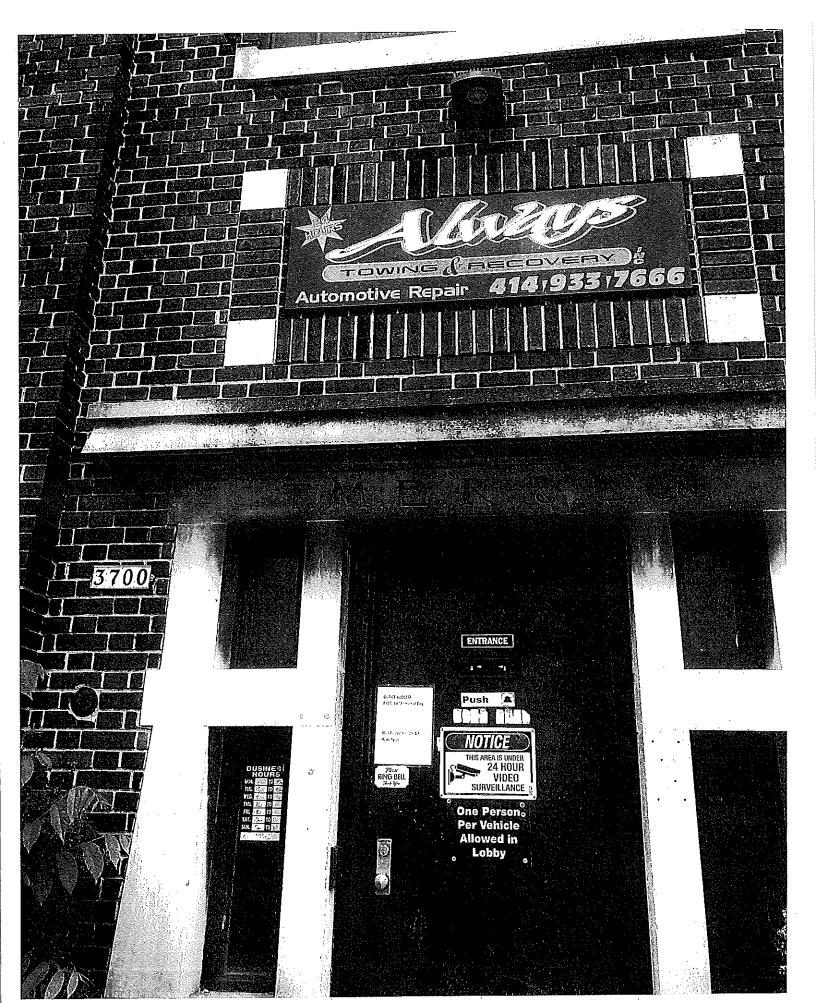
<IMG_2288.jpeg>

<IMG_2298.jpeg>

<IMG_2343.jpeg>

The City of Milwaukee is subject to Wisconsin Statutes related to public records. Unless otherwise exempted from the public records law, senders and receivers of City of Milwaukee e-mail should presume that e-mail is subject to release upon request, and is subject to state records retention requirements. See City of Milwaukee full e-mail disclaimer at www.milwaukee.gov/email disclaimer





From:

License

Sent:

Monday, June 11, 2018 9:48 AM

To:

Moon Siefert, Linda

Wagner, Janice

Cc: Subject:

FW: City of Milwaukee License Division

Follow Up Flag:

Follow up

Flag Status:

Flagged

Categories:

Red Category

Please add

REDACTED RECORD

Keren Becker
License Specialist III
City Clerk – License Division
O: (414) 286-2238
F: (414) 286-3057
License@Milwaukee.gov
www.Milwaukee.gov/license



From:

Sent: Monday, June 11, 2018 9:40 AM

To: License

Subject: City of Milwaukee License Division

Hello my name is have a problem with Always towing I was visiting my family on single circle on east capitol dr.i was given permission from my family member to park there I was park for about 15 minutes came outside to leave the tow truck driver told me I would have to pay \$400.00 for him to drop my car I was told with the new city ordinance I could pay \$50.00 fee if the tow truck driver had not hookup truck but the tow truck driver told.me once he take a picture of the truck he have to take it.

I can be reach at

Thanks

From:

License

Sent:

Monday, July 29, 2019 3:55 PM

To:

Moon Siefert, Linda 🗾

Cc:

Martin, Faviola

Subject:

FW: Always towing over charge

Follow Up Flag: Flag Status:

Follow up Flagged

Categories:

Red Category

Keren Becker
License Specialist III
City Clerk – License Division
O: (414) 286-2238
F: (414) 286-3057
License@Milwaukee.gov
www.Milwaukee.gov/license



From:

Sent: Monday, July 29, 2019 3:10 PM

To: License

Subject: Re: Always towing over charge

On Fri, Jul 26, 2019 at 11:58 AM J

Hello, my name is My vehicle was recently towed by Always towing and they had charged me \$348.48 for them just towing it the same day. I felt off about the whole price because at first over the phone they disclosed it would be \$125. Then they tried to say they used special equipment. When I asked for proof they wanted me to leave. How do I go about filing a settlement for this? Is there a class action suit being filed against this company? How do I go about a Reimbursement

for this fraudulent charge? I took a picture of the prices the day of because the prices didn't feel right. I also was looking into the laws in front of the man at the desk. Please contact me via email or

my name is

thank you have a nice day.

REDACTED RECORD

From:

License

Sent:

Thursday, July 25, 2019 7:46 AM

To:

Moon Siefert, Linda

Cc:

Martin, Faviola

Subject:

FW: Always towing

Follow Up Flag: Flag Status:

Follow up Flagged

Categories:

Red Category

Please add to file for always

Keren Becker
License Specialist III
City Clerk – License Division

O: (414) 286-2238 F: (414) 286-3057

<u>License@Milwaukee.gov</u> www.Milwaukee.gov/license ----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2019 12:13 AM

To: License

Subject: Always towing

I just recently saw that always towing was under investigation.... I was towed by always towing last year and was charged a ridiculous amount of money for both cars to get out of tow \$750 one of which the car belonged to the property and when I asked why it cost so much they stated for use of special equipment....

Sent from my iPhone

From:

License

Sent:

Tuesday, July 30, 2019 3:30 PM

To:

Moon Siefert, Linda

Cc:

Martin, Faviola

Subject:

FW: Always Towing Complaint

Follow Up Flag: Flag Status:

Follow up Flagged

Categories:

Red Category

Keren Becker
License Specialist III
City Clerk – License Division
O: (414) 286-2238
F: (414) 286-3057
License@Milwaukee.gov
www.Milwaukee.gov/license



HILLWAUKEE

From:

Sent: Tuesday, July 30, 2019 2:54 PM

To: License

Subject: Always Towing Complaint

Good Afternoon,

Last evening my car was towed by this company off of private property which is where I happen to live. Even though I explained to them that I live there and I brought my rental lease and everything to prove it I was still charged \$348 to retrieve my vehicle. My car had a visible parking permit on the windshield and a handicap identifier. I was told that we can park anywhere in back of my townhome as long as my permit is on my vehicle.

From:

License

Sent:

Thursday, September 26, 2019 9:38 AM

To: Cc: Moon Siefert, Linda Martin, Faviola

Subject:

FW: Always Towing & Recovery inc special equipment fee.

Follow Up Flag: Flag Status:

Follow up Flagged

Categories:

Red Category

Keren Becker License Specialist III City Clerk — License Division

O: (414) 286-2238 F: (414) 286-3057

<u>License@Milwaukee.gov</u> www.Milwaukee.gov/license REDACTED RECORD

----Original Message---

From

Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2019 9:20 PM

To: License

Subject: Always Towing & Recovery inc special equipment fee.

I was wondering who I can contact about Always Towing & recovery inc. on August 21 they towed my car from 1709 N Farwell ave. My bill was \$348.48. And I got charged \$125 special equipment fee. I saw the story about it on fox6. And was wondering if I should file a claim about it with you. Thank you in advance for your help.

Sent from my iPhone

From:

License

Sent:

Thursday, September 26, 2019 3:58 PM

To:

Moon Siefert, Linda

Cc:

Martin, Faviola

Subject:

FW: Car towed

Follow Up Flag: Flag Status: Follow up Flagged

Categories:

Red Category



Keren Becker
License Specialist III
City Clerk — License Division
O: (414) 286-2238
F: (414) 286-3057
License@Milwaukee.gov
www.Milwaukee.gov/license

----Original Message----

From:

Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2019 2:51 PM

To: License

Subject: Car towed

Hello,

My car was recently towed out of the apartment complex i love in in Greenfield WI. I pay for my parking permit every month but the company "always towing" claimed my parking pass was not visible. When I went to pick up my car I was charged \$348.48, which I believe is higher than allowed (\$150). There was no special equipment needed to tow my car. What are my options here? Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

From:

Celella, Jessica

Sent:

Friday, October 11, 2019 11:06 AM

To:

Moon Siefert, Linda

Cc:

Byrd, Yashica; Martin, Faviola

Subject:

FW: Dear Alderman Kovac

Follow Up Flag: Flag Status:

' Follow up Flagged . REDACTED RECORD

Categories:

Red Category

Can you please add?

Jessica Celella License Division Manager 200 E Wells St Room 105, Milwaukee, WI 53202 (414) 286-2365



From: Kovac, Nik < nkovac@milwaukee.gov > Sent: Friday, October 11, 2019 11:05 AM

To: Celella, Jessica < Jessica. Celella@milwaukee.gov >

Subject: FW: Dear Alderman Kovac

Here is the complaint to be added to Always Towing's file.

From:

Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2019 6:26 AM

To: Kovac, Nik Cc: Kovac, Nik

Subject: Re: Dear Alderman Kovac

Yes, that would be great.

Thank you!

From: Kovac, Nik < nkovac@milwaukee.gov > Sent: Wednesday, October 9, 2019 12:50:32 PM

To:

Cc: Kovac, Nik < nkovac@milwaukee.gov>

Subject: RE: Dear Alderman Kovac

Thank you for your email. Would you like me to add this email to their licensing file so that you are noticed and permitted to speak at their next license renewal hearing?

Amanda

Amanda (Williams) Cervantes
Legislative Assistant
Alderman Nik Kovac, 3rd District
200 E. Wells St. Room 205
Milwaukee, WI 53202
414.286.3447 / aide3@milwaukee.gov



From:

Sent: Monday, September 16, 2019 11:13 AM

To: Kovac, Nik

Subject: Dear Alderman Kovac

I was visiting my daughter which was Sunday and her parking rules are there's no parking from 6 p.m. to 7 a.m. I was parked for less than 10 minutes and my car was towed at 8 in the morning which was the hours that visitors could park in the parking ramp for Seaway Terrace Apartments and right away by car was told I came up to use the restroom came out car gone they wanted now charged me \$400 for my car being parked somewhere where it was within the hours of where visitors could park this was also due to harassment on their end because I called Saturday night and complained about a possible sex offender employee that they have he was trying to talk to my 14 year old daughter and I really truly believe that this is a form of harassment and retaliation because of next day they towed my car. I don't see how many protecting my daughter's safety should cost me \$400 in a car that was towed out of spite.

I ended up paying 706.00 to get the car out . I saw a special on fox 6 news pertaining to tow companies charging a special equipment fee which is totally false and I am glad that these tow companies are being called out for it. When I told Always towing that they will get caught eventually the owner said they will never get caught and prettt much they can charge what they want. I do plan on suing Always towing for an illigal tow. What i didnt mention is that on the recipt it said they picked my car up at 9:08 am which was way after the time when no parking was inforced. I have the notice from seway apt stating the times u could park.

Times visitor parking was allowed. If you need my assistance in anything to help correct their fraudulent ways I am more then happy to assist.

Thank u.

The City of Milwaukee is subject to Wisconsin Statutes related to public records. Unless otherwise exempted from the public records law, senders and receivers of City of Milwaukee e-mail should presume that e-mail is subject to release upon request, and is subject to state records retention requirements. See City of Milwaukee full e-mail disclaimer at www.milwaukee.gov/email_disclaimer

From:

License

Sent:

Tuesday, December 3, 2019 1:25 PM

To:

Moon Siefert, Linda

Cc:

Martin, Faviola

Subject:

FW: Always Towing Inc.

Follow Up Flag: Flag Status:

Follow up Flagged

Categories:

Red Category

REDACTED RECORD

Please add and respond. Thank yoU!

Keren Becker
License Specialist III
City Clerk – License Division
O: (414) 286-2238
F: (414) 286-3057
License@Milwaukee.gov
www.Milwaukee.gov/license



From:

Sent: Tuesday, December 3, 2019 12:32 PM

To: License

Subject: Always Towing Inc.

Hello, my name is and I am emailing you in regards to Always Towing Inc. of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. On 10/08/2019 My 'vas towed away from my apartment complex while it was legally parked, legally registered, not disabled, and with the proper permit sticker on the windshield. I had my property manager come down to Always Towing Inc.'s facility to confirm that the permit sticker was there. It was and we asked why it was towed, but the guy did not have an answer. I was not able to look inside the truck before getting my vehicle back. They did not charge me because they were in the wrong, but Once I got it back many items were damaged in the bed of the truck. I have contacted them several times to discuss reimbursement for damaged items and possibly loss of use since I missed work for the day because of this. They have not responded to me at all. I was told to email you guys. I'm not sure what you guys can do if anything, but just let me know! Thank you!

From:

License

Sent:

Monday, December 16, 2019 8:02 AM

To: Cc: Moon Siefert, Linda Martin, Faviola

Subject:

FW: Your BBB review against Always Towing & Recovery

Attachments:

12-15-19, 3 20 PM Office Lens.pdf

Follow Up Flag:

Follow up Flagged

Flag Status:

Categories:

Red Category

Keren Becker License Specialist III City Clerk – License Division

O: (414) 286-2238 F: (414) 286-3057

<u>License@Milwaukee.gov</u> www.Milwaukee.gov/license



From:

Sent: Sunday, December 15, 2019 3:31 PM

To: License; Kovac, Nik

Cc: Susan Bach

Subject: Re: Your BBB review against Always Towing & Recovery

Dear Sirs.

Hope this email finds you well!

I'd like to write about my experience with Always Towing & Recovery. First of all, let me intrduce myself. My name is and I'm an international Phd student at Marquette University since Jan 2019. On Sun, Nov 24, I was invited by one of my friends who lives in Park East Enterprise Lofts (1407 N Doctor M. L.K. Jr Dr.) to celebrate the graduation of some friends. I had parked my car on a parking lot which located behind this building at 9:30 pm. I left the party earlier (at about 11:30 pm) because I had a final exam the next day, but unfortunately, I did not find my car. I thought at the beginning, my car was stolen but after I talked to my friend, he told me that your car might be towed. So, I went with my friend to the location of Always Towing & Recovery and it was closed. We waited there for about five minutes and then the truck that towed my car came. Unfortunately, my car was not on the flatbed of the truck, it was towed by a tow bar. I've talked to the guy who towed my car to released it and he said I can't, tomorrow morning you can release your car.

The next day, early morning at 9 am, I went to their office. They asked me to pay about \$348.48! When I checked the invoice, they add other charges, such as storage fee for 1 day (\$25), special equipment (\$125?!).

The invoice is attached.

REDACTED RECORD

So, this is my story. I don't what is the special equipment they used!!! and if they charge for the storage fee, they should open 24 hours. The best description for this company is "Money Hungry". I can't believe I paid \$348.48 because I parked my car for less than two hours!!! This is really preposterous.

Note:

- 1. When I was living in Colorado, I used to park on a parking lot of the friends' apartments, even though there is a sign that informs that is a property private parking. Because they accepted visitors' cars for some hours and your car may be towed if it is parked for a day or two, not only two hours.
- 2. I got the worst grade on that exam and I might get A-instead of A on that course.

Regards.

REDACTED RECORD

On Tue, Dec 3, 2019 at 12:16 PM Susan Bach < sbach@wisconsin.bbb.org > wrote:

Dorra,

Thank you so much for taking the time to file a review with our office against the above company.

Based on a <u>recent TV story</u>, we wanted to let you know that you can also write a letter detailing your experience to the following:

<u>license@milwaukee.gov</u> -- The licenses division staff email nkovac@milwaukee.gov -- Alderman Nik Kovac's email

In addition, you may also wish to file a complaint with the state's Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection: https://mydatcp.wi.gov/Complaints/complaint/create/da42c589-da19-e511-af89-0050568c06ae

Sincerely,

Susan Bach
Investigator
Better Business Bureau Serving Wisconsin
(414) 847-6023
bbb.org/wisconsin

Error! Filename not specified.

REDACTED RECORD



Always Towing & Recovery Inc

3700 W. Wells St. Milweukee, WI 53208. Malling Address

Menomones Falls, WI 53052

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Training to the standing of the ponelistic for this vehicle (netuding) but not structed to, brauguice change, police reports, yet too payments to the

From:

Celella, Jessica

Sent:

Monday, January 6, 2020 8:57 AM

To:

Moon Siefert, Linda

Cc: Subject: Martin, Faviola; Byrd, Yashica FW: Always Towing Illegal Tow on 12/23 (From Behind 2929 W Wisconsin)

Follow Up Flag:

Follow up

Flag Status:

Flagged

Categories:

Red Category

REDACTED RECORD

Please add as possible objection to always towing

Jessica Celella Deputy City Clerk 200 E Wells St Room 105, Milwaukee, WI 53202 (414) 286-2362/(414) 286-2365



From: Lemmer, Jodi

Sent: Monday, January 06, 2020 8:53 AM

To: Stephens, Adam

Cc: Bauman, Robert; District, Three; Norman, Jeffrey; Celella, Jessica; Byrd, Yashica Subject: Always Towing Illegal Tow on 12/23 (From Behind 2929 W Wisconsin)

Good Morning Adam,

Please see below report:

1.3.20;	•		Constituent:	illegally towed on 12/23 by Always
4:45PM		•		Towing; our building uses Action
7,757 147	·			towing but another tenant called them
				claiming she was the building owner
				ordering the tow; it was towed from
		-		behind my building; I had just paid for
,				a permit but didn't have it on the
				vehicle yet; my management called
				Always Towing to let them know I had
			•	authorization to park there but they
		,		still won't release my car; I paid my
				\$25 for the permit to park there; had
		•		receipt but gave it back to my
				management; called MPD since
		. •		Always Towing won't release the
•		,		vehicle

This looks like a legal issue to me but I wanted to double check. Do you recommend any further action I can take to assist this constituent?

Thanks for your time.

Best,

Jodú Lemmer

Legislative Assistant

Milwaukee Common Council

Alderman Robert Bauman | 4th District

200 East Wells Street – Room 205 | Milwaukee, WI 53202

(414) 286-2886 Office | (414) 286-3456 Fax

Jodi.lemmer@milwaukee.gov

REDACTED RECORD

Schafer, Nathan

From:

License

Sent:

Friday, January 24, 2020 3:40 PM

To:

Schafer, Nathan

Subject:

FW: Complain

REDACTED RECORD

Keren Becker
License Specialist III
City Clerk – License Division
O: (414) 286-2238
License@Milwaukee.gov
www.Milwaukee.gov/license



From:

Sent: Friday, January 24, 2020 3:06 PM

To: License

Subject: Complain

Hi

My car has been towed in this morning. When I came to pick it up they charge me for a special equipment fee for 125 dollars! I do not think my car needs any specific equipment to tow. So I wish they can return this part of fee back to me. Could you guys report this and talk to them? Also, my name is Yuqin Weng. They typed it wrong! If you can contact them and help me out. I would appreciate you guys so much! Thank you!

Best Regards

PEDACTED DECORE

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Always Towing & Mailing Address Recovery inc PO Box 99 270 W. Walt St., Menomenta Falls William Menome	Part
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	JANIZ 4 2020 BY:

From:

Martin, Faviola

Sent:

Friday, January 31, 2020 11:16 AM

To:

Moon Siefert, Linda

Subject:

FW: Illegally Towed

Follow Up Flag: Flag Status:

Follow up Flagged

Categories:

Red Category

Please handle

Faviola Martin License Specialist III City Clerk - License Division 200 E. Wells St. Rm. 105 Milwaukee, WI 53202 Office: 414-286-2238 REDACTED RECORD

-----Original Message-----

From: License

Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 9:48 AM

To: Martin, Faviola

Subject: FW: Illegally Towed

Keren Becker
License Specialist III
City Clerk – License Division
O: (414) 286-2238
License@Milwaukee.gov
www.Milwaukee.gov/license

----Original Message----

From: !

Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 9:20 AM

To: License

Subject: Illegally Towed

Hello my name is and I was referred/informed by Brian Polcyn(Fox 6 news) to file complaints against Always Towing & Recovery for illegally towing my vehicle from a private lot. On 12/23/19 approximately 755am as I was attempting to take my son to daycare, I noticed my vehicle was gone. Upon calling around Milwaukee county, I

discovered Always Towing & Recovery had my car. When I called and asked why they have it and how can I retrieve it?, I was told I'd have to pay \$348.48! I asked how is it that much when you haven't even had my vehicle for 12 hrs at least and they couldn't provide a legitimate reason. At first I was going to ask has anyone else had any bad experiences/encounters with Always Towing, but then I researched and seen they have no good reviews, they're notorious for illegally/unlawfully towing cars and are currently being investigated by the City of Milwaukee.

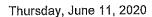
https://fox6now.com/2019/09/12/aldermen-call-for-itemized-receipts-from-towing-companies-after-fox6-investigation/

https://fox6now.com/2019/09/08/vehicle-owners-fight-back-over-tow-companys-special-fee/

https://fox6now.com/2019/07/24/we-got-taken-special-fee-has-towed-drivers-angry-and-city-exploring-action/

https://fox6now.com/2015/07/26/theyre-like-bandits-towing-company-takes-cars-in-the-middle-of-the-night-shocks-tenants-with-new-maximum-fees/

Long story short I reside at an apartment building where tenants only, can park in the back parking lot. There aren't any signs designating which tenants can park there, nor are there any ASSIGNED parking spots nor any lines at all to decipher any spots/parking spaces. However, another TENANT called and had my vehicle towed under false pretenses. Always Towing alleges a woman named Elizabeth Posey/Posie, claimed she was the apartment building owner and I had allegedly parked in her spot. Without any proper identification/verification she's actually an owner/manager/authorized representative, Always Towing towed my car (which is illegal according to Wisconsin SS 349.13(3m). Once I was informed (by Always Towing) that a woman named Elizabeth Posey/Posie was the caller/owner I was instructed to get ahold of her. When I informed Always Towing that I've never heard of a woman with that name, and that's impossible and continued to inform Always Towing of the actual owners/building managers/landlords names as well as presented my lease(with the exact address of the location where my vehicle was illegally towed as well as landlord/managers information) to confirm that whoever Elizabeth is, is not an owner/manager or authorized representative to do anything to a tenant and/or their property, I was then told if I had the real owner/manager call he would release my car. After about 10-15 mins of frustratingly attempted calls to my landlord/building managers I couldn't get ahold of them. I informed Always Towing they weren't answering and I'd have the actual managers/landlord give them a call from the number(s) listed on my lease. After walking 9 blocks back to the establishment I had the landlord/building managers call them as I recorded the conversation. At first he (Always Towing) tried telling them that the owner came down personally and said my vehicle was in her spot then when the managers informed Always Towing the actual owner doesn't actually live on the premises and who authorized that, Always Towing rebutted with Elizabeth Posey said she was a manager of the property and once again the legitimate managers corrected him(Always Towing) stating that she (Elizabeth Posey/Posie) isn't in any form an owner, building manager and/or authorized representative of their facility/property. After about 30 secs he comes back on the line and says she (Elizabeth) stated that she is an authorized representative so the contract they have is legally binding. Once again the actual landlord/building managers informed him who they were, who the actual owner is and that she (Elizabeth) is just a regular tenant as much as I am and has no such power and furthermore Always Towing should have verified Elizabeth was actually an owner/manager and/or authorized representative before they illegally towed my car off a private lot that they're paying a company named Action Towing to handle. Always Towing insists this lady (Elizabeth) has authority to do so, even though the legal managers/landlord informed him she (Elizabeth) is just a regular tenant as I am and they exclusively pay/work with Action Towing as well as have signs in the back of the premises clearly reading "Action Towing" all over them visibly clear to any and everyone. After having the real landlord/managers call and speak with them(like Always Towing instructed me to do) Always Towing still refuses to release my car even though they came to a private lot where I reside and have authorization from the landlord/building managers to park, on top of a woman posing as an owner, when she isn't in the first place. I lost my job yesterday behind not having a vehicle and I shouldn't have to pay \$348.48 for someone calling Always Towing under false pretenses. I'm not a random person I actually reside here, I have my lease confirming that, as well as valid license and registration. Always Towing is totally in the wrong and will not rectify their mistakes.







Notice of Public Hearing

blank
notice

PEHOWSKI, Jason W, Agent
Always Towing & Recovery at 3700 W Wells St
Recycling, Salvaging or Towing Premise-Additional Yard License Renewal Application

Tuesday, June 23, 2020 at 2:30 PM

To whom it may concern:

The above application has been made by the above named applicant(s). This requires approval from the Licenses Committee and the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee. The hearing before the Licenses Committee will take place virtually on 6/23/2020 at 2:30 PM. This is a public hearing. Those wishing to view the proceeding are able to do so via the City Channel – Channel 25 on Spectrum Cable – or on the Internet at http://city.milwaukee.gov/citychannel. Those wishing to provide oral testimony will be asked to do so by phone or internet and are asked to contact the staff assistant, Molly Kuether-Steele at (414) 286-2775 or molly.kuether-steele@milwaukee.gov for necessary information. Please make such requests no later than one business day prior to the start of the meeting. You are not required to attend the hearing, but please see the information below if you would like to provide testimony. Once the Licenses Committee makes its recommendation, this recommendation is forwarded to the full Common Council for approval at its next regularly scheduled hearing.

Important details for those wishing to provide information for the Licenses Committee to consider when making its recommendation:

- 1. The license application is scheduled to be heard at the above time. Due to other hearings running longer than scheduled, you may have to wait some time to provide your testimony.
- 2. You must testify as to matters that you have personally experienced or seen. (You cannot provide testimony for your neighbor, parent or anyone else; this is considered hearsay and cannot be considered by the committee.)
- 3. No letters or petitions can be accepted by the committee (unless the person who wrote the letter or the persons who signed the petition are willing to testify).
- 4. Persons opposed to the license application are given the opportunity to testify first; supporters may testify after the opponents have finished.
- 5. When you are called to testify, you will be sworn in and asked to give your name, and address. (If your first and/or last names are uncommon please spell them.)

- 6. You may then provide testimony.
- a. Include only information relating to the above license application.
- b. Include only information you have personally witnessed or seen.
- c. Provide concise and relevant information detailing how this business has affected or may affect the peaceful enjoyment of your neighborhood.
- d. If by the time you have the opportunity to testify, the information you wish to share has already been provided to the committee, you may state that you agree with the previous testimony. Redundant or repetitive testimony will not assist the committee in making its recommendation.
- 7. After giving your testimony, the members of the Licenses Committee and the licensee may ask questions regarding the testimony you have given or other factors relating to the license application.
- 8. Business Competition is not a valid basis for denial or non-renewal of a license.

Please Note: If you have submitted an objection to the above application your objection cannot be considered by the committee unless you personally testify at the hearing.

OCCUPANT	MAIL ADDRESS	CITY, STATE ZIP
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 112	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 119	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 214	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 219	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 306	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 310	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 405	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
*	3745 W WELLS ST 204	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT		·
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3745 W WELLS ST 206	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3745 W WELLS ST 104	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3745 W WELLS ST 307	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3745 W WELLS ST 210	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3745 W WELLS ST 302	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3739 W KILBOURN AVE	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3735 W KILBOURN AVE	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3725A W KILBOURN AVE	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 107	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 108	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 111	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
	3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 117	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT		·
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 301	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 308	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 309	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 315	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 412	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3745 W WELLS ST 207	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3745 W WELLS ST 108	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3745 W WELLS ST 101	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3745 W WELLS ST 110	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3745 W WELLS ST 205	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3745 W WELLS ST 109	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3745 W WELLS ST 106	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
	3745 W WELLS ST 308	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT		· ·
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3721 W KILBOURN AVE	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 116	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 207	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 305	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 408	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 414	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3745 W WELLS ST 201	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3745 W WELLS ST 202	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3731 W KILBOURN AVE	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3725 W KILBOURN AVE	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 105	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 105	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
	3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 108	MILWAUKEE, WI 53208
CURRENT OCCUPANT	2000 AA ANISCOMSIM WAE 118	WILLANWOKEL, AND 33200

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3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 203 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 210 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 302 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 312 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 409 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 417 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 420 3745 W WELLS ST 103 3745 W WELLS ST 309 3745 W WELLS ST 303 3745 W WELLS ST 305 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 109 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 314 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 317 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 318 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 402 3745 W WELLS ST 301 3745 W WELLS ST 209 3745 W WELLS ST 208 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 104 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 110 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 114 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 204 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 209 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 211 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 215 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 218 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 311 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 319 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 407 3745 W WELLS ST 304 3745 W WELLS ST 102 3741 W KILBOURN AVE 3711 W KILBOURN AVE 3701 W KILBOURN AVE 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 102 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 206 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 208 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 212 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 216 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 303 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 304 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 307 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 316 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 410 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 418

3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 320

MILWAUKEE, WI 53208 **CURRENT OCCUPANT CURRENT OCCUPANT CURRENT OCCUPANT CURRENT OCCUPANT CURRENT OCCUPANT CURRENT OCCUPANT CURRENT OCCUPANT** CURRENT OCCUPANT **CURRENT OCCUPANT CURRENT OCCUPANT** CURRENT OCCUPANT **CURRENT OCCUPANT** CURRENT OCCUPANT blank Vignale, Giovanni Pfister, Kyle

3745 W WELLS ST 107 3745 W WELLS ST 306 3745 W WELLS ST 203 3707 W KILBOURN AVE 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 101 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 201 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 202 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 205 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 403 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 416 3808 W WISCONSIN AVE 220 3745 W WELLS ST 105 3743 W KILBOURN AVE notice 1314 White Oak LA #304

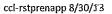
MILWAUKEE, WI 53208 MILWAUKEE, WI 53208

Luckett, Andriah Schmitting, Karen Ryan, Kevin Walker, Marquise Williams, Alvin

9319 W Ryan CT 4151 N 56TH ST 3460 N Murray AV 3460 N Murray AV 2929 W WISCONSIN AV 3921 N HUMBOLDT BL #408 Columbia WI 65203 Milwaukee WI 53224 Milwaukee WI 53216 Milwaukee WI 53211 Milwaukee WI 53211 Milwaukee WI 53208 Milwaukee WI 53212

Total Records: 106

Radius: 250.0 feet and Center of Circle: 3700 W Wells St





RECYCLING, SALVAGING OR TOWING PREMISES LICENSE SUPPLEMENTAL RENEWAL APPLICATION

Office of the City Clerk License Division 200 E. Wells St. Room 105, Milwaukee, WI 53202 (414) 286-2238 e-mail address: <u>license@milwaukee.gov</u>

Legal Entity Name: Al	ALWAYS TOWING & RECOVERY, INC	//			
Business Address: 15	1511 N 31ST ST				
1. Current Approved /	Current Approved Activities				
Your current approved activition	ties: NON-CONSENSUAL TOWING, JUNK/ VALUABLE METAL, WASTE TIRES, SALVAGE VEHICLE PART	s			
2. Adding Activities?	NOW STANCES TO THE CONTROL OF THE CO				
Do you wish to add any activit	ities? No 🗌 Yes				
If Yes, check ONLY those you w	wish to ADD:				
Non-Consensual Towing:	Provide the address within the City of Milwaukee where vehicles will be towed:	•			
Junk/Valuable Metal:	☐ Dealing, Storing and/or Transporting ☐ Removing and/or Recycling				
Waste Tires:	☐ Dealing, Storing and/or Transporting ☐ Removing and/or Recycling				
Salvaged Motor Vehicle Parts: (including secondhand tires/ba		·			
No activity changes can take p	place until approved by Common Council and a new license has been issued and posted on the pren	nises.			
3. Removing Activities					
Do you wish to remove any bu	usiness activities? 💢 No 🔝 Yes				
If Yes, list activities you wish t	to remove:				
4. Business Operation	ns see the second secon	3			
Are you adding any motor veh	hicles to the business operations? No 🗌 Yes				
If Yes, list how many?	_ and provide vehicle information on page 2.				
Are there any changes to the c	current hours of operation (as shown on your license)? No Yes				
Do you understand that you m	must follow all recordkeeping, reporting and operating regulations in MCO 93-43-49?] No			
•	cords and reports must be available to the Police Department upon request?] No			
5. Additional Storage Yar	ords RSTP-1/226				
If you have additional storage If Yes, list the address of any n	e yards, are there any changes? No Yes new yard or cross out any yard no longer in operation. Currently licensed yards are listed below.				
3700 W. Wells					
VII. PITTE TITTETTILLIID. MIG AMEANIN TURKII TURKII ARMA BILEAMIN MOMEETRISI TITTELTE TRETTILLIID.		CONTRACTOR CARROLLE AND			
6. Signature					
Signature	of Sole Proprietor; a Partner; or if a Corporation or LLC, the Agent must sign				
J. Signatury C		CC C175			
	ALSO COMPLETE REVER	2F 2IDF			