

From: "Wright, Peter D." <wrig5581@stthomas.edu>
To: "legislativehearings@ci.stpaul.mn.us" <legislativehearings@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Date: 2/3/2012 2:37 PM
Subject: Message for hearing officer RE 381 Av. N. hearing

Good afternoon,

my name is Pete Wright and I am a tenant at address 381 Cleveland Av. N. in St. Paul, MN 55104. I was informed by my landlord, Gayle Geisenhoff, who resides in Commerce, MI, that the hearing for assessment # 128703 was at 15 Kellogg W Blvd on 3rd floor at 5:30 p.m. I was present, however, I was unaware of how the procedure worked and did not represent myself at the appropriate time during the public hearing. I spoke briefly with the hearing officer following the adjournment of the hearing. I was informed to contact the hearing officer via this e-mail address: legislativehearings@ci.stpaul.mn.us<mailto:legislativehearings@ci.stpaul.mn.us> and that we could meet on Tuesday, February 7 at 9:00 a.m. The next paragraph I will provide the details and facts that I know regarding the case.

I am a senior at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, MN and moved off campus for the first time this fall, 2011. Our landlord notified my two roommates and myself to arrange a garbage disposal service. My roommate, Daniel Cooper, wrote a check for \$83.30 (see attachment for amount and date) on Tuesday, September 27, 2011. This check was a three month pre-payment for garbage disposal service through Veolia ES Solid Waste, Inc. of St. Paul, MN. I no longer have the notice that was sent from the City, but I do know that the City of St. Paul mailed to our house at 381 Cleveland Av. N., a notice approximately one or two days after the check had been sent--- the notice probably arrived in our mailbox Wednesday or Thursday, Sept. 28 or 29, respectively. The notice informed my roommates and I to take care of our trash removal or in one day the city would take care of it and we would be fined for the removal. My roommates and I failed to read the notice or check the mail and hence failed to notify the city that the matter had been taken care of. While careless, the mistake was unintentional and unfortunate, resulting in a misunderstanding and miscommunication between the City and the residents of 381 Cleveland Av. N. This was my first time living off-campus and my roommates and I had not even received the first month of bills at that point--- we had not conditioned ourselves to regularly check our mailbox at that point in time. Unaware of the issue brought up by the city, the City of St. Paul placed a garbage bin in our alley and attempted to remove some of our garbage without notification. The bin was removed in less than a week and served no purpose as Veolia had removed the trash when they installed their garbage bin. I would also like to make the point that our neighbors, who had complained and brought this issue to the attention of the city, did not even attempt to communicate with myself or my roommates about the issue. I have been very disappointed with the unfriendly vibe our neighbors (one house to the right if looking at 381 Cleveland Av. N from Cleveland Avenue) have given us ever since we have moved in. I have tried making friends with these neighbors by knocking on their door (several times) to introduce myself in hopes of building community. I have taken care of our yard by cutting the grass, trimming bushes (I once again knocked on their door to ask for bush trimmers and again they failed to acknowledge me), and raking leaves. Not once did these neighbors confront us and ask us what was going on. Had they done this the city would not have had to go to the trouble of attempting to remove our garbage--- the matter had already been taken care of. All of this said and done, my two roommates and I, who are piled high with debt as it is due to college tuition, are left with a whopping sum of money to come up with to pay for the ridiculously high City of St. Paul garbage removal fees. I understand there are strict laws and regulations regarding the institution of garbage removal. There should be! However, I am asking for a reduction of the fees charged to my roommates and I, as our landlord has made it clear that it is on us, as part of the contract we signed. I am willing to give back service to the community of St. Paul to make it right--- I just cannot afford to pay this money at this moment in my life. Please reconsider the case and give me a chance to make this right. I appreciate your time,

sincerely,

Pete Wright

EL K COOPER
J SHOREWOOD BLVD
ADISON WI 53705-2266

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DANIEL K COOPER
1220 SHOREWOOD BLVD
MADISON, WI 53705-2266