

Steven C. Markoff and Jadwiga Markoff

Randy Howard
Interim Executive Director
Customer Service, LADWP
Via email

September 9, 2014

cc: -Marcie Edwards
General Manager, LADWP
with attachments
Via U.S. mail

Re: 8-29-14, DWP employee attack on our dog

Dear Mr. Howard,

The following is a summary of the 8-29-14 attack on our dog, Ralph, by who appeared to be a DWP employee.

On 8-29-14, the day of the attack, I sent a summary email of the attack to the DWP via their website and a copy of that email is attached as "**Exhibit A**," (please excuse the spelling errors as your site didn't seem to have spell check). I haven't yet received a response from the DWP. The DWP's automatic response is attached as "**Exhibit C**."

The attack on our dog occurred despite the fact that the entrance to our property is well marked with two NO TRESSPASSING signs, and despite the fact that the DWP employee was just warned that we have dogs on our property when he was entering our property. More specifically:

1. My wife and I live at [REDACTED] Blvd. in/ [REDACTED]
2. Friday, 8-29-14, at around 11:45 AM, **Chris Ray**, the onsite manager of the tree trimming crew on our property noticed a white truck parked just outside our electric gate with its motor running, Mr. Ray thought the truck was "a white Chevy truck S-10." Our electric gate was open.
3. Mr. Ray asked one of his workers about the truck and then saw an African-American man, he guessed 5'6" or 5'8" and perhaps 140 to 150 lbs., walking down our driveway toward our home.
4. Mr. Ray asked the man if he had been on the property before, and was told no. He then asked the man if he knew there are dogs on the property. The DWP person then held up something like a wrench and said, "Dogs learn."
5. Our live-on-our property housekeeper then saw our dog Ralph with his face covered in blood and wiped it off.

To: Randy Howard

September 9, 2014

Re: 8-29-14, DWP employee attack on our dog

From: Steve Markoff

Page 2 of 2

6. My wife then found Ralph with a cut on his nose, See "**Exhibit D**" attached, bleeding and with swollen eyes. She saw the DWP man and asked him if he hit our dog. The DWP person responded by holding up a finger and saying, "Only once."

7. It seems that your DWP employee trespassed on our property (I'm told that he arrived unannounced, without an appointment, and walked on our property, despite the property being well marked with two "No Trespassing" signs posted on both sides of our entrance. See the three pictures of those signs and our entrance, attached as **Exhibit "B."** (The dog in two of the photos is Sheila, not Ralph)

8. I'm unaware of any reason the DWP man couldn't have called for an appointment or used the buzzer outside our gate. A picture of the buzzer is shown on the second photo of **Exhibit "B."**

9. I personally confirmed with a sheriff's deputy on 9-1-14 that a posted sign means it's private property, regardless if a gate to that property is open or closed.

10. We consider your employee's assault on our animal and trespassing serious issues, and I have held up filing a police report pending hearing from you.

Please have the appropriate person in your office contact me immediately, as my wife and I are leaving for a multi week trip on 9-14-14.

Respectfully,



Steven C. Markoff

Owner

Attachments:

Exhibit A: Summary email of the attack to the LADWP via the LADWP website

Exhibit B: Three pictures of "No Trespassing" signs posted on both sides of our entrance

Exhibit C: DWP's automatic response

Exhibit D: Ralph with a cut on his nose

Subj: **DWP attack on our dog around 11:45 AM today, 8-29-14.**
Date: 8/29/2014 12:33:45 P.M. Pacific Daylight Time
From: SCMarkoff@
To: hml @
CC: scmarkoff@

Exhibit "A"

I just sent this to DWP via their web site: 1-800-342-5397 and hung on the line for over 15 minutes.

DWP attack on our dog around 11:45 AM today, 8-29-14.

We live at [redacted] in [redacted]. Today, at around 11:45 AM, on of our works from our tree trimming service notice a white truck parked just out side our electric gate with it's motor running. He asked one of his workers about the truck and then saw an African American, he guessed 5'6" or 5'8" and perhaps 140 to 150 lbs walking down our driveway to our house. Chris Ray, the man in charge of his tree trimming staff asked the DWP man if he knew there are dogs on the property. The DWP person then held up some probable steel wrenches and said "The dogs learned". My wife then found our older dog Ralph with a cut on his nose and bleeding. It appears that your DWP man trespassed on our property (arriving unannounced, with out an appointment, and walked throught our front gate (that was open), despite the two signs on both sides of the gate saying "no trespassing". The DWP man should have either called for an appointment or used the busser out side our gate.

Hitting one of our dogs on our property, when the man waled^k in unannounced is an attack that we first need to understand.

We consider this a serious issue and I would appreciate an immediate response, this long weekend, at [redacted], or at my office after Monday, [redacted].

Steve Markoff
Owner

Subj: **Signs/ gate**
Date: 9/4/2014 9:28:37 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time
From: hm: [redacted]@ [redacted]
To: SCMarkoff@ [redacted]

Exhibit "B"





Subj: **RE: DWP attack on our dog [THREAD ID: 1-FLOMF4]**
Date: 8/29/2014 12:32:27 P.M. Pacific Daylight Time
From: ccenter@
To: sckmarkoff@

Exhibit "C"

Dear Steve Markoff,

Thank you for contacting the Los Angeles Department of Water & Power (LADWP). Your email has been submitted and will be reviewed soon. A response will be sent as soon as possible should you require a reply.

To ensure a quicker reply, please include the entire THREAD ID including brackets [] as is provided in the subject line of this email in any and all future emails with the LADWP regarding this matter.

Sincerely,
LADWP Customer Service

Your online message (submitted):

Exhibit "D"

