

Subject: Re: Parking Violations:

Date: Mon, 17 Sep 2001 15:21:34 -0700

From: Brian Platts <brian_platts@telus.net>

To: Ernie Crist <CristE@district.north-van.bc.ca>

CC: Elizabeth James <cagebc@yahoo.com>, "Davesadler@telus.net" <Davesadler@telus.net>, "bill_tracey@telus.net" <bill_tracey@telus.net>, "johnhunter@idmail.com" <johnhunter@idmail.com>, "kost@triumf.ca" <kost@triumf.ca>, "eandersen@seatradeshopping.bc.ca" <eandersen@seatradeshopping.bc.ca>, "weemalkies@telus.net" <weemalkies@telus.net>, howieg@dnv.org, Don Sigston <SigstonD@district.north-van.bc.ca>, Richard Zerr <ZerrR@district.north-van.bc.ca>, NVD Council <dnvcouncil@dnv.org>, FONVCA <fonvca@fonvca.org>

Councillor Crist:

Your reply to Councillor Denault was excellent. It saddens me that some people are so completely incapable of rising above petty politics. Councillor Denault's cheap-shot failed because it was misdirected. The fundamental issue, as you alluded to, is not about the enforcement of bylaws, but rather, one of confidentiality and professionalism. Bylaw Enforcement Officers have a difficult job that often requires them to deal with belligerent, or even angry violators. From what I've been hearing, there are too many instances where Enforcement Officers are out to deflect this anger towards the individual who made the "complaint." This sort of behavior is totally unprofessional and must not be tolerated. No one should fear being subjected to harassment or abuse for simply requesting that our bylaws be enforced.

Sincerely,
Brian Platts

Ernie Crist <CristE@district.north-van.bc.ca> wrote:

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Ernie Crist

> Sent: Monday, September 17, 2001 10:24 AM

> To: Bill Denault

> Subject: RE: Parking Violations;

>

> Councillor Denault:

>

> You may have missed the point and may wish to read my e-mail again. I am

> not complaining that the Bylaw officer did his job. He had no business to

> divulge the name of the complainant be it citizen X or Councillor Crist.

> That is fundamental and that is the issue.

>

> Ernie Crist.

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Bill Denault

> Sent: Monday, September 17, 2001 9:34 AM

> To: Ernie Crist; Gord Howie; Richard Zerr; Don Sigston

> Cc: Mayor and Council - DNV

> Subject: RE: Parking Violations;

>

> Dear Ernie,

>

> Finally, you persistent demands for By-Law enforcement is paying off....or

> is it? I can't believe that you are suggesting the District "fix" these

> tickets! I am equally amazed that after all of your efforts to publicly

> position yourself as a staunch defender of By-Law enforcement, you are

> trying to distance yourself from the very process you espouse. What will

> the grizzly cubs think? Ernie, Ernie, Ernie.....

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Ernie Crist

> Sent: Sunday, September 16, 2001 6:46 PM

> To: Gord Howie; Richard Zerr; Don Sigston

> Cc: Mayor and Council - DNV

> Subject: Parking Violations;

>
> Mr. Howie;
>
> In the early morning hours of Sunday Sept 16 - 01, I was
> attempting to leave my residence only to find that the entrance to the
> road was blocked by a vehicle. The vehicle was parked on a District road
> (cul-de-sac). I went back to my residence to phone Tel 604-985 -1311 with
> a request to get in touch with District Bylaws for the purpose of removing
> this vehicle. The time was 9.09 am. As there was no answer from District
> Bylaws I phoned the RCMP receptionist with a request for action by
> District Bylaws and/or the RCMP.
>
> Following this I went back to my parking lot only to find that the
> vehicle blocking the road had left in the meantime.
>
> There were other vehicles parked in the cul-de-sac making it
> difficult to exit but I managed to get around them and I subsequently left
> my complex to go about District business.
>
> Upon my return home late in the afternoon, I was told that a
> District Bylaw officer had visited the area several times after my
> departure and had handed out parking tickets explaining to the complaining
> parking violators that he was obliged to write tickets since Councillor
> Crist had made the request.
>
> As a result, I have received at least one phone call from a violator
> threatening legal action against me for mischief since the officer told
> him he was writing tickets upon the request of Councillor Crist. Many more
> people have complained to me since. It turned out that there had been a
> garage sale in the neighborhood and people were parking in places they
> were not supposed to.
>
> While I do not fault the Bylaw officer Mr. Reed for going about his
> business, I must protest in the strongest possible terms against the
> totally unprofessional manner in which this was done.
>
> To mention the name of a complainant is not acceptable. To tell the
> recipients of the parking violation tickets, that it was a District
> Councillor by the name of Ernie Crist who complained, is contrary to even
> the most rudimentary professional conduct. You will recall that a similar
> incident occurred a few years ago which could have led to charges of
> mischief against the District.
>
> The conduct of District Bylaw officers while carrying out their
> duty is, in the final analysis, your responsibility and it would appear
> once again that you have failed to take that responsibility seriously. It
> is clear that this Bylaw Officer, in any case, has not been sufficiently
> trained in line with accepted standards and/or has acted with malicious
> intent. I should also mention that, upon my return at 3.30 pm when I
> phoned District Bylaws, the phone kept ringing without any voice and/or
> request to leave a message.
>
> Given the circumstance, I request that all tickets handed out to
> these particular violators be rescinded, that they be so informed in
> writing and that a letter of explanation be included. I am looking
> forward to your early reply.
>
> Thank you
>
> Ernie Crist
>

