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Oct 05 15 12:19p Robert R Rhodes

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October 5, 2015

Nikki Haley, Governor
Terrence Roberts, Mayor of Anderson, SC
John Moore, Anderson City Manager
Gracie Floyd, Anderson County Council
Jim Stewart, Chief of Police
Cornelius Pickens, Patrol Delta Shift

To whom it may concern:

I am writing in regards to a situation that I am having with my vehicle being impounded. I have 2 large concern because there is a hold on the vehicle and secondly not only can no one explain to me why there is a hold but to have the hold released I have to speak to a certain officer, who is off duty, and "will most likely return on Wednesday". Meanwhile, impound fees continue to mount to some future date apparently unknown by anyone. Finally, although I approved the impound, I feel the "hold" was placed out of pure retaliation and that's why nothing seems to have been documented or can be provided.

Here is a brief synopsis of what occurred, from my viewpoint. Of course there are always multiple sides to every story. On October 4, 2015 I was preparing to go to work, and while I was in the shower my nephew who is only 13 drove my vehicle and from what I understand was speeding and was stopped. A Sergeant from Anderson City called and I apologize I don't know his name and asked if I knew he had the car and I said no, and he said I could come get the car if and they were going to release Tyler to his mama. I was going to go get my car, but his mama said do just want us to get your car. I told her yes. I had tried to call into work, which happens to be the lodging industry, and was told if you can't make it we don't need you. I didn't know exactly why at the time, but due to STATE OF EMERGENCY and flooding in SC, and power outages in Anderson, Duke Energy had booked nearly all, if not all available rooms in Anderson for repair crews and just recovering from the influx of tourists for the Clemson/Notre Dame game our industry's resources were stretched to the max to accommodate the situation occurring in our state. Yes, I did make the decision to go to work and not go to the scene. Even after the Sergeant told me he would not give my keys to Tyler's mom and he said that if I didn't come he was going to impound my car. He became very rude. He told someone in the background to impound my car, which as I said I agreed to, and to charge me with allowing the minor to drive because the minor said I did. Of course, Tyler said I did. He did something wrong, he got caught, he was scared. Whether I was on the scene or not there would be too stories, and I was already extreme angry about him taking the vehicle but then on top of it not owning up to it and taking accountability.

I also find it interesting that his mom thought about having him processed and was told they would just take him to Greenville and process him through and let him out and she would have to go get him, and they advised her that they wouldn't do that because she would just have to pay, and she is struggling and couldn't afford the gas to and from Greenville. However, for me, they can extort an additional 2 days minimum impound of \$150 per day and there is nothing I can do. I have no problem with paying what I owe. I have no problem being cited with a violation if that is what you consider appropriate because I know the truth and can only put faith into the justice system.

I would just like to be able to retrieve my vehicle in a timely manner. Be given information as to why it is held. The Sergeant mentioned, what if someone had gotten hurt and from what I gather he felt I wasn't taking it serious because I had chosen to go to work and ensure that my livelihood continue and I be able to feed and shelter myself rather than going to the scene. Truthfully, anyone can see that's not it. I prioritize, thankfully no one was hurt, and in the future, keys will not be available, nor will he or anyone be allowed to sit in the car and listen to music. Between my two options at the time, the one that needed immediate attention was work. Tyler's mom was there to deal with him at the moment. Every other part of the situation could be handled later because thank God the police were there and he did hurt anyone.

I am addressing this to all of you as representatives of the State, because once I got to work and found out that the requirement for me to be at work was not just so another coworker didn't have to work, but to help the State and County residents, I still think I made the right choice. Although when speaking to the Sergeant, I thought it was just about me and my job, it turned out to be much greater.

I would appreciate a quick resolution to this matter. I look forward to hearing from you or your offices.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David A. Rhodes". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

David A. Rhodes