

10/27/80

I, Charles Reynolds Jr., formerly employed at Yellow Cab of Cambridge was terminated on September 8, 1980.

No reason for my termination was given to me on that date.

I saw Jack Huber who is a Supervisor or boss at this Cab Company. I spoke to Mr Huber & asked him why I was terminated. He accused me of stealing gasoline and tampering with the meter. This I did not do.

I asked Jack if I could go back to work. he said No. I saw and know who was stealing or syphoning gasoline from Yellow taxis. It was not me. I never tampered with any meter.

I work a few days a week on commission and the rest of the week I was allowed to lease a taxi to finish out the week.

Leasing under these conditions still prevails at this company.

The above statement is true
Charles H Reynolds Jr.
10/27/80

November 13, 1980

To Whom it may concern:

I, Anthony Violanto while I was working at Yellow Cab Company of Cambridge did observe drivers leasing cabs and was told by them of this practice.

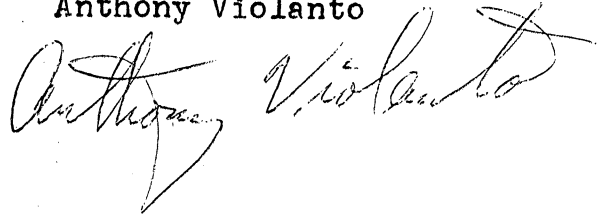
Even now while I am no longer employed I still see the same drivers and talk to them occasionally.

I asked them how is the cab business? They tell me the operation is the same as when I was there and the leasing practice is still going on.

The above statement is true.

Respectfully,

Anthony Violanto

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anthony Violanto". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the printed name.

November 15, 1980

I John Bielakowski working at Cambridge Yellow (Cambridge Taxi) know of the following practices prevailing at the Company such as working on Payroll 2 days a week, at and the rest of the week working "under the table".

My working two days per week on Commission I receive 45% percent. If I work a full week as a Commission driver I then receive 50% that means five full days on the payroll of that given week.

I've stayed with the Union. (leaflet was passed out prior to the decertification election) that the drivers pay would be cut for the following reasons: on withholdings

L. I. C. A. Taxes.

MASS: Taxes

W. T. Taxes.

This leaflet was passed out on the Company's premises. The above statement is true.

John R. Bielakowski

Witnessed by:

James Natelmaker Pres. B.A.

Henry Yorkin Secy. Treas. B.A.

318 Western Avenue
Cambridge, Ma. 02139
November 18, 1980

To Whom it May Concern:

I drove a cab full time for Cambridge Yellow Cab from June 1972 until March, 1980. During that time I fought against Yellow Cab's attempts to legalize leasing, and I helped initiate a union drive which culminated in the certification by the NLRB of Teamster Local 496 as the bargaining unit for the drivers and mechanics. I also fought against Yellow Cab's attempt to force drivers to buy their own gas last January. This fight was successful; when the drivers took the issue to Cambridge City Council, the Mayor and Council forced the owner of Yellow Cab to provide gas for the drivers.

During the whole period when I worked at Yellow Cab various illegal practices by the Company took place. The major illegal practice which took place throughout this whole period involved tax evasion. The Company had a policy of allowing drivers to stay "off the books". That is, they could take a straight cash cut after every shift instead of going on the payroll. In this way, the company could avoid taxes, and the responsibility for providing certain securities normally provided by the law like social security and workmen's compensation. In order to cover themselves, the company would sometimes keep drivers on the payroll for two or three shifts during the week. This was particularly true when the Labor Board was investigating the company during the union drive. The practice is easily enough proven: drivers on the payroll would have their waybills marked 'R'; those off the payroll 'L'.

Sincerely, Peter Lowber

Nov. 17, 1980

Cambridge City
Council

Mr. Mayor
Members of the City Council
Members of the Licensing Commission

Good Evening.

My name is Henry Yenookian, Sec'y-Treasurer
Business Agent of Teamsters Local Union 496

My reason for being here to night is
on leasing of taxicabs in your City, Cambridge.

Leasing of taxicabs is forbidden by you
the members of the licensing board and the Cambridge
City Council.

For your information Local Union 496 won a
election of representation of the driver employees of
Cambridge Taxi or Cambridge Yellow Cab Co., mechanics,
washers, shifters, gassers and tow truck drivers &
excluding all others within the ael. We became
certified to represent these employees.

I'm not here to have you listen and help in
negotiations because for the cab drivers all phases
of conditions of hours, commissions, vacations, seniority,
term of the contract, security clause and life insurance
(weekly benefits) has been agreed, initialed by union
and management for satisfaction by the Employees of this
Cab Co.

A certification petition⁽²⁾ was filed by a Russell Coffey of Cambridge Yellow on or about the eve of a notification meeting for these drivers to accept or reject this proposed contract.

At this point may I inform you all it is a much better & improved contract that is presently enjoyed by Checker Taxi & drivers of Boston & Brookline Red Cab drivers in Brookline.

On with my story

On Nov 12, 1980 the certification election was held at Yellow Cab and on their premises from 12:25 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.

Prior to the election the Union received the excelsior list Names & addresses of all Employees under the Act. about 117 in all.

I visited some of the names on this sheet and they had moved. No forwarding address. Not just one but many.

One in particular was the petitioner Russ Coffey driver another Lawrence Marc or Marc Lawrence mechanic and many more.

this list was not up to date. Hackney carriage violation
Change of address not enforced.

We found out leasing was still going on.

Paying of less or Radio time to owners who have bought a model in from Goldkey & who still hold their mortgages

Rent per day for so much and driver buy the gas
No deductions

Splitting the way bill no deductions company does or does not buy the gas.

Or working straight all deductions plus commission @ 45% max 3%

11
This City Council decreed no leasing and told Licensing Board that leasing is to stop.

When we got the decal notice of election shortly thereafter I called and spoke to Mrs. Colman and told her leasing was going on in the City, Cambridge. I told her that I was informed by an owner who came to her office and asked her to help him collect back rent on his cab which he had been leasing. She told him that leasing was not allowed in Cambridge. The owner said he didn't know that. But I do know this and I told Mrs. Colman that this same owner is still leasing. And leasing is still going on. She told me it was very difficult to enforce the rule because we have not got the manpower to stop leasing.

On account of this rule not being enforced Local Union 496 has been face with decertification.

Since winning the election as bargaining representatives we have not charged any initiation fees, dues or legal costs which has run into many thousands of dollars. Not only are the drivers losing, but you city, state and Federal are also losing. Drivers who work under the present conditions

have no protection for bodily injury such as worker's comp no reimbursement for robbery. Yet the Company pays all of their just due to City, State, Federal. But if all these drivers were called to atone what is due to the State and Federal would the owners come to their rescue and say don't worry we will take care of you. I know that they won't because in the late 60's or early 70's that is what happened. They didn't help them then and they won't now.

the rates on the meter in Boston went up on Nov 3, 1980

Boston 41¢ per mile,
700 for cab rental

Check 1980 39.50 + insurance if you
want it not Worker's Comp
and you buy your own gas

Before the increase the rental fee was much lower
every time the meter rate goes up so it goes the rate for the cab.

You have been courteous with me and patient
I am asking this body to punish or take serious
action on all owners who lease cabs in your city
that ~~can~~ can be done. A few who are punished then
then word will get out.

such as bars who violate liquor laws (selling to minors
or serving them
licenses can and have been suspended - not renewed
and immediately revoke

Medallions shall not be sold
they shall be returned to the licensing board
so another qualified Cambridge citizen may have a opportunity
to be in business
or if sold around the going market of 20,000 or the City
should get 20% of the sale from the previous owner



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CITY HALL, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139 • (617) 498-9017

OFFICE OF
THE CITY CLERK

January 7, 1981

Mr. Henry Yenovkian
Secretary-Treasurer
Business Agent of Teamsters Local Union 496
650 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02215

Dear Mr. Yenovkian:

Pursuant to your request to be notified of a hearing on the rate increase of the taxi meters, please be advised that the City Council has scheduled a hearing for Wednesday, January 14, 1981 at 7 p.m. in the City Council Chamber, City Hall, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

You are requested to appear at this time and be heard.

Your kind attention in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

PEH/dl

LEASING OF TAXICABS IN
THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

536-7110

TEAMSTERS LOCAL UNION

#496 PRESENTATION AGAINST
LEASING

PRESENTED BEFORE CITY

COUNCIL ON 11/17/80

650 Beacon St, 4th Fl 0220



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CITY HALL, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139 • (617) 498-9017

OFFICE OF
THE CITY CLERK

November 25, 1980

Mr. Henry Yenovkian
Secretary-Treasurer
Business Agent of Teamsters Local Union 496
650 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02215

Dear Mr. Yenovkian:

Please be advised that the City Council has scheduled a hearing for Monday, December 1, 1980 at 6 p.m. in the City Council Chamber, City Hall, Cambridge, Massachusetts on your request for a hearing on the issue of leasing of taxi cabs in the City of Cambridge.

Your kind attention in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

PEH/dl

Ball park figures

Cambridge medallions presently are going at: \$16,000.
to \$17,000.

Boston medallions are going at about: \$32,000. to
34,500

The above figures were given from someone who
has been dealing in the sale of medallions.

S 537

Comm. from Teamsters Local Union #496 requesting a hearing before the City Council relative to the leasing of taxi cabs in the City of Cambridge.

In City Council,

November 24, 1980

copies sent to: City Manager,
City Solicitor
License Comm.

11/24/80 (dl)

*Hearing 12/1/80
AT 6PM
petitioner notified
11/25/80 (dl)*