



S E A Consultants Inc.
Science/Engineering/Architecture

January 5, 1995

City Councillors
c/o Maureen Morris
City Hall
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear City Councillors:

Please read the attached letter which was sent to Police Commissioner Perry L. Anderson on December 21, 1994.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

S E A CONSULTANTS INC.

Arnold B. Goldstein (vry)

Arnold B. Goldstein

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Rocky Hill, CT
Londonderry, NH



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December 21, 1994

CAMBRIDGE, MA
Commissioner Perry L. Anderson, Jr.
Cambridge Police Department
5 Western Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Commissioner Anderson:

On Friday morning, December 16th, two of my colleagues were accosted and one was robbed in our parking lot on Bishop Allen Drive, opposite Douglass Street.

Joseph McDonough, driving a tan Volvo, drove into our parking lot on December 16, 1994 at about 7:10 am. As he entered the parking lot, he noticed two men standing across the street from the parking lot at the southeast corner of Bishop Allen Drive and Douglass Street. Joe pulled into the parking lot and parked his car, with the engine still running, as he noticed the two men walk into the parking lot and approach Joe's parked car. Joe was apprehensive as it was quite unusual to see men walking into the parking lot at that time of day. The parking lot is for the use of our employees. As the two men arrived at the Volvo, Joe got out. One of the men, who appeared to be in their mid-20's, was dark-skinned and quite large; appearing to be about 6'2" tall, with a mustache, weighing about 240 or 250 lbs., according to Joe. The second man appeared to be Hispanic, with a thin mustache, and was thinner and shorter; probably average height, weighing about 150 lbs. Both men were dressed in decent, dark field clothes. The Hispanic asked Joe, "Are you John?" Joe said no. They asked Joe for identification and Joe removed his license from his wallet and showed them his license. During this confrontation, the black man had his right hand thrust deeply into his coat pocket and appeared to be directing something at Joe. The Hispanic said "It's a family thing. Some guy named John fired my sister from over there and he drives a white Volvo." As he said this, the Hispanic pointed toward Bioran's offices. At that point, the black man said "Relax" and he grabbed Joe's arm hard. As Joe backed away, the black man moved with him. Joe was carrying a cup of coffee and his briefcase. He dropped his coffee and briefcase and with both hands he smashed down on the black man's arm, breaking the man's grasp, and ran quickly out of the parking lot and onto Douglass Street. As he ran onto Douglass Street he saw a younger man (possibly late teens) that he surmised might have been a lookout for the other two. At that point, Joe realized he wasn't being chased. He also remembered having left his briefcase where he dropped it and that his car door was open. He stopped running and walked back to the parking lot. The two men had walked out of the parking lot, the Hispanic holding his briefcase. The Hispanic said, "Here, I don't want your briefcase" as he handed it to Joe. Joe then went into the parking lot, closed his car door and then walked up Douglass Street to our offices at 485 Massachusetts Avenue (corner of Douglass Street).

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At about 7:20 am on that same morning, Bill Shaw drove his wife's green Volvo into the parking lot and noticed the two men on Bishop Allen Drive as he drove into the lot. He parked his car in the left rear part of the lot, next to a pickup truck. As he got out of his car, the two men had reentered the parking lot and were approaching as he stood between his green Volvo and the adjacent pickup truck. The Hispanic said, "Are you John, and do you work for Bioran?" Bill said, "No, I work for SEA; this is the SEA parking lot." The Hispanic said "Are you sure you're not John? You drive a Volvo." During this interchange, Bill noticed the black man's hand was thrust into his pocket and was pointing something at Bill. Bill was asked for identification and removed his wallet from his pocket to show his license. The Hispanic said "Give us your wallet" and Bill complied. The Hispanic removed the several dollars that Bill had in his wallet and, according to Bill, became agitated when he found only a few dollar bills. The Hispanic then said, "Give us more money. We know you have it." The black man then started frisking Bill who was now between two vehicles with his back against the neighboring building. They saw Bill's wristwatch and asked for it. Bill removed his watch and gave it to them. They then told him to turn facing the wall of the building "because we don't want to hurt you." Bill heard them walk off. At that point, Bill picked up his dropped wallet and tried to comfort himself as he greeted a fellow worker, Mike Pierdinock, who had just driven into the parking lot, passing the two men who were walking out. As Bill and Mike walked out of the parking lot toward the office building, they could see nothing of the men. Upon reaching the office, Bill called the Cambridge Police Department and spoke with Detective William Phillips III. Detective Phillips told Bill to go downstairs to meet two police officers who would be there immediately in a squad car. Bill and Joe joined the police officers who were very responsive and drove them in a search of the immediate area looking for the two men who were not to be found. By that point, other police officers in squad cars had apprehended other men walking near the parking lot, hoping to catch the two robbers, but the two men who had accosted Joe and Bill had disappeared. Later that morning, Detective Phillips asked Joe and Bill to come to the police station to review mug shots hoping to identify the robbers. Joe and Bill identified several possible pictures but could not make an absolutely certain identification from the photographs. Both Joe and Bill said the police were very responsive.

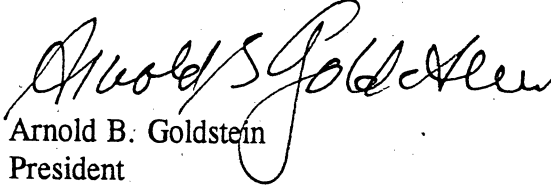
I am writing to you out of frustration and concern. As president of S E A Consultants and Vice President of the Central Square Business Association, I give a good deal of my time and effort toward making Central Square a better place to work, live and shop. Incidents like this are quite frightening, most discouraging and disheartening. I can only ask that you and your department do all in your power to insure that incidents of this type do not happen again.



Commissioner Perry L. Anderson, Jr.
December 21, 1994
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Very truly yours,

SEA CONSULTANTS INC.


Arnold B. Goldstein
President

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cc: City Manager, Robert Healey
City Council
F.G. Aufiero, S E A
J.F. McDonough, S E A
W.W. Shaw, S E A

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Consent Communication #9

**A communication was received from SEA
Consultants regarding an incident including
some of his employees at the Bishop Allen
Drive Lot.**

In City Council January 9, 1995

*Referred to the
City manager and
Police Commissioner
for a response
Copy sent to City mgr
1/11/95 @*