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CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

19 Forest St., Apt.22
Cambridge, Mass. 02140
13 April 1985

Cambridge City Council
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Sirs:

I enclose a copy of a letter I have sent to my landlord, Scott Management, upon discovering that due to their failure to repair the mailboxes in our building, none of the tenants' first-class mail was being delivered. I wish to call your attention to this landlord's negligence. Is there anything more I can do to get mail service restored?

Sincerely,

Jane Burbank

Jane Burbank

19 Forest St., Apt.22
Cambridge, Mass. 02140
13 April 1985

Mr. Donald Spinney
Scott Management
33 Broad St., Suite 200
Boston, Mass. 02109

Dear Mr. Spinney:

This is to record and confirm our telephone conversation of April 12, 1985. As I told you on the telephone yesterday, I arrived home Thursday evening, April 11 to discover that once again there was no mail in my mail box at 19 Forest St. Upon inquiring from my neighbors and the Post Office, I discovered that the mail had not been delivered for several days. This was because the mail carrier is not allowed to deliver mail to mail boxes that are not secure.

As you may know, the mailboxes in the building have been damaged for several months, since at least September, 1984 when I returned from my vacation. The boxes are unlocked and do not close properly; in fact, anyone in the unlocked hallway could reach into the mailboxes. I had informed the superintendent, Grant Meacham, of this damage--which is clearly visible--last year, and had been told by him that, first, "The Post Office had the key to the boxes," and then, later, that a new box had been ordered. I also complained to him last night. It would seem that absolutely nothing has been done for seven months to provide your tenants with a secure mailbox, and that now the Post Office will no longer deliver our mail. It is also worthy of note that no sign informing the tenants of the non-delivery of their mail was posted. When I posted a sign informing the other neighbors of the situation, it was torn down. My mail, including a check of \$6500.00 and documents concerning a job offer for a permanent post, worth at least twenty-six years of salary, benefits, and retirement benefits, was sitting at the Central Square Post Office unbeknownst to me.

It is clear that I could sue you for extensive damages, but for the time being I am going to: 1) withhold all rent payments until the mailboxes are secured, keys are distributed, and the mail is being delivered again; 2) I will deduct from any future rent payments the cost of my time spent in collecting my mail, arranging for the collection of my mail, and in any matters connected with this problem. Please note that my trips to the post office thus far have taken between 30 and 45 minutes. I have spent altogether 2 hours and 15 minutes on this matter, and will therefore deduct \$45.00 from any rent I may pay in the future.

Since I have also informed the superintendent of several other problems that have not been fixed, I will take this opportunity to inform

you of them in writing. 1) The hot water will not turn off in my kitchen and is running constantly. (The super claims that the faucet and not just the washer must be replaced. He has known about this for over a month.) 2) Several windows have broken panes. (He has known about this for over a year.) 3) One window has no hasp and cannot be locked or kept closed. (He has known about this for at least seven months.)

I hope that you will be able to see to these problems immediately.

Sincerely,

Jane Burbank

Jane Burbank

cc: Cambridge Rent Control Board
Cambridge City Council
Postmaster, U.S. Postal Service, Cambridge, Mass., Central Square

15.

S-305

Comm. from Jane Burbank, 19 Forest St. #22, requesting assistance in connection with her landlord failing to repair mailboxes at said premises causing no delivery of 1st class mail.

copy sent to the City Manager 4/24/85

In City Council,

April 22, 1985

4/22/85

*Referred to the
City Manager - Report
in two weeks -*