



Friday, January 21, 2011

- (1) On Wednesday, January 19, 2011, one or more LADWP employees removed the water meter, pipe union connections, and inserted a tamper-proof plug on the City water supply end, on private property, without knocking on the door, or ringing the doorbell to notify the owner and residence inhabitant(s) of the property that this water meter and water supply would be disconnected. Both photos prove or show clearly that this water meter is on private property. The LADWP has easement rights only, meaning any utility work to be done, such that the property rights of the owner are violated, mandate that the owner be notified immediately and prior to actually performing such work. A water, power, and/or any telephone utility company and its worker(s) must ring the door bell, knock on the door, etc, to notify the owner, and/or the building inhabitants before doing any utility related work on private property.
- (2) The supervisor(s) for the LADWP power system side know this. Prior to disconnecting the LADWP overhead electric utility service at my residence on Thursday, July 22, 2010, an LADWP supervisor, this supervisor being Caucasian, was accompanied by other LADWP power utility worker(s), and an armed (black) LADWP security guard, to notify Michael L. Lofton and my Mom, Mrs. Esther M. Lofton, the only inhabitants at this residence, of their intention to disconnect electric service from our residence. This was done prior to any LADWP employee entering the school yard to climb the 45 foot utility pole that is in the left rear of the backyard of the above residence before disconnecting the overhead electric power terminations at the pole. Both my Mom and I expressed that this was wrong for the LADWP to hold the income belonging to a former

employee of the LADWP without cause, this income being retirement income, and that this would have a direct impact on the ability of Michael L. Lofton to make LADWP utility bill payments. Both the power system supervisor and his co-workers understood, but stated we are only here to do our job. In light of the foregoing these LADWP electric utility workers were denied access by Michael L. Lofton and Mrs. Esther M. Lofton, to use our backyard and use the LADWP easement right on this property to access the utility pole that rests on our private property. The power utility pole was accessed from the LA Unified School playground the adjacent property at the rear of this residence.

- (3) [Subsequently, I made use of a 3500 Watt Homelite Generator to supply power to the refrigerator, other appliances, a few duplex outlets, and lighting for almost a month,](#) so that the LADWP retirement section would resolve this serious issue. Supplying gasoline for this generator became a financial burden, this left me no other recourse but to climb the utility pole to reconnect power to our residence.
- (4) I'm a resident and property taxpaying resident of the City and County of Los Angeles, [Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa](#), and [2nd District Supervisor Mark Ridley Thomas](#), did have been petitioned repeated by certified mail pertaining to upholding his sworn duty to protect my Constitutional rights so that my retirement earnings can honored and other issues resolved (Los Angeles Superior Court cases [C895188](#) and [BC 385899](#)).. On Thursday, January 27, at the Stanley Mosk Los Angeles Superior Court, at 8:30 A.M., these issues will be addressed in court.

I called the LADWP West Water yard trouble section today, Friday, January 21 at (213) 367-5665, and Linda Urbina responded to the call. I expressed my dissatisfaction with the manner in which LADWP utility water workers disconnected the main water meter and inserted a tamper-proof plug on the City water supply end, on private property, without ever knocking on the door, or ringing the doorbell to notify the owner and inhabitants of the property that this water meter would be disconnected. I also stated that my Mom, who is 80 years old also lives at this residence. Cutting off water would be an extreme hardship for anyone and even worse for a senior citizen. It is very wrong that the LADWP cuts off our water, while the LADWP retirement sections continues to hold my retirement benefits without cause. It should be a no brainer to anyone with any sense that to deny retirement income belonging to a former employee of the LADWP without cause, would have a direct impact on the ability of Michael L. Lofton to make LADWP bill payments.

Linda Urbina, being Hispanic understood this, and passed this on to her immediate supervisor, Mr. Greg Williams, who is black. I related the same information to Mr. Greg Williams. Mr. Williams stated that the LADWP has an easement right to remove this water meter, because it is LADWP or City property. In response I stated although the

water meter belongs to the LADWP it is installed on private property. Easement rights of the LADWP (or any other utility) do not give the LADWP complete authority to violate real property rights of any homeowner. The Constitutional, private property rights, and property interests of the owner take precedence over any easement right of the LADWP on privately owned property. The LADWP must notify the owner, the owner's representative, tenants, and/or the inhabitant(s) of a private residence on the day that work is taking place. The owner of this residence is Michael Lofton.

I also alerted Mr. Williams that [my Mom](#), an 80 year old senior citizen lives at this residence. Should the act of cutting off utility supplied water result in a serious illness or death of my Mom, I intend to hold the LADWP/City of Los Angeles liable. The fact that the LADWP holds the retirement benefits of a 30 year, and age qualifying LADWP employee did not register at all with him. Nor did it register with Mr. Greg Williams that this property is private property, and the LADWP must contact the owner before removing this water meter and cutting off city supplied water on private property.

How well I know the correct procedure. As a Senior Electrical Mechanic, one of my duties was to make written formal prior arrangement for an outage at customer stations, other private property for LADWP utility vault maintenance, and/or to accommodate a commercial and industrial property owner's need for an LADWP outage to maintain their own electrical equipment. Infringing upon the real property rights of any real property owner without notifying or gaining the consent of the owner is a serious matter, so much so, that the Constitutional rights of the property owner(s) and property occupying tenants, if violated may result in civil liability to the LADWP and/or the City of Los Angeles.

[This is but one more experience that shows or proves that black people in a position of responsibility](#), such as Mr. Greg Williams, LADWP Water Utility Supervisor, [Ms. Tanya Franklin](#), LADWP Customer Service Representative Supervisor, [2nd District Supervisor Mark Ridley Thomas, and/or others](#), have no regard for the property rights, rule of law, and/or Constitutional rights of law abiding U.S. born Black people.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Lofton