

6-30-2019

South Dakota One Call Board;

I am the one filing these complaints to hopefully protect my daughter. I do so with no joy and much reservations due to possible repercussions. Jon Fischer of Stockwell Engineering (Engineering company overseeing this project) suggested that we not confront Zacharias construction as they "get very mean and play very dirty". This was said at the Humboldt city council meeting on August 26th of last year. One council member said "remember Jon told you so". I also made this statement to Nick Prunty at one of our short verbal meetings. This is the reason that I initially went to Prunty Construction to try and work out something with Nick Ritter on Tammy's lost wages.

In reviewing your Process and Procedures;

You do encourage parties to discuss and resolve as many issues as possible before utilizing your penalty process. I tried my hardest to do this. Nick Ritter of Prunty was aware that I did not want to go this route, he chose the insurance route. I have worked on resolving this fairly for all parties for the past 10 months. I have over 100 pages of documentation and probably at least that many hours if not more working on this. In the original 90 day period I did not have the evidence to file a proper complaint nor did I know it had to be placed within that time. It has taken this long to work through the insurance claims. I feel that Tammy was the only one that has suffered considerable losses. Tammy was the innocent bystander who is now forced to prove that the construction companies are liable for her lost wages. It is unbelievable that at least one of the companies did not step up to the plate and offer to pay her for the lost wages. Midco, Stockwell Engineers, Prunty construction are all multimillion dollar companies. Zacharias insurance did step up to the plate some but I feel not enough. They are a half million dollars company.

The construction companies seem to have the run of the town. They have no one to make them accountable. They can surely cause a "hit and run accident" and get away with it, unless you choose to act on this.

In paragraph 3 in your policies and procedures it states "in the instance of unreported damage to an underground utility you have to file within one year". Many of these events were not reported to Midco, USIC or SD811. I feel certain that that we have proved our case, we are asking that you do your part in using you powers in taking corrective actions so it does not happen in the future to parties working at home. Imagine the issues it will cause if the schools start using online classes more in this post covid 19 era.


Roger French