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FILED FOR RECORD
SKAMANIA CO, WASH
BY GEO SMITH

FORM OF CLAIM FOR DAMAGES

AUG 20 3 15 AM '86

TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS of Skamania County, Washington:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that in accordance with Chapter 36.45 of the Revised Code of Washington, I GEORGE D. SMITH

AUDITOR
KARY M. OLSON

hereby present you with my claim for damages against the County of Skamania, State of Washington, with the information required to be given by RCW 36.45.020 as follows:

1. That the injury for which I claim damages against the County of Skamania, State of Washington, occurred on or about the 26th day of July, 19 86.

2. That the place of injury was COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS AT ROCK CREEK.

3. That the location and description of the defect which caused the injury are FAULTY GOLF CART USED BY GROUND PERSONNEL - CART STARTED WHILE PARKED & NO OPERATOR ON BOARD, THEN RAN FROM ITS PARKING PLACE - ACROSS PAVED AREA & RAN INTO MY CAR.

4. That the injury is described as follows: DENTED LEFT REAR PANEL OF CAR - WILL REQUIRE STRAIGHTENING & REPAINTING (SEE PHOTOS SUBMITTED PREVIOUSLY.)

5. That the amount of damages claimed is as follows: _____

6. That the actual residence of the claimant at the time of presenting and filing this claim is P.O. Box 194, NORTH BONNEVILLE, WA 98639.

7. That the actual residence of the claimant for a period of six months immediately prior to the time that this claim accrued was SAME AS IN #6 ABOVE.

DATED: AUGUST 19

, 19 86

Geo. D. Smith

(Claimant)

Registered S.
Indexed W.
Indirect S.
Filed
Mailed



DATE IN .		ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE	
NAME		July 29, 1986	
ADDRESS		TRADE <input type="checkbox"/>	
Box 184		CITY	
HOME PH N		No. BENVILLE	
BUSINESS PH N		STATE	
(206) 427-8143 (206) 964-6320		WA	
COLOR		YR /MAKE/MODEL OF CAR	
Red		79 HONDA CIVIC	
TOP		LICENSE	
CODE		KYR 722	
BOTTOM		6240 S. TACOMA WAY	
FREE ESTIMATE		TACOMA, WA 98409	
THIS IS NOT AN INVOICE		206-473-2700	

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BODYWORKS**

[illegible]

REFER TO BACK OF PAGE FOR EXPLANATION OF ABBREVIATIONS AND TERMS

July 26, 1986.

Accident report:

On Friday, July 26, 1986 I received a phone call from Joyce Gale, secretary of Parks & Recreation Center, asking about incoming campers. I had conferred with Bill King earlier in the day on this matter and ~~was told~~ he had worked it out with the chairman of the camper group. When Joyce Gale called the only thing I could do was to get Bill to the phone, to give her the information she needed.

Bill was located within visible distance on the grounds, but out of ear shot to several of my calls. Spotting a Fair Golf Cart parked at the entrance of the Exhibit Hall where I was located, and having driven the cart the previous day to gain experience, I jumped in the cart with the intention of driving quickly to Bill's location. When I put my foot on the gas pedal, it went to the floor and stuck there. I tried to tug on it with my hand, to raise it back up, but it would not budge. The Golf Cart did not move. I assumed it was not turned on, and the key was out of the ignition, so I went back to the Exhibit Hall, mindful that the gas pedal seemed broken or something.

Carol Kidner met me in the Exhibit Hall and I said, "The Cart won't move; the gas pedal is stuck." She replied that the cart was broken and out of commission." Therefore, I asked her to walk to Bill's location over by the Baseball Diamond, and tell him to call Joyce Gale as soon as possible. This was perhaps 3:30 p.m.

At approximately 4:00 or so, Bill arrived at the office and I questioned him regarding the Campers, to see if he needed to still return Joyce's call. He was very busy constructing a new set of bleachers, and he did not feel he had the time to deal with the campers, so he gave me the appropriate message and I returned the call to Joyce Gale. Bill went back to work. I drove my car to the Pioneer Office and the Court House to deliver the pay-roll, and returned to the Fair Office at 5:10 p.m., parking my vehicle in its traditional spot along-side the horse arena, opposite the Exhibit Hall. The Golf Cart was still in its same location, parked in the opposite direction of my car, on opposite side of road, and almost directly in front of the large Exhibit Hall doors. Upon entering the Office I met Frosty Baxter, who visited with me, along with her four-year old daughter. As we discussed the Fair Timber Carnival, the young girl went outside. Only moments later, she came back in rather shyly and seemed surprised

as she said, "A blue car ran into a red car all by itself." Neither Frosty or myself realized at first what she said, and she spoke the identical same words again. Suddenly realizing that my car was red, I got up and walked rather hastily outside. There, Frosty and I discovered the blue Fair Golf Cart, rammed into the rear side of my vehicle. The little girl told us once more, that the "Blue car started up all by itself and ran into the red car." We assumed that the gusty wind had given it a nudge, and, gathering momentum, had rolled down a small slope, gathering speed, crossing the road, and colliding with my parked car.

When Frosty Baxter left she offered to drive to Bill's location where he was working on the grounds (Baseball Field, setting up bleachers), and tell him what happened. Then she left.

Bill King and Russ McRay^W inspected the Golf Cart and discovered that the motor was completely burned out, the engine having been left on in a parked position. He dis-assembled the two vehicles. I discussed the issue of liability insurance with Barbara Bailey by phone, and drove my car home. It was 6:00 p.m. when I left the Fair grounds. The Golf Cart was shoved to the inside of the Exhibit Hall.

Signed:

Joyce W. Smith
Joyce W. Smith

August 6, 1986

UPON FURTHER INVESTIGATION:

It was discovered that during the period of time when the Golf Cart owned by the Fair, was faulty, it had, in fact, been turned off by Carol Kidner, hired help. However, the engine itself, would not turn off (internally.) Thus, when a gust of wind or some other "nudge" moved the cart slightly, it activated the motor just enough to get it moving. As it was parked in front of the Exhibit Building, the small decline on the park-way was just enough to get it moving at a fast rate of speed, thereby gathering momentum as it traveled across the road and into the car parked at the other side beside arena.

It was therefore determined that it had to be a FREAK ACCIDENT, considered, an "act of God", and no one was at fault.

The car (1979 Honda Civic) is registered to: George D. Smith.
P.O. Box 194
No. Bonneville, WA. 98629

P.S. The Golf Cart has been fixed! c.
J.S.

AUDITOR
GARY H. OLSON

FILED FOR RECORD
SEANAMIA CO. WASH
BY Geo. D. Smith
Aug 15 2 34 PM '86