## STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL



P.O. Box 30736 Lansing, Michigan 48909

## DANA NESSEL ATTORNEY GENERAL

May 17, 2019

Mr. Aaron Walter Mr. Thomas Christensen Odd Job Disposal, Inc. P.O. Box 97 Oxford, MI 48371 Mr. Aaron Walter Mr. Thomas Christensen Odd Job Disposal, Inc. 3323 Metamora Rd. Oxford, MI 48371

Re:

Odd Job Disposal, Inc.

## Gentlemen:

This letter is to give you notice of intended action in accordance with MCL 445.905(2), and to give you an opportunity to immediately cease and desist from engaging in the unlawful business practices described below.

As background, this Office is responsible for enforcement of the Michigan Consumer Protection Act, MCL 445.901 et seq. In 2019, the Attorney General has received more than 40 complaints against Odd Job. In addition, the Better Business Bureau for Southeastern Michigan (BBB) has shared with the Attorney General numerous complaints it has received against Odd Job from July of 2018 to the present. These documents demonstrate a patterned failure by Odd Job to provide the waste hauling services consumers in Oakland County had been promised and had paid for. The complaints further show a patterned failure to provide refunds to consumers who had cancelled service, or to whom Odd Job ceased providing service.

In addition, evidence obtained by the Attorney General (together with information available to the public) demonstrates Odd Job and its owners accepted payments for services from some consumers without a reasonable belief such services could, or would, be provided.

Based on the available information, the Attorney General has probable cause to believe you have engaged in the following unfair trade practices identified in the MCPA:

- (g) Advertising or representing goods or services with intent not to dispose of those goods or services as advertised or represented.
- (s) Failing to reveal a material fact, the omission of which tends to mislead or deceive the consumer, and which fact could not reasonably be known by the consumer.

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- (u) Failing, in a consumer transaction that is rescinded, canceled, or otherwise terminated in accordance with the terms of an agreement, advertisement, representation, or provision of law, to promptly restore to the person or persons entitled to it a deposit, down payment, or other payment, or in the case of property traded in but not available, the greater of the agreed value or the fair market value of the property, or to cancel within a specified time or an otherwise reasonable time an acquired security interest.
- (y) Gross discrepancies between the oral representations of the seller and the written agreement covering the same transaction or failure of the other party to the transaction to provide the promised benefits.

[MCL 445.903(1).]

The failure to provide refunds to consumers is an ongoing violation of the MCPA. Mr. Christensen, during our conversation on May 9, 2019, you said you are in the process of trying to sell trucks and other equipment owned by Odd Job because the business is now closed. As this process is undertaken, you should ensure fair value is received by Odd Job for any assets that are sold, you must carefully document the sale transactions, and ensure that any proceeds are preserved for refunds to consumers. In addition to providing this notice, the Attorney General is asking the Oakland County Circuit Court to authorize the issuance of subpoenas under which you will be required to provide documentation about all of these assets and their sales to this Office. We caution Odd Job and its principals and representatives against any diversion of assets, or the proceeds from the sale of any assets.

You are advised that the Attorney General may commence suit against Odd Job, Thomas Christensen, and Aaron Walter on, or after, May 18, 2019. I look forward to receiving documentation to you, and to working with you to ensure consumers are appropriately compensated.

Sincerely,

Darrin F. Fowler

Assistant Attorney General Corporate Oversight Division

(517) 335-7632

DFF/cms