



HOUSE of  
COMMONS

*The Select Committee*

*To Investigate House Renovation Practices*

CHAIR LEO CAVINDER | RANKING MEMBER TIM CAVINDER

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House Rpt. No. 221-07 | Filed June 3, 2022

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**May 31, 2022 INCIDENT REPORT**

*Submitted by Leo Cavinder, Chair*

## I. Events Leading Up

Leo and Tim had several conversations with George Neal in respect to the upcoming plans. This included the windows and how to replace them.

George wanted to tear the whole wall down in order to replace the windows, and install new electrical boxes. However, Leo objected, saying that it does not require him to tear down the entire wall to install windows and new electrical boxes. Leo also said that Lowe's and Home Depot sold windows in the same size and cheaper.

In another conversation, George, Tim, and Leo were all in the Speaker's Room. George asked that the bed be moved, and that Leo move all his items. Tim reminded George that the desk does not move and that he would have to work around it. He said that he would do Leo's room first and that "it will be done by the end of day" (this appeared to be a false statement).

Upon the delivery of the window, Tim noticed that the windows were not clear, but distorted. He also noted that the windows were huge and that two windows would leave barely any wall space.

Leo also informed Tim that the whiteboard was a pain to install, and pushed to replace the windows in the same size. He noted that home improvement stores would not sell windows that are not up to code.

Tuesday, Tim left a note for George that day that went as follows:

### *Exhibit A - May 31 Note Tim to George*

George,

Christina does NOT WANT these Bedroom windows. She wants clear windows. We are thinking only one window per bedroom because of their size. She also does NOT WANT the walls tore up and new insulation and drywall.

We deposited the check on Friday as soon as it clears the bank we will put the money in your account.

## II. George Breaking into the House

While Leo and Tim were at the BMV for Leo's Driving Test, George appeared to be entering the House.

Tim testified that all doors were locked to his knowledge. This included the side and front doors. The door to the basement was open and unlocked. However, he is unable to get to the actually part of the House – as the side door was locked.

However, George appeared to enter through the side door in the new room with the windows that needed to be installed. However, the note told him to postpone all operations because the windows were not clear. George found that the sliding glass door was unlocked. He appeared to move the bins in front of sliding glass door and proceeded to let himself into the House.

The Speaker's room door was not locked. If it was, he would have no way inside his room without blindly breaking in from the outside, or breaking the doorhandle.

Sarah testified that she saw George entered, but since she knew him for the purposes of construction, she did not think much of it.

However, she thought about texting Leo or Tim since she heard a lot of noise coming from the Speaker's Room.

### OUR RECOMMENDATIONS:

- We believe that all doors should be double-checked to be locked when an adult is not home and George is expected to arrive.
- We believe that more cameras and/or security measures should be taken to ensure that we can see exactly where George is at all times.

- We believe that if a similar event transpired where George breaks his way into the House, the police should be called.

### **III. Initial Reactions to the Break In**

Upon the return of Leo and Tim from the BMV and lunch which was Culver's, Tim entered first. He testified that he saw the bins were moved, and did not know how it was possible.

He looked down the hall and saw Leo's door shut. Leo testified that the door was open when he left.

He opened it and saw George removing the thermostat used to control the electric heater that was going to be removed.

Tim said something to the effect of "What the hell George? Didn't you see my note?" George stuttered to say "Yes, you didn't like the [windows or glass]?" When he said that, Tim noticed the massive holes in the wall. Tim turned around and starting to yell – such things as "God Fu\*\*ing Damit". He threw his keys and went outside and screaming. Upon this, Leo called Christina to inform her that George ignored the note and that dad was "livid beyond livid". Christina spoke with Tim and minutes later got a call from Susie; George's husband.

George went outside and ate lunch in his van. Tim told everyone to go in Leo's car. Christina called back and informed Tim that they had to cut the holes. Tim argued that the note said not to do it. Christina decided to come back home. She was at Valparaiso University at the time. Leo stopped at the curve where George was told by Tim to install the one window by end of day and then leave.

Leo drove to the park on Pine Lake Ave and everyone ate their lunch. When Christina came back home. Upon her return, Leo drove back home.

### **IV. Discussions**

When Christina arrived home, Leo drove home. George appeared to move the conservation to the bathroom, the closet, and in addition, the hole dug for landscaping. All of this was not the reason for the anger.

Months earlier, Tim told George that he “must sell the idea of the closet” to Christina. His way of doing this was throwing Tim under the bus by saying “Well, Tim wanted the closet...”.

He told Christina that the landscaping hold would have to be filled in.

## **V. Discovery of Lies**

Upon the return home, Christina wanted to talk to Tim and Leo about the windows and the bathroom. Tim was frustrated.

George asked when he could move on to the next room (Sarah), and Tim yelled “I’ll tell you when!”. Tim moved to Garage to show Christina the damages that are discussed in Section VI.

There were arguments back and forth about who said what. It was clear that items in the contract were being thrown out the window. Plans were constantly changing and failed to meet expectations.

### **OUR RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- We believe that either replacing or providing him limited tasks and introducing new people to handle more advanced construction projects is best.

## **VI. Discovery of Damages**

It was apparent today was the day to display all the damage George caused.

Christina was shown the broken Cedar Chest that was “fixed” by George with scrap wood and wood screws. She was told about the damage to the car, the rare plant being ran over (despite being

waring markers), dirt on plants, clothes in dumpster (earlier incident in 2021), broken desk, and missing pills.

#### OUR RECOMMENDATIONS:

- The Committee plans to report all damages and estimated value.
- We recommend that the next contractor(s) be insured and bonded.
- We recommend that George pay for all damages and cannot be funds out of the TCU Account.
- If he fails to pay, we recommend to place a Lien on his property and business to collect the debts.

### **VII. Discovery of Void Contract**

Christina was informed that after inspection of the Contract signed in September, that it was null and void. The contracts fails to provide accurate information, lacks complete terms, and contracts that commit an illegal act (Tax Evasion) are not enforceable in a court of law.

### **VIII. Installation of Window(s)**

Given the fact that there was two massive holes in the wall, he was asked twice to install the windows by the end of the day.

Instead, he placed two sheets of plywood and left for the day. George left the room in a mess and various holes from the whiteboard and curtain left exposure to the outdoors.

*Exhibit B - Photos After George Left on May 31, 2022*



## **IX. Discovered Damage in Speaker's Room**

The Speaker noted that the desk was moved, despite being told several times that it would not move without breaking. The Speaker notes that the glue seal was broken and several bolts that held the desk together were missing. On June 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Speaker ordered a new desk – pending money from George for the replacement.

In addition, we find that there were missing objects that Leo cannot find.

### OUR RECOMMENDATIONS:

- We recommend that George not move any objects in anyone's room without explicit permission.

## **X. Notice of Payment Request for Damages**

On June 1<sup>st</sup>, the Speaker asked George to pay the following costs:

- The Desk (Broken) (\$ 240.00)
- Allergy Relief (Missing) (\$ 30.00)

- Removing Anchor Screws (Damage) (\$ 50.00)

He was asked to pay this by the end of the month.

## **XI. Temporary Suspension Notice**

On June 1<sup>st</sup>, George was suspended except for the purposes of installing Leo's windows. George appears to be mis-interpreting the notes (either on purpose or mental retardation) and took it that he was never coming back. As we will discuss in Section XII, George fails to install the windows, like requested and promised.

## **XII. Following Days of Lack of Work**

George was suppose to install the windows on May 31, 2022, after the break-in, however it was discovered he did not have the necessary tools to complete the installation of windows. (Which brings the question of why he did what he did?)

On June 1<sup>st</sup>, he arrived at approximately 10 AM. He called Christina to ask for the removal of the CAUTION tape that was placed the night before under the Order of the Speaker (*Exhibit C*). The Speaker removed the caution tape.



*Exhibit C – State of Emergency Declaration No. 221-06*

THE SPEAKER'S ROOM

MAY 31, 2022

DECLARATION NO. 221-06

WHEREAS, House of Commons Code § 2-5-6(a) (2022) permits the Speaker of the House to declare a State of Emergency when weather or other factors cause assistance necessary to relieve such emergency.

WHEREAS, George Neal has failed to comply with The House Renovation Act of 2021 and violated several common-sense norms.

WHEREAS, Given the recent events on May 31, 2022, I find it necessary to take immediate action in my power to relieve this situation.

*Resolved*, that I declare a State of Emergency for the House in effect immediately until June 3, 2022, and is subject to renewal if the situation so warrants.

*Resolved*, that George Neal not be permitted inside the House except for the purpose of collecting tools for time to be determined by the Sergeant-at-Arms and the House shall prevent his entrance into the House.

*Resolved*, that I appoint Tim Cavinder and Leo Cavinder, pursuant to Section § 2(a) of House Resolution 54, to serve on the Select Committee to Investigate House Renovation Practices.

*Resolved*, that the Select Committee work quickly to find and report alternative options in order to comply with the Act.

*Resolved*, that George Neal—

- (i) Pay the cost of \$224.00 for the purposes of replacing the desk that has been damaged;
- (ii) Pay any additional cost to be determined appropriate for the purposes of repairing damages;
- (iii) Be denied access to the Room of the Speaker for a period of time to be determined by the Speaker.

BE IT SO ORDERED.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leo W. Cavinder".

Leo W. Cavinder  
Speaker of the House

Upon the removal of the tape, George unloaded his materials purchased the night before from Menards.

Then at 10:52 AM, Christina texted the Speaker the following communications:

*Exhibit D - Text Exchange on June 1, 2022*

CHRISTINA: Is George working on your windows?

LEO: Not yet

LEO: He appears to be on his machine moving stuff

CHRISTINA: What is he moving? I thought your dad left a note to finish the windows in your room.

LEO: He is moving plywood he bought at Menards. There is a note that says that.

CHRISTINA: Oh, ok

CHRISTINA: Is that all your dad said to do?

LEO: To complete the windows in Leo's room today

LEO: It all it said

CHRISTINA: Ok, thanks

He then read the notes posted and called Christina again. Christina then called Tim to seek clarification of the Notes. George took it that he was not coming back following the installation of the windows ever again. Tim clarified that the notes where for this week only – for the purposes of everyone cooling off following the incident. (*Exhibit E - Tim Cavinder June 1, 2022 Note*) Christina also found out about the note from the Speaker, asking for payment for the damages that took place. Tim clarified that he did place a note and that he was told several times and agreed to not move the desk. Despite this, the desk was moved, and George ended up breaking the desk. The noted is asking for payment within 30 days. (*Exhibit F - Leo Cavinder June 1, 2022 Note*)

George then informed Christina that the windows would not be installed on June 1<sup>st</sup> because of the impending rain. He was told that he could work in the basement. George left shortly after and appeared not to work in the basement. There was light rain several hours later.

On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, George failed to appear because Christina told George on June 1<sup>st</sup> that he would not come back at all following the day of June 1<sup>st</sup> until next Monday. This contradicted the note from Tim and Leo.

Leo texted Christina asking why George was not showing up and installing the windows in one day, like he promised. (*Exhibit G – June 2<sup>nd</sup> Text Messages Between Christina and Leo*) Again, Christina miscommunicated to George about when he can show up.

George told Christina that he felt not wanted in people’s bedroom. He apologized to Christina. He said that he has done similar actions (in respect to breaking into people houses) and that it was not an issue before. He also said he would “keep it simple” and finish Leo’s room and then move to the new room. In addition, he promised to only communicate between Christina and him – not talking to Tim. However, Christina is rarely home when George is working.

Christina told George to appear on June 3<sup>rd</sup> for the purposes of installing the new windows. George called several hours later to say he has a doctor’s appointment and unable to complete it on that day.

*This concludes the report.*

*Exhibit E - Tim Cavinder June 1, 2022 Note*

Finish what you need to do in Leo's room today then you are done for the week. We will see you next week. Our family needs to make some decisions about the future of this project.

*Exhibit F - Leo Cavinder June 1, 2022 Note*

George,

Since you broke into the House, despite the note and the doors being locked, you caused some damage that I would like to address.

First, you moved things without my knowledge. We talked that I would move MY items. Instead, you ripped and moved things without my knowledge to where they went. For example, you placed my plant (that was on a coaster with water on the bottom) on my \$200 calculator. Fortunately, there was no damage.

However, you were told SEVERAL times NOT to move the desk and that it will not move without breaking. Again, you went under the desk and un-screwed and moved my desk. Because of this, it has been damaged; just like you were told would happen. **Attached is the cost to replace the desk part—which you are expected to pay.**

In addition, the bedside counter was moved. It contained my medications. Since this, one has gone missing. **I expect you to pay to replace all missing objects.**

Next, you ripped out the curtain screws. These had anchor screws to support them. When you rip them out, it take ten times more work than if I took 10 seconds to un-screw them. Since you get paid for additional work, **I expect to get paid for my additional work to remove the anchor screws.**

Today, you are being asked to replace the windows and install the drywall by END OF DAY TODAY. In addition, you are asked not to move items as you please. After this is completed, you are no longer permitted into my room.

You had no right to break into the House. You had no right to move my stuff and completely ignore all of our requests. If this happens again, we will call the police on you. **I expect to get paid within thirty (30) days from today.**

Respectfully,

Leo Cavinder

*Exhibit G – June 2<sup>nd</sup> Text Messages Between Christina and Leo*

LEO: Is George doing the windows today?

CHRISTINA: No, your dad told him not to come back until next week.

LEO: We said to do the windows first.

LEO: Can he show up today to do the windows like he promised?

CHRISTINA: No, he said to work in the basement and then leave. He couldn't do the windows due to rain. Your father told him not to come back until next week. If you want him to finish the windows, then your father has to let him know.

LEO: The issue is that it barely sprinkled yesterday and very well could have been done yesterday. The notes explicitly said to do the windows today (now yesterday) and not to come back until next week. However, it appears to be either purposefully or accidentally mis interpreting the notes. It said to do the windows and get it done. He said it would be done in one day and now we are on day three of no windows.