

**Christopher Larsen - 212 E. Benton Street - Carrollton, MO 64633 (760) 576-4610**

November 16, 2024

Town of Carrollton  
206 W. Washington Street  
Carrollton, MO 64633

Re: **DEMAND**

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to formally express my profound dissatisfaction and to demand immediate action regarding the events that transpired on November 15, 2024, and June 4, 2024. These incidents demonstrate a clear and repeated failure by both the Carrollton Fire Department and the Carrollton Police Department to enforce the town's fire code and to protect my health, safety, and privacy.

### **Incident Summary**

On November 15, 2024, I returned home at 6 PM to find a rancid smell of burning plastic emanating from a fire behind my residence. I promptly called 911 to report the fire, citing multiple code violations and expressing concerns for my health. I specifically requested anonymity, fearing retaliation from the individual responsible for the fire—an individual who, I believe, has been involved in previous illegal fires in the same location.

Despite these concerns, the responding fire department failed to extinguish the fire. Instead, they permitted the individual to continue burning, requesting only that no additional material be added. This is the second time such negligence has occurred. The first incident on June 4, 2024, followed an almost identical pattern.

In both cases, I had to repeatedly contact 911 and the non-emergency police line to escalate my complaint. On November 15, a responding officer eventually intervened but revealed my identity to the individual, compromising my safety and exposing me to potential retaliation. I now live in fear for myself and my pets, having already encountered potential acts of intimidation such as nails and tacks left at my driveway.

Also in both cases, a Carrollton Police Officer was ultimately the person who mitigated the situation after multiple interactions with the communications center, each interaction growing more intense. This is not how it's supposed to go. I should not have my heart pounding out of my chest, cursing people out to get the Town to put out a fire that is causing me and members of my household to have health problems, and which clearly violate town ordinance!

### **Violations of Town Ordinances and Protocols**

The handling of these incidents demonstrates a clear disregard for Carrollton's fire ordinances, specifically:

1. **Chapter 235, Section 010:**  
Open burning is unlawful during hours of darkness. Both fires occurred at night.
2. **Section 235.040, Paragraph D:**  
Permits must be issued to the landowner. The individual responsible is a tenant, not a landowner. No permit was obtained in advance as required by code.

3. **Section 235.030:**

Open burning requires prior notification to the Fire Chief. No such notification was made, and inorganic materials such as plastic were clearly being burned.

4. **Section 235.030, Paragraph 11:**

The Fire Chief or designee must extinguish fires that are offensive or hazardous. Despite my complaints of health impacts and clear evidence of smoke affecting my residence, no action was taken.

The repeated failure to enforce these codes and the decision to prioritize the convenience of a known violator over the well-being of a law-abiding resident are indefensible.

## **Demands for Immediate Action and Compensation**

This pattern of negligence and failure to protect my health, privacy, and property is unacceptable. I demand the following:

1. **Complete Records and Documentation:**

I am formally requesting all records, including audio recordings, call logs, reports, and internal communications, related to my calls to 911, the fire department, and the police department for both incidents on June 4 and November 15, 2024. This includes all relevant communications between dispatch and responding personnel.

2. **Accountability and Resolution:**

I expect a full explanation of why the fire department and police department failed to enforce the applicable ordinances. Corrective action must be taken to ensure this does not happen again.

3. **Confirmation of Compliance:**

I demand confirmation that all future reports of similar violations will be handled in strict accordance with Carrollton's fire code.

4. **Anonymity Guarantee:**

I require assurance that my identity will remain confidential in any future reports to protect me from retaliation.

5. **Punitive Damages:**

I demand punitive damages and will forego money damages because the damages I experienced are limited. Damages will include compensation for infliction of emotional distress which I can easily prove, and the medical component of those torts easily demonstrated with my medical records which show a marked occurrence of headaches since the first occurrence in June.

6. **Voluntary Reporting:**

These incidents will be reported to the Missouri Department of Public Safety, Division of Fire Safety by the Carrollton Fire Department along with the documents that Carrollton Fire or the City will furnish me as they pertain to "Accountability and Resolution," and "Confirmation of Compliance."

7. **Verification of Adherence to Missouri Requirements for Firefighters:**

The city or the fire department will furnish me with a list of fire department employees that engage in firefighting activities and provide verification of the following for each;

- a. Are they at-least 18 years of age?
- b. Do they have a high-school diploma or a GED
- c. Are they free from any felony convictions?
- d. Have they had any serious misdemeanor convictions in the past five years?
- e. Do they have vision that can be corrected to 20/30?
- f. Do they meet the medical and physical requirements?
- g. Have they passed a criminal background check?

I have no intention of allowing this situation to continue unresolved. This is not only a matter of my health and safety and the safety of my property - but also every other resident of Carrollton. Should my demands not be met promptly, I will pursue legal action to protect my rights and seek a jury trial and an award for damages for the emotional distress and health impacts I have suffered due to your negligence far exceeding what we could negotiate out of court.

**This is your opportunity to rectify these issues. I expect full compliance and accountability without delay.**

Sincerely,

Christopher Larsen

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christopher Larsen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "C".