

# City of Detroit

Janice M. Winfrey  
City Clerk

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

Andre P. Gilbert II  
Deputy City Clerk

## DEPARTMENT PETITION REFERENCE COMMUNICATION

*To: The Department or Commission Listed Below*

*From: Janice M Winfrey, Detroit City Clerk*

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The following petition is herewith referred to you for report and recommendation to the City Council.

In accordance with that body's directive, kindly return the same with your report in duplicate within four (4) weeks.

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Petition No.	2024-311
Name of Petitioner	LaDonna Harris
Description of Petition	Petition to speak before City Council regarding various complaints pertaining to the business licensing process through the Buildings, Safety Engineering, and Environmental Department (BSEED).
Type of Petition	<b>Hearing Before City Council</b>
Submission Date	09/06/2024
Concerned Departments	City Council
Petitioner Contact	LaDonna F. Harris <a href="mailto:Ladonnajeannede0@gmail.com">Ladonnajeannede0@gmail.com</a> P: 313-677-6147

**Attention:** Michigan Civil Rights Department, City Council, Michigan Legal Aid, A.C.L.U.

**From:** LaDonna J. Harris

**Timeline of incident date occurrence.** March 18, 2018, June 02, 2022, August 26, 2022, July 14-17, 2023.

**Complaint! Report of Solicitation of Adult and Minor Child from a government public institution, Scamming of Detroit City Official Business! Harassment and Assault Charges! Defamation of character! Bodily Harm!**

All incidents are true and factual to the behaviors and actions that have happened within the city clerk office concerning the integrity of business bylaws, descriptions, definitions, outdated written specification for Detroit business vendors.

March 18, 2015 is when I first started getting my business documentations together for L.J. H. Artistry Investment's Creative Curator. I had another business name LaRaDaMar Arts in 2015 that was registered with the city of Detroit and changed it to L.J.H. Artistry Investment's Creative Curator because my business is multi-functional as an artist, art facilitator, poet, painter, natural hair care professional, writer, one of a kind handmade jewelry designer, and my business was growing until the covid pandemic. June 02, 2022 I had filled out a application form for a stationary vendors license with the locations of where I desired to be to vendor. I never heard back from the city representative about my application from June 2022, I filled out another application August 26, 2022 still didn't hear back from the inspector or the investigator about my stationary vendors location from 2018 until March 3, 2023 is when I actually got my changed assume business name because my change of business name and application had been lost with my 16\$ money order In 2018. After getting my business name I went back down to the city clerk office to inquire about my vendor's license wanting to get my stationary license that I had put in an application for and the city employees reluctantly didn't call me back for an entire year. I waited to hear from Ken Jones & Dave Bell about my location space never heard from them. June 30, 2023 I got my foot vendors license because I needed to get my vendors license I paid the 123.00\$ for a foot vendors license for L.J.H. Artistry Investments Creative Curator, only to learn I could not be stationary and it was to walk and sale my products in Detroit Neighborhood Communities, July 14, 2023 I went back to the city clerk office to inquire about and the women that work in the city clerk's office suggested a foot vendors license because I would have to wait to here from a supervisor and investigator verify my location and I have been waiting two years already. Is this the way business is done at the city clerk's office? I questioned my own repetitive actions because the stress of going back and forth with these individuals is very redundant to the participation and elevation of businesses that are working towards their goals.

After I received my foot vendors license I applied for a street vendors license because of the lack of communication about my stationary vendors license application, which discouraged me from even getting it then the day I paid for my street vendors license Louise tells me you can only get two vendors license per year. July 15, 2023 I vendored in front of the city county building like I did several times before after the rain on Saturday. It was only me, no others were there or they had left during the rain. I didn't have any problems. Everything was peaceful if you rewind your video footage you would see that for the specific date and time. July 16, 2023 I arrived downtown around a little after noon to put my business together for vendoring no problems I was there not even two hours before inspector Clark arrived asking the business vendors for their vendors license, as he approaches me I had my papers in my hand I showed him what I had and he seem as if he was looking for something in particular, he then said oh this a foot vendor license you can't be here you need to break this down, and I said I have been waiting on the city to contact me for two years about this space and I specifically put on my application this location and never heard for anyone else from the city clerk's office. I told Mr. Clark said that they shouldn't have sold me my credentials if it was a problem because as stated on the application it states, stationary/street vendors application. I inquired about all of the vendors license to what best fits my business situation, the push cart vendor can't push the cart it is described as a stationary vendor, the foot vendors can only walk around not push a cart or be innovative with small business, the mobile vendors as described can only drive a ice cream truck, the paperwork and descriptions are outdated and several categories are the same. Mr. Clark goes on to approach me my physical person and nudges me with his fingers as he was saying we can't have just anybody setting up here because everybody will think they can so you just gone heave to break this down or i'm going to give you a ticket, I told him just give me the ticket. Then he says I was trying to be polite, I told him don't touch me. My vehicle was still parked incorrectly so my hazards were on and I left my son sitting with one of the vendors a friend of mine my son also has his helper vendors license so as I was going to park my vehicle, I see the police surrounding my belonging my son and Mr. Clark, I parked and ran back to where I was on Woodward and Mr. Clark verbally charges me saying I'm going to give you a ticket, give me your ID. I said no what did I do wrong, he said your illegally here at this space I said no I'm not this is public property, he says this is a park which we were not on the Spirit Plaza side on woodward so he fabricated about that, because the city is renting out a public park as a private venue with T.A.E. Total Access Entertainment which I talked with the supervisor Erika Griggs several time's the owner of the company Mr. Talbert and Mr. Chandler about vendoring and had vendored downtown several times before. The police D. Wallet S.712 then verbally charges me and says give me your ID. I said no. what crime have I committed then officer T. Hodo, and Lendewiskey said your about to get arrested and detained for obstruction and D.Wallet grabbed my shoulder and twisted my arm that will forever have 15 bolts and screws in it and put me in handcuffs I started to feel faint and was very stressed my child started screaming and cry let my mama go! She didn't do anything wrong. People were standing around yelling to let her go because she didn't do anything wrong! It was very embarrassing and humiliating especially because I took every step and measure to make sure I had the proper credentials so that I could be a street vendor and business owner in Detroit, City. I have been a P.A.L. I have volunteered for over

*advised by the wrong name Louise to just put street vendors license.*

twenty years and do independent contracting with parks and rec's as well as participate in the health and wellness classes at Spirit Plaza. I am a woman and mother that was born and raised a citizen of Detroit, Michigan. The disrespect that I have been shown in the years from 2009- 2023 has to have been a crime against my humanity. I am not going to be disrespected by anyone. The hand cuff was tight on my arm. It left marks on my skin and my arm swells up and it is unfortunate that this will be a costly mistake.

Then the officers tried to give me tickets that were unlawful and lies. I denied the tickets because I know my rights as a free citizen in America the tribal laws stand. I also was scammed and solicited through the city clerks offices. I paid 203.00 for a Street vendors license that I didn't receive and was given a copy of my foot vendors license from 6/30/2023 and they didn't give me my receipts for my street vendors license. The specific location was ignored and I was also told to scratch that out on my vendor's license. I will be requesting footage of the video from 7/16/2023 and the paperwork and documentations from the license I paid for and all of the application request forms that were neglected and ignored. Later on this day there was a vendor that set up as soon as I left my location that doesn't have a vendor license. This is all the truth in detail. I do have pictures and receipts. After I was assaulted by Mr. Clark and the Detroit Police Department I will take legal actions! This is all scamming and doing personal business within the government system dishonoring the mission of free enterprise and economic freedom for all people.

Today is July 17, 2023 and I am going to request a meeting with city council as well as putting in a civil rights complaint and reporting this incident to the Department of justice. This will not happen to anyone else that has the ambition, determination and the goals to be a greater better person only to be harassed and discouraged by individuals that are supposed to uphold the integrity of the biggest representation for the city of Detroit. It is so! I will be asking for my stationary vendor's license today as I requested several times and discouraged by the same people that are supposed to help people in the city of Detroit. I paid my vendors' fees and they didn't even give me my license.

Thank You! LaDonna J. Harris of L.J.H.Artistry Investment's Creative Curator  
Let's continue to keep business respectful, honorable and financial freedom possible for all people!

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