

Troy MI 48085
July 7, 2014

Chief of Police
Troy Police Dept.
500 West Big Beaver Rpad
Troy, MI 48084

Dear sir:

I wish to commend one of your officers for helping me Friday night in a very needy situation. Although I didn't mention it because it wasn't relevant to my predicament, I was emotionally spent because I had just learned a few hours earlier that my youngest daughter Caitlin, 48, had died in Los Angeles. My son and his wife took me to dinner to discuss plans. After they dropped me off, I realized I had no way of getting into my condo. My garage door opener was locked in the garage in my car, and the front door was also locked behind a recently-purchased screen door, whose key I hadn't bothered to add to my chain. I was locked out.

I tried removing the screen from a rear window and prying it open. It wouldn't budge. The window was locked. What to do? I could call my other daughter in Flint, who owned the other garage door opener and ask her to drive down and rescue her old dad. But A, I didn't know her phone number which was embedded in my cellphone on the living room table, and B, pay phones are almost non-existent these days.

I walked the two miles to the CVS at Livernois and Long Lake and asked the clerk if he knew of a nearby pay phone. He did not, but let me use his cellphone.

Unfortunately, Megan's phone number was unlisted. Now what? Walk the additional two miles to the police station, a huge undertaking for an 86-year-old guy. After several rest stops, I finally made it only to find the main entrance completely deserted. By now it was maybe 8:30 p. m.

I walked to the side of the building and saw Officer Drewek headed for his police car. "Can you help me?" I shouted, by now barely able to stand up. I described my lockout. He checked my ID. "I'll drive you home and we'll see what we can do," he said. We decided that the likelihood of finding an open locksmith on the night of the 4th of July was minimal and even if we could, it would be very costly. Once we got to my condo Officer Drewek explored all the possibilities of gaining entrance including the rear sunken basement window. To do this he had to lift a heavy metal grate which covered the pit the window was sunk in. It too was locked.

I thought the only option would be to smash the lock on the front screen door! "Our best bet in terms of repair costs," said Officer Drewek "is to put a small cut in the screen so I can reach in and open the lock." He did so and we were able to go in through the front door for which I had the key. The slit in the screen was so small so deftly that it is not visible today to flies and mosquitoes.



POLICE OFFICER DOUG DREWKE:
THANK YOU FOR MAKING SUCH A GREAT IMPRESSION
AND HELPING MR. MALONEY.
JGM

I'm sure you don't always hear about fine efforts by members of your department
But I was so pleased by the thoroughness, courtesy,, and professionalism of Officer
Drewk I thought you should be informed of it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Henry B. Maloney". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "H" and a distinct "B" and "M".

Henry B. Maloney

Copy: Officer Drewk