

September 13, 2015

I am a cross-country trucker leased with United Van Lines. I don't haul Household Goods--only trade show crates and electronic equipment. In December 2014, I hauled two huge pieces of medical equipment from a VA Hospital in Florida to the manufacturer in Indiana, Becton And Coulter.

I arrived at destination at 1 AM and backed into Dock #44, as I had been instructed. At 5 AM I was roused from slumber by a noisy car that had its "music" at high amplitude. Noting the plate number and where he parked, I tried to get back to sleep--in vain. At 8 AM I went into "receiving" and we unloaded my rig in 30 minutes. I got my logs up to date, closed my back doors, got out a fresh piece of paper and composed the following:

"Sir or Madam, It's all about respect. You blasting your toxic garbage at uncivilized levels during the small hours shows me that you don't know what respect is. What comes around goes around, so fasten your seat belt. Pray you never do time in the can because you will learn, forthwith and violently, what is meant by respect. God Bless You, A Concerned American."

I shuffled over to the offending vehicle and put my admonition under his wiper, unconcerned with the whirring cameras. Two weeks later, I got a call from some suit at my Headquarters in St Louis:

HQ: George, did you leave a note on the car of a customer last month?

ME: HAHAAH, Why, yes I did, I'm proud to say.

HQ: We don't think it's funny! They caught your actions on camera. This is a multi-million dollar account and we just received an irate call from the CEO.

ME: The CEO?! There is no way on God's green earth that any CEO in America would NOT take my side in this affair. The caller was probably the loud-mouth's buddy who worked in the surveillance department. How did this caller prove his identity?

HQ: We're not getting into that. Just be a little more forgiving in the future.

ME: Well, I'm still glad I wrote it. And I don't mean to sound like a wise-guy but if I get bounced, I'm gonna write a letter to the genuine CEO chronicling this whole cacophonous affai--and you people know what a great letter-writer I am.

HQ: Look, George, we don't want to alienate anyone. You make a lot of money and we make a lot of money. When you get annoyed in the future, could you please just say a prayer for the person who is the cause?

ME: OK, I'll try to be more patient in the future.

I didn't get canned.