

# UOR #1641

## Issues with Emerald City Daycare.

July 12, 2000

- 1- Tree hanging in my yard and at an angle that is a hazard for my property and theirs.
- 2- Attitude of employees and owners of daycare towards myself and my family.
- 3- Traffic in alley was not expected, alley should be paved at daycare's expense or the daycare should be relocated. I have requested them to divert the traffic through the alley via the paved side and they refuse to co-operate. The owners were very rude regarding this issue. On one occasion I had to call the police because the Daycare customers left the Daycare at such high speeds, I have a 2-year-old and a 9-year-old that plays in my yard and the clientele and employees are very disrespectful. They act snotty and as if we do not belong in our own yard at the same time they are having outside activities in theirs.
- 4- On or about 07-21-2000 @ 5:45pm I witnessed the owner's older daughter of the daycare rolling a marijuana cigarette in here vehicle in the rear parking lot of the daycare. She was driving a Altima, license plate #2CR 679, Gold in color. Driver was Amanda, their daughter. Approximately 5'5" with blonde hair. Their daughter is known for her dealings with the wrong crowds involved with drugs and alcohol. Isn't this a drug free zone?
- 5- I witnessed (Last Summer) on a daily basis their daughter Mckayen being the primary overseer of a group of 10 or more children out in the playground area of the daycare. This is forbidden by the laws of SD for a person under the age of 18 years to be in charge of children under the age of 4 years. Ages 14 years and above can only be used as a Daycare aid and must be under supervision of qualified daycare personnel.
- 6- The noise during the day is above an acceptable level, as well as the language used by the daycare employees and the underage staff (Their daughter Mckayen).
- 7- Upkeep of the property is minimal. They rarely mow the lawn and seem to do the minimum of upkeep on the facility. There is very little grass for the children to play on. The mowing has improved but the play area is a dirt hole!
- 8- The daycare is interfering with my family's lifestyle and what we consider to be appropriate surroundings for my children, this daycare needs to be relocated to a commercial zone. I don't feel nearly as comfortable in my own backyard. The attitude of the owners is far from acceptable.
- 9- Our neighborhood is no longer peaceful. The daycare owners provide the impression that our neighborhood owes them for putting the daycare in our neighborhood.
- 10- People who drop off their kids in the morning tend to be in a rush to get to work on time, this pattern is strongly shown in the alley in the morning. The evening pickup is calmer but the attitudes tend to be expressed to my family through the customer's respect for our alley access and the city alley speed limit of 10-15 MPH. They could care less if they are covering my cars, boat and outdoor property with piles of dirt.
- 11- I have witnessed the younger daughter Mckayen yelling at the top of her lungs threatening the children on the playground with vulgar words and abuse. This is totally unacceptable and makes the neighborhood a much less attractive place to reside.
- 12- On or about the 14th of July I witnessed a daycare employee backing out of the rear parking lot. She backed up to far and hit the neighbor's fence, pulled forward and hit the telephone pole

in front of her vehicle, then backed up again ramming the fence again and then drove off. She never got out of her car to check the fence damage. She leveled the fence and stretched out the links in the chain link fence. I did notify the fence owner and recorded it here the same day the event took place. Vehicle was a Brown Mercury Sable GS License plate #2AF 345. Driver had shoulder-length blondish brown hair and smoked a cigarette.

13- On 08-07-00 I witnessed one of the daycare's employees boyfriend come to visit her on his motorcycle. He tends to show up just before closing (5:45pm approx.). When he left he thought it would be cool to do a wheelie down the alley on his motorcycle. Not at all acceptable! There are kid's all over this neighborhood (After all, it is a daycare).

14- On August 8, 2000 I came home from work and found the daycare owner and 13 children out in the yard playing. This ratio of staff per child is too high and it was obvious to see she was not able to meet the needs of all of the children, as she was busy with an infant in her arms at the time.

15- On 10/21/2001 I witness the owners son (Mark) climbing up the downspout to get onto the roof. There was a group of 5 boys there trying to be cool. Falling off a roof wouldn't be too cool. I took a picture of him climbing down in support of this event.

This house used to be a rental; I had no issues with any of the renters. It was peaceful then and I would like it that way again. I have discussed my concerns with the owners of the daycare, which has resulted in confrontation every time. They are not willing to cooperate with my needs or concerns for my family's peace or safety in the neighborhood.

I am also self employed. It is of the utmost importance to be cautious and respectful of the surroundings of your business. These people act as if the neighborhood owes them for the services they provide to people who don't live in our neighborhood. I can no longer accept these owners to conduct themselves and run their business in the manner they have chosen. I am not attempting to close their daycare but definite resolution to the issues at hand must be resolved firmly with regular follow ups with the neighbors who live here.

The traffic and dust level since the daycare was started has become unacceptable. Paving the entire alley would be the only solution. On numerous attempts I have requested that the traffic come in and out through the paved side of the alley. I have received no relief or satisfaction from the owners regarding this issue. I demand correction.

I am the immediate neighbor to the daycare and wish to <sup>be</sup> present at the hearing for their USE ON REVIEW.

I have the following pictures available

Kids climbing on the roof, Cars blocking the alley to pickup kids, Junk cars parked in their daycare lot, Sandbox - Hole in the ground w/toys, Numerous snow removal issues, Traffic counts through unpaved alley.

Thank You  
Feel free to contact me as needed:

Jeffrey Bau  
221 E. Nowlin Street  
Rapid City, SD 57701  
(605) 399-0278 Days

**To:**  
**City of Rapid City**  
**Ref: Emerald City Daycare Use On Review**

**October 24, 2001**

We the neighbors of Dennis & Loretta Eisenbraun and residence of the community of North Rapid wish to lend our support to the operation of Emerald City Daycare. Dennis & Loretta Eisenbraun are good neighbors. We always greet one another, visit about life issues, chit-chat about little things and in general have good neighborhood relationships with them. We watch over each others properties when we leave on vacations.

In the years prior to 1998 the back yards in the alley behind 225 East Nowlin street, (Emerald City Daycare) were surrounded by high wooden fences, broken down sheds and high shrub bushes. The alley provided many hiding spots for undesirable individuals using it for their passage way from surrounding neighborhood rental properties. Three houses along the alley were broken into in a two year period. One house was broken into twice and another house had an attempted break-in.

Dennis and Loretta were instrumental in cleaning up the neighborhood when they renovated the property for the daycare. The alley is now free of high wooden fences and places to be used as hiding places. They have installed a security light on the utility pole in the alley. It is no longer a dark place for criminals and hoodlums to use as a passage way and hiding place at night. There have been no break-ins since the daycare has been in operation.

The daycare does not disturb us during the day. Some of us are retired or are stay at home individuals. We see and here the activities at the daycare when we are outside. We do not have a problem with the sound of children playing in the yard during the summer afternoons.

Some of us have known Loretta for all her life. She lived at 225 East Nowlin all her child life and grew up with our children. Loretta is as much a part of the neighborhood as any of us.

We feel that we can talk to Dennis and Loretta at anytime if we have concerns about the daycare (or neighborhood issues in general) and they will hear and act on our concerns.

We encourage the City of Rapid City to give favorable decision to the Use On Review for Emerald City Daycare. It is part of our neighborhood.

To the City of Rapid City  
 Emerald City Daycare Use On Review  
 Neighbor Support Sheet

Name	Address
Kevin Gilbert	220 E. Nowlin
Zern Gilbertson	220 E. Nowlin
Richard + Jean Thomas	1115 Milwaukee
Charlotte M. Parker	228 E. Nowlin
Sandra M. Parker	228 E. Nowlin
Mildred M. Ramsey	216 E. Nowlin
Gale Peterson	212 E. Nowlin
Henry M. Peterson	212 E. Nowlin 2120 Nowlin St
M. S.	1107 Milwaukee St.
E. M. Nickstrom	223 E. Anamasa St
Adele (Addie) Kumback	1302 Milwaukee
Eckhard Dreyer	719 N. MAPLE AVE.
Delbert & Helen Kery	1201 Herman
Marian Swanson	1408 Herman
Dorl Jennison	408 E Custer St
Jim Mc Lay	142 MacArthur
Rusanne Petrik	227 E Nowlin
Clay Petrik	227 E. Nowlin

7400 Longview Rd.  
Rapid City, S. Dakota 57703

10/23/01

Emerald City Daycare  
C/O Dennis Eisenbraun  
224 E Nowlin  
Rapid City, South Dakota 57701

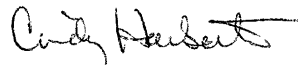
Dear Dennis Eisenbraun,

My daughter has been attending Emerald City Daycare since August of this year. I can't say enough good thing about this daycare; the employees are very loving and patient. There isn't another daycare in town who takes more steps to insure the safety of the children that go there. I have observed the cleaning and organizing of toys on a daily basis. I haven't heard of another place in town where a 22 month-old can tell you who the president is on the one-dollar bill.

My daughter has adjusted so well to attending daycare and it is only because of the employees and the unconditional love they've shown her and the other children. The children have a day full of activities ranging from preschool to the outdoor playground. The meals are exceptional and Trisha really enjoys them. One of the benefits to my daughter attending daycare has been her greater sense of independence and willingness to compromise when conflict arises.

As a single mother I would not have been able to stay in school without being able to rely on a dependable daycare. I am thankful that I can be confident that Trisha's needs are being met while I am gone. I am thankful also that they follow a schedule, because it is important to get the children used to that, so they are prepared when it is time to enter the day school setting.

Sincerely yours,



Cindy Harberts

Lori Atkins, RN  
4118 Woodbine Place  
Rapid City, SD 57702  
10/24/2001

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in reference to my professional relationship with the Eisenbrauns and Emerald City Day Care.

I took my first child to Emerald City Day Care, when he was 8 weeks old in February of 1999. He was welcomed into a great christian day care then, and currently both my children attend on a full time basis.

On many occasions, I have made unannounced visits and have found Loretta and her staff providing good, kind and respectful day care to all the children who attend. I have witnessed the activities the children do on a regular basis. Numerous times I find the staff at the children's level playing games and doing group activities. Makayon Eisenbraun often leads small group activities such as story telling or singing songs with the children gathered around her. My oldest son comes home often with items that he has made that day at preschool.

The communication between Emerald City Day Care and myself continues to be open and honest, with Loretta's main concern being the safety and happiness of my children.

On a personal note, her family has been wonderful to my boys. My son talks about Mark and Matt with great admiration. I have had Makayon babysit in my home. She was very respectful to my husband and myself, and initiating play with my children at their level.

In my opinion, Emerald City Day Care is a wonderful place to have my children grow into great people.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lori Atkins".

Lori Atkins

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a pre-school teacher and daycare provider under the employment of Dennis and Loretta Eisenbraun. I have worked here since January fourth of this year I have had my own day care for a total of eight years in three separate states and worked for several schools tutoring language and dance since I was twenty. Mrs. Eisenbraun is one of the most rule adhering and fastidious leaders I have met and at the same time totally empathetic to children's needs. She's endearing and lovable; so that children and grown-ups alike yearn to be near her. I am totally impressed that her family is so closely involved with her in every way. They worship God openly and are fine, upstanding citizens in their community. As a substitute instructor and daycare director, she leads a fine example, with many

creative and stimulative functions  
for all the children in her presence.  
Her daycare is attractive and  
neat both on the inside and outside  
at all times, as well as always up  
to code. Occupational Therapists and  
social workers have always complimented  
her on the instructional materials  
and appearance of the place.

I feel personal pride in being  
employed there, and can only view  
her as being, and asset and a  
privilege to the community around  
her.

Sincerely,

Linda McClane