FAILED TO REPAIR

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to MADCM

Good afternoon everyone.

I'm just looking for some feedback on a repair gone bad small claims case. Plaintiff took her car in for repair. Verbally quoted \$560. No estimate in writing. While starting repairs on her car, they find more to fix, so the mechanic verbally informed the plaintiff that she needed another part fixed. Total charge for everything is \$750.00.

One of the parts replaced was defective. Mechanic puts second part on, and it is also defective. Mechanic will not try the repair again. Mechanic offers plaintiff \$160.00 back. Old parts are already gone so mechanic can't just put her vehicle back in the condition it was.

She does not take the \$160. Instead, she sues in small claims for \$1846. She claims she paid \$1800 for the car, that it was worth \$2360 before all of this, but she had to sell it for \$800. Also claims she was without a vehicle for 5 weeks because of this.



jallmand <jallmand@86thdistrictcourt.org> unread, Sep 29, 2020, 2:42:25 PM



to madcm@googlegroups.com

What was the evidence presented regarding the "defective part"? Who's fault that part not work.... was it a recall or a known issue with that part on that car? If Mechanic was right, it was broken, he replaced with two new parts, also defective. He did his part. Him refusing to try again appears that he recognized it was the car, not the part. Was the defective part a dangerous item to have broken on the car? it would seem so if she was out 5 weeks bc of

issue.. but it would be a windfall for her to claim full value of the car and she could have mitigated her damages by taking money and trying to have another mechanic fix same.

main question is why did that part depreciate the value so drastically ?????? and if so, than logically it was worth that reduced amount when she first brought it to the defendant bc already there.....

just my two cents

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Elisha Fink <finke@washtenaw.org> unread, Sep 29, 2020, 3:36:05 PM

S

to madcm@googlegroups.com

I don't think the mechanic can be responsible for her not having a car for 5 weeks. I don't think the mechanic is responsible for the depreciation on her vehicle. Mechanic would only be responsible for what he actually did or didn't do.

From: 'Jessica Allmand' via MADCM [mailto:ma...@googlegroups.com]

Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 2:41 PM

To: ma...@googlegroups.com
Subject: Re: FAILED TO REPAIR

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MylaFord <probatereg@sanilaccounty.net> unread, Sep 29, 2020, 4:31:15 PM



to madcm@googlegroups.com

No evidence yet. Hearing is tomorrow. She is not claiming the defendant is at fault for the defective part. I don't have any information on it being a recall. I agree with you that the mechanic did his part. I think he was fair to offer the plaintiff \$160 of her money back. But, would you consider the fact that he did not put the estimate in writing, which is required under the vehicle service and repair act? Car is undriveable without the part--something to do with the steering.

Myla L. Ford
Probate Register
District Court Attorney Magistrate
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Sandusky, MI 48471
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810-648-2900 - Fax
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From: "'Jessica Allmand' via MADCM" <ma...@googlegroups.com>

Sent: 9/29/20 2:42 PM

To: ma...@googlegroups.com
Subject: Re: FAILED TO REPAIR

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jbpahl0824 <jbpahl0824@gmail.com> unread, Sep 29, 2020, 4:46:25 PM

S

to MADCM

Read thru the motor vehicle repair act. I am typing from memory, but seem to recall the mechanic needs to give a written estimate before repairs and is required to retain old parts for customer inspection. Make sure the mechanic is licensed also. I would see a lot of these cases and it turned out the mechanic was not licensed. The Consumer Protection Act also applies.

Jim 55th

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J Patrick Brennan <jbrennan@ferndalecourt.com> unread, Sep 29, 2020, 6:22:23 PM

S

to madcm@googlegroups.com

I'm not sure I understand the facts but if plaintiff paid \$750, I would return \$190. (\$750-\$560).oo based upon warranty of purpose or use. She's only entitled to money damages in small claims therefore no award for diminished value and no award for being without the vehicle. This is akin to a request for pain and suffering in a small claims suit. James is right that the mechanic (or the shop) is required to be licensed. I just wouldn't over think it. It not a bar question. Besides if I wrong, I can be appealed. Lol

Sent from my iPad

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hazeljholly <hazeljholly@gmail.com> unread, Sep 29, 2020, 7:28:29 PM



to madcm@googlegroups.com

Myla, I think the fact that the estimate was verbal is a non issue if plaintiff agreed to the estimated work and price. She only deserves to be compensated to the position she was in prior to the repairs. If one repair worked and was paid for, no problem. If the second repair was also needed but unsuccessful due to defendants acts, plaintiff should be reimbursed for the cost of that repair only. She's not entitled to replace the vehicle or for rental car or lost work etc. That's just the cost of everyday life and not the fault of the defendant. Further compensation would require a written agreement specifying a time for completion. Hope this helps.

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MylaFord dereg@sanilaccounty.net> unread, Sep 30, 2020, 8:10:36 AM



Awesome feedback. Thank you everyone!

Myla L. Ford Probate Register District Court Attorney Magistrate Sanilac County Probate Court 60 West Sanilac Avenue, Room 213 Sandusky, MI 48471 810-648-3221 x 8162 810-648-2900 - Fax proba...@sanilaccounty.net

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From: J Patrick Brennan < jbre...@ferndalecourt.com>

Sent: 9/29/20 6:22 PM

To: ma...@googlegroups.com Subject: Re: FAILED TO REPAIR

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Sent from my iPad

On Sep 29, 2020, at 4:31 PM, Myla L. Ford &I t;proba...@sanilaccounty.net> wrote:

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From: "'Jessica Allmand' via MADCM" < ma...@googlegroups.com >

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On Tue, Sep 29, 2020 at 2:24 PM MylaFord proba...@sanilaccounty.net> wrote:
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MylaFord dereg@sanilaccounty.net>
unread,
Sep 30, 2020, 8:12:15 AM

S

to madcm@googlegroups.com Yes, very helpful.

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From: Hazel Holly < hazel...@gmail.com >

Sent: 9/29/20 7:28 PM

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