

File No. 20009

Baltimore, January 17, 1918.

Mr. Walter E. Lee,
Water Engineer,
City Hall, City.

Dear Sir:

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Replying to yours of the 12th, of course the party actually running the machine is legally responsible but probably not financially responsible for the damage to the railing around Druid Lake. The owner of the machine is responsible if the car was out with his permission, express or implied, but if it be true that the chauffeur had taken the car out without the permission or knowledge, express or implied, of the owner, it is doubtful whether the owner is responsible.

The fact that he was in the hospital, of course, is immaterial if the chauffeur had general authority to take the car out. Then the owner is responsible, even if he may not have known that the chauffeur had the car out on this particular occasion.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) S. S. Field,
City Solicitor.