

**From:** [Alex Rich-Shea](#)  
**To:** [Public Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Concern regarding Taylor rental in Somerville  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2023 6:55:59 PM

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Hello,

I recently was an employee of Cambridge Taylor Rental, which is actually located in Somerville. I was fired after raising concerns about safety and racist business practices.

I would like to visit the most salient points of this Taylor Rental location:

- 1) The warehouse is filthy, and full of rats. I personally had to beat two rats to death that became stuck in glue traps in the laundry room. All dishes are wrapped in plastic after cleaning, but these bagged dishes are then placed on the filthiest of shelves. I would request a rebagging in front of me when picking up any dishes.
- 2) the owner had a rule that no Spanish could be spoken in front of customers, and in her discussions with me mentioned that Hispanic workers are lazy, and not fit for management. If issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion, and anti-racism, matter to you, I would be concerned about this business.
- 3) The warehouse is dangerously full and there is absolutely no importance placed on safety guidelines. The warehouse workers all complained of being overworked and disrespected, and basic safety practices like gloves, eye protection, and moving equipment were ignored in favor of getting things loaded and delivered as quickly as possible with a skeleton staff.
- 4) Every single employee confided in me their belief that the owner cared only about profit, and not their safety or their dignity. None of them have health insurance. All of them were constantly afraid of verbal abuse from the owner. All of them warned me that working there is terrible.

If you are wondering if this report is accurate, simply walk in and ask to see the warehouse. It will be immediately evident that what I am writing here is true.

I am wondering if there is anything the city of Somerville can do to improve the conditions at this business.

I have also filed an EEOC inquiry about this business.

Best Regards,

Alex