



UNITED STATES
CIVILIAN BOARD OF CONTRACT APPEALS

December 7, 2021

CBCA 7239-DBT

In the Matter of JOSE M.

Jose M., Petitioner.

Kimberly I. Thayer, Office of General Counsel, National Tort Claims Center, General Services Administration, Kansas City, MO, appearing for General Services Administration.

BEARDSLEY, Board Judge (Chair).

Petitioner requested a hearing concerning the collection of a debt that the General Services Administration (GSA) asserts petitioner owes for damages to a government vehicle as the result of an automobile accident that occurred in Houston, Texas, on September 22, 2016. The privately-owned vehicle that damaged the government vehicle was a 2002 white Dodge Dakota truck. Petitioner asserts that he was not the owner of the vehicle, he never had a car in Texas, and he is not responsible for the debt.

GSA seeks to collect the debt for the damaged government vehicle in the amount of \$4679.36 by means of administrative wage garnishment. The debt allegedly owed includes the principal balance of \$2839.44, plus \$100.56 in interest and \$1739.36 in a penalty and costs, for a total of \$4679.36.

Based on information pertaining to the ownership of the vehicle provided by petitioner to GSA after the request for a hearing was docketed, GSA now acknowledges that petitioner is not the proper debtor and not liable for the debt. Accordingly, GSA has indicated that it will cease all collection efforts as to petitioner.

Decision

The Board finds that the debt against petitioner is not legally enforceable. The suspension of collection of the debt against petitioner in this matter is permanent, and GSA will stop all efforts to collect the debt against petitioner.

Erica S. Beardsley

ERICA S. BEARDSLEY

Board Judge