

What To Do When The Sheriff and Utility Company Illegally Disconnects You

[Steven Magee](#) had to call the Sheriff to his home due to a suspected utility company impostor who was refusing to show his [Tucson Electric Power \(TEP\)](#) customer service identification card. Steven Magee is an electrical fraud researcher and realized that his health, safety and reputation was at risk in the presence of a suspected impostor who had shown up to his home unannounced. Steven Magee had called 911 to be protected from this suspected impostor due to his fears. Instead the Sheriff engaged in the harassment of Steven Magee by illegally disconnecting his electricity for eleven nights. Steven Magee had to place two 911 calls reporting ongoing harassment after unsuccessfully trying to get his electricity reconnected on four occasions. The second 911 call resulted in the Sheriff escorting the utility company to his home and reconnecting the electricity. Note that this was the second occurrence of a suspected impostor at Steven Magee's home that had been reported to the Sheriff.

Steven Magee is a [Chartered Electrical Engineer](#) and author of [Electrical Forensics](#). The two experiences with interacting with suspected utility company impostors and questionable Sheriff's has enabled Steven Magee to develop techniques to protect against fraudulent activities. When interacting with your utility company and law enforcement, he recommends that you do the following:

1. Keep your electrical panel locked. The utility company does not have any legal right to look inside your electrical panel or your home. Their responsibility stops at the utility meter.
2. Always have a fully charged cell phone with you, as you will be needing to call 911.
3. Do not let anyone inside your home. They will look around for anything that can be used against you. You may even get prosecuted. It is very easy for evidence to be fabricated by law enforcement. Once it is in the police reports, it will stay there forever...even if it is fraudulent.
4. Exercise your legal right to silence with law enforcement. Many law enforcement agencies will interrogate you until they have enough information to fabricate protection for the fraudulent utility company. That interrogation may be extensive. After giving law enforcement the needed information for their investigation, shut down the interrogation of you at the earliest opportunity by clearly stating "I am now exercising my legal right to silence". Repeat it when necessary.
5. Video record everything, including phone calls. The video camera should be started from the moment that they arrive at your home right through to when they leave. Video record all evidence. Things to get on video are: Car license plates, any identifying information on the cars such as utility numbers and markings, close up of faces, have them state their names and show their identification to the camera, record the work that they do, stay close to them so that the video camera picks up the conversations, and so on. They will later blatantly omit and deny much that is not video recorded. It is preferable to use high definition (HD) video with fully charged batteries and large 64 GB memory cards. Always have two video recording devices with you in case one ceases to function. It is completely legal to video record in public places in the State of Arizona and you do not need permission from anyone. Check the recording laws in your state here: <http://www.rcfp.org/reporters-recording-guide/>
6. Expect to be harassed and possibly assaulted. It is the reason why you need to call 911 to have

law enforcement present. If the situation escalates before law enforcement arrives, go inside your home, lock the door and keep video recording from behind a window. If they draw a weapon, run away and call 911 as soon as possible. Do not return any form of harassment or assault. Stay quiet and video record the emerging evidence.

7. Collect the police reports and evidence. A trip to the local law enforcement headquarters is all that is needed to do this. You are legally entitled to copies of everything.
8. Thoroughly examine and investigate the police reports and evidence. If you find new information through this process call 911 and report it for investigation.
9. Expect fraudsters to seek to damage your reputation. You should not be surprised to find that they have given you a derogatory title such as "*Threatening Customer*".
10. Upload your video to the internet using free services such as YouTube: www.youtube.com. Law breakers do not like publicity. Break your video up into smaller videos with a variety of distinctly different titles, as many smaller videos will be seen by more people than one large video.
11. Only communicate on email where possible. You will need everything in writing for your records. Make sure your emails include the following statement "This email and all replies are for public viewing and for publication to the internet".
12. Start a website and publish your story to it. Free websites are available from Weebly: www.weebly.com
13. Use social media to get your story out to the world. Use Facebook: www.facebook.com, Twitter: <https://twitter.com/> and so on.
14. Know the Law. Your utility has a government regulator and they have to abide by government laws. In the State of Arizona their regulator is the [Arizona Corporation Commission \(ACC\)](#) and their laws are the [State Of Arizona Administrative Code](#).
15. File complaints to as many organizations as you can. In Pima County, State of Arizona, USA this would be the [Arizona Corporation Commission \(ACC\)](#), [Better Business Bureau \(BBB\)](#), [Arizona Attorney General](#), and to the [Pima County Sheriff](#). Multiple complaints have more chance of success than complaining to a single agency.
16. Expect to be stonewalled. Many complaints agencies are in the business of protecting their employees and corporations from the common people and upholding very few complaints. If you are finding that you are being stonewalled, keep on developing ways of keeping your complaint alive until you run out of options. Make sure that you publicly document the stonewalling on the internet. It may take you years to get your complaint fully investigated, so have patience.
17. Try contacting the media. Most fraud researchers acknowledge that the media route is troubled today, as many mainstream media outlets are controlled or influenced by the very people that you are complaining about. It is quite often best to act as the media yourself and use the internet as much as possible to promote your story to the common people. If you are lucky, your story may eventually be picked up by mainstream media as it develops.
18. A detailed discussion of the known electrical frauds that utility companies engage in can be found here: www.environmentalradiation.com

Interesting Internet Quotes & Links

- “ Disconnection Without Notice”
http://www.environmentalradiation.com/TEP_Disconnection_Without_Notice.jpg
- “Termination Of Service Without Notice” <http://www.environmentalradiation.com/TEP%20Termination%20of%20Electrical%20Service%20Without%20Notice.pdf>
- “Tucson Electric Power (TEP) Suspected Impostor Sheriff Report”
<http://www.environmentalradiation.com/Tucson%20Electric%20Power%20Suspected%20Impostor%20Sheriff%20Report.pdf>
- “What It Takes To Get The Sheriff To Harass A Customer”
<http://www.environmentalradiation.com/What%20It%20Takes%20To%20Get%20The%20Sheriff%20To%20Harass%20A%20Customer.pdf>
- Question: “When can a utility disconnect service?” Answer: “There are certain conditions under which the utility can disconnect you. Rule R14-2-211C of the Arizona Administrative Code states that after proper notice, the utility company may disconnect your service if you are in violation of any of the utility's tariffs, or for reasons such as:
Failure to pay a delinquent bill
Failure to meet or maintain your deposit.
Failure to provide the utility company reasonable access to its equipment and property.
Or when you break a written contract for service between you and the utility company.
In addition, a utility company may disconnect service without notice for any of the following reasons:
The existence of an obvious hazard to the safety or health of the consumer or the general population.
The utility has evidence of meter tampering or fraud.”
<http://www.azcc.gov/divisions/utilities/electric/faqs.asp#m>
- “Consumer Complaint Process” <http://www.azcc.gov/Divisions/Utilities/cons/index.asp>
- "Article 2: Electrical Utilities - Know Your Legal Rights"
http://apps.azsos.gov/public_services/Title_14/14-02.pdf?d=424
- “recording in public places such as streets or parks is allowed absent any consent”
<http://www.rcfp.org/reporters-recording-guide/state-state-guide/arizona>
- “Tucson Electric Power Reviews” <https://www.glassdoor.com/Reviews/Tucson-Electric-Power-Reviews-E19684.htm>
- “BBB Business Review” <http://www.bbb.org/tucson/business-reviews/electric-companies/unisource-energy-services-in-tucson-az-2182/complaints#breakdown>
- “Tucson Electric Power” https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tucson_Electric_Power
- “Tucson, Arizona” https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tucson,_Arizona
- “Scams targeting TEP customers generate hundreds of complaints...In a recent incident, two men claiming to be TEP workers told a midtown resident they needed to get into the back yard. While the victim took one of the men back, the other stole several items from the home...TEP warns to always check the IDS of employees or contractors.”
<http://www.fox10tv.com/story/27896572/scams-targeting-tep-customers-generate-hundreds-of-complaints>

- “What is Misdemeanor Assault?” <https://enlightenme.com/misdemeanor-assault/>
- “Family of six died from carbon monoxide poisoning. A generator was found turned on inside home.” <http://www.tucsonnewsnow.com/clip/12231926/family-of-six-dies-from-carbon-monoxide>
- “Arizona Revised Statutes” <http://www.azleg.state.az.us/ArizonaRevisedStatutes.asp>
- “The First Amendment (Amendment I) to the United States Constitution prohibits the making of any law respecting an establishment of religion, impeding the free exercise of religion, abridging the freedom of speech, infringing on the freedom of the press, interfering with the right to peaceably assemble or prohibiting the petitioning for a governmental redress of grievances. It was adopted on December 15, 1791, as one of the ten amendments that constitute the Bill of Rights.”
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution
- “Harassment covers a wide range of behaviours of an offensive nature. It is commonly understood as behaviour which disturbs or upsets, and it is characteristically repetitive. In the legal sense, it is behaviour which appears to be disturbing or threatening.”
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harassment>
- “State Disconnection Policies” <http://liheap.ncat.org/Disconnect/disconnect.htm>
- “Consumer protection laws and regulations on heating and utility disconnections.”
http://www.needhelppayingbills.com/html/utility_and_heating_disconnect.html
- “It is illegal to disconnect water and electricity at week-ends”
<http://www.modernghana.com/news/172765/1/it-is-illegal-to-disconnect-water-and-electricity-.html>
- “PSREC General Manager Loses It After Illegal Disconnect”
<http://stopsmartmeters.org/2014/02/26/psrec-general-manager-loses-it-after-illegal-disconnect/>
- “Utility Company Harassment of Electromagnetic Radiation Researchers: Josh Hart - Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative (PSREC)” <http://stopsmartmeters.org/turn-on-the-electricity-drop-the-fees-psrec/>

“Exercising your legal right to silence with law enforcement has become an unfortunate requirement of survival in the USA.”

Steven Magee - Author of Toxic Electricity