

## ShawTalk Listserv Guidelines – May 2011

### Summary:

This e-mail list's purpose is to promote communication within and about the Shaw neighborhood. We are a close knit and diverse neighborhood with a wide range of backgrounds, beliefs, and opinions, but we are all neighbors and committed to continuing to make Shaw a vibrant and safe place to live. Anything that promotes this goal or anything that pertains to living in the neighborhood (including larger city, regional, and national issues) is fair game for discussion.

The continued success of this list depends on everyone being civil in their discussions. Our neighborhood is known for its passionate discussions, but it's also known for its tight knit sense of community. Passionate discussions are fine, but personal attacks will not be tolerated and will result in the user being moderated or removed from the list. Before sending an e-mail, you may want to save it and come back to it later. Think about how someone else might interpret your words. Keep in mind that the list archives are public and searchable. Would you want to see this comment attributed to you? Finally, and most importantly, remember that there is a person in front of the other screen and we are all neighbors on this list. Would you say the same thing to your neighbor?

### Rules:

#### Discussion topics:

In general, if in doubt, ask yourself, "how does this pertain to the Shaw Neighborhood?"

- The Shaw Neighborhood
  - If it's about the Shaw neighborhood or your block, it goes.
- City of St. Louis
  - Most topics are acceptable. If in doubt, does it pertain to the neighborhood?
- Regional, state and national issues.
  - Some topics are acceptable. Again, how does it pertain to the neighborhood
- Local businesses, restaurants, events, and recommendations
  - Questions that you'd ask your neighbor about where to go to eat, information on local events, or who he might recommend to do work on your house are perfectly fine. The list also serves to distribute this collective wisdom

#### Commercial postings:

In general, any for profit business should mark their post with "VENDOR" in capital letters to distinguish this as a commercial advertisement.

- Neighborhood festivals and events
  - Unlimited posting. These events are part of what makes our neighborhood such a vibrant place to live.
- Neighborhood restaurants, bars, groups, etc.
  - One posting per week for advertisement. Unlimited posting if the owner or an

employee is responding to a question. These places serve as collective "third places" that allow people to come together to create and strengthen neighborhood bonds.

- Professional services, e.g. Realtors, attorneys, construction services, etc.
  - One posting per month for advertisement. Unlimited posting if the owner or an employee is responding to a question. The people who provide professional services are both our neighbors and have invested in continued development of our neighborhood.

Civil discourse:

As mentioned above, civil discourse is vital to the well being of the list and its continued success to both foster discussion and distribution information about the Shaw Neighborhood. Passionate discussion is acceptable, but personal attacks are not tolerated. Please remember that these are your neighbors.

Warnings, moderation and removal from the list:

Violation of the above rules will result in the following actions:

- Warning  
For the first violation the user will receive a warning.
- Moderation  
For the second violation the user will be moderated for a minimum of one week. All posts will need to be approved by a moderator before they are posted to the list.
- Removal from list  
Repeat offenders will be removed from the list indefinitely.

Particularly egregious offenses may be met with immediate moderation or removal at a moderator's discretion. Anyone removed from the listserv can appeal the moderator's decision at the next scheduled board meeting.