

City of West Allis

Meeting Agenda Administration and Finance Committee

Alderperson Kevin Haass, Chair Alderperson Danna Kuehn, Vice-Chair Alderpersons: Thomas G. Lajsic, Angelito Tenorio, and Martin J. Weigel

Tuesday, April 20, 2021

6:00 PM

City Hall, Room 128 7525 W. Greenfield Ave.

REGULAR MEETING

- A. CALL TO ORDER
- B. ROLL CALL
- C. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION

For agenda items 1 & 2, the Committee may convene in closed session pursuant to the provisions of Section 19.85(1)(g) of the State Statutes for the purpose of conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rending oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved. This Committee may reconvene in open session after completion of the closed session to consider the balance of the agenda.

1. 2021-0282 Discussion regarding opioid litigation approved in Resolution R-2019-0383

Sponsors: Administration and Finance Committee

2. <u>2020-0388</u> Claim by Armando J. Chevere Ortega and Joanna I. Vazquez Martinez

regarding damage to vehicle at W. O'Connor St. and N. 84 St. on May 17,

2020

Recommendation: City Attorney recommended to be Placed on File

D. ADJOURNMENT



All meetings of the Administration and Finance Committee are public meetings. In order for the general public to make comments at the committee meetings, the individual(s) must be scheduled (as an appearance) with the chair of the committee or the appropriate staff contact; otherwise, the meeting of the committee is a working session for the committee itself, and discussion by those in attendance is limited to committee members, the mayor, other alderpersons, staff and others that may be a party to the matter being discussed.

NOTICE OF POSSIBLE QUORUM

It is possible that members of, and possibly a quorum of, members of other governmental bodies of the municipality may be in attendance at the above-stated meeting to gather information. No action will be taken by any governmental body at the above-stated meeting other than the governmental body specifically referred to above in this notice.

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The City of West Allis does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of race, color, religion, age, marital or veterans' status, sex, national origin, disability or any other legally protected status in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its services, programs or activities.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT NOTICE

Upon reasonable notice the City will furnish appropriate auxiliary aids and services when necessary to afford individuals with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in and to enjoy the benefits of a service, program or activity provided by the City.

LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY STATEMENT

It is the policy of the City of West Allis to provide language access services to populations of persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) who are eligible to be served or likely to be directly affected by our programs. Such services will be focused on providing meaningful access to our programs, services and/or benefits.

Joseph L. Ciaccio Senior Associate [Ciaccio@NapoliLaw.com

RECEIVED

JUN 04 2019

May 24, 2019

CITY OF WEST ALLIS MAYOR

Mayor Dan Devine Mayor's Office- City of West Allis 7525 W. Greenfield Ave. Room 123 West Allis, WI 53214

Re: City of West Allis Opioid Litigation

Dear Mayor Devine, Members of the Common Council Chair, and City Attorney Decker:

We would like to thank you again for the opportunity to appear telephonically with Attorney Tabak on Tuesday night to present our desire to represent West Allis in the litigation against opioid manufacturers and distributors. I would also like to clarify and provide you with some further information regarding some of the issues that were discussed.

About our Firm

Napoli Shkolnik, PLLC is a law firm with offices in eleven states across the Country. Our firm specializes in several areas of law, including mass tort pharmaceutical litigation. We have been appointed as leadership in litigations across the Country. We currently represent around 250 counties and cities in litigation against opioid manufactures and distributors. We are members of the leadership committee of the opioid multi-district litigation (MDL) located in the Northern District of Ohio. An MDL is a federal procedure designed to handle complex cases when it is found that numerous civil actions involve one of more common questions of fact in different districts. We are also the lead attorneys of the New York state court coordinated opioid litigation as well as the West Virginia state court coordinated litigation. Our office is counsel for Cuyahoga County, Ohio which will be the first MDL trial. This trial will be held in October with no adjournments possible, per Judge Polster. Through this litigation, we along with the other leadership firms have retained dozens of experts who have been working on this case for over a year. We have conducted hundreds of depositions and exchanged and received over one hundred million pages of documents.

Analysis of Pending Litigation

As we discussed, the MDL litigation has been moving forward at an incredibly fast speed considering the extent of this litigation. We are in the middle of conducting depositions

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of the defense experts and preparing for trial in October. While we are hopeful that settlement discussions will be fruitful, we fully expect to try this case in the fall. In New York and West Virginia state court, we have successfully defeated the defendants' attempts to dismiss the case and are in the middle of document discovery and depositions.

We believe West Allis would have a significant claim in this litigation. We would be happy to discuss further the claims of West Allis privately, if we are chosen to be retained.

Our Strategy Moving Forward

One of the main questions we heard you raise on Tuesday night was the decision between state and federal Court (the federal MDL). Ultimately, the decision would be completely up to the city as to where to file. As we have discussed, we are proceeding with cases both in the federal MDL as well as in state courts throughout the country, including New York, West Virginia, and Tennessee.

Currently, the overwhelming majority of cases filed in state court are removed to federal court and sent to the federal MDL, despite attempts to remand. Judge Polster, who is overseeing the MDL, is currently not considering any motions to remand cases back to state court. Obviously many clients like the idea of having there cases handled by local judges. However, there are several factors to consider. We have been through and continue to go through the discovery war with these defendants. In Cuyahoga County, our client was forced to exchange approximately 20 million pages of documents and approximately 50 County employees and former employees sat for full day depositions. It was a significant burden on our client, a County of over one million people. Any client which chooses to proceed in state court should be prepared to undergo the discovery process.

We have also already seen the risks associated with filing in state court. While every one of our clients who have filed in state court have successfully defeated motions to dismiss, this is not true for all cases handled by others. A case filed by many cities and towns in Connecticut was dismissed by a state court judge. Most recently, the state of North Dakota's case against Purdue Pharmaceuticals was dismissed by a state court judge. A client that chooses to pursue litigation alone in state court runs the risk of an adverse decision. We have also recently seen the potential benefit of state court with the large settlement reached by the State of Oklahoma.

Our office would be happy to discuss the risks and benefits of state court further privately and provide our recommendations. It would be up to the city to determine whether the benefits of state court outweighed the risks and benefits.



No Cost to West Allis

We have included a copy of the draft special counsel agreement we would ask West Allis to sign should you decide to retain us. As you will see, there is no cost directly to West Allis, win or lose. Our office would cover all of the costs associated with the case and therefore all of the risk. Our agreement provides that we would receive a contingency fee of 25%, only if the case is successful and West Allis receives a recovery.

Local Counsel Assistance

Attorney Fred Tabak will be local counsel in the representation of West Allis, and will assist with all aspects of the case, including depositions, interrogatories, and keeping West Allis "in the loop." Fred Tabak has over 50 years experience as a trial lawyer and has tried over 200 jury trials.

Attached is a copy of a proposed contract for representation for your review. For your reference, our firm website is www.napolilaw.com. Shayna, Sal and I are available to discuss any further questions or concerns you may have. We can be reached at 212-397-1000 or by e-mail (JCiaccio@napolilaw.com, SSacks@napolilaw.com, SBadala@napolilaw.com). You should also feel free to call Fred Tabak at his office (414-375-1741) or his cell (414-331-6599).

Thank you again for the opportunity to potentially represent West Allis in this important litigation.

Very truly yours,

Joseph L. Ciaccio Napoli Shkolnik, PLLC

Encl.

cc: Fred Tabak



THIS CONTRACT IS SUBJECT TO ARBITRATION UNDER THE FEDERAL ARBITRATION ACT

SPECIAL COUNSEL AGREEMENT

Mail or Fax to:

NAPOLI SHKOLNIK PLLC 360 Lexington Avenue – 11th Floor New York, NY 10017 Telephone: (212) 397-1000 Fax: (646) 843-7603

TABAK LAW, LLC 6045 N. Green Bay Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53209 Telephone: (414) 269-3244

Fax:

WHEREAS, the undersigned, City of West Allis, Wisconsin ("Client") agrees to retain the law offices of Napoli Shkolnik PLLC and Tabak Law LLC (together, "Law Firm") (collectively, "Parties") as Client's attorneys in the prosecution of any legal claim against manufactures, distributors, and pharmacies of opioids arising out of the manufacturers' and distributors' fraudulent and negligent marketing, distribution, and dispensing of opioids. The Parties specifically agree as follows:

- 1. **FEE PERCENTAGE:** As consideration for legal services rendered and to be rendered by the Attorneys in carrying out the purpose hereof, Client agrees to pay Law Firm 25% (twenty-five percent) of all gross amounts recovered. Further, if the action is certified as a class action, the law firm shall request an award of common benefit fees and compensation to be award within the discretion of the court irrespective of the statering retainer amount. Client assigns, and the Law Firm accepts and acquires as its fee, a proportionate interest in the subject matter of any claim, action, or suit instituted or asserted under the provisions of this agreement. All expenses and costs will be deducted prior to the contingent fee calculation. Any liens and subrogation are to be deducted after the contingent fee is calculated.
- 2. <u>DISBURSEMENTS:</u> The Law Firm shall be reimbursed all reasonable expenses associated with the legal services being rendered including, but not limited to, legal research, long distance telephone calls, fax, postage, copying, travel, litigation, and expert expenses. Costs shall also include, but not be limited to, any "MDL Assessment" imposed by any Multi-District Litigation ("MDL") Court or withheld from any settlement or favorable judgment by any defendant. In addition to the above listed individual costs, there will be common benefit costs. Common benefit costs are costs expended for the common benefit of a group of clients. For example, if a deposition of a defendant expert witness is taken in one



case, and this deposition can be used for and/or benefits the claims of many other clients, these costs will be classified as common benefit costs. By using this common benefit cost system, no one client has to solely bear the costs which actually benefit the group as a whole, and many of the most substantial costs of litigation can be shared equally by all. Client grants a special privilege to the Law Firm for their professional fees, expenses, costs, interest, and loans, on all monies and properties recovered or obtained for Client. Client's repayment of costs and expenses is contingent on the outcome from any funds received on the claim in question.

- 3. **FINANCING OF CASE:** If the firm borrows money from any lending institution to finance the cost of the client's case, the amounts advanced by this firm to pay the cost of prosecuting or defending a claim or action or otherwise protecting or promoting the client's interest will bear interest at the highest lawful rate allowed by applicable law. In no event will the interest be greater than the amount paid by the firm to the lending institution.
- 4. <u>TAX ADVICE</u>: The Client understands that the Law Firm will not provide any advice regarding the tax consequences of accepting money from a settlement or award. CLIENT SHOULD CONTACT A TAX PROFESSIONAL REGARDING ANY TAX CONCERNS REGARDING ANY SETTLEMENT PRIOR TO THE SETTLEMENT.
- 5. **TERMINATION:** The Law Firm expressly reserves the right to withdraw its representation at any time upon reasonable notification to the Client, subject to applicable ethical rules, if any. Should the Client terminate the Law Firm, the Law Firm shall continue to be entitled to its legal fees on any and all sums recovered as a result of the claims.
- 6. <u>COUNTERCLAIMS:</u> The above contingency fee does not contemplate the Law Firm's representation of Client against any claims made by a person against the Clients. The Law Firm is under no duty to defend or prosecute any such claim or counterclaim until a satisfactory fee arrangement is made between the Parties and is reduced to writing regarding costs and attorneys' fees.
- 7. **STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS:** Client understands that the Statute of Limitations period for the case must be investigated and that this Agreement is made subject to that investigation as well as an investigation of the entire case. Client understands that statutes of limitation may have run on the case and agrees to hold the Law Firm harmless in the event the applicable statutes of limitation have run for any reason.
- 8. NO GUARANTEE OF FINAL OUTCOME: No attorney can accurately predict the outcome of any legal matter. Accordingly, the Law Firm makes no express or implied representations as to the final outcome of the matter(s) contemplated by this Agreement. Client further understands that Client must immediately report any changes in Client's address or telephone number to the Law Firm.



- 9. APPROVAL NECESSARY FOR SETTLEMENT: Client hereby grants the Law Firm power of attorney so that the Law Firm may have full authority to prepare, sign and file all legal instruments, pleadings, drafts, authorizations, and papers as shall be reasonably necessary to conclude the representation including settlement and/or reducing to possession any and all monies or other things of value due to Client under its claim as fully as the Client could do so. The Law Firm is also authorized and empowered to act as Client's sole negotiator in any and all negotiations concerning the subject of this Agreement. To be clear, all decisions regarding final resolution of the litigation, including settlement, are within the sole power of the Client. The decision regarding settlement shall always be held and remain with the Client.
- 10. **ASSOCIATION OF OTHER ATTORNEYS:** The Law Firm may, at its own expense, use or associate with other attorneys in the representation of the Client. Client understands that the Law Firm is a Professional Limited Liability Company with a number of attorneys. Several of those attorneys may work on Client's case.
- 11. ASSOCIATE COUNSEL: Another attorney may participate in the division of fees in this case and assume joint responsibility for the representation of Client, either in the event that the Law Firm retains associate counsel or in the event that Client later chooses new counsel, provided that the total fee to Client does not decrease as a result of the division of fees and that the attorneys involved have agreed to the division of fees and assumption of joint responsibility.
- 12. **CLASS ACTION:** Client understands that Attorneys may pursue a class action on behalf of Client and all others similarly situated and client specifically authorizes attorneys to do so. Client understands that Client may serve as a class representative and may be called upon to act in a representative capacity for those who are similarly situated. Client knows of no conflict that would cause Client to be inadequate representative and agrees to vigorously defend the interests of the class if called upon to do so.
- 13. <u>WISCONSIN STATE LAW TO APPLY:</u> This Agreement shall be construed under and in accordance with the laws of the State of Wisconsin and the rights, duties and obligations of Client and of the Law Firm's representation of Client and the laws of the State of Wisconsin shall govern regarding anything covered by this Agreement.
- ARBITRATION: Any and all disputes, controversies, claims or demands arising out of or relating to (i) this Agreement; (ii) any provision of this Agreement; (iii) the provision of services by the Law Firm to Client; and (iv) the relationship between the Parties, whether in contract, tort or otherwise, at law or in equity, for damages or any other relief, shall be resolved by binding arbitration pursuant to the Federal Arbitration Act in accordance with the Commercial Arbitration Rules then in effect with the American Arbitration Association. Client shall not file a class action against at the Law Firm or seek to assert any claims or demands against the Law Firm by or through a class action, either as the named plaintiff or as a member of the class, but rather shall submit his/her claims or demands to



binding arbitration. Any such arbitration proceeding shall be conducted in Connecticut. This arbitration provision shall be enforceable in either federal or state court in Connecticut, pursuant to the substantive federal laws established by the Federal Arbitration Act. Any party to any award rendered in such arbitration proceeding may seek a judgment upon the award and any Court in Connecticut having jurisdiction may enter that judgment.

- 15. **PARTIES BOUND:** This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Parties hereto and there respective heirs, executors, administrators, legal representative, successors and assigns.
- 16. <u>LEGAL CONSTRUCTION:</u> In case any one or more of the provisions contained in this Agreement shall for any reason be held invalid, illegal or unenforceable, such invalidity, herein illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provisions hereof, and this Agreement shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been contained.
- 17. **PRIOR AGREEMENTS SUPERSEDED:** This Agreement constitutes the sole and only agreement of the Parties hereto and supersedes all prior understandings or written or oral agreement between the Parties respecting the within subject matter, if any.

Client certifies and acknowledges that Client has had the opportunity to read this Agreement. Client further affirms that Client has voluntarily entered into this Agreement, that Client has been advised that Client may seek legal counsel to review this Agreement before signing, and that Client is fully aware of the terms and conditions contained in this Agreement.

SIGNED AND	ACCEPTED ON THIS	day of	, 2019

THIS CONTRACT IS SUBJECT TO ARBITRATION UNDER THE FEDERAL ARBITRATION ACT							
Print Client's Name: City of West Allis, Wisconsin	Napoli Shkolnik PLLC						
Signature:	By:						
Address:	Tabak Law, LLC						
	By:						



City of West Allis

Resolution: R-2019-0383

File Number: R-2019-0383

Final Action: 6/4/2019

Sponsor(s): Administration & Finance Committee

Resolution relative to retaining Phipps Deacon Purnell PLLC as outside counsel for opioid manufacturer litigation.

WHEREAS, the City of West Allis has an interest in abating the opioid epidemic and continues to expend significant resources combating opiate use, addiction, overdose, and corresponding ancillary community health, safety, and welfare issues caused by opiates and opiate manufacturers within the community; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council has determined that pursuing a lawsuit against opiate manufacturers would be in the interest of protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the community; and

WHEREAS, the City of West Allis has been approached by law firms, including Phipps Deacon Purnell PLLC and Tabak Law LLC acting as local counsel for Napoli and Shkolnik PLLC, related to initiating or joining a lawsuit targeted at opiate manufacturers; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council and City Attorney's Office have determined that it would be the best course of action to retain outside legal counsel that specializes in litigation against large entities such as opiate manufacturers, and has the appropriate resources to engage in such litigation against opiate manufacturers without draining expenses or resources from City Departments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and the Common Council for the City of West Allis that the City Attorney be and is hereby authorized and directed to enter into a retention agreement with outside legal counsel for the purposes of handling litigation matters and/or lawsuit(s) between the City of West Allis and opiate manufacturers.

ADM/ORDRES/2019/AFR2019.31

ADOPTED AS AMENDI	LD
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6/4/2019

APPROVED AS AMENDED

V

Steven A. Braatz, Jk., City Clerk

Dan Devine, Mayor



NATASHA MISRA LAW LLC

759 NORTH MILWAUKEE STREET, SUITE 208. MILWAUKEE. WI 53202 | P: 414-210-3834 | F: 414-210-3517 INFO@NATASHAMISRALAW.COM | NATASHAMISRA.COM

May 26, 2020

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL & FAX: 1-414-302-8027, p. 1 of 11

City Clerk's Office – City of West Allis 7525 W. Greenfield Avenue Room 108 to 110 West Allis, WI 53214

Re:

Our Clients:

Armando J. Chevere Ortega and Joanna I. Vazquez Martinez

Your Insured:

Owner of Vehicle: City of West Allis Fire Department

Driver of Vehicle: Timothy A. Bollom

Type of Accident:

Automobile

Date of Loss:

5/17/2020

Dear City Clerk:

Please be advised that Natasha Misra Law, LLC has been retained by the above named clients to represent a claim for property damage and injuries sustained on the above date when our clients were involved in an automobile incident with your insured. Attached is a courtesy copy of the accident report relating to this matter. Please be further notified of our attorney's lien in reference to this case pursuant to the statutes of the State of Wisconsin.

We are hereby revoking any authorizations signed by our clients and are requesting copies of any written or recorded statements that our clients may have given.

As a result of this accident, our clients sustained property damage to their vehicle along with personal injuries which necessitated medical care and attention. Upon receipt of your acknowledgement of this letter, we will forward the appropriate medicals and specials after they have been reviewed by our office.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation.

Sincerely,

Natasha R. Misra Attorney at Law

cc: City Attorney's Office - City of West Allis: Via Fax Only: 414-302-8444

WISCONSIN MOTOR VEHICLE CRASH REPORT

MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT 749 WEST STATE STREET MILWAUKEE, WI 53201 (414) 933-4444

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This report does not include any CJIS data.

1 of 10

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Crash Date 05/17/2020 Crash Time 09:49 PM

WISCONSIN MOTOR VEHICLE CRASH REPORT

MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT 749 WEST STATE STREET MILWAUKEE, WI 53201 (414) 933-4444

OVERPASS TO OBSTRUCT MY VIEW OF THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL UNTIL APPROXIMATELY 150 FEET BEFORE THE INTERSECTION. BASED ON MY PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE DRIVING AN AMBULANCE, IT APPEARED TO ME THAT IN AN ELEVATED POSITION CONSISTENT WITH DRIVING AN AMBULANCE, THE VIEW OF THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL WOULD HAVE BEEN OBSTRUCTED UNTIL MUCH CLOSER TO THE INTERSECTION. Location ON STH181 NB Latitude 210 FT N Longitude 43.028224499 OF IHEAS WB -88.017176955 IN THE CITY OF MILWAUKEE X Coordinate Y Coordinate IN MILWAUKEE COUNTY 417129.25 4764451 Structure Type NO STRUCTURE Crash Scene First Harmful Event First Harmful Event Location MOTOR VEH IN TRANSPORT ON ROADWAY Manner of Collision Light Condition 01 - ANGLE DARK/LIGHTED Road Surface Condition(s) Roadway Factor(a) Environment Factor(a) NONE VISABILITY OBSCURED Weather Condition(a) CLOUDY, RAIN Animal Type Relation To Trafficway TRAFFICWAY - ON ROAD Crash Classification - Location Crash Classification - Jurisdiction PUBLIC PROPERTY NO SPECIAL JURISDICTION Tribal Land Access Control Special Study NO CONTROL Within Interchange Area Junction Location Intersection Type YES. INTERSECTION FOUR-WAY INTERSECTION Closure Type Reasons for Closure LANE CLOSURE Date Initial Lane/Rd Closed Time Initial Lane/Rd Closed LAW ENFORCEMENT, TOW TRUCK, FIRE/EMS 05/17/2020 09:50 PM Date All Lanes Open Time All Lanes Open Date Scene Cleared Time Scene Cleared 05/17/2020 11:10 PM 05/17/2020 11:10 PM **Unit Summary** Unit Status Vehicle Operating As Classification Unit Type IN TRANSIT D CLASS TRUCK Vehicle Type Operating As Endorsements UTILITY TRUCK/PICKUP TRUCK Total Occa Train/Bus # Recorded Total # Citations Issued Total Trailers Total HazMat Types 0 0 0 Insurance? Direction Of Travel Pre CrashTire Speed Limit Total Lanes YES NORTHBOUND Mark 30 Most Harmful Event: Collision With Special Function Emergency Motor Vehicle Use MOTOR VEH IN TRANSPORT **AMBULANCE** NON-EMERGENCY, TRANSPORT Traffic Way Traffic Control Traffic Control Inoperative/Missing DIVIDED HWY W/O TRAFFIC BARRIER TRAFFIC SIGNAL NO Surface Type Road Curvature Road Grade CONCRETE STRAIGHT LEVEL Truck Bus or HezMat NO Vehicle ate Number Plate Type Country of Issuance MUN - MUNICIPAL W UNITED STATES

Wisconsin Motor Vehicle Crash Form DT4000

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This report does not include any CJIS data,

2 of 10

Crash Date 05/17/2020 Crash Time 09:49 PM

WISCONSIN MOTOR VEHICLE **CRASH REPORT**

MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT 749 WEST STATE STREET MILWAUKEE, WI 53201

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WISCONSIN MOTOR VEHICLE **CRASH REPORT**

MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT 749 WEST STATE STREET MILWAUKEE, WI 53201 (414) 933-4444

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Crash Time 09:49 PM

WISCONSIN MOTOR VEHICLE **CRASH REPORT**

MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT 749 WEST STATE STREET MILWAUKEE, WI 63201 (414) 933-4444

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WISCONSIN MOTOR VEHICLE **CRASH REPORT**

MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT 749 WEST STATE STREET MILWAUKEE, WI 63201 44

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6 of 10

Crash Time 09:49 PM

WISCONSIN MOTOR VEHICLE CRASH REPORT

MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT 749 WEST STATE STREET MILWAUKEE, WI 53201 (414) 933-4444

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WISCONSIN MOTOR VEHICLE **CRASH REPORT**

MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT 749 WEST STATE STREET MILWAUKEE, WI 53201

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147	Towed Due To Damage TOWED DUE TO DISABLING DAMAGE	Vehicle Removed By					
£60	What Driver Was Doing	ALL CITY TOWING Vehicle Factors					
	ACCELERATING IN ROAD						
572 742	Driver Prior Action Other	triver Prior Action Other NOT APPLICABLE					
177	Driver Actions						
UNIT	NO CONTRIBUTING ACTION						
	Owner Name	Owner Address					
	(414) 346-3727 MILWAUKEE, WI 53214 , US						
931039 043.33	Sequence of Events						
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8	Event						
8	Event						
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	ARMANDO J CHEVERE ORTEGA	Citations Issued	Sex				
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WISCONSIN MOTOR VEHICLE **CRASH REPORT**

MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT 749 WEST STATE STREET MILWAUKEE, WI 53201

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		ndividual							
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	INDIVIDUA	Address 532 S 93RD ST MILWAUKEE, WI 53214 , US		STATE: WISCONSIN GOUNTRY: UNITED STATES					
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Wisconsin Motor Vehicle Crash Form DT4000

This report does not include any CJIS data. 9 of 10

Crash Date 05/17/2020 Crash Time 09:49 PM

WISCONSIN MOTOR VEHICLE **CRASH REPORT**

MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT 749 WEST STATE STREET MILWAUKEE, WI 53201 (414) 933-4444

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SERVICE AND PROCESSING OF CLAIMS

Plaintiff or Claimant: Armando J. Chevere Ortega +
Journa I. Vazquez martina
Date: 8/21/2020
In-person
Process Server
Claimant
Other
☐ By mail
☐ By email
□ By fax
Received by: Jamanda
Hand deliver to: Ann Marie or Janel
Forwarded to Attorney's Office by Ann Marie or Janel
Response from Attorney's Office
Common Council Agenda: Yes No No

NOTICE OF INJURY AND CLAIM FOR DAMAGES

TO: CITY OF WEST ALLIS
c/o City Clerk
7525 West Greenfield Avenue
West Allis, WI 53214

CITY OF WEST ALLIS FIRE DEPARTMENT 7332 West National Avenue West Allis, WI 53214

TIMOTHY A. BOLLOM c/o City of West Allis Fire Department 7332 West National Avenue West Allis, WI 53214

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on May 17, 2020, at approximately 9:49 p.m., **Armando J. Chevere Ortega** and **Joanna I. Vazquez Martinez** of 532 South 93rd Street, Milwaukee,
Wisconsin were involved in a motor vehicle accident at the location of the intersection of North
84th Street and West O'Connor Street, City and County of Milwaukee, State of Wisconsin. The attorney for Armando J. Chevere Ortega and Joanna I. Vazquez Martinez is Attorney Natasha R.
Misra of Natasha Misra Law, LLC, 759 North Milwaukee Street, Suite 208, Milwaukee, WI 53202.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that as a proximate result of said automobile accident, Armando J. Chevere Ortega and Joanna I. Vazquez Martinez, sustained serious personal injuries which may be permanent, pain and suffering, and loss of use and damage to Joanna I. Vazquez Martinez's property.

LIABILITY

Liability for the injuries is claimed as follows:

The City of West Allis and the City of West Allis Fire Department on account of its liability for the acts of its agents and employees, and particularly the City of West Allis Fire Department and Timothy A. Bollom, as further set forth in this Notice of Injury and Claim for Damages, who was acting within the scope of his employment at the time of said accident.

The said accident was caused by the negligence of the City of West Allis Fire

Department on account of its employee, Timothy A. Bollom, for negligently operating said

vehicle at and immediately prior to the time of said accident.

Said employee, Timothy A. Bollom, failed to maintain proper look out, negligently failed to manage and control the motor vehicle he was operating in a reasonable and prudent manner, such that he disregarded the red traffic control signal and collided with the motor vehicle being operated by Armando J. Chevere Ortega in which Joanna I. Vazquez Martinez was a passenger.

DAMAGES

As a proximate result of the above-described negligence, Armando J. Chevere Ortega, sustained personal injuries to his back, neck, head, hips, ribs, left and right leg causing him to incur medical bills and expenses, as well as future expenses and permanency, pain and suffering and loss of society and companionship all to his damage.

MEDICAL BILLS TO DATE:

M	lilwaukee Fire Department	\$ 981.00
Fı	oedtert Memorial Lutheran Hospital	\$ 25,847.42
L	ayton Avenue Injury Center	\$ 3,640.00
M	ileage Reimbursement:	\$ 47.94

PAIN AND SUFFERING:

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TOTAL CLAIM:

55,516.36

As a proximate result of the above-described negligence, Joanna I. Vazquez Martinez, sustained personal injuries to her head/concussion, left eye, laceration to forehead, mouth, neck, back, left hip, pelvis and thigh causing her to incur medical bills and expenses, as well as future expenses and permanency, pain and suffering, loss of society and companionship, and loss of use and damage to her property.

MEDICAL BILLS TO DATE:

Milwaukee Fire Department	\$ 727.26
Froedert Memorial Lutheran Hospital	\$ 12,131.25
Wisconsin Radiology Specialists	\$ 243.00
Layton Avenue Injury Center	\$ 4,815.00
Ascension Wheaton Franciscan Medical Group	\$ 2,230.00
Eye Care Specialists	\$ 149.00
Prescriptions	\$ 656.87
Mileage Reimbursement	\$ 51.51
PAIN AND SUFFERING:	

Past pain and suffering and disability	\$ 25,000.00
Future pain and suffering and disability	\$ 5,000.00

PROPERTY DAMAGE

Vehicle Total-Loss	\$ 30,800.00
Towing and Storage Fees	\$ 385.00
Loss of Use	\$ 750.00

\$ 82,938.89 TOTAL CLAIM:

WHEREFORE, Armando J. Chevere Ortega, demands fifty-five thousand five hundred sixteen dollars and 36/100 cents (\$55,516.36) from said City of West Allis, City of West Allis Fire Department and Timothy A. Bollom.

WHEREFORE, Joanna I Vazquez Martinez, demands eighty-two thousand nine hundred thirty-eight dollars and 89/100 cents (\$82,938.89) from said City of West Allis, City of West Allis Fire Department and Timothy A. Bollom.

DATED at Milwaukee, Wisconsin this

NATASHA MISRA LAW, LLC Attorney for Claimants

NATASHA R. MISRA

State Bar No.: 1082945

P. O. ADDERESS:

Suite 208
759 North Milwaukee Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Phone: (414) 210-3834 Fax: (414) 210-3517

E- mail: natasha@natashamisralaw.com

All responsive pleadings, answers, or denial of claim regarding the above-captioned action should be served upon the law office of NATASHA MISRA LAW, LLC on behalf of the claimants, Armando J. Chevere Ortega and Joanna I. Vazquez Martinez, at 759 North Milwaukee Street, Suite 208, Milwaukee, WI 53202.

STATE OF WISCONSIN)
MILWAUKEE COUNTY)

NATASHA R. MISRA, being duly sworn on oath deposes and says: that she is the attorney for the above-named claimants and that she makes this Affidavit on claimants' behalf being duly authorized to do so; that she is a resident of the City and County of Milwaukee, State of Wisconsin, and that she has read the foregoing Notice of Injury and Claim for Damages and believes upon information and belief that the matters stated herein are true. That the source of affiant's information are statements made by the claimants and that she has been duly authorized to verify this Notice of Injury and Claim for Damages.

NATASHA R. MISRA

State Bar No.: 1082945

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 17 day of Lugus, 202

Notary Public, Milwaukee County, W

My Commission Expires: 3

OF WISC



Rebecca Grill
City Administrator/Clerk
rgrill@westalliswi.gov
414.302.8220

To:

Process Server

From:

West Allis City Clerk

This document constitutes written admission that service of the attached document upon the West Allis City Clerk was accomplished as of the date and time indicated below. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 801.10(4)(c), this document shall be presumptive evidence of genuineness.

Person authorized to accept service on behalf of City Clerk:

Name: and SCZCTZCN

Signature:

Date of service: 8-31-30

Time of Service:

AM

PM

Rebecca Grill

City Administrator/Clerk

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April 15, 2021

Common Council City of West Allis

RE: Armando Chevere Ortega and Joanna Vazquez Martinez Claim – Legistar No. 2020-388

Dear Council Members:

The enclosed claim has been referred to this office in accordance with Section 3.05(8) of the Revised Municipal Code. Though this matter was referred as a single claim there were two individuals involved, but both parties were represented by the same attorney who only filed one claim. This office has examined the facts of the claim and the applicable law. This office's recommendation is to resolve the claim on behalf of Armando Chevere Ortega for \$38,500 and the claim on behalf of Joanna Vazquez Martinez for \$60,000 based on the summary below:

<u>Facts</u>: On May 17, 2020 a West Allis Fire Department ambulance was on the way to Froedert Hospital via South 84th Street. The driver did not see the northernmost red light as he came out from under the freeway overpass on 84th. Mr. Chevere Ortega was turning south on to 84th Street from West O'Connor Street. He was driving Ms. Vazquez Martinez's 2017 Toyota Tacoma, she was also present in the vehicle. The ambulance hit the Toyota on the driver's side.

<u>Claim</u>: Ms. Vazquez Martinez has property damage to her vehicle which totaled the car. She did not have vehicle insurance and must reimburse the Toyota Finance Corporation the full value of the, at the time, new vehicle. Both Mr. Chevere Ortega and Ms. Vazquez Martinez also had substantial medical costs and some pain and suffering as a result of the injuries they each sustained in the accident.

Analysis: It is in the City's interest to settle the claim at this stage and avoid any additional costs of litigation if a lawsuit were filed. If a denial were issued a lawsuit is certain since



claimant has an attorney who filed the claim. Given the ambulance driver's failure to stop for the red light there is not much argument against the City's liability for the accident at hand; all that would be argued in litigation is the amount of the award. Both claimants have provided medical records to substantiate injuries and damages. The amount being recommended is reasonable as it relates to what might be awarded if the matter went to court.

Therefore, based on the above analysis, the City Attorney's Office recommends that the Council approve settlement of this claim for the amounts of \$38,500 and \$60,000, on behalf of claimants Armando Chevere Ortega and Joanna Vazquez Martinez, respectively.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Hammock

Principal Assistant City Attorney