

EVAN C. GOYKE
City Attorney

MARY L. SCHANNING
ROBIN A. PEDERSON
NAOMI E. SANDERS
JULIE P. WILSON
Deputy City Attorneys



Milwaukee City Hall Suite 800 • 200 East Wells Street • Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-3551
Telephone: 414.286.2601 • TDD: 414.286.2025 • Fax: 414.286.8550

KATHRYN Z. BLOCK
THOMAS D. MILLER
PETER J. BLOCK
ANDREA J. FOWLER
JOANNA FRACZEK
HANNAH R. JAHN
MEIGHAN M. ANGER
ALEXANDER R. CARSON
GREGORY P. KRUSE
ALEX T. MUELLER
ALEXANDER D. COSSI
KATHERINE A. HEADLEY
SHEILA THOBANI
STACY J. MILLER
JORDAN M. SCHETTLE
THERESA A. MONTAG
ALEXANDER E. FOUNDOS
TRAVIS J. GRESHAM
KYLE W. BAILEY
JOSEPH M. DOBBS
WILLIAM K. HOTCHKISS
CLINT B. MUCHE
TYLER M. HELSEL
ZACHARY A. HATFIELD
MEGHAN C. MCCABE
CYNTHIA HARRIS ORTEGA SANTANA
OLUWASEUN CHRIS IBITOYE
KEVIN P. TODT
NATHANIEL E. ADAMSON
MATTEO REGINATO
JOSHUA B. CRONIN
ROBERT W. SANDERS
ELIZABETH K. MILES
LAURI A. ROLLINGS
Assistant City Attorneys

February 24, 2026

To the Honorable Common Council
Of the City of Milwaukee
Room 205 – City Hall

RE: Communication from JOHN AND KATHLEEN SMITH
C.I. File No. 2025-001814

Dear Council Members:

Enclosed please find a proposed resolution. We ask that it be introduced and referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Legislation, with the following recommendation.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith submitted a claim for property damages at 3813 South 93rd Street as a result of a sewer backup that occurred between August 9 – 10, 2025.

Following a thorough investigation, records from the Infrastructure Services Division (ISD) and Milwaukee Water Works (MWW) indicate that the flooding occurred during a period of historically significant rainfall, with an intensity that caused the City's sewer system to become surcharged. The ISD records confirm that the City's main sewer system was functioning properly but was overwhelmed by flows exceeding its capacity. The flooding and resulting property damage appear to have been caused by this extreme and naturally occurring weather event and unrelated to any maintenance or repair work performed by MWW or ISD departments.

Since the City is not negligent, it cannot accept liability and we recommend that the claim for \$13,743.93 be denied.

Very truly yours,

A blue ink signature of Evan C. Goyke, written in a cursive style.

EVAN C. GOYKE
City Attorney

A blue ink signature of Naomi E. Sanders, written in a cursive style.

NAOMI E. SANDERS
Deputy City Attorney

ECG/NES/MTG/cdr

Enclosures

2025-001814/

