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May 21, 2024

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

RE: Communications from Katrina Turner  
C.I. File No. 1068-2023-2123

Dear Sir or Madam:

Ms. Turner alleges that the City of Milwaukee is responsible for injuries she sustained when a branch from a City tree fell on her at her residence at 2830 North 34<sup>th</sup> Street on August 17, 2023.

Our investigation into this matter revealed that the Forestry Section was notified of a broken branch that had fallen at 2830 North 34<sup>th</sup> Street and reportedly struck a resident. A Forestry crew responded to the location and did not find a branch on the property. A neighbor, however, advised the crew that the subject branch had been moved to the vacant lot next door. The crew found a pile of branches and one that may have fallen from the city ash tree located in front of 2834 North 34<sup>th</sup> Street. The crew inspected the subject tree and found it to be in good health.

On August 17, 2023, The City of Milwaukee experienced a thunderstorm event with sustained winds of 31 MPH and peak wind gusts of 44 MPH. This contributed to widespread tree damage throughout the City.

It is the view of the Forestry Department that no reasonable or prudent action on its part could have foreseen or prevented this incident from occurring. Therefore, we recommend that this claim be denied.

Very truly yours,

EVAN C. GOYKE  
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ECG/JLW/PK/cdr

1029-2023-2123/291347

