

GRANT F. LANGLEY
City Attorney

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Deputy City Attorneys



THOMAS O. GARTNER
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MAURITA F. HOUREN
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KURT A. BEHLING
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EDWARD M. EHRlich
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KATHRYN Z. BLOCK
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KEVIN P. SULLIVAN
BETH CONRADSON CLEARY
THOMAS D. MILLER
HEIDI E. GALVÁN
Assistant City Attorneys

April 20, 2009

To the Honorable Common Council
of the City of Milwaukee
Room 205 - City Hall

Re: Communication from Attorney Jon Cermele, Cermele & Associates, S.C. for
legal fees for Police Officer Eric Ratzmann
C.I. File No. ; EC 2657

Dear Council Members:

Returned herewith is a document filed by Attorney Jon Cermele for attorney's fees for representing Police Officer Eric Ratzmann. The claim is in the amount of \$513.77 including \$7.77 in disbursements for 4.60 hours of service billed at the rate of \$110.00 per hour. We ask that this matter be introduced and referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Legislation.

We have reviewed this claim and advise that in our opinion, the time spent was reasonable. Legal representation was occasioned by the filing of a citizen's complaint against the officer with the Fire and Police Commission. The complaint was dismissed by the Commission.

As we have advised you under similar circumstances in the past, the Common Council has discretion to reject this claim or to pay it in whole or in part. Wis. Stat. § 895.35, *Bablitch and Bablitch v. Lincoln County*, 82 Wis. 2d 574 (1978).

Very truly yours,

GRANT F. LANGLEY
City Attorney


JAN A. SMOKOWICZ
Assistant City Attorney

JAS:amp
Enc.

1032-2008-3489.044:124771v1

MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

January 5, 2009

TO: P.O. ERIC RATZMANN
DISTRICT: ONE

RE: Receipt of Legal Services from Law Firm of
Attorney Jonathan Cermele

Attorney Jonathan Cermele has made a claim with the City, indicating the attached was provided with legal services arising out of one of the following situations:

- 1) An incident occurring on: APRIL 2, 2007
- 2) An incident regarding complaint of: JETHRO HEARD
- 3) A police shooting incident occurring on: N/A

Is this information correct?

YES NO

Did you receive legal representation
in this matter?

YES NO

Your signature: _____



Print your name: _____

ERIC RATZMANN

Upon completion, please return this memorandum to the Professional Performance Division at the Police Academy (Room 325) as soon as possible.

KRL: lrc

KURT R. LEIBOLD
Acting Captain of Police
Professional Performance Division

MILWAUKEE POLICE
INTERNAL AFFAIRS
DIVISION

09 JAN 22 PM 2: 09

RECEIVED

CL-C-2008-0109

CERMELE & ASSOCIATES, S.C.

- ATTORNEYS AT LAW -
WWW.CERMELELAW.COM

JONATHAN CERMELE
MATTHEW L. GRANITZ
CHELSIE ALLAN
SCOTT J. JESS

6310 WEST BLUEMOUND ROAD
SUITE 200
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53213
(414) 276-8750
FAX (414) 276-8906

October 8, 2008

Mr. Ronald D. Leonhardt
Milwaukee City Clerk
800 City Hall
200 East Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

**RE: Citizen Complaint of Mr. Jethro Heard
Against PO Eric Ratzmann
Complaint No.: 07-20
Date of Incident: April 2, 2007**

Dear Mr. Leonhardt:

Pursuant to Article 58 of the 2007-2009 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City and the Milwaukee Police Association, the City should request that this claim be placed on the Common Council Committee agenda within 180 days of its receipt.

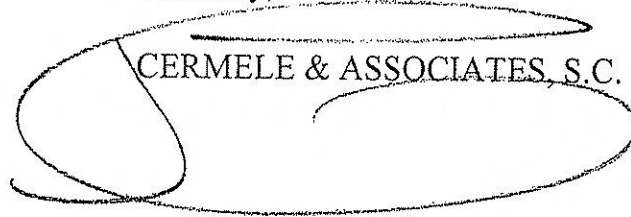
The above-named police officer has retained us to represent him in connection with the above-referenced matter.

Consistent with its policy, the City Attorney's Office has refused to represent him and, as he was performing the duties of his office at the time of the events giving rise to the incident, this claim is hereby made on his behalf for the indicated legal fees. This incident involved an arrest.

The Fire and Police Commission dismissed the complaint. Attached is a copy of the letter from the Fire and Police Commission and an itemization of the time and services rendered.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



CERMELE & ASSOCIATES, S.C.

Jon Cermele

/kjs
Attachments
RATZMANN

CERMELE & ASSOCIATES, S.C.

- ATTORNEYS AT LAW -
WWW.CERMELELAW.COM

JONATHAN CERMELE
MATTHEW L. GRANITZ
CHELSIE ALLAN
SCOTT J. JESS

6310 WEST BLUEMOUND ROAD
SUITE 200
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53213
(414) 276-8750
FAX (414) 276-8906

October 08, 2008

Mr. Ronald Leonhardt
Milwaukee City Clerk
City Hall, Room 205
200 East Wells Street
Milwaukee WI 53202

RE: Citizen Complaint of Mr. Jethro Heard
Against PO Eric Ratzmann
FPC No: 07-20
Date of Incident: April 2, 2007
Professional services

	<u>Hours</u>
7/5/2007 Office conference with PO Ratzmann regarding new citizen complaint; review documents received from same; Muni Court and CCAP research; open file.	1.50
7/6/2007 Open Records request.	0.10
7/16/2007 Receive and review correspondence from FPC regarding prior citizen complaints; correspondence to FPC.	0.30
7/17/2007 Review undeliverable mail to complainant; memo to file.	0.10
7/31/2007 Receive and review correspondence from MPD.	0.20
3/20/2008 Receive and review correspondence from FPC regarding conciliation; telephone call to and from client regarding 2008 vacation dates; telephone call to PO witness regarding same; telephone call to FPC with dates; memo to file.	0.50
7/13/2008 Receive and review correspondence from FPC regarding mediation.	0.10

	<u>Hours</u>
7/21/2008 Correspondence to FPC regarding PO witness.	0.20
7/23/2008 Telephone call to client; memo to file.	0.20
E-mail to Milwaukee Mediation Center regarding client's availability for mediation.	0.10
7/24/2008 Receive and review correspondence from FPC regarding PO witness having resigned; correspondence to PO witness regarding same.	0.30
8/6/2008 Review correspondence from Mediation Center.	0.20
9/4/2008 E-mail to mediation center.	0.10
9/18/2008 Receive and review correspondence from Mediation Center regarding file closure; telephone call to FPC regarding same.	0.20
9/25/2008 Receive and review correspondence from FPC indicating file closure; correspondence to client regarding same; close file.	0.50

	4.60	<u>Amount</u>
For professional services rendered	✓	✓ \$506.00
Additional charges:		

8/3/2007 MPD Open Records request	7.77
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Total costs	\$7.77
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Total amount of this bill	\$513.77 ✓
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Balance due	\$513.77
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Mr. Ronald Leonhardt

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(Rate: \$110.00 per hour)



RECEIVED

SEP 25 2008

Fire and Police Commission

Michael G. Tobin
Executive Director

Leonard J. Sobczak
Chairman

Ernesto A. Baca
Vice-Chairman

Earl A. Buford
Richard C. Cox
Kathryn A. Hein
Carolina M. Stark
Commissioners

September 24, 2008

Mr. Jethro Heard, Sr.
2563 North 35th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53210

RE: Jethro Heard, Sr. v. Police Officers Joseph Goggins and James McNichol
and Sergeant Christopher Elser
FPC Complaint No. 06-06

Jethro Heard, Sr. v. Police Officers Eric Ratzman and Thomas Harris (resigned)
FPC Complaint No. 07-20

Dear Mr. Heard:

You agreed to mediation regarding the two complaints listed above.

Cathy Warmington of the Milwaukee Mediation Center has attempted to contact you by telephone, which is disconnected and by letter dated July 30, 2008. Ms. Warmington informed us that she has not been able to speak with you regarding your complaints and mediation.

Since you have not contacted Ms. Warmington or us regarding these matters, we are closing our files on your complaints.

If you have any questions regarding our decision, please call Cindy Janusz, of our office, at (414) 286-5055.

Sincerely,

Michael G. Tobin
Executive Director

MGT:cj

cc: Chief Edward A. Flynn
Matthew L. Granitz, Esq.
Police Officer Joseph Goggins
Police Officer James McNichol
Sergeant Christopher Elser