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July 27, 2023

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

RE: Resolution Authorizing Settlement in the lawsuit entitled
Dombanee Lincoln (Guardian of Dennis King, Deceased) v.
City of Milwaukee, et al.
Case No.: 21-CV-3502

Dear Council Members:

Enclosed please find a proposed resolution to approve a settlement for \$50,000 to settle the claims raised by Dombanee Lincoln (Guardian of Dennis King, Deceased) in the lawsuit *Dombanee Lincoln (Guardian of Dennis King, Deceased) v. City of Milwaukee, et al*, Milwaukee County Circuit Court Case No. 21-CV-3502, as well as a fiscal impact statement.

On June 12, 2021, Dombanee Lincoln, guardian of the decedent Dennis King filed a negligence civil complaint with the Milwaukee County Circuit Court, case number 21CV3502. In addition to suing the City of Milwaukee, Ms. Lincoln sued Milwaukee police department officers Kurt Meyle, and Mark Lindstrum as well as two emergency telecommunication workers.

Ms. Lincoln alleges that on May 11, 2019 the City and its employees were negligent in handling a volatile 911 call, where the caller had stated he had assaulted a teenage boy, who was later identified as Dennis King, Ms. Lincoln's son. Ms. Lincoln alleges the city's negligence was a proximate cause of her son's death. During the 911 call, the caller advised the telecommunications operator that Dennis King was bleeding and medical assistance was needed. The caller was increasingly agitated during the 911 call and stated he was going to kill the victim. During the 911 call, the telecommunications obtained the caller's name, however, she failed to verify the caller's address and recorded the wrong address. As a result, MPD officers were dispatched to the wrong address to conduct the investigation. Based upon the criminal investigation and from witnesses, the



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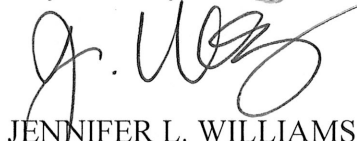
caller continued to beat and assault Dennis King for at least 60 minutes before he was stabbed to death. Dennis King's body was not found until May 20, 2018 in a vacant house. The caller Malik Terrell was charged and convicted of First Degree Intentional Homicide for the killing of Dennis King in Milwaukee County Case 2018CF2342.


Based on the status of these claims, it is the City Attorney's office recommendation that the proposed settlement is in the City's best interest. The parties have reached a resolution for \$50,000 to settle the lawsuit. In exchange for the settlement, Ms. Lincoln will execute a settlement agreement and general release of all claims arising out of her lawsuit.

We request that this matter be assigned for a hearing in closed session before the Judiciary and Legislative Committee and the Finance and Personnel Committee to be followed by an open session in order to take action.

Very truly yours,


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TS/JLW/LAJ/cdr

Enclosures

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