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January 21, 2025

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

Re: Communication from TAMIKA RUFFIN
C.I. File No. 1068-2024-2029

Dear Sir or Madam:

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

Claimant alleges that she sustained damage to her vehicle while it was parked in the area of 8074 West Grantosa Drive when a City tree fell on it on October 31, 2024.

Our investigation revealed that on October 31, 2024, the Forestry Department received a request for service regarding a tree that fell on a vehicle at 8074 West Grantosa Drive. The Forestry crew arrived and located the fallen tree, however the vehicle had been moved. The crew found that the tree was alive but there was decay in the base of the tree. The decay was not evident or visible from the outside of the tree. Forestry received no other service requests for this address in the past six years.



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On October 31, 2024, the City of Milwaukee experienced winds averaging 19.1 MPH and peak winds of 53 MPH. Forestry received 146 calls for tree damage on October 31, 2024. It is our position that the Forestry Department followed standard operating procedures in this case, and were not negligent in this matter. Therefore, we recommend that the claim submitted by Tamika Ruffin in the amount of \$19,742.55 be denied.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Evan C. Goyke

EVAN C. GOYKE
City Attorney

/s/ Naomi E. Sanders

NAOMI E. SANDERS
Deputy City Attorney

NES/PK/cdr

Enclosures