

City of Milwaukee,

46.5 So. 103rd St,
Greenfield, Wisconsin
Oct. 19, 2017 53228

On Sunday, Oct. 1, 2017, at 12:50 in the afternoon, my son, Daniel, and I were walking on the east side of Milwaukee past the Park East Hotel at 912 E. State Street on the way back to our car. I tripped and fell where the sidewalk was raised where there was some previously patched and uneven asphalt. I fell on my left knee and knew that I was going to fall straight down on my face so I put my right hand out to lessen any impact and prevent hitting my head and further injury. I am right-handed so that is why I put my right hand out immediately when I was falling. After falling, my knee was scraped and bruised and my right hand was severely out of normal shape. We tried to go into the Park East Hotel, but it was locked and one lady who was in the area said that it had been closed for three weeks.

RECEIVED
OCT 30 2017

My hand was very painful and I needed to get some ice on my hand so we went around the corner to the Astor Hotel on the next block. They gave me some ice and my son went to get our car to pick me up so that we could go to an urgent care facility to have it looked at. We went to the Aurora Urgent Care at 7220 West National Avenue in West Allis. I saw Madelaine T. Tully, MD, and an x-ray was taken. The x-ray showed a comminuted fracture of the distal radius present with mild impaction and dorsal displacement of the distal fracture fragments. In addition, it showed a mildly displaced fracture present through the ulnar styloid. There is also soft tissue swelling surrounding the wrist.

OFFICE OF
CITY ATTORNEY

I was told to go to an orthopedic doctor, Dr. Matthew Mellen, at 2424 90th Street, Suite 500, the next day, Oct. 2, 2017. I didn't have an appointment, but we went there before 8:00 and I was able to get in later that morning to see the doctor. My hand, wrist, and arm were looked at by the doctor for treatment and put into a hard cast because of the fractured wrist. I would have surgery on my right wrist so I scheduled the first available appointment.

On Wednesday, Oct. 4, we went to the Outpatient Aurora St. Luke's Medical Center at 2900 W Oklahoma Ave, Milwaukee, for my 11:45 appointment to have the surgery to be done by Dr. Matthew Mellen. The cast that I had on was cut off. I was ready and waiting, but had to wait until after 5:00 PM for the surgery. A metal plate with screws to align the bones was put in. My wrist was then put in a cast that was hard on the bottom and soft on the top to allow for swelling and all of that was wrapped from my hand to my elbow.

My son was supposed to fly back out to Washington D. C. at 7:30 in the morning on Oct. 4, but stayed so that he could be with me for the surgery and to help afterwards. He left on Friday, Oct. 6th, in the afternoon. I am alone so I was thankful that he could be here.

I had an appointment with Dr. Matthew Mellen at 9:20 on Monday, Oct. 16, and the cast was cut off and the stitches were taken out. They said that physical therapy is often necessary for 2 - 4 months after the surgery. This is only the first week and I still have a great deal of swelling so I did not make any appointment for therapy as yet. At this time, I am trying to exercise my fingers at home. Distal radius fractures are slow to heal. Overall success rates with pain relief is greater than 90%, but will likely take 2 - 3 months before significant pain relief is noticed. Full recovery of wrist strength, motion, and endurance may take 6 - 12 months following surgery.

I have an appointment with Dr. Matthew Mellen on Nov. 13th at 9:20 AM to monitor the injury and to check for any issues.

414-541-8735 Sincerely,

Ardell Bergen

CITY OF MILWAUKEE
2017 OCT 27 PM 1:31
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE







