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May 9, 2018

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

RE:

C.I. File No. 1032-2018-893

Communication from:

Jabbar Thigpen 2630 N. 18<sup>th</sup> Street

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53206

SUSAN E. LAPPEN PATRICIA A. FRICKER **HEIDI WICK SPOERL GREGG C. HAGOPIAN ELLEN H. TANGEN** JAY A. UNORA KATHRYN Z. BLOCK **KEVIN P. SULLIVAN** THOMAS D. MILLER **ROBIN A. PEDERSON** JEREMY R. MCKENZIE PETER J. BLOCK **NICHOLAS P. DESIATO** JOANNA FRACZEK **JENNY YUAN** KAIL J. DECKER ALLISON N. FLANAGAN PATRICK J. LEIGL **HEATHER H. HOUGH** ANDREA J. FOWLER PATRICK J. MCCLAIN **NAOMI E. GEHLING CALVIN V. FERMIN BENJAMIN J. ROOVERS ELLENY B. CHRISTOPOULOS** RACHEL S. KENNEDY TYRONE M. ST. JUNIOR HANNAH R. JAHN **SAVEON D. GRENELL ROSE SIMON-SILVA** JULIE P. WILSON Assistant City Attorneys

Dear Common Council Members:

Jabbar Thigpen alleges that on March 12, 2018, the Milwaukee Police Department's excessive use of tear gas within his home at 2630 N. 18<sup>th</sup> Street resulted in \$30,628.00 worth of property damage.

A suspected homicide suspect, Percy Morgan, confined himself to Mr. Thigpen's home. Mr. Morgan is the cousin of Mr. Thigpen. Believed to be armed, Mr. Morgan refused to surrender to police upon demand. After several hours of failed negotiations between Mr. Morgan, MPD, and family members, Mr. Morgan still refused to surrender. Eventually, tear gas was used to force Mr. Morgan from the premises.

The investigation of this matter reveals that the MPD acted within their scope of their authority and within reason to remove a homicide suspect from the premises. The use of tear gas alleviated the use of more forceful and deadlier means of removing a homicide suspect.

There is no evidence that the MPD was negligent in this incident. As such, the City would not be liable. Therefore, we recommend that this claim be denied.

Very truly yours,

City Attorney

PATRICIA A. FRICKER Assistant City Attorney

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PAF:mal Enclosure

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