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June 17, 2024

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

RE: C.I. File No. 1068-2024-786
Communication from CRISSY HERRELL

Dear Sir or Madam:

Crissy Herrell alleges that on January 13, 2024, a tree split and fell on her 2008 Chevy Trailblazer while it was parked at 9104 West Allyn Street. Ms. Herrell has submitted a damage claim for \$5,995.00.

Our investigation reveals that on January 13, 2024, the Forestry Section received a call regarding a split tree that had fallen on a vehicle at 9104 West Allyn Street. When the Forestry crew responded, they found a tree that had split and fallen onto Ms. Herrell's vehicle. The tree was alive with no decay evident at the point of failure.

Further investigation reveals that on January 12-13, 2024, Milwaukee had a major snow event with winds averaging 20.3 MPH and peak winds of 48MPH. The City received 8.4 inches of snow from January 12, 2024, through January 13, 2024, according to General Mitchell. The Forestry section received 920 calls for tree damage and storm related issues.

It is our view that the tree failure was not a result of any negligence caused by the City Forestry Section. As such, we recommend that the claim be denied.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "E. Goyke", written over a horizontal line.

EVAN C. GOYKE
City Attorney

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Williams", written over a horizontal line.

JENNIFER L. WILLIAMS
Deputy City Attorney

ECG/JLW/PK/cdr

1068-2024-786/291855

