


ONE CALL  THAT'S ALL CITY OF MILWAUKEE
GRUBER 2014 OCT -9 PM 2:46
LAW OFFICES LLC

100 East Wisconsin Avenue
Suite 1650
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

OFFICE OF
CITY ATTORNEY

Telephone:
(414) 276-6666
Facsimile:
(414) 273-4047

October 7, 2014

City Attorney Grant F. Langley
Milwaukee City Clerk
200 East Wells Street
Room 205
Milwaukee, WI 53202

RE: C.I. File No.: 1029-2014-2441
Our Client: Monique S. Humes
Date of Incident: June 18, 2014


Dear Attorney Langley:

We have received your letter, dated September 16, 2014, denying our client's, Monique Humes, claim relating to damages sustained on June 18, 2014. We are hereby appealing your denial of this claim based on the fact that the city did have notice of prior backups and problems with this sewer, as indicated in James Bohl's letter dated July 22, 2014.

Please contact me at your earliest convenience to discuss this matter further. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,

GRUBER LAW OFFICES, LLC


Phillip S. Georges
Attorney
PSG/tkr

CITY OF MILWAUKEE
2014 OCT -9 A 8:04
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

GRUBER LAW OFFICES, LLC
100 East Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1650
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

94:2 MD 6-1304102

City Attorney Grant F. Langley
Milwaukee City Clerk
200 East Wells Street
Room 205
Milwaukee, WI 53202

CITY OF MILWAUKEE
OFFICE S. KRZYWIAK
11:8 MD 6-1304

CITY OF MILWAUKEE



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AUG 28 2014

OFFICE OF CITY ATTORNEY

100 East Wisconsin Avenue
Suite 1650
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Telephone: (414) 276-6666
Facsimile: (414) 273-4047

NOTICE OF CLAIM

Handwritten notes: '1123' and '8-28-14'. Stamp: 'ELECTRONIC MAIL PROCESS SERVICE, INC.' with fields for Time of Service, Date of Service, and Served upon.

TO: City Clerk
City of Milwaukee
200 East Wells, Room 205
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

City of Milwaukee Department of Public Works
Municipal Building
841 N. Broadway
Room 501
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Re: Monique S. Humes
8551 West Grantosa Drive
Milwaukee, WI 53225

Date of Incident: June 18, 2014
Location: 8551 West Grantosa Drive, Milwaukee, WI 53225

Vertical stamps: CITY CLERK'S OFFICE, 2014 AUG 28 AM 11:23, CITY OF MILWAUKEE

TO EACH OF THE ABOVE NAMED PARTIES:

Pursuant to the provisions of § 893.80, Wis. Stats., the Claimant, Monique S. Humes, hereby gives formal Notice of Claim and makes a claim for relief in the form of monetary damages, as set forth below:

- 1. That Monique S. Humes is an adult individual and resides at 8551 West Grantosa Drive in the City and County of Milwaukee, State of Wisconsin.
2. That on June 18, 2014, Monique Humes was residing at her home at 8551 West Grantosa Drive when a sewer backed up into her basement causing flooding and damage to her personal belongings. As it is outlined in Exhibit 1, Monique Humes lost approximately \$4,600.00 in personal belongings. In addition, Monique

Humes has incurred \$200.00 in additional costs for the necessary repairs to her property and sanitization of her living space. As it is outlined in Exhibit 2, an evaluation of the sewer lines at 8551 West Grantosa Drive in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, performed by the Department of Public Works, revealed several sags combined with large grease buildups. In Exhibit 3, you will note the severe property damage, damaged belongings and unsanitary conditions of 8551 West Grantosa Drive caused by the faulty sewer lines.

3. That as a result of the aforementioned incident and negligence, the Claimant, Monique Humes, has suffered a significant monetary loss, has and will continue to incur expenses, and has and will in the future experience suffering, and risks to her health all to her damage in the amount of \$5,000.00.

WHEREFORE, pursuant to § 893.80, Wis. Stats. Monique Humes demands \$5,000.00 from said City of Milwaukee, the City of Milwaukee Department of Public Works and the 5th Aldermanic District.

Dated at Milwaukee, Wisconsin this 27 day of August 2014.

GRUBER LAW OFFICES, LLC

By: 

Phillip S. Georges
State Bar No: 1056511

GRUBER LAW OFFICES, LLC
100 East Wisconsin Avenue
Suite 1650
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
(414) 276-6666

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CITY ATTORNEY

Billy Siggers
8551 W. Grantosa Dr.
Milwaukee, WI. 53225



To Whom It May Concern:

On June 18th, 2014, I was informed by my tenant who lives in the upper unit of the above address that due to the heavy rain the sewer had backed up into my basement. There was approximately 2 ½ feet of water and sewage. This caused damage to my belongings, my tenant's belongings, 2 furnaces, and 2 hot water tanks. The smell of the sewage made it impossible to remain in the house. This started about 3 a.m. that morning and the City of Milwaukee was contacted at 7 a.m. The call was made by Monique (my tenant) who spoke to a representative and workers were sent out to check the sewer. The City workers arrived and worked outside for about 1 ½ hours before leaving. I later called back and spoke with Carol Rendt who said she was the Supervisor over the sewer department and she instructed me on how to get the application to file a complaint against the City of Milwaukee. Carol said that she was out to the site at 3 a.m. that morning with a crew working to unclog the sewer, and that it was backed up with grease that came from the apartment building located on the corner of Grantosa and Hampton Ave. Although some of my neighbors also had water backed up in their basement, I am the only house which actually got sewer back up which is toxic and damaging to property.

This is not the first time this has happened and it always affect my property the worse. A couple years back when the big flood happened, the sewer did the same thing. I was told at that time that my house gets it the worse because of the fact that I am located in between 2 main sewer lines, the one that runs on 84th Congress and the one on Grantosa. Due to the damage from the 1st one I was forced to do an insurance claim and all of my belonging had to be replaced and I was told that the problem was fixed.

Due to my health, I have been unable to stay in my home, and it made it impossible for me to even come in due to the fear of inhaling toxic odors. I am currently on Dialyses and several of my boxes of medicine were stored in the basement because of the large amount that was delivered and all of it has been destroyed. I have contacted my home owner insurance company which is Wisconsin Insurance and was told that this type of claim was not covered under my policy. My tenant who has rental insurance was told the same thing, that her coverage doesn't include this type of claim. I have contacted my alderman Jim Bohl, and spoke with one of the secretary's Ruth. I informed her of the matter and she contacted the Sewer department and had someone sent out. I will be filing a complaint with Mr. Bohl. Something has to be done about this. Due to health conditions, I am in no position to have this extra stress added and this has taken so much out of me. Not only did I lose priceless and unreplaceable items, but I had to hire people to come out to clear out and disinfect my basement. We energies were also called out since my units were gas, and based on their report there was no leak but the report stated that equipment can't be used until service was done to see if units can still be used. We energies was also contacted and came out on the 20th and did a report, and I was informed not to use any of the equipment until it had been serviced.

Included is a list of items that were destroyed and had to be thrown out from. I have enclosed several pictures showing not only the damage, but the items from the list. Some Items not list simply can't be replaced like receipts to my belongings, boxes and boxes of pictures, Legal documents that were left from my grandmother who passed and lots of other things.

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CITY ATTORNEY**My Items lost:**

5 legged vintage antique table (given by my grandmother from the 18 th century)	= \$3000.00
3 tables (1 marble, 1 white patio, 1 wooden)	= \$800
1 antique wooden chifferobe (given by my grandmother)	= \$3000.00
2 washer machines	= \$1800.00
2 Dryers	= \$1800.00
1 leather white sectional	= \$5000.00
2 brand new twin bed sets with mattress	= \$ 1700.00
1 black bedroom set (included dresser and queen size bed)	= \$ 3000.00
4 T.V.s	= \$ 500.00
1 white leather reclining chair with foot stool	= \$ 400.00
1 quadrophonic receiver with 2 speakers	= \$ 5000.00
1 Combination bed and tent	= \$ 500.00
1 Wooden vanity	= \$ 2500.00
2 Antique ice boxes	= \$ 4000.00
1 Water pressure	= \$ 800.00
3 Diamond cut mirrors	= \$ 1800.00
Several bags, bins and hangers of clothing	= \$ 2000.00
20 boxes of Dialyses medication (\$400 per box)	= \$ 8000.00
Several large framed limited edition paintings	= \$ 4000.00

Total = \$ 49,600.00

Besides my total lost, this doesn't even include the cost to replace furnaces (estimated from Home Depot) around \$2600.00 for 2, and hot water tanks (Home Depot) \$1000.00 for 2. For a total loss of \$53,200.00.

Tenant Items lost:

1 black leather reclining couch	= \$ 600.00
1 White microwave	= \$ 100.00
1 Black 5 piece kitchen table set	= \$ 500.00
2 Storage large bins of business books	= \$ 2000.00
Several bags of clothing and shoes	= \$ 1500.00

Total = \$4,600.00

If there is anything else that I need to submit besides this complaint, the report from We Energies, and the pictures that are included please contact me @ (414) 218-0993 and let me know. Thank you.

Billy Siggers

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Invoice

227186

SOLD TO: **PULLS SERVICES**
 ADDRESS: **8551 Web Printers**
 CITY, STATE, ZIP: **MILWAUKEE WISCONSIN 53217**

SHIP TO: **PUMBO-PRINTS SERVICES**
 ADDRESS: **214 J 364-9897**
 CITY, STATE, ZIP: **MILWAUKEE WISCONSIN 53217**

CUSTOMER ORDER NO.: _____
 SOLD BY: _____
 TERMS: _____
 DATE: **07/10/14**
 F.O.B.:

ORDERED	SHIPPED	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	UNIT	AMOUNT
		Aug 28 Service to			100.00
		Clean Books, Clean			
		inkbox.			
		30 day warranty			
					\$ 100.00

COMMITTEE CHAIR

- Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development Committee

COMMITTEE MEMBER

- Steering and Rules Committee
- Public Works Committee



JAMES A. BOHL, JR.

Alderman, 5th District

July 22, 2014

Billy Siggers
8551 West Grantosa Drive
Milwaukee, WI 53225

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Dear Mr. Siggers,

In response to your concerns regarding flooding in your basement at 8551 W. Grantosa Dr, I am relaying this information to you.

The following was shared with my office by the Department of Public Works:

We have evaluated the subject area sewer problem and offer the following comments:

- The subject property is connected to an 8" diameter sanitary sewer built in 1957 and a 30" diameter storm sewer built in 1957 that lie in West Grantosa Drive. We have evaluated the sewers and they appear to be functioning properly at the time of exam.
- The sanitary sewer outlets into an 8" diameter sanitary sewer also built in 1957 that lies in an easement south of the Hampton Gardens apartment building between West Grantosa Drive and North 84th Street. The exam of this sewer reveals several sags combined with large grease buildups.
- We have performed a hydraulic analysis on the above noted sewers. Based on our calculations, the outlet sewer experiencing the sags has a slight surcharge of 0.70 feet.
- Our best available records indicate that addresses in this block have had backwater issues in 1986, 2010, and now in 2014. This suggests that the sewers in this area are prone to backup in severe rain events.

Based on the above investigation and findings, we will replace this sewer in early part of 2015. Meanwhile, our Sewer Maintenance will clean and recheck for grease buildup to avoid back up.

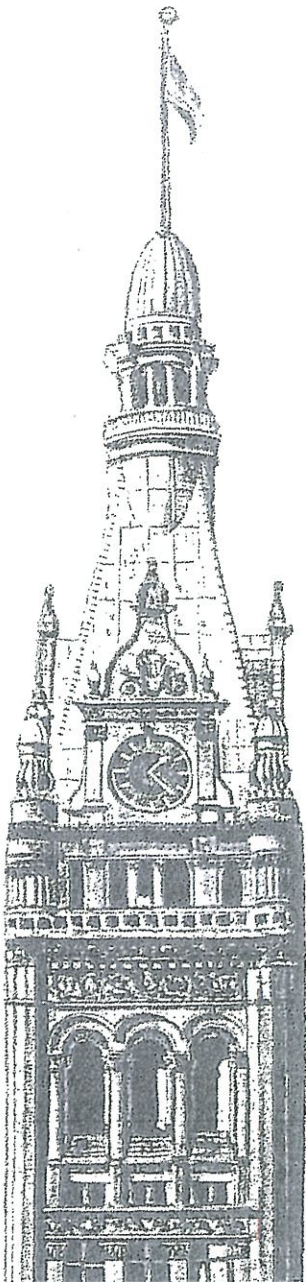
With respect to the homeowner's possible lateral concerns, we cannot do anything with that since the lateral is a private property. We would recommend that the homeowner contact a plumber to diagnose any potential internal issues within the subject property.

If you should have any questions or additional concerns regarding this, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'James A. Bohl'.

Jim Bohl, Alderman
5th Aldermanic District



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EXHIBIT
tabblist
3



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AUG 28 2014

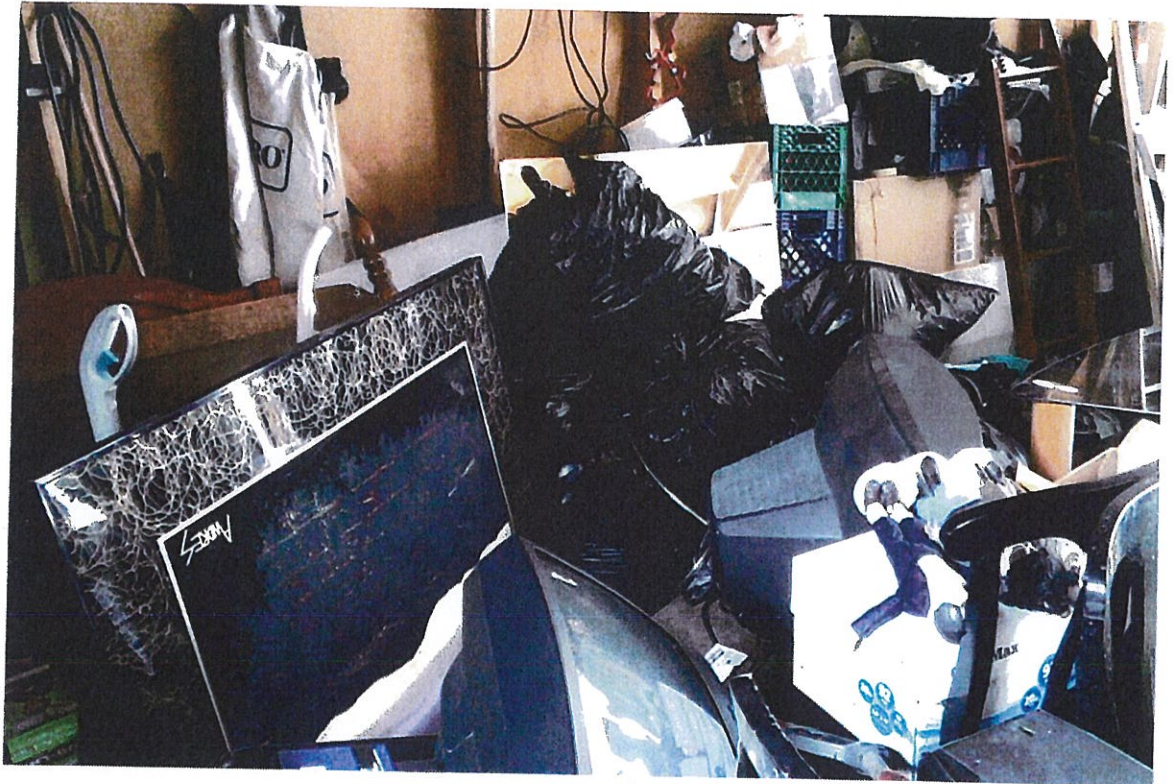
OFFICE OF
CITY ATTORNEY



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AUG 28 2014

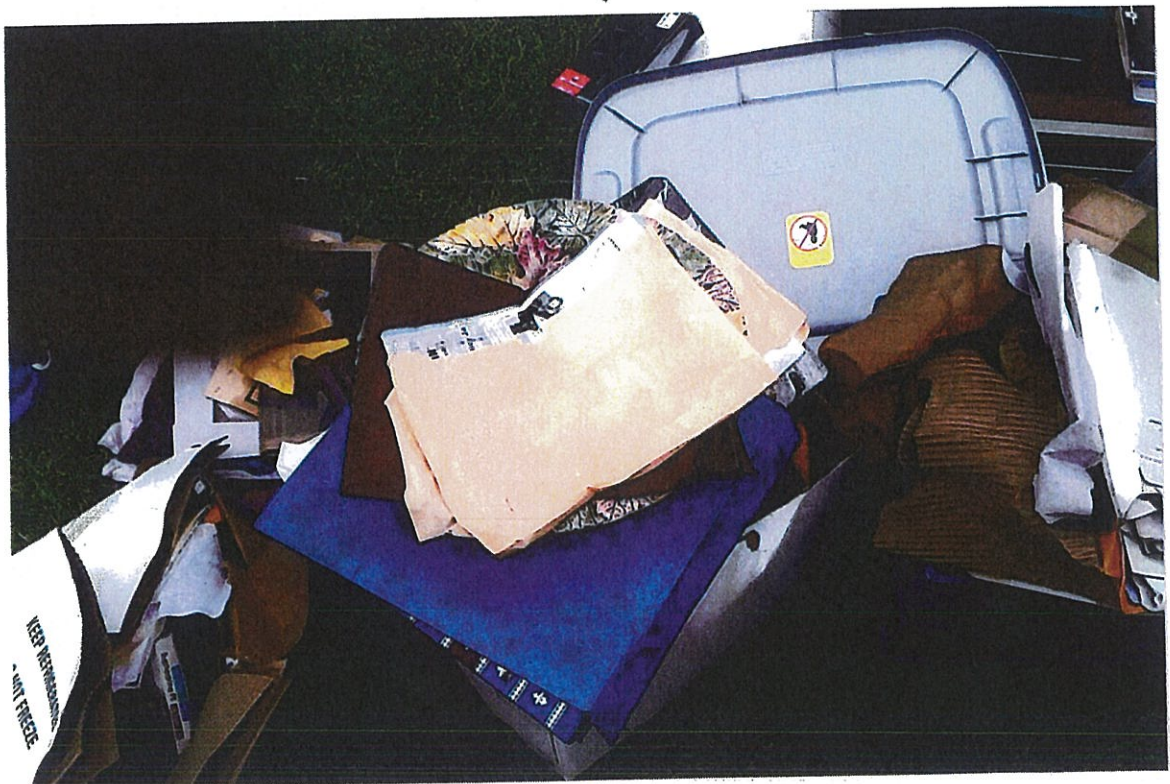
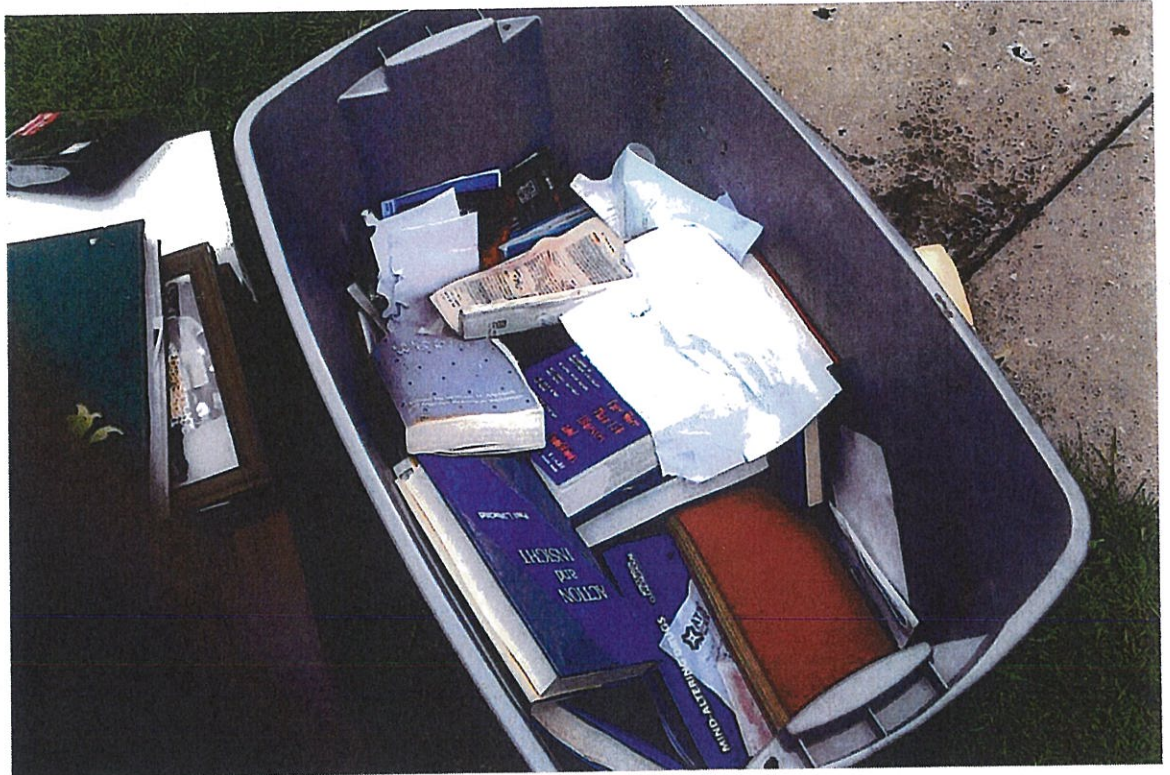
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