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July 30, 2021

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

Re: Communication from Dyuavena Sumler
C.I. File No. 1032-2021-614

Dear Council Members:

We return the enclosed document which has been filed with the City Clerk and ask that it be introduced and referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Legislation with the following recommendation.

On May 7, 2021, the City of Milwaukee Police officers were in pursuit of a stolen 2018 Hyundai Elantra, owned by Dyuavena Sumler, in the vicinity of Brady and Marshall. The driver of the stolen vehicle, nearly hit civilian vehicles while attempting to elude fully marked MPD squad's and driving highway speeds through stop signs and red lights. The stolen involved vehicle eventually crashed into civilian vehicles. The occupants exited the vehicle, fleeing on foot. Subjects were arrested on the scene.

The owner of the vehicle, Dyuavena Sumler, filed a claim against the Milwaukee Police Department for damages, as she believes the pursuit of the stolen vehicle by the Milwaukee Police was the proximate cause for the damages being claimed.


Damages to the involved vehicle amounted to \$19,578.45. The actual cash value of the involved vehicle is \$15,346.00. Credit Acceptance had a lien against the vehicle in the amount of \$16,234.88. Ms. Sumler did not have insurance on the vehicle at the time of this incident.




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In conclusion, officers of the Milwaukee Police Department conducted the pursuit of the stolen involved vehicle within departmental policies and procedures. The damages to the stolen involved vehicle was the direct result of the driver fleeing the police, striking parked civilian vehicles. Therefore, the City cannot accept the liability for damages being claimed. We recommend that the Common Council deny the claim being submitted by Ms. Sumler.

Very truly yours,



TEARMAN SPENCER
City Attorney



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YYM/cdr

Enclosure

1032-2021-614/275675