

TEARMAN SPENCER
City Attorney

ODALO J. OHIKU
ROBIN A. PEDERSON
S.TODD FARRIS
Deputy City Attorneys



Milwaukee City Hall Suite 800 • 200 East Wells Street • Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-3551
Telephone: 414.286.2601 • TDD: 414.286.2025 • Fax: 414.286.8550

HEIDI WICK SPOERL
KATHRYN Z. BLOCK
THOMAS D. MILLER
PETER J. BLOCK
ALLISON N. FLANAGAN
PATRICK J. MCCLAIN
HANNAH R. JAHN
JULIE P. WILSON
MEIGHAN M. ANGER
ALEXANDER R. CARSON
ALEX T. MUELLER
ALEXANDER COSSI
LISA A. GILMORE
NICHOLAS R. SINRAM
TAVISS K. SMITH
KATHERINE A. HEADLEY
ANTHONY JACKSON
STACY J. MILLER
JORDAN SCHELLTLE
THERESA MONTAG
TYLER M. HELSEL
NANCY A. DOMINSKI
ALEXANDER E. FOUNDOS
CHRISTOPHER JACKSON
JAMES D. LEWIS
Assistant City Attorneys

October 11, 2022

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

RE: Communications from CHERERITTA HENDERSON
C.I. File No. 1048-2022-1187

Dear Sir or Madam:

Ms. Chereritta Henderson (tenant) alleges she sustained damages to her personal property in the amount of \$9,400, as a result of a leaking pipe from a water meter exchange, on August 6, 2022, at 2959 N. 55th Street.

Our investigation revealed that on August 8, 2022, Milwaukee Water Works (MWW) reported to the subject property to exchange a water meter. During the exchange, the water began leaking from a Ford coupling connecting the water line to the inlet valve. The Ford coupling is part of the privately owned portion of the service line and was not installed correctly. Subsequently, the coupling disconnected causing water to flow directly into the basement and onto Ms. Henderson's property.

The meter exchange was postponed and MWW contracted a plumber to perform temporary emergency repairs to restore water service to the property. The property was placed in the Lead Service Line Replacement Program per the City Code of Ordinances s.225-25.5-3-a, which states, "a service line must be replaced when a leak or failure has been discovered on either the privately owned or utility owned portion of the service line."

It is our position that the City is not liable for damages in this case. Milwaukee Water Works took action as soon as the leak occurred and contracted repairs in a timely manner. We recommend that the claim be denied.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tearman Spencer".

TEARMAN SPENCER
City Attorney

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Todd Farris".

S. TODD FARRIS
Deputy City Attorney

STF/MG/cdr

Enclosures

1048-2022-1187/282062

