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October 21, 2022

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

RE:

Communication from ALONZO AND DAWN CHAPMAN

C.I. File No 1048-2022-1091

Dear Sir or Madam:

Alonzo and Dawn Chapman allege that the city failed to turn on water after work was complete, and failed to reconnect water supply that caused water damage to the basement of their property located at 5175-77 N. 55th Street. Alonzo and Dawn Chapman submitted a damage claim in the amount of \$6,200.00.

Milwaukee Water Works (MWW) responded to this investigation and reported that on May 19, 2022, American Sewer Services performed a water main replacement on N. 55th Street. MWW received a call at 7:42pm from the customer regarding water had not been restored to the property. MWW responded, and upon arrival observed water on the basement floor and saw water leaking from the outlet valve of the meter setting. MWW installed a hose connection from a neighboring home to temporarily supply water to the property after discovering that American Sewer Services failed to connect the private side water lateral to the new water main.

The next day, MWW and American Sewer Services returned to the property. MWW reported they received contact from the claimant at approximately 8:40am, about a possible burst water meter. MWW observed the meter intact and confirmed that the leak came from the outlet valve/piping on the privately-owned portion of the water service. Photographic evidence of calcium buildup showed that there was a prior leak well before any work performed by American Sewer Services. American Sewer Services arrived at approximately 9:00am to connect the private side water lateral, and had completed work by 11:00am.

**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 D. COSSI** LISA A. GILMORE NICHOLAS R. SINRAM TAVISS K. SMITH KATHERINE A. HEADLEY L. ANTHONY JACKSON STACY J. MILLER MICHAEL C. RADAVICH JORDAN M. SCHETTLE THERESA A. MONTAG TYLER M. HELSEL **NANCY A. DOMINSKI ALEXANDER E. FOUNDOS** CHRISTOPHER P. JACKSON JAMES D. LEWIS

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The Honorable Common Council of the City of Milwaukee October 21, 2022 Page Two

The investigation determined that damages were caused by a leak that was pre-existing and unrelated to any work performed by the City or its contractor. The City is not liable for damages in this case and we recommend that the claim be denied.

Very truly yours,

Elizary Son TEARMAN SPENCER

City Attorney

S. TODD FARRIS
Deputy City Attorney

STF/MTG/cdr

1048-2022-1091/282261