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

December 15, 2022

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

RE:

Communications from American Family Insurance

on behalf of Rosa Montes C.I. File No. 1068-2022-1236

Dear Sir or Madam:

American Family Insurance alleges that on June 1, 2022, a tree belonging to the City of Milwaukee broke and fell on their insured's fence that pulled down the electrical wiring out of the home and damaged electrical pipes located at 2005 S. 35th Street. American Family Insurance has submitted a claim for damages in the amount of \$5,065.40.

Our investigation revealed that on June 1, 2022, the Forestry Section received a service request for a tree split at 2001 S. 35th Street. A Forestry crew responded and removed the limb. The City experienced winds averaging 8.1 mph with peak wind gusts to 27MPH reported at General Mitchell. As a result, the Forestry Section received 23 calls for broken branches and other storm related issues from that event. Further maintenance records dating back to June 2012, revealed there were six requests related to Tall Grass/Weed violations for 2005 S. 35th Street.

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

Very truly yours,

TEARMAN SPENCER

City Attorney

S. TODD FARRIS
Deputy City Attorney

STF/MG/cdr

1068-2022-1236/282952



HEIDI WICK SPOERL

KATHRYN Z. BLOCK THOMAS D. MILLER PETER J. BLOCK ALLISON N. FLANAGAN

PATRICK J. MCCLAIN

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

Assistant City Attorneys

ALEXANDER E. FOUNDO

CHRISTOPHER P. JACKS JAMES D. LEWIS TRAVIS J. GRESHAM

HANNAH R. JAHN

JULIE P. WILSON