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May 8, 2023

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

RE: Communication from Romonia Butler Foster
C.I. File No. 1068-2023-483

Dear Sir or Madam:

Romonia Butler Foster alleges that on March 10, 2023, she sustained damages to her 2004 GMC Envoy SLE, when a large tree branch fell on her vehicle located at 4229 W. Courtland Avenue. Ms. Butler submitted a claim for damages in the amount of \$5,810.91 – \$6,984.82.

Our investigation reveals that on March 10, 2023, Forestry Services responded to an emergency request for service regarding a tree branch that fell located at 4229 W. Courtland Avenue. The Forestry crew arrived and found a 10-inch branch approximately 30 feet long and confirmed damages to the subject vehicle. The tree was alive with no evident decay.

Further records indicated that the branch failure occurred between March 9-10, 2023, during a heavy wet snow storm. During the timeframe of March 9-17, 2023, Forestry Services received 2300 calls for emergency service and approximately 700 of those calls originated from the North area. According to the National Weather Service, on March 9-10, 2023, the City of Milwaukee experienced a snow storm that resulted in 10.7 inches of heavy wet snow and winds averaging 25-30mph.

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

Very truly yours,

TEARMAN SPENCER
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JW/MG/cdr

Enclosure

1068-2023-483/285143

