

Monday, April 24, 2023

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TO: City Clerk
ATTN: CLAIMS
200 E. Wells St., Room 205
Milwaukee, WI 53202-3567

From: William C. Pietsch, Lynn M. Pietsch, claimants
N108W16639 Carrington Circle
Germantown, WI 53022

RE: Claim Against the City of Milwaukee
Pothole Damaging Vehicle

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
2023 APR 26 PM 2:55
CITY OF MILWAUKEE

OFFICE OF CITY ATTORNEY
27 APR '23 AM 08:18

Sirs,

On Tuesday, March 28, 2023, at about 4:45 PM, our vehicle was damaged in the public roadway while driven at 10855 W. Park Place, in the City and County of Milwaukee, due to a pothole in the street.

The pothole was of a size, depth, and location that was a danger to the motoring public. I hold the City of Milwaukee negligent for failing to provide a safe roadway and seek money damages of \$285 for the placement of this vehicle's tire.

CIRCUMSTANCES

At that date, time, and location, my daughter, Catherine Pietsch, age 17, a licensed driver, was driving eastbound in our family car, a 2020 Honda Accord 4-door, with three other occupants. The weather was clear, sunny, and about 40 degrees. She reports no other traffic on the road and was traveling at or near the posted 30 MPH speed limit.

As she approached the leftward (north) bend in the road, the left-front tire struck the pothole, causing a 3-inch x 3-inch tear in the sidewall. This resulted in immediate and complete deflation, destroying the tire. She said she was not distracted from her driving, but suddenly saw the pothole. She tried to avoid the collision, but could not turn away fast enough.

I returned to the scene the next day (3/29/23) at about the same time (5PM). The setting sun in the same cloudless sky revealed that the pothole was practically invisible to approaching vehicles until it was too close to avoid. I measured the pothole to be 3-feet long by 1-foot wide by 4-inches deep, located at the center joint between the right and left lanes (see attached pictures). I took 8 photos in total of the pothole, location, approach, and address.

The tire was replaced on 3/29/03 with the same Make and model tire that was on the vehicle: a Michelin 225/50-R17 "Green-X", purchased from Mr. P's Tires, 6005 N. 76th Street, Milwaukee (sales receipt attached).

A "Click for Action" complaint was made on the City of Milwaukee website on April 30, 2023, regarding the pothole (#13484707).

WITNESSES

Catherine Pietsch, age 17, 1-262-219-0149 (mother) or 1-262-302-5809.

Cameron Braunreiter, age 17, N92W17761 White Oak Circle #19, Menomonee Falls, WI
1-262-255-3658 (mother)

William Pietsch (father) 1-414-243-0378

CONCLUSION

Our car was driven on a public roadway maintained by the City of Milwaukee. The road was defective, having a large pothole in the driving lane. It was not observable under normal conditions. Upon colliding with the pothole, the left-front tire was immediately destroyed. The tire was replaced with the same Make and model tire. We seek relief in the amount of \$285.00 for the cost of the tire.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Pietsch', with a stylized flourish at the end.

William C. Pietsch

Original: City Clerk, Milwaukee

CC: File
Gasparri & Joyce S.C., Attorneys at Law









