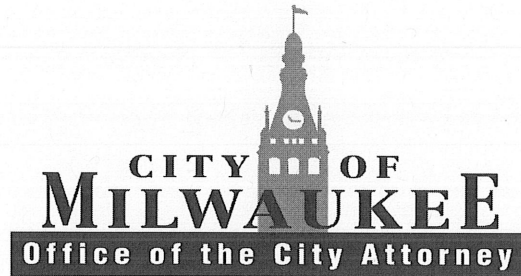


**TEARMAN SPENCER**  
City Attorney

**ODALO J. OHIKU**  
**ROBIN A. PEDERSON**  
**S.TODD FARRIS**  
**JENNIFER L. WILLIAMS**  
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**  
**PATRICK J. MCCLAIN**  
**HANNAH R. JAHN**  
**JULIE P. WILSON**  
**MEIGHAN M. ANGER**  
**ALEXANDER R. CARSON**  
**ALEXANDER T. MUELLER**  
**ALEXANDER D. COSSI**  
**LISA A. GILMORE**  
**KATHERINE A. HEADLEY**  
**L. ANTHONY JACKSON**  
**STACY J. MILLER**  
**MICHAEL C. RADAVICH**  
**JORDAN M. SCHETTLE**  
**THERESA A. MONTAG**  
**ALEXANDER E. FOUNDOS**  
**TRAVIS J. GRESHAM**  
**KYLE W. BAILEY**  
**JOSEPH M. DOBBS**  
**WILLIAM K. HOTCHKISS**  
**CLINT B. MUCHE**  
**JOANNA FRACZEK**  
Assistant City Attorneys

November 9, 2023

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

Re: Resolution Authorizing Settlement in the lawsuit entitled  
*Paige Rice, et al. v. City of Milwaukee, et al.*  
Case Number: 22-CV-7152

Dear Council Members:

Enclosed please find a proposed resolution to approve a settlement for \$63,000 to settle the claims raised by Paige Rice in the lawsuit *Paige Rice, et al. v. City of Milwaukee, et al.*, Milwaukee County Court Case Number 22-CV-7152, as well as a fiscal impact statement.

This suit was filed in Milwaukee Circuit Court on November 9, 2022, alleging negligence and personal injury damages, arising from a motor vehicle accident on August 4, 2021, involving a Milwaukee Police Department van operated by Officer Nathaniel Petersen, while on-duty and in the course and scope of his employment. Ms. Rice alleged that a recent surgical wound on her person, which was stitched closed and healing, dehiscd (split apart) as a direct consequence of the collision. Thereafter, Ms. Rice underwent two additional necessary surgical procedures to re-close the wound, was homebound for approximately two months, and performed daily unpacking and re-packing of the wound with sterilized gauze until it was fully healed in October 2021.

The parties attended mandatory mediation with Attorney Joseph Alioto on October 12, 2023. Plaintiff demanded \$250,000 in total damages, including approximately \$12,000 in medical bills as well as pain and suffering, embarrassment, worry and distress. The parties reached an agreement in principle, subject to final approval, to settle for \$63,000. On October 23, 2023, this matter was presented to the Judiciary and Legislative Subcommittee in closed session. The Committee expressed agreement with and assent to the proposed settlement.



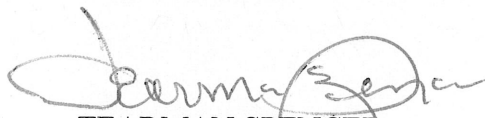
Honorable Common Council  
of the City of Milwaukee  
November 9, 2023  
Page 2

Based on the facts and circumstances developed in the course of discovery, and the applicable legal standards, including those related to aggravation of pre-existing injuries and activation of latent disease or condition, the City Attorney's Office recommends that the proposed settlement is in the City's best interest.


Ms. Rice will execute a settlement agreement and general release of all claims arising out of the August 4, 2021, incident. The parties further agree that the agreement will expressly disclaim any admission of liability on behalf of the City of Milwaukee or Officer Petersen.

We request that this matter be assigned for hearing in closed session before the Judiciary and Legislative Committee (if necessary) and the Finance and Personnel Committee to be followed by an open session to effectuate settlement of this matter.

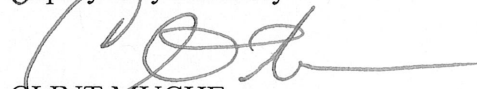
Very truly yours,



TEARMAN SPENCER  
City Attorney



JENNIFER L. WILLIAMS  
Deputy City Attorney



CLINT MUCHE  
Assistant City Attorney

CM/ojn

Enclosures

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