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Assistant City Attorneys

July 17, 2002

Ms. Annetta Winters Howard 5730 North 91st Street, Apt. 2 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53225

Re:

Claim of Annetta Winters Howard

Tow No. 1121782 Our File No. 02-S-161

Dear Ms. Winters Howard:

Our office has received your claim relating to the towing of your car. You indicate that your vehicle was damaged by the City of Milwaukee after they dropped if off of a tow truck after giving your vehicle a courtesy tow to the street. You claim that because of the city dropping your vehicle, the axle was damaged, it is leaking anti-freeze and that the light frame was dented.

Our investigation reveals that your vehicle, a 1987 Cadillac, was towed for safekeeping on April 15, 2002 because it was abandoned in traffic. The Vehicle Inventory Form and videotape indicate that when the vehicle was brought into the tow lot it had a dented front driver's side fender and the apron was separated underneath. In addition, your vehicle had no tire on the front passenger side. According to Louis Black, Assistant Tow Lot Manager, you requested the City of Milwaukee tow your vehicle to the street because it was not driveable. When the vehicle was being hooked up to the tow truck, the hook came apart and broke the signal light. Mr. Black has looked at the pictures taken after the vehicle was dropped and states that there was no damage to your axle. Regarding the anti-freeze leaking from your vehicle, since there is no specific evidence to support your belief that the tow lot caused the leak, the City cannot accept liability. Your claim for the

Ms. Annetta Winters Howard July 17, 2002 Page 2

signal light will be paid and an investigator from our office will be contacting you within the next week to settle that portion of claim. The balance of your claim is being denied.

If you wish to appeal this decision, you may do so by sending a letter within 21 days of receipt of this letter to the Milwaukee City Clerk, 200 East Wells Street, Room 205, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202.

Very truly yours,

GRANT/F/LANGLEY

City Attorney

MELANIE R. SWANK

Assistant City Attorney

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