

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM  
METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT  
OF GREATER CHICAGO

DEPARTMENT: HUMAN RESOURCES

DATE: June 30, 2015

TO: David St. Pierre, Executive Director

FROM: Denice E. Korçal, Director of Human Resources

SUBJECT: Settlement of the Automobile Property Damage and Bodily Injury  
Claim of Machelle Richards vs. MWRDGC

Claim No: AP1291

Amount: \$859.33

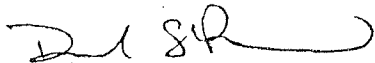
Account: # 901-30000-601090

On September 25, 2012, a District employee was travelling in a District vehicle on work business when he rear ended a vehicle. The accident caused minor damage to the claimant's vehicle. The costs to repair this vehicle totals \$584.83. In addition, the claimant sought medical treatment on date of accident with total bill of \$275.00.

The claim can now be resolved for \$859.33.

This settlement is in the best interest of the District. We therefore request approval for payment and authorization to execute such documents as may be necessary to effect the settlement.

Approved by:



David St. Pierre  
Executive Director

DEK:RAJ:RG:sts

cc: Ms. Joplin, Mr. Hill

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### Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

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#### RONALD M. HILL

General Counsel

May 27, 2015

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ronald.hill@mwrdr.org

Mr. David St. Pierre  
Executive Director  
OFFICE

Re: Settlement of *Better Government Association v. Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago*, Case No. 15 CH 2843 in the Amount of \$3,340.52.

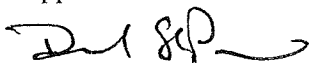
Dear Sir:

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, ("District") has reached a settlement of *Better Government Association v. Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago*, Case No. 15 CH 2843 in the amount of \$3,340.52. In that case, the Better Government Association ("BGA") alleged that the District violated the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.* (FOIA), that the Court should impose a civil penalty against the District for the violation, and that the BGA is entitled to its attorney's fee incurred for bringing this action.

In February 2015, the BGA sent a FOIA request to the District seeking a copy of the audio recording made by the Illinois State Police of a District police officer on either January 24, 2015 or January 25, 2015. The District did not produce the audio recording, explaining that it was exempt from disclosure under Section 7(l)(n) of FOIA because it was a record relating to the adjudication of an employee disciplinary case. Approximately one week later, the BGA filed a Complaint in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois alleging that the audio recording was not exempt and, therefore, the District's failure to produce the requested audio recording violated FOIA. The BGA argued that under Illinois law, it was entitled to its attorney's fee and that the Court should impose a civil penalty against the District for the District's alleged violation of FOIA.

Upon review of the facts and the relevant law, the General Counsel has determined that it is in the District's best interest to settle this claim, and that further litigation of the claim would be cost prohibitive. Therefore, the General Counsel requests that a payment of \$3,340.52 be approved to the BGA, and that he be authorized to execute such documents as may be necessary to effect the settlement.

Approved:



David St. Pierre  
Executive Director  
RMH:HSW:EMA:crb

Respectfully submitted,



Ronald M. Hill  
General Counsel