

**INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION
COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**

DATE: May 17, 2013

TO: Marina Dimitrijevic, Chairwoman, County Board of Supervisors

FROM: James M. Carroll, Principal Assistant Corporation Counsel

SUBJECT: Matthew J. Harris v. Wisconsin County Mutual Insurance Corporation, et al.
Milwaukee County Case No. 2012CV006720

I request that this matter be referred to the Committee on Judiciary, Safety and General Services for approval of a settlement. I request authority to settle this case for the total sum of \$25,000.00, which will be paid by Wisconsin County Mutual Insurance Corporation.

This case involves a personal injury claim resulting from a slip and fall that occurred at the Milwaukee County House of Correction (formerly known as Milwaukee County Correctional Facility-South) on September 10, 2009. The incident occurred at approximately 7:15 p.m. in Dorm E2 of the facility. Plaintiff Matthew J. Harris was walking with another inmate when he slipped on a slick or wet spot on the concrete floor, fell, and struck his head on the ground.

Mr. Harris claims \$16,842.10 in medical expense for treatment of injuries including a concussion, skull fracture, headaches, traumatic brain injury, and loss of senses of smell/taste. He maintains that his post-concussive headaches and loss of smell/taste are permanent injuries.

Per the court's direction, the parties mediated this matter on April 25, 2013. The mediation resulted in this proposed settlement. The settlement provides that the Wisconsin County Mutual Insurance Corporation will pay to Mr. Harris and his attorneys \$25,000.00. In return, Mr. Harris will dismiss his suit and provide the County with a full and complete release from any liability. The payment will be applied to the County's deductible with the County Mutual.

Corporation Counsel and the Wisconsin County Mutual recommend this settlement for approval.



James M. Carroll, Principal Assistant Corporation Counsel

cc: Amber Moreen
Kelly Bablitch
Alexis Gassenhuber
Janelle Jensen
Raisa Koltun