INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE

DATE: June 22, 2018

TO: Theodore Lipscomb, Sr., Chairman, County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Molly J. Zillig, Assistant Corporation Counsel

SUBJECT: Billie C. Harrison v. Milwaukee County

ERD Case No. CR201701185; EEOC Charge No. 26G201700835C

This matter is submitted as an informational report to the Committee on Judiciary, Safety and General Services. Specifically, the Wisconsin County Mutual Insurance Corporation (WCMIC) approved settlement of this litigation after consultation with the Office of Corporation Counsel, as well as, with the Milwaukee County Zoo Director, Chuck Wikenhauser. The total sum of the settlement approved by the WCMIC claims committee is \$50,000.00. Of this total, \$25,000.00 will be paid by WCMIC for attorney's fees accrued by Attorney Sandra Radke, as well as, compensatory damages, while \$25,00.00 will be paid by Milwaukee County for back wages.

This is a Wisconsin Equal Rights Division ("ERD") liability claim brought against Milwaukee County alleging that Ms. Harrison was subjected to employment discrimination and sexual harassment by her supervisor while employed at the Milwaukee County Zoo. Ms. Harrison initiated this matter with a complaint to the ERD and EEOC, filed on May 17, 2017.

Milwaukee County contests Ms. Harrison's claims. Those claims hinge upon: 1) that the employment discrimination and sexual harassment actually occurred as alleged and 2) that she reported the full extent of the employment discrimination and harassment in January through March, 2017 and 3) that Milwaukee County failed to take appropriate steps to remedy and stop the alleged actions. Milwaukee County denies the allegations and contends it took appropriate steps to prevent and stop the alleged actions based on what was reported to it in January through March, 2017. In return for \$50,000.00, Ms. Harrison will dismiss her ERD and EEOC complaints, not pursue her claim further and will provide Milwaukee County with a full and complete release from any liability. These claims fall under the WCMIC policy issued to Milwaukee County for the 2017 policy year with an accompanying \$3,000,000.00 aggregate deductible. Milwaukee County has paid \$646,369.64 toward that aggregate amount for that policy year, therefore is responsible for payment of the full settlement amount in this matter.

cc: Raisa Koltun Kelly Bablitch Allyson Smith Stephen Cady