

**INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION
COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**

DATE: May 20, 2020

TO: Theodore Lipscomb, Sr., Chair, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
Anthony Staskunas, Chair, Committee on Judiciary, Safety and General Services
James Schmitt, Chair, Committee on Finance and Audit

FROM: Anne Berleman Kearney, Deputy Corporation Counsel *ABK*

SUBJECT: Claim and Litigation Settlement Informational Report

Pursuant to the Office of Corporation Counsel's June 7, 2018 Legal Opinion, the County has delegated settlement authority to WCMIC through its insurance contract. However, to ensure that the Board is fully aware of all such settlements, the Office of Corporation Counsel ("OCC") reports on a monthly basis all WCMIC-controlled litigation settlements and WCMIC-controlled claim resolutions that exceed \$500.00¹ for which information is presently available. In addition, when applicable, this report will include resolutions of legal disputes covered under other County insurance policies. In this report as well, Supervisors will find a listing of the resolution of legal claims where the County was a plaintiff, which do not require County Board approval under applicable statutes as well as legal claims that require the County Board's approval (with the corresponding file number) of any resolution. Further, settlement negotiations in other cases may be ongoing, but not yet reported here given the dynamic nature of litigation and settlement. The intent of this report is to ensure that Supervisors have a complete picture of all legal claim settlements or other resolutions, regardless of the Board's authority over those resolutions.

¹ Pursuant to Milwaukee County Ordinance section 1.11(c)(4)2.(d) and Wis. Stat. section 59.52(12)(b), resolutions to litigation and claims resulting in payment of \$500 or less will be reported to the Board annually.

1. **WCMIC-Controlled Litigation Settlements**

<u>Case Name</u>	<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Firm</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Settlement Amount</u>	<u>Claim Year</u>	<u>Payor</u>
<i>Estate of Antonio Cowser v. Milwaukee County, et al.</i> (2012 inmate dehydration death)	E.D. Wis. 17-CV-866	Husch Blackwell	Section 1983 - Inadequate and unconstitutional health and psychological care	\$100,000	2017	Milwaukee County

2. **WCMIC-Controlled Claim Resolutions**

None this cycle

3. **Settlements Covered Under Other Insurance Policies**

None this cycle.

4. **Settlements Where County Is Plaintiff**

None this cycle.

5. **Settlements Pending Where County Board Approval Is Required (with corresponding File No.)**

None this cycle.