

**THE CITY OF OKLAHOMA CITY
OFFICE OF
THE MUNICIPAL COUNSELOR**

Council Agenda
Item No. XI. N
4/22/2025

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Kenneth Jordan, Municipal Counselor

1. Resolution authorizing the Municipal Counselor to confess Judgment without admitting liability in the case of *Willie L. Haskins, Jr. v. City of Oklahoma City*, in the District Court of Oklahoma County, CJ-2023-2208;

AND/OR

2. Enter into executive session on advice of the Municipal Counselor to receive confidential communications from its attorney regarding settlement of this case as authorized by 25 O.S. (2024 Supp.) § 307(B)(4), because disclosure would seriously impair the ability of the public body to conduct the litigation with settlement discussions in the public interest.

Plaintiff Willie Haskins, Jr. initially alleged in his lawsuit that he experienced a wastewater flood at his residence 938 NE 20th Street in Oklahoma City on the following dates: May 8, 2019; July 19, 2019; March 2020; June 27, 2021; and July 20, 2022. On July 27, 2023, the Court sustained the City's Motion to Dismiss the alleged floods from May 8, 2019, July 19, 2019 and the unspecified date in March 2020 as untimely pursuant to the Oklahoma Governmental Tort Claims Act. This lawsuit has proceeded only regarding the June 27, 2021 and July 20, 2022 wastewater floods at the Plaintiff's residence. Plaintiff alleges negligence on the part of The City in maintenance of the City's water lines.

Plaintiff Willie Haskins, Jr. is represented by Joseph A. Griffin. The City is represented by Assistant Municipal Counselors Katie Goff and Sherri Katz. The parties have met and negotiated a settlement wherein this office agrees to recommend settlement of all Plaintiff's causes of action against the City in this matter in the amount of \$15,000.

It is the recommendation of this office that the Mayor and Council authorize the Municipal Counselor to confess judgment in favor of Plaintiff without admitting liability in this case. A Resolution authorizing the Municipal Counselor to prepare, execute, and file the necessary paperwork is attached. If Council would like more information regarding this case, it is the recommendation of the Municipal Counselor that Council retire into executive session with the Municipal Counselor to receive confidential communications with its attorney regarding this possible settlement.