

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

Council Agenda
Item No. XI. Y
8/15/2023

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Kenneth Jordan, Municipal Counselor

1. Resolution authorizing the Municipal Counselor to confess judgment without an admission of liability in the case of *Jason Waddell, as guardian ad litem for Ruby Jones v. City of Oklahoma City, et al.*, United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma, Case No. CIV-21-457-R;

AND/OR

2. Enter into Executive Session on advice of the Municipal Counselor to receive confidential communications from its attorney regarding the above case as authorized by 25 O.S. (2022 Supp.) §307(B)(4), because disclosure would seriously impair the ability of the public body to process the claim or conduct a pending investigation, litigation, or proceeding in the public interest.

In the above case, Plaintiff Ruby Jones, by her guardian ad litem, alleges that on August 24, 2020, her Constitutional rights were violated by Oklahoma City Police Officers Dan Bradley, Ryan Staggs and James Ray. Plaintiff was detained by officers when they were attempting to arrest another individual in her home. Plaintiff has sued the officers pursuant to 42 USC §1983 alleging a violation of her rights under the Fourth Amendment claiming that the officers used excessive force when detaining her. Plaintiff has also alleged negligence against the City of Oklahoma City for her detention and use of force. The Plaintiff is represented by Damario Solomon-Simmons, Kymberli Heckenkemper, Spencer Bryan and Steven Terrill. The City is represented by Assistant Municipal Counselors Richard Mann and Sherri Katz. Officers Bradley, Staggs and Ray are represented by Chris Collins and Stacey Felkner.

On August 1, 2023, Council entered executive session where the Municipal Counselor's Office provided confidential and privileged information about this case and Council provided settlement guidance. On August 2, 2023, the parties engaged in settlement discussions and the parties reached a settlement in the amount of Two-Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000).

It is the recommendation of this office that Council approve the settlement. If Council agrees, a Resolution authorizing the Municipal Counselor to prepare, execute, and file the necessary paperwork is attached. If Council desires more information regarding the merits of this case, it is the recommendation of this office that the Council enter into Executive Session with the Municipal Counselor.