



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE  
City Commission Agenda Memo  
REGULAR MEETING**

**#24-0550**

**TO:** Honorable Mayor & Members of the Fort Lauderdale City Commission

**FROM:** Susan Grant, Acting City Manager

**DATE:** June 18, 2024

**TITLE:** Motion Authorizing Settlement of Workers' Compensation Claims in *Shawn Zufelt v. City of Fort Lauderdale*, Case Nos. 15-017022MJR and 22-008681MJR - \$365,000 - **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

**Recommendation**

Staff recommends the City Commission approve the settlement of the workers' compensation claims in *Shawn Zufelt v. City of Fort Lauderdale*, Case Nos. 15-017022MJR and 22-008681MJR, by paying the amount of \$365,000.

**Background**

Shawn Zufelt, a retired Firefighter/Driver Engineer with the Fire Rescue Department, filed workers' compensation claims for injuries that occurred on August 3, 2014 and August 4, 2019, which were accepted as compensable under Chapter 440, Florida Statutes, and subsequently filed litigation against the City correspondingly on July 24, 2015 and April 13, 2022.

Staff and defense counsel's evaluation of the potential financial exposure to the City determined that a settlement would provide the most cost-effective outcome. Through negotiations, a settlement was reached in the amount of \$365,000, subject to the approval of the City Commission.

**Resource Impact**

There will be a fiscal impact to the City in the amount of \$365,000.

<i>Funds available as of May 17, 2024</i>			
ACCOUNT NUMBER	COST CENTER NAME (Program)	CHARACTER/ ACCOUNT NAME	AMOUNT
10-544-9060-519-50-5125	Self-Insurance Claims – Workers Comp	Non-Operating Expenses /Work Comp Claims	\$365,000
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT ►</b>			<b>\$365,000</b>

### **Strategic Connections**

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2029 Strategic Plan*, specifically advancing:

- Guiding Principle: Fiscal Responsibility

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan: We Are United*

This item supports the *Advance Fort Lauderdale 2040 Comprehensive Plan*, specifically advancing:

- The Internal Support Focus Area
- Implementation Element
- Goal 1: The Fort Lauderdale Comprehensive Plan shall accomplish the City's *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan* regarding the City's future growth and the six Cylinders of Excellence and shall be the City's primary policy document to guide all of its activities and development.

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Prepared by: Matthew Cobb, Assistant Risk Manager, Human Resources

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