



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#24-1176

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

FROM: Susan Grant, Acting City Manager

DATE: December 17, 2024

TITLE: Motion Authorizing Settlement of Workers' Compensation Claims in *Richard Thorpe v. City of Fort Lauderdale*, Case Nos. 23-023746MJR and 24-019294MJR - \$300,000 - **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission approve the settlement of the workers' compensation claims in *Richard Thorpe v. City of Fort Lauderdale*, Case Nos. 23-023746MJR and 24-019294MJR, by paying the amount of \$300,000.

Background

Richard Thorpe, a retired Firefighter with the Fire Rescue Department, filed workers' compensation claims for injuries that occurred on April 6, 2019, and October 6, 2020, which were accepted as compensable under Chapter 440, Florida Statutes, and subsequently filed litigation against the City on September 20, 2023, and August 8, 2024.

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 \$300,000, subject to the approval of the City Commission.

Resource Impact

There will be a fiscal impact to the City in the amount of \$300,000.

<i>Funds available as of November 22, 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	\$300,000
TOTAL AMOUNT ►			\$300,000

Strategic Connections

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

- Guiding Principles, 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.

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

Department Director: Jerome Post, Human Resources