



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#23-0767

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

FROM: Greg Chavarria, City Manager

DATE: August 22, 2023

TITLE: Motion Authorizing Settlement of Workers' Compensation Claims in *Michael Spalding v. City of Fort Lauderdale*, Case Nos. 11-02613JLN, 20-025268DAL, and 21-005893DAL - \$350,000 - **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission approve the settlement of the workers' compensation claims in *Michael Spalding v. City of Fort Lauderdale*, Case Nos. 11-02613JLN, 20-025268DAL, and 21-005893DAL, by paying the amount of \$350,000.

Background

Michael Spalding, a Fire Captain with the Fire Rescue Department, filed three workers' compensation claims for injuries that occurred on February 8, 2000, October 23, 2020, and March 2, 2021, which were accepted as compensable under Chapter 440, Florida Statutes. Captain Spalding filed litigation against the City on November 10, 2011, for his injury in 2000, November 3, 2020, for his injury in 2020, and March 11, 2021, for his injury in 2021.

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 \$350,000, subject to the approval of the City Commission.

Resource Impact

There will be a fiscal impact to the City in the amount of \$350,000.

<i>Funds available as of July 21, 2023</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	\$350,000
TOTAL AMOUNT ►			\$350,000

Strategic Connections

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2024* Strategic Plan, specifically advancing:

- The Internal Support Focus Area
- Goal 8: Build a leading government organization that manages all resources wisely and sustainably.
- Objective: Maintain financial integrity through sound budgeting practices, prudent fiscal management, cost effective operations, and long-term planning.

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