



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#25-0372

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

FROM: Susan Grant, Acting City Manager

DATE: April 1, 2025

TITLE: Motion Authorizing Settlement of Workers' Compensation Claims in *Richard Fortunato v. City of Fort Lauderdale*, Case Nos. 21-015978IF and 22-020917IF - \$250,000 - **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission approve the settlement of the workers' compensation claims in *Richard Fortunato v. City of Fort Lauderdale*, Case Nos. 21-015978IF and 22-020917IF, by paying the amount of \$250,000.

Background

Richard Fortunato, a retired Lieutenant with the Police Department, filed workers' compensation claims for injuries that occurred on April 16, 2007, January 30, 2021, and September 16, 2022, which were accepted as compensable under Chapter 440, Florida Statutes, and subsequently filed litigation against the City on July 13, 2021, for the 2007 injury, and August 26, 2022, for the 2021 injury.

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 \$250,000, subject to the approval of the City Commission.

Resource Impact

There will be a fiscal impact to the City in the amount of \$250,000.

<i>Funds available as of March 13, 2025</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	\$250,000

TOTAL AMOUNT ►

\$250,000

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