



1 **City of Racine, Wisconsin**  
2 **Common Council**

3 **AGENDA BRIEFING MEMORANDUM**

4 **COMMITTEE: Finance and Personnel**      **LEGISLATION ITEM #: 0470-24**

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5 **AGENDA DATE: May 28, 2024**

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7 **DEPARTMENT: City Attorney’s Office**

8 **Prepared By: Deputy City Attorney Marisa L. Roubik**

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10 **SUBJECT:** Communication sponsored by Alder West on behalf of the City Attorney’s Office submitting  
11 the claim of Alice Johnson for consideration for disallowance.

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13 **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

14 Alice Johnson claims reimbursement in the amount of \$250,000.00 for damages allegedly arising  
15 from an auto collision involving a City of Racine bus at or near the intersection of State Street and Carlisle  
16 Avenue on or about March 8, 2022. The claimant was allegedly a passenger on the City-owned bus at the  
17 time of the claimed accident. The City disputes the damages claimed as well as its liability therefor. As  
18 such, disallowance of this claim is recommended for approval.

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20 **BACKGROUND & ANALYSIS:**

21 The claimant, Alice Johnson, by and through her attorney, Steven T. Botzau of Habush Habush &  
22 Rottier, S.C., filed this claim for reimbursement in the amount of \$250,000.00 for damages allegedly arising  
23 from an auto collision involving a City of Racine bus at or near the intersection of State Street and Carlisle  
24 Avenue on or about March 8, 2022. The claimant was allegedly a passenger on the City-owned bus at the  
25 time of the claimed accident.

26 The claimant alleged that she incurred past and future medical expenses of \$71,520.00 as a result  
27 of this accident and past wage loss of \$3,950.00; however, her claim demands \$250,000.00 in damages.  
28 The City disputes this amount of damages claimed. Furthermore, the City disputes its liability for the  
29 claimed damages.

30           Upon disallowance of this claim, the City will benefit from an abbreviated statute of limitations,  
31 pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 893.80(1g). However, the disallowance of this claim will not prevent the City from  
32 negotiating a fair settlement of this claim.

33           As such, the City Attorney's Office recommends that this Committee disallow this claim.

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35   **BUDGETARY IMPACT:**

36           Assuming the recommendation to disallow this claim is adopted, this item would have a \$0.00  
37 impact on the City's budget.

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39   **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

40           That the disallowance of this claim be recommended for approval.

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