



Pinellas County

Staff Report

File #: 22-2144A, **Version:** 1

Agenda Date: 12/13/2022

Subject:

Proposed settlement in the case of Harold Petersen v. Pinellas County; Circuit Civil Case No. 22-004038-CI.

Recommended Action:

Consideration of the proposed settlement in the case of Harold Petersen v. Pinellas County.

Strategic Plan:

N/A

Summary:

The above-referenced case is being brought to the Board of County Commissioners for consideration in accordance with the confidential memorandum dated December 13, 2022

Background Information:

N/A

Fiscal Impact:

Unknown.

Staff Member Responsible:

Jewel White, County Attorney
Christy Donovan Pemberton, Managing Assistant County Attorney
Kelly Vicari, Senior Assistant County Attorney
Merry Celeste, Division Director, Purchasing and Risk Management, Administrative Services

Partners:

N/A

Attachments:

N/A



Pinellas County

315 Court Street, 5th Floor
Assembly Room
Clearwater, Florida 33756

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Subject:

Proposed settlement in the case of Harold Petersen v. Pinellas County; Circuit Civil Case No. 22-004038-CI.

Recommended Action:

Approve the proposed settlement in the amount of \$200,000.00 in the case of Harold Petersen v. Pinellas County.

Strategic Plan:

N/A

Summary:

On February 5, 2021, a County employee driving a County vehicle struck an 89-year-old pedestrian in a crosswalk. The pedestrian had the right-of-way. Plaintiff was transported to the hospital where he underwent surgery for his injuries and was released 12 days later. Plaintiff was paid policy limits by his insurer, Southern-Owners Insurance Company, totaling \$500,000.00.

Plaintiff filed suit against the County, and Southern-Owners Insurance Company additionally made a claim against the County for \$500,000.00.

The statutory cap in this case is \$200,000.00. Plaintiff agrees to accept \$100,000.00, and Southern-Owners Insurance Company agrees to accept \$100,000.00, for full and final settlement of their claims against Pinellas County.

It is recommended that the proposed settlement be approved. Risk Management and County Administration concur with this recommendation.

Background Information:

This matter was previously brought before the Board on November 15, 2022, under Legistar item no. 22-1919A.

Fiscal Impact:

Total amount of claims to be paid by the County is \$200,000.00.