



Pinellas County

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315 Court Street
Clearwater, Florida 33756

Staff Report

#19

File #: 20-263A, Version: 1

Agenda Date: 2/25/2020

Subject:

Proposed settlement in the case of Valerie Craig and Brian Craig, her husband v. Pinellas County, et al.; Circuit Civil Case No. 19-003731-CI-7.

Recommended Action:

Consideration of the proposed settlement in the case of Valerie Craig and Brian Craig, her husband v. Pinellas County, et al.

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 of February 25, 2020.

Background Information:

This matter was previously brought before the Board on July 23, 2019, under Legistar item no. 19-987A.

Fiscal Impact:

Unknown.

Staff Member Responsible:

Jewel White, County Attorney
Christy Donovan Pemberton, Managing Assistant County Attorney
Ashley N. Donnell, Assistant County Attorney

Partners:

N/A

Attachments:

N/A



Pinellas County

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

Staff Report

File #: 20-263A

Agenda Date: 2/25/2020

Subject:

Proposed settlement in the case of Valerie Craig and Brian Craig, her husband v. Pinellas County, et al.; Circuit Civil Case No. 19-003731-CI-7.

Recommended Action:

Reject the proposed settlement in the case of Valerie Craig and Brian Craig, her husband v. Pinellas County, et al.

Strategic Plan:

N/A

Summary:

Valerie Craig has brought forth a lawsuit against Pinellas County alleging injuries related to a September 29, 2016 slip and fall, which occurred on a County-maintained sidewalk located near 1044 Belcher Road, Dunedin, with her husband Brian Craig bringing a consortium claim related to his wife's injuries.

On January 29, 2020, Pinellas County was served with two Proposals for Settlement: a settlement offer in the amount of \$190,000.00 for Valerie Craig; and a settlement offer in the amount of \$10,000.00 for Brian Craig.

Based on the discovery conducted thus far in this lawsuit, it is recommended that the proposed settlement be rejected. Risk Management and County Administration concur with this recommendation.

Background Information:

N/A

Fiscal Impact:

Unknown.

Staff Member Responsible:

Jewel White, County Attorney

Christy Donovan Pemberton, Managing Assistant County Attorney

Ashley N. Donnell, Assistant County Attorney

Merry Celeste, Division Director, Risk Management

Partners:

N/A

Attachments:

N/A

PCAO 258633



Staff Report

File #: 19-987A, Version: 1

Agenda Date: 7/23/2019

Subject:

Notice of new lawsuit and defense of the same by the County Attorney in the case of Valerie Craig and Brian Craig, her husband v. Pinellas County, et al.; Circuit Civil Case No. 19-003731-CI-7 - allegations of negligence resulting in personal injuries.

Recommended Action:

Receive and file notice of new lawsuit and defense of the same by the County Attorney in the case of Valerie Craig and Brian Craig, her husband v. Pinellas County, et al.; Circuit Civil Case No. 19-003731-CI-7.

Strategic Plan:

N/A

Summary:

This is a civil action in which Plaintiff alleges negligence against the County for personal injuries arising out of a trip and fall caused by an alleged deviation in a sidewalk due to roots from an oak tree located at 1044 Belcher Road, Dunedin.

The County Attorney's Office will bring all counterclaims, cross-claims, or third party claims as necessary or appropriate in the judgment of the County Attorney.

Background Information:

N/A

Fiscal Impact:

Unknown.

Staff Member Responsible:

Jewel White, County Attorney
Christy Donovan Pemberton, Managing Assistant County Attorney
Ashley Donnell, Assistant County Attorney

Partners:

N/A

Attachments:

N/A