



Pinellas County

Staff Report

File #: 15-503, **Version:** 1

Subject:

Notice of new lawsuit and defense of the same by the County Attorney in the case of Paul Hanson v. Pinellas County - allegations of negligence resulting in personal injuries.

Recommended Action:

Receipt and file notification of new lawsuit and defense of the same by the County Attorney in the case of Paul Hanson v. Pinellas County - Circuit Civil Case No. 15-006299-CI-21.

Strategic Plan:

N/A

Summary:

This lawsuit arises as a result of a bicycle accident which occurred on December 7, 2013, on S.R. 679/Pinellas Bayway, during an organized cycling event. Plaintiff alleges that the tire of his bicycle fell into a gap between a metal drain grate and the surface of the roadway, causing his bicycle to stop abruptly, throwing him from his bicycle, causing personal injuries. Plaintiff alleges that Pinellas County was negligent in the maintenance of its roadway. Anticipated defenses include, among others, sovereign immunity, comparative negligence, set-off, collateral sources, and failure to join indispensable parties.

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:

James L. Bennett, County Attorney
Jack A. Powell, Sr. Assistant County Attorney

Partners:

N/A