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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To: The City Commission for the City of Key West
From: Ron Ramsingh, Assistant City Attorney
Date: October 15, 2013
RE: Approval of Attorney Fees for Edward Gates v. The City of Key West

Action statement:

A proposed settlement of attorney's fees for this pending Worker's Compensation claim.

Background: The specifics of Mr. Gates' injuries and medical condition cannot be explained here without violating federal health privacy laws. However, Mr. Gates has 2 open Worker's Compensation claims. This particular claim is an orthopedic Permanent Total Disability claim that carries an entitlement to attorney's fees for the issues claimed. The attorney's fee and cost exposure on this claim is potentially \$49,252.86. Of course, if the fee issue is litigated further, the fees and costs associated with the prosecution of that claim are recoverable as well. City legal staff was able to negotiate that number down to \$41,752.86.

Recommendation: To approve the proposed settlement of the Claimant's attorney fees and costs and avoid further exposure on more litigation on this uncontested fee and cost issue.
