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April 24, 2024

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RE: *Bettersten R. Wade, et al. v. City of Jackson, Mississippi, et al.*; In the Circuit Court of Hinds County, Mississippi; Cause No. 19-725

Dear Mses. Lee and Lindsay and Messrs. Lumumba, Martin, Stokes, Foote, Grizzell, Banks, and Hartley:

On January 13, 2019, George Robinson, who had recently suffered a debilitating stroke, was brutally and unlawfully assaulted by members of the Jackson Police Department. As a result of this assault, Mr. Robinson incurred severe injuries. Ultimately, Mr. Robinson succumbed to his injuries.

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Aggrieved by the loss of her brother's life, Bettersten Wade filed suit against the City of Jackson, certain involved members of the Jackson Police Department, and American Medical Response ("AMR"), on October 24, 2019. After multiple lengthy and unnecessary delays, including removal to the United States District for the Southern District of Mississippi and remand back to the Hinds County Circuit Court, mediation was ordered by the Circuit Court.

On April 12, 2024, all involved parties engaged in mediation. During this mediation, the City of Jackson, which operates without insurance coverage, represented that it was in financial straits and did not possess substantial funds in which to resolve Ms. Wade's claims against it. After agreeing to settle all claims against AMR during this mediation, Ms. Wade agreed to allow the City of Jackson to join in this settlement so as to fully and finally conclude this litigation. Had AMR not agreed to a substantial settlement amount, Ms. Wade would not have settled with the City of Jackson. As part of this settlement, the parties agreed that the financial terms and conditions of the same would not be disclosed and would remain confidential.

Yesterday, I learned that the City of Jackson had disclosed to the public the purported terms of the settlement with the Plaintiffs in this matter. Rather than approve such settlement in executive session, refer the Plaintiffs as "Doe" Plaintiffs, or otherwise have the identity of the Plaintiffs placed under seal, the City of Jackson chose to publicly disclose portions of the terms of its purported settlement. In fact, the City of Jackson appears to claim or infer some sort of perceived victory in agreeing to remit a certain sum for its outrageous conduct which culminated in the death of George Robinson. This misguided conduct is clearly in violation of the confidentiality agreement entered into by the City of Jackson.

Bettersten Wade and her family have suffered significantly at the hands of the City of Jackson and its employees. Aside from the death of her brother, George Robinson, she has endured the death of her son, Dexter Wade, at the hands of the City of Jackson, and the recent revelation that he was secretly buried in a "pauper's field." This is more than anyone should have to endure. Much less have the City of Jackson tout the purported terms of settlement as some sort of victory. Needless to say, no individual or party obtained a victory in this matter.


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Having said all of this, this correspondence shall serve as notification that Ms. Wade hereby rejects the City of Jackson's offer to settle and intends to move forward with her cause of action against it. The Plaintiffs intend to consummate their settlement with AMR and will proceed in the current action against the City of Jackson and its named current and/or former employees, Anthony Fox, Desmond Barney, and Lincoln Lampley.

Should you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

SWEET & ASSOCIATES



Dennis C. Sweet, III

DCS:pb

cc: Ms. Bettersten Wade