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CITY OF OAKLAND



2020 JAN 23 PM 3:31

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Office of the City Attorney
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City Attorney

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February 4, 2020

HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL
Oakland, California

**Subject: Sidney Wilson v. City of Oakland and Oakland Councilmember
Desley Brooks
Alameda County Superior Court Case No. RG18925545
City Attorney File No. 32659
(City Council – Wrongful Termination/Whistle Blower)**

President Kaplan and Members of the City Council:

Pursuant to Section 401 of the Charter, the City Attorney has prepared and requests your approval of a resolution authorizing compromise and settlement of the above-entitled claim for the sum of One Hundred Fifteen Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$115,000.00), payable to Sidney Wilson and his attorney Charles A. Bonner.

Mr. Wilson was employed by the City from July 2016 until October 12, 2017, as a legislative aide to former Councilmember Desley Brooks. Mr. Wilson alleges that Ms. Brooks engaged in a pattern of abusive conduct during his employment with the City. He also alleges that Ms. Brooks retaliated against him because he voiced concerns over the operation of a Farmer's Market. Mr. Wilson sought damages for wage loss and pain and suffering, in addition to attorneys' fees.

The Council authorized settlement of this case in Closed Session on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 (moved by Councilmember Noel Gallo and seconded by Council President Rebecca Kaplan - 6 Ayes and 2 Abstentions - Councilmembers Larry Reid and Sheng Thao).

Respectfully submitted,

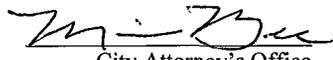
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barbara J. Parker".

BARBARA J. PARKER
City Attorney

Assigned Attorney:
Maria Bee
Outside Counsel – Morin I. Jacob
Liebert Cassidy Whitmore

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FILED
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OAKLAND


City Attorney's Office

2020 JAN 20 10:31 AM
OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY ATTORNEY TO COMPROMISE AND SETTLE THE CASE OF SIDNEY WILSON v. CITY OF OAKLAND AND OAKLAND COUNCILMEMBER DESLEY BROOKS, ALAMEDA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT CASE NO. RG18925545, CITY ATTORNEY FILE NO. 32659, IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE HUNDRED FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$115,000.00) (CITY COUNCIL – WRONGFUL TERMINATION/WHISTLE BLOWER)

WHEREAS, Sidney Wilson alleges former Councilmember Desley Brooks engaged in a pattern of abusive conduct during his employment with the City; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wilson alleges that Ms. Brooks retaliated against him for voicing concerns about the operation of a Farmer’s Market; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wilson sued the City and former Councilmember Brooks for wrongful termination, retaliation and assault and battery seeking damages for wage loss, pain and suffering, and attorneys’ fees; and

WHEREAS, the parties and their legal counsel have negotiated a fair and reasonable settlement of these claims; now, therefore, be it;

RESOLVED: That the City Attorney is authorized and directed to compromise and settle the above-listed lawsuit for One Hundred Fifteen Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$115,000.00) payable to Sidney Wilson and his attorney Charles A. Bonner; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Administrator is authorized and directed to issue settlement payments as negotiated by the City Attorney with Sidney Wilson and his counsel; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Attorney is further authorized and directed to take whatever steps as may be necessary to effect said settlement.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,
PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - FORTUNATO BAS, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, KALB, REID, TAYLOR, THAO
AND PRESIDENT KAPLAN

NOES –

ABSENT –

ABSTENTION –

ATTEST: _____
LATONDA SIMMONS
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the
City of Oakland, California