

The News-Press media group

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LAW OFFICES OF COLLEEN J MACALISTER PA
5061 NAPOLI DR
NAPLES, FL 34103

STATE OF WISCONSIN COUNTY OF BROWN:

Before the undersigned authority personally appeared said legal clerk, who on oath says that he or she is a Legal Assistant of the News-Press, a daily newspaper published at Fort Myers in Lee County, Florida; that the attached copy of advertisement, being a Legal Ad in the matter of

PUBLIC NOTICE

In the Twentieth Judicial Circuit Court was published in said newspaper in the issues of:

7/18/2023

Affiant further says that the said News-Press is a paper of general circulation daily in Lee, Charlotte, Collier, Glades and Hendry Counties and published at Fort Myers, in said Lee County, Florida, and that the said newspaper has heretofore been continuously published in said Lee County, Florida each day and has been entered as periodicals matter at the post office in Fort Myers, in said Lee County, Florida, for a period of one year next preceding the first publication of the attached copy of advertisement; and affiant further says that he or she has never paid nor promised any person, firm or corporation any discount, rebate, commission or refund for the purpose of securing this advertisement for publication in the said newspaper.

Sworn to and Subscribed before me this 18th of July, 2023

na

Legal Clerk

Nancy Heyrman

Notary Public State of Wisconsin County of Brown
5.15.27

My commission expires

Publication Cost: \$3,256.40
Ad No: GCI1084799
Customer No: 00000007136
PO#: PUBLIC NOTICE
THIS IS NOT AN INVOICE

NANCY HEYRMAN
Notary Public
State of Wisconsin

**NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN**

Notice is hereby given of intention to apply to the 2024 Regular Legislative Session or subsequent session held in 2024 (or after) of the State of Florida Legislature for passage of a bill to provide relief to Patricia I. Ermini for injuries and damages sustained by Patricia I. Ermini arising out of a lawsuit from a wellness check that occurred on March 23, 2012, in Lee County, Florida and involving the Lee County Sheriff's Department as a result of the negligence of its employees, Richard Lisenbee and Robert Hamer and providing an effective date. The name of the claimant is Patricia I. Ermini. The total amount of the claim sought through the claims bill process is \$626,769.93 (Six hundred twenty-six thousand, seven hundred sixty-nine dollars and ninety-three cents). Counsel for Plaintiff is COLLEEN J. MacALISTER, ESQ., Florida Bar Number 0804711, LAW OFFICES OF COLLEEN J. MacALISTER, P.A., 5061 Napoli Drive, Naples, Florida 34103.

A bill to be entitled

An act for the relief of Patricia Ermini by the Lee County Sheriff's Office; providing for an appropriation to compensate her for injuries sustained as a result of the negligence of the Lee County Sheriff's Office; providing a limitation on the payment of attorney fees; providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, on the evening of March 23, 2012, 71-year-old Patricia Ermini spoke on the telephone with her daughter, Robin Lacasse, who found that her mother was extremely upset in the wake of her contentious and expensive divorce after a brief marriage, and
WHEREAS, Ms. Lacasse suggested to her mother that she hang up, take some time to calm down, and, afterward, call her back, which her mother did; however, Ms. Lacasse missed her mother's call, and

WHEREAS, when Ms. Ermini failed to reach her daughter, she went to bed in her bedroom, which was being cooled by a window unit air conditioner, and
WHEREAS, over the course of half an hour, Ms. Lacasse repeatedly tried to return her mother's call and, when her mother did not answer, called the Lee County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) to request that a well-being check be conducted to determine whether her mother was safe, and

WHEREAS, shortly before 9 p.m., LCSO dispatch relayed the call for a well-being check to Deputy Charlene Palmese, with Deputies Richard Lisenbee and Robert Hamer also responding to the call, conveying the following information to the deputies: Ms. Ermini's name and age; that the request for a well-being check had been initiated by Ms. Ermini's daughter, who did not reside in Lee County and was afraid for her mother's life; that Ms. Ermini was in the middle of a difficult divorce; that Ms. Ermini had told her daughter that she "couldn't take it anymore"; that Ms. Ermini's daughter was worried that Ms. Ermini might commit suicide; that Ms. Ermini had never threatened suicide before; that Ms. Ermini did not suffer from mental illness; and that Ms. Ermini had a gun and might have been drinking, and

WHEREAS, at the time of the call, Deputy Lisenbee was on probation and undergoing remedial training, in part because of his demonstrated inability to control scenes or suspects through verbal commands, and he later told investigators that he could not recall receiving training in the conduct of well-being checks, and

WHEREAS, Deputy Palmese had completed her field training only a few days prior to the call, during which she received instruction on how to respond to a well-being check, but she later told investigators that she could not recall whether, at the time of the call, she had ever actually participated in a well-being check, and

WHEREAS, Deputy Hamer had been to many suicide threat calls, and he made it a practice to carry his rifle when it was known that a firearm was present on the premises where the subject of the call was located, and

WHEREAS, Deputy Lisenbee, who was the first to arrive at Ms. Ermini's home in response to the call, observed that there were no lights on in the home when he arrived and, after a brief exterior check, went to the front door, where he secured a screen door in the open position, knocked on the door, and announced, "Sheriff's Office," to no response, and

WHEREAS, Deputy Lisenbee determined that the front door was unlocked, opened the door, and again said, "Sheriff's Office," followed by "Anyone here? Anyone home?" to no response, and
WHEREAS, Deputy Palmese was second to arrive, followed by Deputy Hamer, who, like the other deputies, parked out of view from inside the residence, and

WHEREAS, Deputy Hamer retrieved from the trunk of his vehicle his AR-15 rifle, which was equipped with a flashlight and a sighting device that allowed him to find his target more quickly and easily, and

WHEREAS, Deputy Hamer determined that the three deputies, all of whom were wearing dark green uniforms, should go into the residence to clear the house, and
WHEREAS, Deputy Hamer activated the flashlight on his rifle and Deputy Lisenbee announced "Sheriff's Office" once or twice more before they entered the home, after which they proceeded to move about the dark residence in silence as they cleared the living room, finally arriving at the master bedroom, which had double doors, both of which were closed, and

WHEREAS, without knocking or further announcing their presence, Deputy Lisenbee opened the right-hand bedroom door and shined his flashlight on a female, who appeared to be asleep on the bed wearing only undergarments, and

WHEREAS, after Deputy Lisenbee entered the bedroom doorway, he announced, "Sheriff's Office. Are you okay?" to which the woman responded, "Who's there? Who's there?" and
WHEREAS, Deputy Lisenbee said, "Sheriff's Office. We're here to make sure you're okay. Are you okay?" and

WHEREAS, Deputy Lisenbee said that, although the woman may have sounded frightened, he did not temper his tone, nor did he ever shine his flashlight on himself to allow Ms. Ermini to see that he was, in fact, a uniformed officer, and

WHEREAS, Deputy Hamer said he heard Ms. Ermini say, "What are you doing here? I have a gun," and
WHEREAS, Deputy Hamer later acknowledged that he didn't know whether Ms. Ermini had heard or understood Deputy Lisenbee, yet nonetheless, he turned off the flashlight on his gun, "took the point," and stepped in front of Deputy Lisenbee because, he said, he had more weaponry, was the senior officer on scene, and had significantly more gun range time, and

WHEREAS, terrified, Ms. Ermini told the person at the doorway, whom she perceived as an intruder, to get out of her house "because (she had) a gun" and, with that, jumped up from the bed and hid behind the still-closed left-hand bedroom door, and

WHEREAS, it remains unclear whether Ms. Ermini grabbed her gun as she ran to shelter behind the door, and
WHEREAS, as Ms. Ermini tried to look around the bedroom door, she was shot multiple times, with Deputy Hamer firing seven rounds from his rifle through the closed bedroom door, and

WHEREAS, according to the chief crime scene investigator, a bullet fired through the middle of the door struck Ms. Ermini in her left leg, shattering her femur and causing her to fall backward onto the floor; another bullet hit her in the upper right arm, leaving a portion of her upper arm missing; and a third bullet caused a graze wound across the back of her head, and

WHEREAS, a wood splinter from the door lodged in her right eye, temporarily blinding her in that eye, and
WHEREAS, it was less than two minutes from the time of entry until Ms. Ermini was shot multiple times and fell to the floor, and

WHEREAS, Deputy Hamer notified dispatch of the shooting and continued to sweep the bedroom before finally delivering first aid to Ms. Ermini, whom he handcuffed because she was still alive and therefore posed a continuing threat to the deputies, and

WHEREAS, Lee County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) was dispatched at the same time as the officers and were waiting just two blocks away, which likely saved Ms. Ermini's life, and
WHEREAS, when the lead paramedic for EMS arrived, he determined that Ms. Ermini had life-threatening injuries to the front and back of her left leg and to the front and back of her right arm, and a laceration to the back of her head just above the neckline, and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ermini repeatedly asked the paramedic why she had been shot, who the intruders were, and why they were in her home, and
WHEREAS, Ms. Ermini's most grievous injury was the shattered femur in her left leg, and moving her caused her significant blood loss and excruciating pain, and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ermini was taken to Lee Memorial Hospital in critical condition and later admitted to the intensive care unit, and
WHEREAS, in addition to the gunshot wounds, Ms. Ermini had numerous wounds on her face from the wood splinters from the bedroom door, and

WHEREAS, an LCSO lieutenant who followed the ambulance to the hospital initially refused the emergency room doctor's request to remove the handcuffs from Ms. Ermini; emergency room staff were told that Ms. Ermini "tried to kill a cop"; and Ms. Ermini's family members were denied visitation, and

WHEREAS, doctors were able to save Ms. Ermini's eye with surgery, but her vision has deteriorated since the incident, and
WHEREAS, Ms. Ermini required multiple surgeries to repair her femur and address her wounds, including multiple skin grafts on her shoulder, and

WHEREAS, after discharge, she suffered a severe septic infection that caused her tremendous pain, and the pain medications she was prescribed induced debilitating paranoia, and
WHEREAS, on March 24, 2012, Sheriff Mike Scott told the news media that Ms. Ermini shot at deputies who had responded to a well-being check and that they returned fire, which directly contradicts Deputy Hamer's statement, in which he indicated that he shot first, and

WHEREAS, on March 29, 2012, Ms. Ermini was arrested in the intensive care unit on two counts of aggravated assault on a law enforcement officer, which the state attorney declined to prosecute, and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ermini was an emergency room nurse in South Florida for many years and had worked hand-in-hand with law enforcement officers, no evidence was ever produced that she had any animus toward law enforcement officers, and it is still disputed that Ms. Ermini's weapon was discharged during the encounter, and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ermini remained hospitalized for about 30 days and has never fully recovered from her injuries, and
WHEREAS, Ms. Ermini continues to suffer from acute pain and fatigue and limited range of motion due to the gunshot wound to her upper arm, which impairs her ability to accomplish many of the activities of daily living, and she suffers from debilitating posttraumatic stress disorder, and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ermini was forced to sell her home because she cannot afford in-home assistance, and
WHEREAS, Deputy Lisenbee and Deputy Hamer were terminated by the LCSO shortly after the incident, the latter for "conduct unbecoming," and

WHEREAS, in November 2015, Ms. Ermini filed suit against LCSO and the individual deputies involved in the call, and
WHEREAS, on January 12, 2018, after a four-day trial, a jury that included a retired law enforcement officer awarded \$1 million dollars in damages to Ms. Ermini for her pain and suffering, and

WHEREAS, after apportionment of 75 percent of the fault to LCSO, a judgment was entered in Ms. Ermini's favor for \$750,000, and
WHEREAS, ultimately, after numerous procedural attempts by LCSO to overturn the judgment, the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit affirmed the judgment of the United States District Court in Ms. Ermini's favor, and on or about December 9, 2019, the Florida Sheriffs Self Insurance Fund, on behalf of its insured, the Lee County Sheriff's Office, paid the statutory limit of \$200,000 in damages under section 768.28, Florida Statutes, and

WHEREAS, this claim bill is for recovery of the excess judgment in the amount of \$550,000, plus interest and taxable trial costs and appellate costs awarded to Ms. Ermini in the amount of \$76,769.93, for a total claim of \$626,769.93, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. The facts stated in the preamble to this act are found and declared to be true.

Section 2. The Florida Sheriffs Risk Management Fund is authorized and directed to appropriate from funds not otherwise encumbered and to draw a warrant in the sum of \$626,769.93 payable to Patricia Ermini as compensation for injuries and damages sustained.

Section 3. The amount paid by the Florida Sheriffs Self Insurance Fund, on behalf of its insured, the Lee County Sheriff's Office, pursuant to s. 768.28, Florida Statutes, and the amount awarded under this act are intended to provide the sole compensation for all present and future claims arising out of the factual situation described in this act which resulted in injuries and damages to Patricia Ermini. The total amount paid for attorney fees relating to this claim may not exceed 25 percent of the total amount awarded under this act.

Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Classifieds



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 ■ To post job openings, visit: news-press.com/jobs

All classified ads are subject to the applicable rate card, copies of which are available from our Advertising Dept. All ads are subject to approval before publication. Fort Myers News-Press reserves the right to edit, refuse, reject, classify or cancel any ad at any time. Errors must be reported in the first publication. Fort Myers News-Press shall not be liable for any loss or expense that results from an error in or omission of an advertisement. No refunds for early cancellation of order.

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Bids and Proposals
82304208B
Lehigh Park and Ride Filter Installation
 Invitation to Bid
 Lee County Procurement Management will receive sealed proposals in the Office of the Procurement Management Director, 2115 Second Street, 1st Floor, Fort Myers, FL 33901 prior to 2:30 pm on Thursday, August 17, 2023 from companies wishing to provide these goods/services to the County. No pre-qualification meeting is scheduled. Solicitation documents and instructions may be secured from the website www.lee.gov.com/procurement or by calling Procurement Management at (239) 533-8881.
 AD # 526681 7/18/23
82304210CW **Compost Brokerage Services**
 Invitation to Bid
 Lee County Procurement Management will receive sealed proposals in the Office of the Procurement Management Director, 2115 Second Street, 1st Floor, Fort Myers, FL 33901 prior to 2:30 pm on Friday, August 18, 2023 from companies wishing to provide these goods/services to the County. No pre-qualification meeting is scheduled. Solicitation documents and instructions may be secured from the website www.lee.gov.com/procurement or by calling Procurement Management at (239) 533-8881.
 AD # 526673 7/18/23

Legal Notices

Notice is hereby given to:
 Etori, David A
 8300 Inana Ter Unit 1
 Fort Myers
 Carley, Rodney S
 5 Jackson Ave
 Lehigh Acres
 Curry, James B
 3195 Kenmore Dr
 North Fort Myers
 Chirla, Jonathan B
 3320 Broken Branch Rd
 Fort Myers
 Ford, Stephen C
 8147 Colaba Rd
 Bonita Springs
 Gonzalez, Christopher
 1971 Bell St
 Fort Myers
 Matteson, Dalton M
 2789 Onix Ave
 Fort Myers
 Medina, Freddy L
 120 Lewis Rd
 Lehigh Acres
 Nichol, James J
 205 Loxley Way
 Lehigh Acres
 Pruitt, Adario C
 2789 Onix Ave
 Fort Myers
 Russell, James D
 817 Home Pl
 Fort Myers
 Taylor, Thomas R
 77 Emily Ln
 Fort Myers
 Vidal, Gabriela
 7329 Winkler Ave Apt 1011
 Fort Myers
 You are hereby notified that your eligibility to vote is in question. You are requested to appear at the next Election in Lee County Florida, no later than three (3) days after the call of this publishing. Failure to respond will result in a final determination of ineligibility by the Supervisor and your name will be removed from the Florida Voter Registration System. If further assistance is needed, please contact the Supervisor of Elections at the address below.
 Tommy Doyle
 Lee County Supervisor of Elections
 2480 Thompson St
 Fort Myers, FL 33901
 239.533.8683
 AD # 5271475 7/18/23

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Legal Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Notice is hereby given of intention to apply to the 2024 Regular Legislative Session or subsequent session held in 2024 (or after) of the State of Florida Legislature for passage of a bill to provide relief to Patricia L. Ermini for injuries and damages sustained by Patricia L. Ermini arising out of a lawsuit from a wellness check that occurred on March 23, 2012, in Lee County, Florida and involving the Lee County Sheriff's Department as a result of the negligence of its employees, Richard Lisenbee and Robert Harmer and providing an effective date. The name of the claimant is Patricia L. Ermini. The total amount of the claim sought through the claims bill process is \$626,769.93 (Six hundred twenty-six thousand, seven hundred sixty-nine dollars and ninety-three cents). Counsel for Plaintiff is COLLEEN J. MACALISTER, ESQ., Florida Bar Number 0604711, LAW OFFICES OF COLLEEN J. MACALISTER, P.A., 5061 Napoli Drive, Naples, Florida 34103.

A bill to be entitled

An act for the relief of Patricia Ermini by the Lee County Sheriff's Office; providing for an appropriation to compensate her for injuries sustained as a result of the negligence of the Lee County Sheriff's Office; providing a limitation on the payment of attorney fees; providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, on the evening of March 23, 2012, 71-year-old Patricia Ermini spoke on the telephone with her daughter, Robin Lacasse, who found that her mother was extremely upset in the wake of her contentious and expensive divorce after a brief marriage; and
 WHEREAS, Ms. Lacasse suggested to her mother that she hang up, take some time to calm down, and, afterward, call her back, which her mother did; however, Ms. Lacasse missed her mother's call; and
 WHEREAS, when Ms. Ermini failed to reach her daughter, she went to bed in her bedroom, which was being cooled by a window unit air conditioner; and
 WHEREAS, over the course of half an hour, Ms. Lacasse repeatedly tried to return her mother's call and, when her mother did not answer, called the Lee County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) to request that a well-being check be conducted to determine whether her mother was safe; and
 WHEREAS, shortly before 8 p.m., LCSO dispatch relayed the call for a well-being check to Deputy Charlene Palmese, with Deputies Richard Lisenbee and Robert Harmer also responding to the call, conveying the following information to the deputies: Ms. Ermini's name and age; that the request for a well-being check had been initiated by Ms. Ermini's daughter, who did not reside in Lee County and was afraid for her mother's life; that Ms. Ermini was in the middle of a difficult divorce; that Ms. Ermini had told her daughter that she "couldn't take it anymore"; that Ms. Ermini's daughter was worried that Ms. Ermini might commit suicide; that Ms. Ermini had never threatened suicide before; that Ms. Ermini did not suffer from mental illness; and that Ms. Ermini had a gun and might have been drinking; and
 WHEREAS, at the time of the call, Deputy Lisenbee was on probation and undergoing remedial training, in part because of his demonstrated inability to control scenes or suspects through verbal commands, and he later told investigators that he could not recall receiving training in the conduct of well-being checks; and
 WHEREAS, Deputy Palmese had completed her field training only a few days prior to the call, during which she received instruction on how to respond to a well-being check, but she later told investigators that she could not recall whether, at the time of the call, she had ever actually participated in a well-being check; and
 WHEREAS, Deputy Harmer had been to many suicide threat calls, and he made it a practice to carry his rifle when it was known that a firearm was present on the premises where the subject of the call was located; and
 WHEREAS, Deputy Lisenbee, who was the first to arrive at Ms. Ermini's home in response to the call, observed that there were no lights on in the home when he arrived and, after a brief exterior check, went to the front door, where he secured a screen door in the open position, knocked on the door, and announced, "Sheriff's Office," to no response; and
 WHEREAS, Deputy Lisenbee determined that the front door was unlocked, opened the door, and again said, "Sheriff's Office," followed by "Anyone here? Anyone home?"; to no response; and
 WHEREAS, Deputy Palmese was second to arrive, followed by Deputy Harmer, who, like the other deputies, parked out of view from inside the residence; and
 WHEREAS, Deputy Harmer retrieved from the trunk of his vehicle his AR-15 rifle, which was equipped with a flashlight and a sighting device that allowed him to find his target more quickly and easily; and
 WHEREAS, Deputy Harmer determined that the three deputies, all of whom were wearing dark green uniforms, should go into the residence to clear the house; and
 WHEREAS, Deputy Harmer activated the flashlight on his rifle and Deputy Lisenbee announced "Sheriff's Office" once or twice more before they entered the home, after which they proceeded to move about the dark residence in silence as they cleared the living room, finally arriving at the master bedroom, which had double doors, both of which were closed; and
 WHEREAS, without knocking or further announcing their presence, Deputy Lisenbee opened the right-hand bedroom door and shined his flashlight on a female, who appeared to be asleep on the bed wearing only undergarments; and
 WHEREAS, after Deputy Lisenbee entered the bedroom doorway, he announced, "Sheriff's Office. Are you okay?" to which the woman responded, "Who's there? Who's there?" and
 WHEREAS, Deputy Lisenbee said, "Sheriff's Office. We're here to make sure you're okay. Are you okay?" and
 WHEREAS, Deputy Lisenbee said that, although the woman may have sounded frightened, he did not temper his tone, nor did he ever shine his flashlight on himself to allow Ms. Ermini to see that he was, in fact, a uniformed officer; and
 WHEREAS, Deputy Harmer said he heard Ms. Ermini say, "What are you doing here? I have a gun," and
 WHEREAS, Deputy Harmer later acknowledged that he didn't know whether Ms. Ermini had heard or understood Deputy Lisenbee, yet nonetheless, he turned off the flashlight on his gun, "took the point," and stepped in front of Deputy Lisenbee because, he said, he had more weaponry, was the senior officer on scene, and had significantly more gun range time; and
 WHEREAS, terrified, Ms. Ermini told the person at the doorway, whom she perceived as an intruder, to get out of her house "because (she had) a gun" and, with that, jumped up from the bed and hid behind the still-closed left-hand bedroom door; and
 WHEREAS, it remains unclear whether Ms. Ermini grabbed her gun as she ran to shelter behind the door; and
 WHEREAS, as Ms. Ermini tried to look around the bedroom door, she was shot multiple times, with Deputy Harmer firing seven rounds from his rifle through the closed bedroom door; and
 WHEREAS, according to the chief crime scene investigator, a bullet fired through the middle of the door struck Ms. Ermini in her left leg, shattering her femur and causing her to fall backward onto the floor another bullet hit her in the upper right arm, leaving a portion of her upper arm missing; and a third bullet caused a graze wound across the back of her head; and
 WHEREAS, a wood splinter from the door lodged in her right eye, temporarily blinding her in that eye; and
 WHEREAS, it was less than two minutes from the time of entry until Ms. Ermini was shot multiple times and fell to the floor; and
 WHEREAS, Deputy Harmer notified dispatch of the shooting and continued to sweep the bedroom before finally delivering first aid to Ms. Ermini, whom he handcuffed because she was still alive and therefore posed a continuing threat to the deputies; and
 WHEREAS, Lee County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) was dispatched at the same time as the officers and were waiting just two blocks away, which likely saved Ms. Ermini's life; and
 WHEREAS, when the lead paramedic for EMS arrived, he determined that Ms. Ermini had life-threatening injuries to the front and back of her left leg and to the front and back of her right arm, and a laceration to the back of her head just above the neckline; and
 WHEREAS, Ms. Ermini repeatedly asked the paramedic why she had been shot, who the intruders were, and why they were in her home; and
 WHEREAS, Ms. Ermini's most grievous injury was the shattered femur in her left leg, and moving her caused her significant blood loss and excruciating pain; and
 WHEREAS, Ms. Ermini was taken to Lee Memorial Hospital in critical condition and later admitted to the intensive care unit; and
 WHEREAS, in addition to the gunshot wounds, Ms. Ermini had numerous wounds on her face from the wood splinters from the bedroom door; and
 WHEREAS, an LCSO lieutenant who followed the ambulance to the hospital initially refused the emergency room doctor's request to remove the handcuffs from Ms. Ermini; emergency room staff were told that Ms. Ermini "tried to kill a cop"; and Ms. Ermini's family members were denied visitation; and
 WHEREAS, doctors were able to save Ms. Ermini's eye with surgery, but her vision has deteriorated since the incident; and
 WHEREAS, Ms. Ermini required multiple surgeries to repair her femur and address her wounds, including multiple skin grafts on her shoulder; and
 WHEREAS, after discharge, she suffered a severe septic infection that caused her tremendous pain, and the pain medications she was prescribed induced debilitating paranoia; and
 WHEREAS, on March 24, 2012, Sheriff Mike Scott told the news media that Ms. Ermini shot at deputies who had responded to a well-being check and that they returned fire, which directly contradicts Deputy Harmer's statement in which he indicated that he shot first; and
 WHEREAS, on March 29, 2012, Ms. Ermini was arrested in the intensive care unit on two counts of aggravated assault on a law enforcement officer, which the state attorney declined to prosecute; and
 WHEREAS, Ms. Ermini was an emergency room nurse in South Florida for many years and had worked hand-in-hand with law enforcement officers, no evidence was ever produced that she had any animus toward law enforcement officers; and it is stipulated that Ms. Ermini's weapon was discharged during the encounter; and
 WHEREAS, Ms. Ermini remained hospitalized for about 30 days and has never fully recovered from her injuries; and
 WHEREAS, Ms. Ermini continues to suffer from acute pain and fatigue and limited range of motion due to the gunshot wound to her upper arm, which impairs her ability to accomplish many of the activities of daily living and suffers from debilitating posttraumatic stress disorder; and
 WHEREAS, Ms. Ermini was forced to sell her home because she cannot afford in-home assistance; and
 WHEREAS, Deputy Lisenbee and Deputy Harmer were terminated by the LCSO shortly after the incident, the latter for "conduct unbecoming," and
 WHEREAS, in November 2015, Ms. Ermini filed suit against LCSO and the individual deputies involved in the call; and
 WHEREAS, on January 12, 2016, after a four-day trial, a jury that included a retired law enforcement officer awarded \$1 million dollars in damages to Ms. Ermini for her pain and suffering; and
 WHEREAS, after apportionment of 75 percent of the fault to LCSO, a judgment was entered in Ms. Ermini's favor for \$750,000; and
 WHEREAS, ultimately, after numerous procedural attempts by LCSO to overturn the judgment, the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit affirmed the judgment of the United States District Court in Ms. Ermini's favor; and on or about December 9, 2019, the Florida Sheriff's Self Insurance Fund, on behalf of its insured, the Lee County Sheriff's Office, paid the statutory limit of \$200,000 in damages under section 768.28, Florida Statutes; and
 WHEREAS, this claim bill is for recovery of the excess judgment in the amount of \$550,000, plus interest and taxable trial costs and appellate costs awarded to Ms. Ermini in the amount of \$76,769.93, for a total claim of \$626,769.93. NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
 Section 1. The facts stated in the preamble to this act are found and declared to be true.
 Section 2. The Florida Sheriff's Self Insurance Fund is authorized and directed to appropriate from funds not otherwise encumbered and to draw a warrant in the sum of \$626,769.93 payable to Patricia Ermini as compensation for injuries and damages sustained.
 Section 3. The amount paid by the Florida Sheriff's Self Insurance Fund, on behalf of its insured, the Lee County Sheriff's Office, pursuant to s. 768.25, Florida Statutes, and the amount awarded under this act are intended to provide the sole compensation for all present and future claims arising out of the factual situation described in this act which resulted in injuries and damages to Patricia Ermini. The total amount paid for attorney fees related to this claim may not exceed 25 percent of the total amount awarded under this act.
 Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.