

Request for Committee Action

To: Community Development and Regulatory Services
Date: 3/1/2016
From: City Attorney's Office
Prepared by: Assistant City Attorney Tracey Fussy
Presented by: City Attorney Susan Segal
File type: Action
Subcategory: Settlement

Subject:

Settlement of lawsuit of Ronald and Julie Folger v. City of Minneapolis

Description:

Authorizing the tentative settlement of Ronald and Julie Folger v. City of Minneapolis by permitting Plaintiffs to apply for rental licenses prior to the expiration of the five-year ineligibility period under M.C.O. § 244.1910 (13)a, and authorize the City Attorney's Office to execute any documents necessary to effectuate the settlement.

Previous Actions:

None.

Ward/Neighborhood/Address:

Not Applicable

Background/Analysis:

Plaintiffs Ronald and Julie Folger purchased numerous rental homes in Minneapolis between 2007 and 2009 in the City. On December 16, 2011, the City Council revoked all seventeen of the Folgers' rental licenses, and declared they were also ineligible to hold any rental licenses in Minneapolis for five years, under M.C.O. § 244.1910 (13)a. Currently, they would be eligible to apply for rental licenses again as of December 11, 2016. As a result of the revocation, the Folgers have been barred from renting properties in the City of Minneapolis for over four years.

In 2013, the Folgers filed a lawsuit alleging the revocations violated the Fair Housing Act. The City has at all times denied liability in this case. The parties reached a tentative settlement agreement allowing Plaintiffs to be eligible to apply for new rental licenses, upon finalization of

the settlement, without waiting until December 11, 2016. The Folgers will still need to meet all of the City's rental license requirements in place at the time the application is submitted before a rental license could be issued. The settlement involves no admission of liability by the City and no payment of costs or fees. This proposed settlement has been discussed with the Department of Regulatory Services and has its approval.

Financial Review:

No additional appropriation required, amount included in current budget.

- Future budget impact anticipated.**
- Approved by the Permanent Review Committee.**
- Meets Small and Underutilized Business Program goals.**

Attachments:

None