



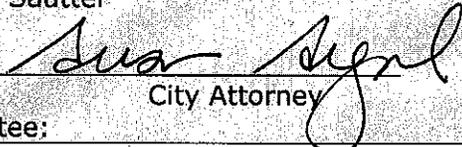
Request for City Council Committee Action from the City Attorney's Office

Date: August 25, 2010
To: Ways & Means/Budget Committee
Referral to:

Subject: Daryl and Uhura Fields, v. City of Minneapolis, Claim PM#09-36600

Recommendation: That the City Council approve settlement of all claims of Uhura and Daryl Fields related to the seizure and subsequent loss of their personal property in the amount of \$4,357.18 from Fund/Org 06900-1500100-145400, and authorize the City Attorney's Office to execute any documents necessary to effectuate settlement.

Previous Directives:

Prepared by: Gregory Sautter	612-673-2683
Approved by: 	612-673-3272
Presenters in Committee:	City Attorney

Financial Impact

- Other financial impact 06900-1500100-145400

Community Impact

- Other

Supporting Information

Uhura and Daryl Fields have brought a claim regarding the seizure and mistaken release of jewelry and other items recovered from a search warrant executed at their residence. They were not subjects of the warrant. During the warrant execution, a significant amount of jewelry, including many items owned by the Fields, was seized. The investigation did not result in charges, and the items seized were identified for release. In June, 2007, one of the subjects of the original warrant claimed all items seized, including the jewelry owned by the Fields.

The Property and Evidence Room discovered the mistaken release and demanded that the Fields' items be returned. The subject never returned the items. MPD Property and Evidence has taken measures to prevent such mistaken releases in the future.

The Fields initially claimed lost jewelry and other items in excess of \$10,000.00. The Fields have provided credible evidence that they are the owners of several of the items released to the suspect mistakenly. They have also stated that several of the items released are not theirs, and do not make claims for those items. Significant time has been spent by the CAO and the claimants to substantiate the values of the items claimed. After extensive negotiation the Fields have agreed to complete settlement of all their claims for the payment of the sum of \$4,357.18. The Minneapolis Police Department and Risk Management are aware of this negotiation and believe that settlement is in the best interest of the City.