



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 23-2757 **Version:** 1 **Name:**

Type: Financial Authorization **Status:** Passed

File created: 5/5/2023 **In control:** Commissioners Court

On agenda: 5/16/2023 **Final action:** 5/16/2023

Title: Request for approval of a settlement in connection with Maria Espana Guardado Melgar v. Harris County, et al; Cause Number 4:22-cv-1539, in the United States District Court, Southern District of Texas, Houston, Division.

Sponsors: Bridget Johnson

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments: 1. Melgar Settlement & Release Agreement (5-16-23)

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
5/16/2023	1	Commissioners Court		

Department: County Attorney
Department Head/Elected Official: Christian D. Menefee

Regular or Supplemental RCA: Regular RCA
Type of Request: Financial Authorization

Project ID (if applicable): N/A
Vendor/Entity Legal Name (if applicable): N/A

MWDBE Contracted Goal (if applicable): N/A
MWDBE Current Participation (if applicable): N/A
Justification for 0% MWDBE Participation Goal: N/A - Goal not applicable to request

Request Summary (Agenda Caption):

Request for approval of a settlement in connection with *Maria Espana Guardado Melgar v. Harris County, et al*; Cause Number 4:22-cv-1539, in the United States District Court, Southern District of Texas, Houston, Division.

Background and Discussion:

This is an incident which resulted in alleged injuries to Maria Espana Guardado Melgar from a Harris County Sheriff's K-9 encounter on May 13, 2020. The parties have agreed to settle this suit. Harris County will pay Maria Espana Guardado Melgar and her attorney \$77,500.00 after the Court's approval. The proposed settlement addresses all damages claimed in the lawsuit. The parties will execute and file an agreed order dismissing with prejudice all claims. This amount is inclusive of all claims made by Plaintiff against Harris County and its employees. We believe that it would be in the best interest of Harris County to settle this claim for this amount. An order authorizing the settlement of this claim is attached for the Court's consideration.

Expected Impact: N/A

Alternative Options: N/A

Alignment with Goal(s): N/A

- ☐ Justice and Safety
- ☐ Economic Opportunity
- ☐ Housing
- ☐ Public Health
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Flooding
- ☐ Environment
- ☐ Governance and Customer Service

Prior Court Action (if any): N/A

Date	Agenda Item #	Action Taken

Location: N/A

Address (if applicable):

Precinct(s): Choose an item.

Fiscal and Personnel Summary			
Service Name			
	FY 23	FY 24	Next 3 FYs
Incremental Expenditures (do NOT write values in thousands or millions)			
Labor Expenditures	\$	\$	\$
Non-Labor Expenditures	\$	\$	\$
Total Incremental Expenditures	\$	\$	\$
Funding Sources (do NOT write values in thousands or millions)			
Existing Budget			
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Total Current Budget	\$	\$	\$
Additional Budget Requested			
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Total Additional Budget Requested	\$	\$	\$

Total Funding Sources	\$	\$	\$
Personnel (Fill out section only if requesting new PCNs)			
Current Position Count for Service	-	-	-
Additional Positions Requested	-	-	-
Total Personnel	-	-	-

Anticipated Court Date: N/A

Anticipated Implementation Date (if different from Court date): N/A

Emergency/Disaster Recovery Note: Not an emergency, disaster, or COVID-19 related item

Contact(s) name, title, department: Bridget Johnson, General Counsel Executive Assistant, Office of the County Attorney Christian D. Menefee

Attachments (if applicable): Order & Settlement & Release Agreement