



## Legislation Text

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File #: 18-0082, Version: 1

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**Dept/ Agency:** Law

**Action:** ( ) Ratifying (X) Authorizing ( ) Amending

**Purpose:** Settlement of Workers' Compensation Claim

**C.P. No.:** 2013-32392

**Claimant:** Jenlyn Hawkins

**Claimant's Attorney:** Mindas & Morris, LLC.

**Attorney's Address:** 150 Morris Avenue, Suite 301, Springfield, New Jersey 07081

**Settlement Amount:** \$22,566.00

**Funding Source:** Insurance Trust Fund

**Additional Comments:**

**Invitation:** Acting Corporation Counsel

**WHEREAS**, the Petitioner, Jenlyn Hawkins, instituted suit in the Division of Workers Compensation of New Jersey, Essex County, bearing C.P. Number 2013-32392 against the City of Newark seeking workers' compensation benefits due to injuries to her lumbar spine from a fall on August 2, 2010, while employed by the City of Newark, Department of Health and Community Wellness, as a Lead Inspector; and

**WHEREAS**, following settlement negotiations through Petitioner's attorney, Mindas & Morris, LLC and Acting Corporation Counsel and/or his designee, The Woolridge Law Firm LLC ("Outside Counsel"), have agreed to amicably resolve and settle this matter under Section 22 of the Workers Compensation Act (N.J.S.A. 34:15-20) by payment in the amount of Nineteen Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$19,800.00). Pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Order to be executed by the Judge of the Division of Workers' Compensation, the City of Newark will also pay an attorney fee of Two Thousand Three Hundred Seventy-Six Dollars and Zero Cents (\$2,376.00), a medical evaluation fee of Three Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$300.00), for Dr. Theodora Maio, and a transcription fee of Ninety Dollars and Zero Cents (\$90.00), for a total settlement of Twenty-Two Thousand Five Hundred Sixty-Six Dollars and Zero Cents (\$22,566.00); and

**WHEREAS**, this settlement is subject to approval by the Judge of the Division of Workers' Compensation; and

**WHEREAS**, the total settlement amount may be subject to minor changes in amount or distribution at the time the Settlement Agreement is approved and the Settlement Order executed by the Judge of the Division of Workers' Compensation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Municipal Council believes it is in the best interests of the City of Newark, that minor changes to the amount of the settlement and distribution shall not require subsequent Municipal Council approval provided the settlement amount is not increased or decreased above \$500.00 and all the terms and conditions are substantially the same as authorized by the resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, based upon all of the facts and circumstances surrounding this matter, Acting Corporation Counsel and/or Outside Counsel deem it is in the best interest of the City of Newark to accept said settlement in the total amount of Twenty-Two Thousand Five Hundred Sixty-Six Dollars and Zero Cents (\$22,566.00).

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, THAT:**

1. The settlement of the Workers' Compensation matter bearing C. P. No. 2013-32392 is hereby approved.
2. Upon receipt by the Acting Corporation Counsel and/or Outside Counsel of all supporting documents, the Director of Finance is hereby authorized and directed to issue checks in the amounts as follows:
  - (a) \$17,916.00 (Seventeen Thousand Nine Hundred Sixteen Dollars and Zero Cents) made payable and mailed to Jenlyn Hawkins 17 Warren Street, Newark, New Jersey 07102, (It is understood that pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Order to be entered by the Judge of the Division of Workers' Compensation, \$1,584.00 (One Thousand Five Hundred Eight Four Dollars and Zero Cents) is being subtracted from the Petitioner's award to pay attorney's fees, and \$300.00 (Three Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents) is being subtracted to pay for medical evaluations in accordance with the settlement provisions.)
  - (b) \$2,376.00 (Two Thousand Three Hundred Seventy-Six Dollars and Zero Cents) made payable to Mindas & Morris LLC, 150 Morris Avenue, Suite 301, Springfield, New Jersey 07081.
  - (c) \$300.00 (Three Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents) made payable to Dr. Theodora Maio, 100 Hamilton Avenue Plaza, Paterson, New Jersey 07509-2947.
  - (d) \$90.00 (Ninety Dollars and Zero Cents), made payable to William C. O'Brien Associates, 525 Boulevard, Kenilworth, New Jersey 07033.
3. Attached hereto are the Certifications of the Comptroller of the City of Newark which state that there are available sufficient legally appropriated funds for the purpose set forth hereinabove and which state that the line appropriation of the official budget which shall be charged is Business Unit NW024, Dept. ID 24T, Div./Proj. 5T24, Account Code 96310. A copy of the Comptroller's certifications shall be filed by the Acting Corporation Counsel in the Office of the City Clerk along with a copy of this Resolution.
4. A fully executed copy of the Order Approving Settlement shall be filed in the Office of the City Clerk by the Acting Corporation Counsel.

**STATEMENT**

This resolution authorizes the Acting Corporation Counsel or his designee, The Woolridge Law Firm LLC, on behalf of the City of Newark, to effectuate settlement by entering into an Order Approving Settlement of a Workers' Compensation claim in the amount of \$22,566.00 brought by Jenlyn Hawkins, 17 Warren Street, Newark, New Jersey 07102, who suffered injuries to the lumbar spine from a fall on August 2, 2010, while employed by the City of Newark, Department of Health and Community Wellness.