

Indian River County, Florida  
Memorandum

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners  
**THRU:** John A. Titkanich, Jr., County Administrator  
**FROM:** Cynthia Stanton, Risk Manager  
**DATE:** June 12, 2023  
**SUBJECT:** Auto Liability Settlement for claimant Adele Beecher

**BRIEF HISTORY OF CLAIMANT AND OF CLAIM:**

On December 21, 2021, an IRC Animal Control officer was westbound on 49<sup>th</sup> Street and stopped at the stop sign at the intersection at 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The officer states he did not see claimant's vehicle approaching the intersection southbound on 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue when he entered the intersection and collided into the front of claimant's vehicle. Claimant's 2012 Nissan Sentra was totaled as a result of the crash. The claimant is a 73-year-old retired female.

**MEDICAL TREATMENT:**

Claimant was taken by IRC ambulance from the scene to Indian River Medical Center. She suffered multiple injuries to her neck, back, ribs, sternum, right knee and shoulder. Claimant had surgery on her right shoulder followed by six months of physical therapy.

**DAMAGES AND SPECIALS:**

Claimant was paid \$5,195.92 for the total loss of her 2012 Nissan Sentra. Her medical bills total \$58,282.72 with a Medicare lien of \$14,000.

**SETTLEMENT DEMAND:**

Claimant is represented by Attorney Christopher Layman of Layman Law Firm. An initial demand of \$200,000 was received in January 2023. Johns Eastern, the TPA for Indian River County had lengthy negotiation discussions with Attorney Layman. A final settlement agreement was reached for \$65,000 pending approval by the Board of County Commissioners.

**FUNDING:**

The final settlement, in the amount of \$65,000, will be paid out of the Self-Insurance Fund/Risk Management/General Liability Insurance account, number 50224619-034530.

<b>Account Description</b>	<b>Account Number</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Self-Insurance Fund/Risk Management/General Liability Insurance	50224619-034530	\$65,000

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The claim was reviewed by the County's Liability Claims Committee on June 8, 2023. The Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the Board of County Commissioners settle the claim for \$65,000 as a final settlement of this matter.