
Sponsor: Board of Commissioners

Meeting Date: 10/14/2025

Title: Settlement Agreement in *John and Amy Waters v. Ramsey County, et al.* (Court File No. 62-CV-23-4037).

File Number: 2025-432

Background and Rationale:

In May 2019, Ramsey County received a report that Plaintiff Amy Waters caused an injury to one of three foster children placed with Plaintiffs on a pre-adoptive basis. Following the report, Plaintiffs allege they made multiple requests under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act ("MGDPA") for information related to the report and Ramsey County's criminal and child protection investigations. On August 1, 2023, John and Amy Waters filed a civil action alleging (among other things) that Ramsey County violated the MGDPA on multiple occasions, and that as a result of those violations the three children were removed from Plaintiffs' home and their ability to adopt the three boys was terminated.

Plaintiffs and Ramsey County, on behalf of itself and its employee named as a defendant in her individual and official capacities, reached a settlement. The Board approved that settlement in a closed session on June 10, 2025.

Recommendation:

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

1. Approve the settlement agreement with John and Amy Waters relating to Settlement Agreement in John and Amy Waters v. Ramsey County, et al. (Court File No. 62-CV-23-4037), totaling \$875,000.
2. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the settlement agreement.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner McMurtrey, seconded by Commissioner Miller. Motion passed.

Aye: - 6: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, and Ortega

Excused: - 1: Xiong

By: _____



Jason Yang, Chief Clerk - County Board