

RELEASE AND SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT made this day by and among Kathleen Williams ("Kathleen") and the Town of Munster ("Munster").

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, there is now pending in the Lake County Superior Court, Civil Division a lawsuit entitled KATHLEEN WILLIAMS v. TOWN OF MUNSTER, cause number 45D10-2309-CT-1087 (hereinafter the "Case"); and,

WHEREAS, the Case arises out of a dispute between the parties regarding a trip and fall over an exposed tree root on Summerset Drive in the Munster, Indiana on June 5, 2023; and,

WHEREAS, the matters in controversy between the parties have been resolved to the satisfaction of all parties and the parties are desirous of entering into this mutual Release and Settlement Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants contained herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency whereof are hereby acknowledged by all parties, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. Within 30 days of the execution of this Agreement, Kathleen will receive from Munster the total sum of One Hundred Thousand dollars (\$100,000.00), the sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged.

2. Kathleen fully and finally releases and discharges the Munster Defendants, including its assigns, partners, shareholders, directors, officers, members, agents, and representatives, together with all persons, firms, and corporations from any and all claims, losses, damages, costs, expectations, interests, or any other thing whatsoever on account of, or in any way growing out of, all personal injuries, death, property damage, and any other type of damage of any kind, whether now known or unknown, arising out of a trip and fall over an exposed tree root on Summerset Drive in the Munster, Indiana, all of which are denied and disputed by Munster.

3. Kathleen recognizes that all damages and losses may not now fully be known, and hence may be more numerous or more serious than is now understood and expected; however, Kathleen agrees in further consideration for this Agreement that this Release applies to all injuries, damages, and losses arising out of the allegations made in this case, even though now unanticipated and unexpected and unknown, as well as all damages and losses which have already developed and are now known or anticipated. It is the intent of the parties to extinguish any and all claims that Kathleen may have against Munster.

4. All parties agree that they are entering into this Agreement for the purpose of amicably resolving this case, and that Munster is not admitting fault or liability in this matter by entering into this Agreement.

5. Kathleen further acknowledges, warrants, and agrees to satisfy all liens, reimbursement rights, subrogation interest or claims, including automatic liens or obligations created by federal and/or state law, of medical assistance, Medicare, Medicaid, child support, income tax, and any doctor, hospital, insurance carrier, non-profit hospital and medical service organization, state or governmental agency, attorney or any other person, firm or corporation, which have been made or may be made in the future against the payments described in this Release and Settlement Agreement; and Kathleen further agrees to hold Munster harmless, and to defend and indemnify Munster against any suits, claims, cross-claims, judgments, costs or expenses of any kind, including attorney's fees, arising from assertion of any such lien, reimbursement right, subrogation interest or claim.

6. Kathleen further agrees to hold Munster harmless from, and to defend and indemnify Munster against, any now pending or subsequently initiated suits, claims, judgments, costs or expenses of any kind, including attorney's fees, contribution, and/or indemnification by any other person or organization (or for subrogation by an insurer of such person or organization) on account of judgment, assertion or settlement of any claim asserted by or on behalf of Kathleen or Kathleen's relatives as a result of the injuries or damages allegedly sustained by Kathleen and arising out of the above described occurrence.

7. Kathleen hereby acknowledges and assumes all risk, chance or hazard that the said damages may be or become permanent, progressive, greater, or more extensive than is now known, anticipated or expected.

8. No money out of the settlement is allocated towards future medical treatment. While it is impossible to accurately predict the need for future treatment, this decision was based upon a good faith determination of the parties in order to resolve a disputed claim. The parties have attempted to resolve this matter in compliance with both state and federal law and it is believed that the settlement terms adequately consider Medicare's interest and do not reflect any attempt to shift responsibility of treatment to Medicare pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1395y(b). In the event Medicare required reimbursement related to future medical treatment, this would be the sole responsibility of Kathleen.

9. No promise or inducement which is not herein expressed has been made to Kathleen or Munster, and in executing this Release and Settlement Agreement, Kathleen does not rely upon any statement or representation made by Munster, or by any agent, physician, doctor or any other person representing Munster, concerning the nature, extent or duration of said damages or losses or the legal liability therefore.

10. Kathleen acknowledges that the payment of said sum is not to be construed as an admission of liability by Munster, who disputes any liability to Kathleen, but that said payment is made and accepted in full accord and satisfaction of, and in compromise of,

a disputed claim and for the purpose of terminating a dispute or litigation between the parties.

11. Kathleen agrees to execute all necessary documents to effectuate the settlement, including the filing of a Motion to Dismiss with Prejudice the claims against Munster, in the case.

12. In the event that a party to this Agreement shall default on any of the terms and provisions herein, any other party may initiate legal proceedings as a result thereof, and the prevailing party in said litigation shall be entitled to recover reasonable attorney fees and expenses therein.

13. This Agreement constitutes the entire understanding between the parties related to the subject matter hereof, supersedes all prior written and/or oral agreements, and may be modified only by a separate written instrument signed by the parties hereto.

14. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance to the laws of the State of Indiana.

15. Kathleen further states that she has carefully read the foregoing Release and Settlement Agreement and knows and understands its contents and that she signs it as her own free act.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties have executed this Release and Settlement Agreement.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2025.

KATHLEEN WILLIAMS

TOWN OF MUNSTER
By: **David Westland**