



**TO:** Members of Troy City Council  
**FROM:** Lori Grigg Bluhm, City Attorney  
**DATE:** January 27, 2010  
**SUBJECT:** Sandler v. City of Troy and MMRMA

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Alex Sandler has filed a new lawsuit against the City of Troy and the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority. The case was initiated as a handwritten claim in the 52-4 Judicial District Court. Unfortunately, the claim does not provide many details about the matter. It appears that Mr. Sandler is suing the City for the alleged failure to maintain roads in a safe condition. Although these roads are not expressly identified in the claim, we know that Mr. Sandler previously filed a claim with the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority (MMRMA) for his automobile damages sustained on either Crooks Road (under the jurisdiction of the Road Commission for Oakland County) or Wilshire Boulevard. According to this claim, on the morning of October 5, 2009, his wife was driving the vehicle near the Crooks Road/ Wilshire Boulevard intersection when she struck a pothole and a piece of metal sticking out of the concrete. This claim was denied by the MMRMA after investigation, based, in part, on the fact that Crooks Road is not a City road. The MMRMA has also been sued by Mr. Sandler, and therefore has hired their own attorney to represent their interests in this matter.

Our office will represent the City's interests in this case unless otherwise directed. Please let me know if you have any questions about this matter.