City of Joplin **City Council Agenda Item**

REQUESTED COUNCIL MEETING DATE: February 2, 2015
ITEM: Council Bill No. 2015-001 authorizing and approving settlement of a claim for property damages asserted against the City by Darci Peterson.

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Legal Department
ATTACHMENTS: Council Bill No. 2015-001.

DEPARTMENT HEAD:	Peter C. Edwards	**DATE:**
CITY MANAGER:	Sam Anselm	**DATE:**
PUBLIC WORKS DEPT:	Nick Heatherly	**DATE:**
FINANCE DIRECTOR:	Leslie Haase	**DATE:**
H.R./RISK MGMT:	David Allgood	**DATE:**

INTRODUCTION:

This Council Bill approves the settlement of a property damage claim asserted by Darci Peterson relating to a sewer back-up at her property.

SUMMARY:

Investigation has revealed that on January 10, 2014, the City's sewer maintenance department received a call for a problem at 3114 E. 9th Street where there was a sewer back-up into claimant's residence located at 3114 E. 9th Street with raw sewage coming up through the shower and toilet filling the apartment with between three and eight inches of sewage. The Infrastructure Maintenance Supervisor made an inspection of the site and confirmed that, in fact, the back-up into the residence was substantial and that it was a City responsibility due to the blockage being from grease clogging a City line causing the back-up of sewage. This apartment is located near Range Line Road where some of the City's biggest issues is from grease.

The sewage back-up caused extensive damage to the residence including walls, flooring, furniture, personal items (clothing, photographs/albums) and cabinets. Due to the back-up, it was necessary to remove and replace carpet and other flooring, sheet rock, repaint and retexture walls and do a complete sanitization of the home. Additionally, a number of personal property items are included in the settlement. The total of the expenses incurred by Darci Peterson for clean-up and repair of the property comes to Seven Thousand Dollars ($7,000.00).

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends passage of this Council Bill on an emergency basis.

PCE:ab