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MWD METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTINE SECRETARY

APPROVED by the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

at its moving here MAY 12 1992

April 20, 1992

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(Legal & Claims--Action) Board of Directors (Organization & Personnel Committee--Info.)

General Manager and General Counsel

Sumer Write-Off of Uncollectible Workers' Compensation Expenses

## <u>Report</u>

On May 21, 1991, an employee of the District sustained injuries when the District van in which she was a passenger was involved in a motor vehicle accident while trying to avoid another vehicle which was being stopped by the Los Angeles Police Department. The driver of the vehicle ultimately responsible for the motor vehicle accident was arrested, charged and, eventually, found guilty of conspiracy to distribute cocaine.

As a result of the injuries sustained in the motor vehicle accident, the District, through its administrator (Gates, McDonald & Company), has paid workers' compensation benefits to and on behalf of our employee in the amount of \$14,996.49 (indemnity benefits amounting to \$9,561.80 and medical benefits amounting to \$5,434.69). No further payments are anticipated on the workers' compensation claim.

We have been advised by the District's Safety & Security Section that the third party responsible for our employee's injuries cannot be located. As indicated, the responsible third party was found guilty of conspiracy to distribute cocaine; however, the sentencing in this matter has been delayed and the court is unable to provide us with the current location of the third party.

The General Manager, with the advice of General Counsel, therefore recommends that the \$14,996.69 in workers' compensation expenses be written off. Pursuant to Administrative Code Section 9201, the Board must authorize write-offs in excess of \$10,000.

The proposed action in this letter is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act as it can be shown to have no possible effect on the environment. Board of Directors

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April 20, 1992

Board Committee Assignment

This letter is an action item to the Legal and Claims Committee because of its jurisdiction in this area, pursuant to Administrative Code Section 2461 (a).

This letter is referred for information to the Organization and Personnel Committee pursuant to Section 2471 (c) of the Administrative Code because of its responsibility for dealing with all matters pertaining to wages, hours, pension plans, and other employee benefits.

## Recommendation

## LEGAL AND CLAIMS COMMITTEE FOR ACTION.

That the General Manager be authorized to write off workers' compensation expenses in the amount of \$14,996.49 on work order number 1-0247.

Fred Vendig

NER/EJA/nr