

BOARD OF LEGISLATORS
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

Your Committee is in receipt of a proposed Act which, if enacted by your Board, would authorize the County Attorney and the Commissioner of Finance to compromise the liability of the County of Westchester (the "County") to pay Workers' Compensation benefits to a former County employee, identified herein as "B.P." Consistent with prior practice in similar cases, we have deleted the name of the employee to protect the individual's privacy. The name, of course, will be disclosed to the Board of Legislators upon request.

Pursuant to Section 32 of the New York State Workers' Compensation Law, the County is permitted to reduce the liability for ongoing benefits by paying a lump sum to the employee. When a County employee suffers a work-related injury, he or she qualifies for Workers' Compensation benefits. Once the Workers' Compensation Board issues a permanency finding, the County is obligated to make continuing payments. Pursuant to Section 32 of the New York State Workers' Compensation Law, the County is permitted to reduce its liability for ongoing benefits by paying the employee a reduced lump sum. As a result of this lump sum, future payments are eliminated and the County realizes substantial savings.

The Department of Finance, in its role as administrator of the County's Workers' Compensation Program, has negotiated, with the cooperation of the County Attorney's Office, lump-sum settlements with the attorneys for injured employees. Such settlements have been and remain subject to final approval in the interest of justice by the New York State Workers' Compensation Board.

Employee:	B.P.
Department:	Correction
Date of Injury:	August 12, 2003
Injuries:	Neck, back, right shoulder, and both knees
Lump-Sum Settlement (Medical & Indemnity):	\$ 212,725.16

Your Committee has carefully considered the matter and recommends authorizing the County Attorney and the Commissioner of Finance to compromise the liability of the County to pay Workers' Compensation benefits to the above-named former County employee, thereby reducing the liability for ongoing benefits pay paying a lump sum to and/or for the benefit of B.P. An affirmative vote of a majority of the Board is required to pass this legislation.

Dated: White Plains, New York
June __, 2021

ACT NO. 2021

AN ACT authorizing the County Attorney and the Commissioner of Finance to compromise the liability of the County of Westchester and pay a reduced lump sum to a former County employee in lieu of future payments.

BE IT ENACTED by the Board of Legislators of the County of Westchester as follows:

1. The County Attorney and the Commissioner of Finance are hereby authorized to compromise the County's right to pay Workers' Compensation benefits to B.P., a former employee, by contributing \$ 212,725.16 towards a lump-sum settlement, thereby reducing the County's liability for ongoing benefits to and/or for the benefit of the employee.
2. The County Attorney or his designee and the Commissioner of Finance or her designee are hereby authorized to execute and deliver all documents and take such actions as the County Attorney and/or the Commissioner of Finance deem necessary or desirable to accomplish the purposes hereof.
3. This Act shall take effect immediately.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

SUBJECT: Settlement of Workers Comp Benefits (B.P.) NO FISCAL IMPACT PROJECTED

OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT

(To be completed by operating department and reviewed by Budget Department)

A) GENERAL FUND AIRPORT SPECIAL REVENUE FUND (Districts)

B) EXPENSES AND REVENUES

Total Current Year Cost \$ 212,725.16

Total Current Year Revenue \$ _____

Source of Funds (check one): Current Appropriations

Transfer of Existing Appropriations Additional Appropriations Other (explain)

Identify Accounts: 613-57-0003-4280

Potential Related Operating Budget Expenses: Annual Amount \$ _____

Describe: _____

Potential Related Revenues: Annual Amount \$ _____

Describe: _____

Anticipated Savings to County and/or Impact on Department Operations:

Current Year: _____

Next Four years: _____

Prepared by: Sean T. Carey

Title: Sr. Assistant County Attorney

Department: Law

Reviewed By: 

Budget Department

6/3/21

If you need more space, please attach additional sheets.