



DATE: January 14, 2026

TO: Colorado Springs City Council

FROM: Office of the City Attorney

SUBJECT: *Jonathan Zapanta v. Lilly Meyer and the City of Colorado Springs/Colorado Springs Police Department, Case No. 2025CV32509 (Dist. Ct., El Paso Cty., Colo.)*

This memorandum apprises you of the facts alleged in the above-referenced case as you consider the claims made against Officer Lilly Meyer and the recommendation of the Civil Action Investigation Committee.

NATURE OF THE CASE

This case arises out of a multi-vehicle accident at N. Carefree Circle and N. Powers Blvd. on Sunday, April 6, 2025, at about 5:50 PM. Officer Meyer was responding with lights and sirens to a call for service involving a shooting. She was driving westbound on N. Carefree Circle approaching N. Powers Blvd. Westbound N. Carefree Circle had a red signal light. She stopped in the right shoulder of N. Carefree Circle, just east of the intersection with N. Powers, waiting for the northbound traffic to stop for her emergency vehicle. After 15 to 30 seconds, the northbound traffic stopped, and Officer Meyer attempted to cross the intersection. She was hit by three vehicles traveling southbound on N. Powers Blvd. Plaintiff Zapanta was the third vehicle to strike Officer Meyer.

At the scene, Mr. Zapanta disclaimed being injured, but he now claims to have injured his back, neck, and shoulders in the accident.

Mr. Zapanta asserts negligence and negligence per se claims against Officer Meyer and seeks monetary damages.

RECOMMENDATION

The Civil Action Investigation Committee voted on December 17, 2025, and recommend that City Council acknowledge the City's representation of Officer Meyer as required by the Colorado Governmental Immunity Act and the Peace Officer's Liability Act. Officer Meyer was acting in the course and scope of her employment and not in a willful and wanton manner. As usual, it is recommended that the City reserve the right not to pay any award of punitive damages.