



DATE: May 12, 2025
TO: City Council
FROM: City Attorney's Office
SUBJECT: *Laura Voepel v. Reuban Crews, et al.,*
Case No. 25-cv-00506-KAS

This memorandum is to apprise you of the facts alleged in the above-referenced case as you consider the claims made against the involved officers.

NATURE OF THE CASE

Plaintiff, Laura Voepel, filed an action in the District Court for the District of Colorado against Officers Reuben Crews, Matthew Anderson, Timothy Hockersmith, Peter Mandry and Rebecca Joines asserting claims for unlawful search and seizure, and First Amendment retaliation under the United States and Colorado Constitutions.

The Complaint alleges in the early morning hours of November 20, 2022, Plaintiff's son, Anderson Aldrich, committed "a horrific shooting at Club Q." At approximately 3:17 a.m., Officers Anderson, Mandry and Joines arrived at Plaintiff's home that she shared with the shooter. According to the complaint, Plaintiff initially allowed the officers inside her residence. Upon entering, Officer Anderson allegedly conducted a search of the residence. The Complaint alleges Plaintiff told Officer Anderson that he was only allowed to stay near the front door. The Complaint claims that Officer Anderson disregarded the limitation and continued to search the apartment as Officers Mandry and Joines blocked Plaintiff's movements. According to Plaintiff, the officers stayed inside the apartment even though she demanded that they leave. Later, Sergeant Crews and Officer Hockersmith arrived. Plaintiff alleges that she advised Sergeant Crews and Officer Hockersmith that they did not have permission to enter. Nevertheless, the officers entered and remained inside. At some point, Plaintiff walked out of the apartment. The Complaint alleges the officers locked her out and she became loud and upset as a result. Plaintiff claims she was arrested for disorderly conduct and placed on a mental health hold without probable cause.

Plaintiff seeks compensatory and punitive damages, and injunctive relief.

RECOMMENDATION

The Civil Action Investigation Committee met on April 29, 2025 and voted to recommend City representation for Officers Crews, Anderson, Hockersmith, Mandry and

Joines as required by the Colorado Governmental Immunity Act and the Liability of Peace Officers Act. The officers were acting in the course and scope of their employment, and in good faith during the incident. As usual, City Council should also recommend that the City reserve the right to decline payment of any award of punitive damages.