

NOTICE OF TORT CLAIM
TO THE CITY OF SOUTH BEND, INDIANA POLITICAL SUBDIVISION RISK
MANAGEMENT, THE SOUTH BEND COMMON COUNCIL, PRESIDENT OF THE
SOUTH BEND COMMON COUNCIL, KAREN WHITE, AND THE CITY OF SOUTH
BEND CORPORATION COUNSEL, SANDRA KENNEDY

September 23, 2021

Mayor James Mueller
City of South Bend
227 West Jefferson Blvd.
Suite 1200N
South Bend, IN 46601

Sandra Kennedy
City of South Bend Corporation Counsel
227 West Jefferson Blvd.
Suite 1200S
South Bend, IN 46601

Indiana Political Subdivision
Risk Management
311 W. Washington, Suite 300
Indianapolis, IN 46204

South Bend Common Council
227 West Jefferson Blvd.
Suite 455
South Bend, IN 46601

Karen White, President
South Bend Common Council
227 West Jefferson Blvd.
Suite 455
South Bend, IN 46601

Notice of Claim—Sent via Certified Mail

Sherrie Weekly, by counsel, Andrew B. Jones of Jones Law Office LLC, files her Notice of Tort Claim with the City of South Bend, the City of South Bend Corporation Counsel, the South Bend Common Council, President of the South Bend Common Council Karen White, and the Indiana Political Subdivision Risk Management pursuant to I.C. 34-13-3, et. seq.

A. Pursuant to I.C. 34-13-3, et. seq., Sherrie Weekly, by counsel, Andrew B. Jones, provides the following as a short, plain statement of facts upon which her claim is based.

B. Circumstances which brought about the loss:

The City of South Bend has implemented a grant program, South Bend Alive, whose mission “is to develop and implement programs, projects, and events that empower the quality of life for families in our city.” Sherrie Weekly applied for a grant in the amount of “20,001-\$25,000. Even though she had been previously told that her application was denied, on August 2, 2021, Sherrie Weekly discovered that her grant was approved in the amount of \$7,000. On August 2, 2021, Sherrie Weekly also discovered that her application had been modified at the direction of Maurice Scott, the City of South Bend’s Director of Community Initiatives. Maurice Scott directed Romona Bethany, the City of South Bend’s Manager of Group Violence Initiative, to change the application to allow Aisha Avance to receive the \$7,000. Aisha Avance did receive the \$7,000 without the knowledge of Sherrie Weekly. Sherrie Weekly contacted Mayor James Mueller’s office but received no response.

Maurice Scott, while acting in his position as the City of South Bend’s Director of Community Initiatives, and Romona Bethany, while acting in her position as the City of South Bend’s Manager of Group Violence Initiative, did defraud Sherrie Weekly of at least \$7,000 in grant funds.

C. Extent of the loss:

Sherrie Weekly’s economic damages are in excess of \$7,000. Moreover, she suffers both mentally and emotionally as a result of being the victim of a fraudulent scheme. The full extent of her loss is unknown at this time.

D. Date and location of loss:

Sherrie Weekly’s was put on notice of the loss on August 2, 2021.

E. Persons involved:

To date, the following individuals are known to have knowledge and facts of the incident and damages sustained by Sherrie Weekly:

1. Maurice Scott
2. Romona Bethany
3. Aisha Avance
4. Clifton French

F. Residence of claimant:

At all relevant times, Sherrie Weekly resides at [REDACTED]

Pursuant to I.C. 34-13-3-11, the above Claimant respectfully requests that you notify her legal counsel, Andrew B. Jones of Jones Law Office LLC, in writing, of your approval or denial of this Tort Claim within 90 days from the receipt of this Tort Claim Notice.

Respectfully submitted:

JONES LAW OFFICE LLC

Andrew B. Jones, #29686-71
Attorney for Claimant
105 East Jefferson Boulevard
Suite 800
South Bend, Indiana 46601
(574) 239-7017