



City of South Gate

PRESS RELEASE

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CITY OF SOUTH GATE SETTLES LAWSUIT WITH FORMER POLICE OFFICER

Despite winning multiple favorable rulings on the evidence to be admitted at trial, the City of South Gate settles a lawsuit with a former probationary police officer for \$1 million. Troy Elam, an African American, alleged racial harassment, discrimination and constructive termination among other claims. Elam claimed that these offenses occurred during his probationary period with the City's Police Department during 2004 and 2005.

Ronald Bates, the City Manager, states, "There are times when it is appropriate to sever the employment relationship and the City strongly believes that it did nothing wrong with respect to Elam. That having been said, the City believes that it is a good business decision to settle this matter rather than risking additional monetary exposure to the City."

"The settlement is without any admission of liability and is largely funded by the City's Risk Management Authority. The City is an Equal Opportunity Employer," reports City Attorney, Raul Salinas.

The City is proud to be a diverse employer, representative of the South Gate community and strongly supports the many outstanding police officers that serve the City of South Gate.

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