Filed 11-20-2025

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STATE OF WISCONSIN

**CIRCUIT COURT** 

**MILWAUKEE** 

Ascension SE Wisconsin Hospital, Inc. vs. City of Wauwatosa

Electronic Filing Notice

Case No. 2025CV010010 Class Code: Money Judgment FILED 11-20-2025 Anna Maria Hodges Clerk of Circuit Court 2025CV010010 Honorable Paul R Van Grunsven-09 Branch 09

CITY OF WAUWATOSA 7725 WEST NORTH AVENUE WAUWATOSA WI 53213

Received by

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City Clerk's Office

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If you are not represented by an attorney and would like to register an electronic party, you will need to enter the following code on the eFiling website while opting in as an electronic party.

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Unless you register as an electronic party, you will be served with traditional paper documents by other parties and by the court. You must file and serve traditional paper documents.

Registration is available to attorneys, self-represented individuals, and filing agents who are authorized under Wis. Stat. 799.06(2). A user must register as an individual, not as a law firm, agency, corporation, or other group. Non-attorney individuals representing the interests of a business, such as garnishees, must file by traditional means or through an attorney or filing agent. More information about who may participate in electronic filing is found on the court website.

If you have questions regarding this notice, please contact the Clerk of Circuit Court at 414-278-4140.

Milwaukee County Circuit Court Date: November 20, 2025

11/20/23 2:49P Filed 11-20-2025

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FILED
11-20-2025
Anna Maria Hodges
Clerk of Circuit Court
2025CV010010

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY 2025CV010010 Honorable Paul R Van Grunsven-09 Branch 09

ASCENSION SE WISCONSIN HOSPITAL, INC. 5000 West Chambers Street Milwaukee, WI 53210

Plaintiff,

V.

CITY OF WAUWATOSA 7725 West North Avenue Wauwatosa, WI 53213

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v	v.	VII	11	и	11	

#### **SUMMONS**

#### STATE OF WISCONSIN:

To each entity named above as Defendant:

You are hereby notified that the plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The Complaint, which is attached, states the nature and basis of the legal action.

Within 20 days of receiving this Summons, you must respond with a written answer, as that term is used in Chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes, to the Complaint. The Court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The answer must be sent or delivered to or electronically filed with the Court, whose address is 901 North 9th Street, Room 104, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233, and to plaintiff's attorneys, Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren s.c., whose address is 1000 N. Water Street, Suite 1700, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203. You may have an attorney help or represent you.

If you do not provide a proper answer within 20 days, the Court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the Complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the Complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

Dated this 20th day of November, 2025.

Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren s.c.

1000 North Water Street Milwaukee, WI 53202 Telephone: 414-298-1000

Facsimile: 414-298-8097

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2965

Milwaukee, WI 53201-2965

Electronically signed by Kristina E. Somers

Kristina E. Somers State Bar ID No. 1026028 Sara Stellpflug Rapkin State Bar ID No. 1076539

Shawn E. Lovell

State Bar ID No. 1079801

Attorneys for Plaintiff

Case 2025CV010010

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FILED 11-20-2025 Anna Maria Hodges Clerk of Circuit Court 2025CV010010

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT MILWAUKEE COUNTY

Honorable Paul R Van Grunsven-09 Branch 09

ASCENSION SE WISCONSIN HOSPITAL, INC. 5000 West Chambers Street Milwaukee, WI 53210

Plaintiff,

V.

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_\_ Money Judgment - 30301

CITY OF WAUWATOSA 7725 West North Avenue Wauwatosa, WI 53213

Defendant.

#### **COMPLAINT**

Plaintiff Ascension SE Wisconsin Hospital, Inc. (the "Plaintiff"), by its undersigned counsel, Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren s.c., for its Complaint against the defendant the City of Wauwatosa (the "City"), alleges as follows:

### **NATURE OF ACTION AND PARTIES**

- 1. This action is brought under Wis. Stat. § 74.37(3)(d), for a refund of excessive real estate taxes imposed on Plaintiff by the City for the year 2025, plus statutory interest, with respect to a parcel of real property in the City (the "Property").
- 2. Plaintiff is the owner of the Property, is responsible for the payment of property taxes and the prosecution of property tax disputes involving the Property and is authorized to bring this claim in its own name.

- 3. The City is a body corporate and politic, duly organized as a municipal corporation under Wisconsin law, with its principal office located at 7725 West North Avenue, in the City.
- 4. The Property is located at 201 North Mayfair Road within the City and is identified in the City's records as Tax Parcel No. 411-9976-007.

#### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 5. The Court has personal jurisdiction over the City pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 801.05(1).
  - 6. Venue is appropriate in Milwaukee County pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 801.50(2)(a).

## BACKGROUND FACTS

## 2025 Assessment - Background Facts

- 7. The aggregate ratio of property assessed in the City as of January 1, 2025 has not been determined as of the date of filing.
- 8. For 2024, property tax was imposed on property in the City at the rate of \$22.519022 per \$1,000 of assessed value of property.
  - 9. For 2025, the City's assessor set the assessment of the Property at \$91,339,200.
- 10. Plaintiff appealed the 2025 assessment of the Property by filing a timely objection with the City's Board of Review pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 70.47 and otherwise complying with all of the requirements of Wis. Stat. § 70.47, except Wis. Stat. § 70.47(13).
- 11. By virtue of a hearing waiver pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 70.47(8m), the Board of Review sustained the 2025 assessment on the merits without a hearing. A true and correct copy of the approved Request for Waiver of Board of Review (BOR) Hearing is attached hereto as **Exhibit A** and is incorporated herein by reference.

- 12. Assuming the 2025 mill rate will be essentially the same as the 2024 mill rate, the City will impose tax on the Property in the approximate amount of \$2,056,869.
- 13. Plaintiff will timely pay the property taxes imposed by the City on the Property for 2025, or the required installments thereof.

#### **CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

- 14. The allegations of paragraphs 1-13 are incorporated as if fully re-alleged herein.

  2025 Assessment Claim for Relief
- 15. The fair market value of the Property as of January 1, 2025 was no higher than \$17,200,000.
- 16. Assuming an aggregate ratio of 100%, the correct assessment of the Property for 2025 is no higher than \$17,200,000.
- 17. Based on the 2024 tax rate of \$22.519022 per \$1,000 of assessed value, the correct amount of property tax on the Property for 2025 should be no higher than \$387,327.
- 18. The 2025 assessment of the Property, as set by the City's Assessor and compared with other commercial property in the City is excessive and, upon information and belief, violates Article VIII, Section 1 (i.e., the Uniformity Clause) of the Wisconsin Constitution. As a result, the property tax imposed on the Property for 2025 may be excessive in at least the amount of \$1,669,542.
- 19. Upon information and belief the City will take the position that the assessment of property in the City is at market value and, if true, then an over assessment of the Property constitutes a Uniformity Clause violation. As a result of the assessment of the Property, the Property bears an unreasonably disproportionate share of taxes on an ad valorem basis.
- 20. Plaintiff is entitled to a refund of 2025 tax in the amount of at least \$1,669,542, or such greater amount as may be determined to be due to Plaintiff, plus statutory interest.

# Request for Waiver of Board of Review (BOR) Hearing

Section 70.47 (8m), Wis. Stats., states, "The board may, at the request of the taxpayer or assessor, or at its own discretion, waive the hearing of an objection under sub. (8) or, in a 1st class city, under sub. (16) and allow the taxpayer to have the taxpayer's assessment reviewed under sub. (13). For purposes of this subsection, the board shall submit the notice of decision under sub. (12) using the amount of the taxpayer's assessment as the finalized amount. For purposes of this subsection, if the board waives the hearing, the waiver disallows the taxpayer's claim on excessive assessment under sec. 74.37(3) and notwithstanding the time period under sec. 74.37(3)(d), the taxpayer has 60 days from the notice of hearing waiver in which to commence an action under sec. 74.37(3)(d)."

NOTE: The legal requirements of the Notice of Intent to Appear must be satisfied and the Objection Form must be completed and submitted as required by law prior to the Request for Waiver of Board of Review Hearing being submitted.

NOTE: Request for Waiver must be presented prior to the commencement of the hearing.

Municipality Wauwatosa		County Milwaukee				
Requestor's name Ascension SE Wisconsin	Hospital, Inc.	Agent name (if applicable) *Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren s.c., including but not limited to, Kristina Somers, Don Millis, Sara Rapkin, & Shawn Lov				
Requestor's mailing address 400 W. River Woods Parkway Glendale, WI 53212		Agent's mailing address  1000 N. Water Street, Suite 1700 Milwaukee, WI 53202				
Requestor's telephone number (414 ) 465 - 3057	Land Line Cell Phone	Agent's telephone number ( 414 ) 298 - 8249				
Requestor's email address		Agent's email address ksomers@reinhartlaw.com				
Property address 201 N. Mayfair Road	tandanishi a salasiftandangka amingka y					
Legal description or parcel number 411-9976-007						
Taxpayer's assessment as established by assessor – Value \$ 91,339,200	as determined due to waiv	ing of BOR hearing				
Property owner's opinion of value \$ 17,200,000						
Basis for request Previous years in litigation.	Address of the control of the contro					
Date Notice of Intent to Appear at BOR was given 08 - 08 - 2025		Date Objection Form was completed and submitted  08 - 14 - 2025				
All parties to the hearing understand that in g Wis. Stats. An action under sec. 70.47(13), Wis nearing. An action under sec. 74.37(3)(d), Wis. S	. Stats., must be comi	menced within 90 days of the reco	eipt of the notice of the waiving of the			
Requestor's / Agent's Signature If agent, attach signed Agent Authoriza	ition <u>Form, PA-105</u>		A			
Decision						
Approved Denied						
Reason						
Amila Stokhe. Clea			11 / lc   25			
Taxpayer advised						
	Date					
A-813 (R. 10-16)			Wisconsin Department of Revenue			