

**RESOLUTION R-2022-  
LUZERNE COUNTY COUNCIL**

*A Resolution by the Luzerne County Council Approving the Settlement of  
Pending Litigation in the Matter of Shelby Watchilla v. Luzerne County and Walter L. Griffith, Jr.*

WHEREAS, Section 4.07 B.3 of the Luzerne County Home Rule Charter Provides the County Manager shall have the authority to recommend the settlement of litigation involving the County, subject to the approval of County Council; and

WHEREAS, the Luzerne County Manager has recommended settlement of the above-captioned litigation; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.09 B.5 of the Luzerne County Home Rule Charter provides that County Council shall have the power to approve, by resolution adopted by a majority vote of the Council members, a recommendation by the County Manager to settle litigation involving the County; and

WHEREAS, Plaintiff filed a Complaint in the Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas at docket number 2020-9178 against Luzerne County and Walter L. Griffith, Jr. alleging multiple defamatory statements were made about Plaintiff by Walter L. Griffith, Jr. while Mr. Griffith was a Luzerne County Council member; and

WHEREAS, the Plaintiff desires to settle her claims against Luzerne County; and

WHEREAS, Luzerne County Council also desires to resolve the pending litigation in this matter.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Luzerne County Council approves the settlement of pending litigation for all claims asserted against Luzerne County in the matter of Shelby Watchilla v. Luzerne County and Walter L. Griffith, Jr. in the amount of \$55,000.00 in general funds (\$10,000.00 for Luzerne County as Defendant and \$45,000.00 paid by Luzerne County on behalf of Defendant Walter Griffith, Jr.). This settlement is a full and complete settlement and release of any and all claims by Shelby Watchilla against Luzerne County and Walter L. Griffith, Jr.

This resolution shall become effective six days after adoption.

ADOPTED at a meeting of the Luzerne County Council held \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

**LUZERNE COUNTY COUNCIL**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES-

NAYS-

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sharon Lawrence, Clerk of Council

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kendra Radle, Chair

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Romilda P. Crocamo, Esq.  
Acting County Manager