



GENERAL LIABILITY CLAIM AGAINST THE CITY OF PORTLAND

** for damages to persons or property **



File Number: 2024-014671-20

A claim must be filed with City of Portland Risk Management within 180 days after the occurrence of the incident or event.

Normal business hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 5:00pm. Closed on official holidays.

Claims received during regular business hours will be recorded on the date received.

Faxed or emailed claims received after business hours will be recorded on the next working day.

Please be sure your claim is against the City of Portland, not another public entity.

Where space is insufficient, please use additional paper and identify information by section number and letter.

Completed forms may be mailed, emailed, faxed, or hand-delivered to:

Risk Management/Liability, 1120 S.W. 5th Ave., Suite 1040, Portland, OR 97204-1912, Ph: 503-823-5101,

Fax: 503-823-6120 LiabilityClaims@portlandoregon.gov

1. Claimant (Circle: Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss) Vinson P. Milligan Date of Birth [REDACTED]

a. Address 9615 N Pier Park Place City Portland State OR Zip 97203

b. Home Phone 267-207-7758 Business Telephone 503-665-7110 Cell Phone 267-207-7758

c. Occupation Graphic designer d. Marital Status: Single () Married () Divorced or Widowed ()

If married, name of spouse Sophie M. Toolanen

d. E-mail address [REDACTED]

2. If claim involves a vehicle: a. Year, make and model 2023 Nissan Leaf

b. License Plate Number [REDACTED] Driver's License Number [REDACTED] State OR

c. At time of accident, were you (check all that apply) Owner: Driver Passenger N/A

d. Name and address of owner if different from claimant (1. Above)

3. Occurrence or event from which the claim arises:

a. Date 01/22/24 Time 6:30 Circle AM / PM

b. Place (exact and specific location) 45.574358, -122.724354 5000 N Willamette Blvd.

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/LPuv5asvCZ9bzyU78> outside University of Portland

c. Specify the particular occurrence, event, act, or omission by the City that you believe caused the injury or damage (use additional paper if necessary): This was a pothole which could be equated as a sinkhole.

It appears that this has been there for quite some time. I hit the sinkhole with my car at night, while it was raining, so it was very difficult to avoid. It gave me a flat tire which cost me \$545. I tried to have a nice frugal night out with my family to support the local economy, and I'm hit with a massive bill.

d. State how the City of Portland or its employees were at fault: It is my understanding that this pothole, according to Les Scwab, was reported back in December. Maybe it was patched, but this pothole is arguable a sinkhole. You can see from photos that it is holding water about 5 inches into the hole.

e. Were you on the job at the time of the accident? Yes No

If yes, what is the name / phone number of employer

4. **Description:** Describe the injury, property damage or loss so far as is known at the time of this claim. \$545
This was the damage incurred from replacing two tires and realigning the steering column. As you might know,
it's impossible to replace just one tire, as this might affect the performance of the vehicle.
5. ***We are required to report all claims for injuries to Medicare/Medicaid Services***
 If you were injured please provide the following: Social Security #: _____
 Medicare/Medicaid Beneficiary? Yes _____ No Not injured
6. **Give the name(s) of the City employee(s) and/or City Bureau causing the damage or injury** PBOT
Or whoever is responsible for fixing potholes and sinkholes within Portland city limits.
7. **Name and address of any other person injured** My family was in the car, and luckily nobody was
physically injured, but I do have a dependent who was in the car at the time.
8. **Name and address of the owner of any damaged property if different from claimant** N/A
9. **Damages claimed:**
- | | |
|---|--|
| a. Amount claimed as of this date: | \$ <u>544.87</u> |
| b. Estimated amount of future costs: | \$ <u>0</u> |
| c. Total amount claimed: | \$ <u>544.87</u> |
| d. Basis for computation of amounts claimed (include copies of all bills, invoices, estimates, etc.): | _____ |
| | <u>itemized invoice/bill from Les Schwab</u> |
10. **Names, addresses / phone #s of all witnesses** Sophie M. Toolanen, same address as claimant
301-760-6250
11. **Any additional information that might be helpful in considering your claim** Please note that this car is
essentially brand new. It was purchased last March, so it would take a considerable piece of street missing
to puncture a car tire which is in very good shape.

WARNING: IT IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE TO FILE A FALSE CLAIM! (ORS 162.085)

I have carefully read the statements made in this claim, including any attached sheets, and I know them to be true of my own knowledge, except as to those matters stated upon information or belief and to such matters I believe the same to be true. I understand and acknowledge that all statements made in this claim are made to a public servant of the City of Portland, and that the statements are in connection with an application for a benefit from the City of Portland.

Date: 01/23/24

Vinson P. Milligan
 Claimant's Signature

Vinson Paul Milligan
 Print Name

From: [Vinson Milligan](#)
To: [Risk Liability Claims](#)
Subject: Property Claim - Road and car damaged, 01-22-24
Date: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 9:41:03 PM
Attachments: [Les Schwab INVOICE.pdf](#)
[VMilligan Claim Form Portland Pothole.pdf](#)

Hello,

On the night of Mon. Jan.22nd 2024, my family and I went to see a basketball game at the University of Portland. We don't go out much, so we wanted to be a little frugal while supporting a local event. Little did we know, we were about to be slapped with a \$545 bill. The reason was that we hit a pothole so deep that it punctured our front right tire, causing irreparable damage to the tire. It was dark and raining heavily, so it was very difficult to even see it coming.

Of course, since the car is two-wheel-drive, not only the one damaged tire could be replaced. It's not recommended and it could affect the performance and alignment if one tire is replaced, so the front two were replaced. The employee at Les Schwab told us that they knew exactly which pothole we were talking about. They said it was reported to the city back in December. I looked up the pothole report map, and I did not see it, so either they were mistaken, the point on the map was selected wrong by whomever reported it, or this pothole was patched and has since collapsed or has degraded. It appears to have been there for some time, since the base level is showing below the asphalt (where water is standing). You can have a look for yourself at the pothole. I took pretty good photos of it today:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1EF72e3j2hMnOiKKr2MFwM16eVy2Ik4un?usp=sharing>

I'm aware that the slogan for Portland city work units is "The City That Works" and I'm hoping the city is working extra diligently on patching monsters like this. I'm also hoping the city will make good on this and help us pay for this unexpected bill, which is not cheap and puts a damper on our fiscal lives trying to raise a 3-year-old. I would be happy to answer any questions regarding this. Thank you for your time and understanding.

Please also find **attached** the claim form which is filled out and signed, and the itemized invoice from Les Schwab.

Sincerely,
Vinson Milligan
267-207-7758







