



**Shawnee County
Office of County Counselor**

SANDRA L. JACQUOT
County Counselor

Shawnee County Courthouse
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April 14, 1999

Mr. Bill Koehler
Adjusters International
1044 Osage Avenue
Kansas City, Kansas 66105

RE: Fire Insurance Settlement – Shawnee County Youth Center

Dear Mr. Koehler:

This is to thank you and Pat Bickford for your skillful and effective negotiation in reaching the final settlement of the fire insurance claim resulting from an arson fire at the former Shawnee County Youth Center here in Topeka.

After initial attempts at doing the negotiating ourselves, we discovered that we lacked the resources and knowledge to accomplish the generous settlement you accomplished. We realized early on that we were ill equipped to devote knowledgeable staff to attend the numerous meetings, scope negotiations, unit cost negotiations, addressing building code issues and many other details that needed to be addressed in order to achieve a satisfactory settlement. We are glad we allowed professionals like you and Pat to handle these matters.

Commissioner Marice Kane and I appreciated being present at the final settlement meeting and negotiations so the County's immediate concerns and interests could be addressed before the end of the day. It was a pleasant surprise to everyone that we came back with a final settlement amount and a check to be delivered the following day.

As for the final settlement of our fire loss, the amount was well within our expectations and certainly exceeded our early assessment of loss by about 100%.

Thank you for your hard work and decisiveness. We would recommend your services to any governmental entity in a similar situation.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susana L. Valdovinos". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Susana L. Valdovinos
Assistant County Counselor

SLV/jl

cc: Board of County Commissioners
Ms. Sandra L. Jacquot, Shawnee County Counselor
Ms. Harriet Harding, Shawnee County Financial Administrator
Mr. Earl Hindman, Director, Department of Corrections