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# Nebraska Judicial Branch

#### Case Summary

In the District Court of Douglas County The Case ID is CI 17 0004981 Coston\_v. HY-VEE, a foreign Corporation The Honorable James T Gleason, presiding. Classification: Negligence-Other Filed on 06/14/2017 This case is Open as of 06/14/2017

### Parties/Attorneys to the Case

Plaintiff ACTIVE Dana J Coston 4919 Spalding St.

> Omaha NE 68154

Defendant ACTIVE HY-VEE, a foreign Corporation c/o CT Corporation System 5601 South 59th Street Lincoln NE 6 NE 68516

Alias is d/b/a HY-VEE Defendant ACTIVE Eastern Nebraska Human Services c/o Garry Osborn, Sect of Brd 900 S 74th Plaza #200 NE 68114 Omaha

Alias is EASTERN NE HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

Attorney

James R Welsh 9290 West Dodge Road 204 The Mark Omaha NE 68114 402-384-8160

David M Woodke 619 N 90th Street

Omaha NE 68114

402-391-6000

Robert M Livingston 310 W. Kanesville Blvd. 2nd F P.O. Box 398 Council Bluffs IA 51502

712-322-4033

Court Costs	Information		
Incurred By	Account	Date	Amount
Plaintiff	Petition	06/14/2017	\$35.00
Plaintiff	Filing Fee - State	06/14/2017	\$3.00
Plaintiff	Automation Fee	06/14/2017	\$8.00
Plaintiff	NSC Education Fee	06/14/2017	\$1.00
Plaintiff	Dispute Resolution Fee	06/14/2017	\$0.75
Plaintiff	Indigent Defense Fee	06/14/2017	\$3.00
Plaintiff	Uniform Data Analysis Fee	06/14/2017	\$1.00
Plaintiff	J.R.F.	06/14/2017	\$6.00
Plaintiff	Filing Fee-JRF	06/14/2017	\$4.00

Incurred By	Account	Date	Amount
Plaintiff	Legal Aid/Services Fund	06/14/2017	\$6.25
Plaintiff	Complete Record	06/14/2017	\$15.00
Plaintiff	Service Fees	06/27/2017	\$5.47
Plaintiff	Service Fees	07/05/2017	\$5.47

# Financial Activity

No trust money is held by the court  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{No}}$  fee money is held by the court

Paymen	ts Made to the Cou	rt		
Receipt	Туре	Date	For	Amount
265848	Electronic Trans	06/14/2017	Coston,Dana,J	\$83.00
			Petition	\$35.00
			Filing Fee - State	\$3.00
			Automation Fee	\$8.00
			NSC Education Fee	\$1.00
			Dispute Resolution Fee	\$.75
			Indigent Defense Fee	\$3.00
			Uniform Data Analysis	\$1.00
			J.R.F.	\$6.00
			Filing Fee-JRF	\$4.00
			Legal Aid/Services Fun	\$6.25
			Complete Record	\$15.00

# Register of Actions

07/25/2017 Notice-Lien This action initiated by party Eastern Nebraska Human Services

MG

Image ID N172065TQD01

07/25/2017 Answer

This action initiated by party Eastern Nebraska Human Services

Image ID N172065TID01

07/25/2017 Appearance of Counsel

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07/19/2017 Answer
            This action initiated by party HY-VEE, a foreign Corporation
   kr
            Image ID N17200EOGD01
07/05/2017 Return Summons/Alias Summons
            The document number is 00462525
   MG
            Served 06/29/2017, Certified Mail Image ID N17186S1SD01
06/27/2017 Summons Issued on Eastern Nebraska Human Services
            The document number is 00462525
   E-MAILED: laurie@welsh-law.com
            Image ID D00462525D01
06/27/2017 Return Summons/Alias Summons
            The document number is 00459982
            Served 06/19/2017, Certified Mail Image ID N1717818YD01
06/26/2017 Praecipe-Summons/Alias
            This action initiated by party Dana J Coston
   s٦
            Image ID N17177X5WD01
06/14/2017 Notice-Service
            This action initiated by party Dana J Coston
   Re: Req /mg
            Image ID N17165NOUD01
06/14/2017 Summons Issued on Eastern Nebraska Human Services
The document number is 00459983
   E-MAILED: laurie@welsh-law.com
            Image ID D00459983D01
06/14/2017 Summons Issued on HY-VEE, a foreign Corporation The document number is 00459982
   E-MAILED: laurie@welsh-law.com
            Image ID D00459982D01
06/14/2017 Praecipe-Summons/Alias
            This action initiated by party Dana J Coston
   pm
            Image ID N17165LQUD01
06/14/2017 Complaint-Praecipe
            This action initiated by party Dana J Coston
   praecipe filed seperate..pm
Image ID N17165LPYD01
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Filed in Douglas District Court

\*\*\* EFILED \*\*\*

Case Number: D01Cl170004981
Transaction ID: 0005378020

# IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF DOUGLAS COUNTY, NEBRASKA

DANA J. COSTON,	)	CASE NO.
Plaintiff,	)	
v.	)	COMPLAINT
HY-VEE, INC., a foreign corporation,	)	
d/b/a HY-VEE, and EASTERN NEBRASKA HUMAN SERVICES	)	
AGENCY.	)	

#### Defendants.

#### Plaintiff states:

- 1. That Plaintiff is a resident of Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska.
- 2. That the Defendant, Hy-Vee, Inc., d/b/a Hy-Vee, ("Hy-Vee"), is a foreign corporation, qualified to do, and is doing business in Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska.
- 3. That the Defendant, Eastern Nebraska Human Services Agency, is a corporation organized under the State of Nebraska and authorized to do and is doing business in the State of Nebraska and that at all times hereinafter mentioned will be referred to as "Eastern." That Defendant Eastern is made a party to this action for the reason that the accident hereinafter described occurred while Plaintiff was an employee of Eastern, and that Eastern has paid certain medical bills and workers compensation insurance benefits to Plaintiff under the Nebraska Workers Compensation Act, and therefore Eastern is entitled to certain subrogation rights by virtue of these payments.
- 4. That on or about February 23, 2015, at approximately 5:00 o'clock p.m., Plaintiff walked in to Hy-Vee, located at 5150 Center Street, Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska, to shop for groceries. As she entered the store, she tripped and fell over a rolled up rug in the front foyer

of the store. This fall caused her to suffer severe and permanent personal injuries and damages as hereinafter more specifically set forth in paragraph 8.

- 5. That the Defendant, by and through its agents, representatives and employees, while in the scope and course of their employment and agency, knew or should have known that the rolled up rug was a hazard to its customers, including the Plaintiff, who were walking over it as they entered the store. That the safe maintaining of the rug on the floor was the responsibility of Defendant by and through its agents, representatives and employees in the course and scope of their employment.
- 6. That the Defendant, by and through its agents, representatives and employees, was negligent in one or more of the following particulars, to-wit:
  - a) In failing to use proper care under the circumstances;
  - b) In creating a dangerous hazard to its shoppers, including Plaintiff, allowing them to walk over a rolled up rug in its front foyer;
  - In failing to warn its shoppers, including Plaintiff, of the dangers and hazardous conditions of this rolled up rug;
  - d) In failing to make a timely inspection of this floor to determine if it was free of any hazards and to make sure it was safe for its shoppers, including Plaintiff;
  - e) In failing to maintain the floor and its rug, commonly used by its shoppers, including Plaintiff, in a safe condition when it knew or should have known that this rug was rolled up; and
  - f) In failing to train its employees to recognize and dispose of hazards.
- 7. That one or more of these acts of negligence, as heretofore set forth in Paragraph 6 above, caused this accident, injuries and damages to Plaintiff. That any and all allegations of negligence asserted against the agents, representatives and employees of the Defendant are imputed to the Defendant under the Doctrine of Respondeat Superior.

8. That as a direct and proximate result of the negligence of the Defendant, as heretofore set forth in paragraph 6, the Plaintiff was seriously and permanently injured in that she suffered physical injury to both her head and back, severe shock to her nervous system, loss of enjoyment of life, aggravation and inconvenience. That these injuries are all permanent in nature. That she has suffered, now suffers, and will in the future continue to suffer great and excruciating permanent physical pain and mental anguish. The Plaintiff has incurred fair and reasonable medical expenses because of these injuries, and will incur same in the future. That Plaintiff has lost income and wages and will lose income in the future because of these injuries. That because of these injuries, Plaintiff's earning capacity has been permanently diminished and impaired.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, prays for judgment against the Defendant, for special damages and general damages, together with her costs herein expended.

DATED: June / 4, 2017

DANA J. COSTON, Plaintiff,

By:

James R. Welsh, #14459

Christopher P. Welsh, #22279

9290 West Dodge Road

204 The Mark

Omaha, Nebraska 68114

(402) 384-8160

(402) 384-8211 (fax)

jwelsh@welsh-law.com

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

Filed in Douglas District Court

\*\*\* EFILED \*\*\*

Case Number: D01Cl170004981
Transaction ID: 0005553566

Filing Date: 07/25/2017 03:41:15 PM CDT

## IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF DOUGLAS COUNTY, NEBRASKA

DANA J. COSTON,

Plaintiff,

vs.

ANSWER TO COMPLAINT

HY-VEE, INC., a foreign corporation, d/b/a HY-VEE and EASTERN
NEBRASKA HUMAN SERVICES
AGENCY,

Defendants.

COMES NOW, Accident Fund General Insurance Company, on behalf of and for Defendant, Eastern Nebraska Human Services Agency, and for its Answer to Plaintiff's Complaint states as follows:

- 1. Defendant admits the allegations of paragraph 1 in its entirety.
- 2. Defendant admits the allegations of paragraph 2 in its entirety.
- 3. Defendant admits the allegations of paragraph 3 in its entirety.
- 4. Defendant admits the allegations of paragraph 4 in its entirety.
- 5. Defendant admits the allegations of paragraph 5 as it relates to Defendant Hy-Vee, Inc. Defendant denies the allegations of paragraph 5 for all other purposes and with respect to all other Defendants.
- 6. Defendant admits the allegations of paragraph 6, inclusive of subparts a, b, c, d, e, and f, as it relates to Defendant Hy-Vee, Inc. Defendant denies the allegations of paragraph 6, specifically including subparts a, b, c, d, e, and f, for all other purposes and with respect to all other Defendants.

- 7. Defendant admits the allegations of paragraph 7 as it relates to Defendant Hy-Vee, Inc. Defendant denies the allegations of paragraph 7 for all other purposes and with respect to all other Defendants.
- 8. Defendant admits the allegations of paragraph 8 as it relates to Defendant Hy-Vee, Inc. Defendant denies the allegations of paragraph 8 for all other purposes and with respect to all other Defendants.

WHEREFORE, Accident Fund General Insurance Company, on behalf of Defendant, Eastern Nebraska Human Services Agency, respectfully prays that damages be awarded in a fair and reasonable amount to satisfy its workers' compensation subrogation lien pursuant to Nebraska Revised Statute Section 48-118 *et seq.*, and for further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

Robert M. Livingston #22053 STUART TINLEY LAW FIRM LLP 310 W. Kanesville Blvd., 2nd Floor P. O. Box 398

Council Bluffs, Iowa 51502 Telephone: 712.322.4033 Facsimile: 712.322.6243

Email: <a href="mailto:livingston.robert@stuarttinley.com">livingston.robert@stuarttinley.com</a>

ATTORNEYS FOR ACCIDENT FUND GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY ON BEHALF OF AND FOR DEFENDANT EASTERN NEBRASKA HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that on JULY 25, 2017, the above and foregoing ANSWER TO COMPLAINT was electronically filed with the Clerk of District Court of Douglas County, Nebraska using the ECF system, service being made by ECF upon the following:

James R. Welsh Christopher P. Welsh 9290 West Dodge Road 204 The Mark Omaha, NE 68114

## ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFFS

David Woodke Woodke & Gibbons, P.C., L.L.O. 619 N. 90<sup>th</sup> Street Omaha, NE 68114

ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT HY-VEE, INC.

Robert M. Livingston

# Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that on Tuesday, July 25, 2017 I provided a true and correct copy of the Answer to the following:

Eastern Nebraska Human Services service method: No Service

Coston, Dana, J represented by Welsh, James, R (Bar Number: 14459) service method: Electronic Service to laurie@welsh-law.com

Coston, Dana, J represented by Welsh, Christopher, (Bar Number: 22279) service method: Electronic Service to laurie@welsh-law.com

HY-VEE, a foreign Corporation represented by Woodke, David, M (Bar Number: 15211) service method: Electronic Service to dwoodke@woglaw.com

Signature: /s/ Robert Livingston (Bar Number: 22053)

Filed in Douglas District Court

\*\*\* EFILED \*\*\*

Case Number: D01Cl170004981
Transaction ID: 0005553566

Filing Date: 07/25/2017 03:41:15 PM CDT

# IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF DOUGLAS COUNTY, NEBRASKA

DANA J. COSTON,

Plaintiff,

vs.

NOTICE OF LIEN

HY-VEE, INC., a foreign corporation,
d/b/a HY-VEE and EASTERN
NEBRASKA HUMAN SERVICES
AGENCY,

Defendants.

COMES NOW the undersigned, Robert M. Livingston, attorney of record for Accident Fund General Insurance Company, on behalf of and for Defendant, Eastern Nebraska Human Services Agency, and hereby places all the parties herein on formal notice of a workers' compensation subrogation lien regarding the above captioned matter, pursuant to Nebraska Revised Statute Section 48-118 *et seq*.

- 1. Plaintiff, Dana J. Coston has received, and continues to receive, workers' compensation benefits arising out of the alleged injuries she claims to have sustained on or about February 23, 2015.
- 2. Those injuries form the basis for this cause of action.
- 3. That as of July 25, 2017, Plaintiff has received a total of \$3,583.37 in medical benefits.
- 4. Accident Fund General Insurance Company, on behalf of and for Defendant,

  Eastern Nebraska Human Services Agency, hereby claims a lien on the claim and
  any recovery or judgment therein.

Dated JULY 25, 2017.

Robert M. Livingston #22053 STUART TINLEY LAW FIRM LLP 310 W. Kanesville Blvd., 2nd Floor P. O. Box 398

Council Bluffs, Iowa 51502 Telephone: 712.322.4033 Facsimile: 712.322.6243

Email: <a href="mailto:livingston.robert@stuarttinley.com">livingston.robert@stuarttinley.com</a>

ATTORNEYS FOR ACCIDENT FUND GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY ON BEHALF OF AND FOR DEFENDANT EASTERN NEBRASKA HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that on JULY 25, 2017, the above and foregoing NOTICE OF LIEN was electronically filed with the Clerk of District Court of Douglas County, Nebraska using the ECF system, service being made by ECF upon the following:

James R. Welsh Christopher P. Welsh 9290 West Dodge Road 204 The Mark Omaha, NE 68114

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFFS

David Woodke Woodke & Gibbons, P.C., L.L.O. 619 N. 90<sup>th</sup> Street Omaha, NE 68114

ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT HY-VEE, INC.

Robert M. Livingston

# Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that on Tuesday, July 25, 2017 I provided a true and correct copy of the Notice-Lien to the following:

Coston, Dana, J represented by Welsh, Christopher, (Bar Number: 22279) service method: Electronic Service to laurie@welsh-law.com

Eastern Nebraska Human Services service method: No Service

Coston, Dana, J represented by Welsh, James, R (Bar Number: 14459) service method: Electronic Service to laurie@welsh-law.com

HY-VEE, a foreign Corporation represented by Woodke, David, M (Bar Number: 15211) service method: Electronic Service to dwoodke@woglaw.com

Signature: /s/ Robert Livingston (Bar Number: 22053)