

To whom it may concern:

August, 20th, 2020

My name is Peter C Ronca, and I currently live at [REDACTED]

On the morning of Wednesday, July 22, 2020, I was riding my bike south on Main Street from my condo to Canalside. Given the road construction between Exchange Street and Marine Drive (**Page 1 & 2**), I had to transition from the road to the sidewalk. At around 6:35 am, as I was passing the "Erie Canal Harbor Station" (**Page 3**), the front wheel of my bike suddenly dropped about 10 inches, and my bike made an abrupt stop, sending me headfirst over my handlebars.

Within seconds of the accident, several people came to my aid and called for an ambulance. At around 6:45 am, the firemen from Engine 1 arrived and put a neck brace on me. Shortly after that, an AMR ambulance arrived, and they put me on a stretcher. Not knowing at that time what had just happened, I recall hearing the ambulance driver say; "Somebody should fix that" as he looked to the ground while they moved me to the ambulance.

At about 7:15 am, I arrived at the ECMC Emergency Room. Since I had no idea of what injuries I sustained, I took a picture of myself – (**Page 4**). As a result of the accident, I experienced the following injuries:

Puncture wound on my upper lip just below my nose – This was caused by the mouth guard that I was wearing, which protected my front teeth as my face hit the ground. The puncture wound required seven stitches – two inside my mouth and five on my upper lip.

Cut at the bridge of my nose – When my head/helmet hit the ground, I received a cut above the bridge of my nose, where I cracked the inside shell of my helmet.

Both wrists and hands were sprained – This occurred when I tried to break my fall as I hit the ground.

Brush burns – I received brush burns on both knees, left shoulder, left chest, and arms. (**Page 5**)

My treatment at ECMC included:

- Several MRIs/CT scans of my head, neck, spine, and chest
- X-rays of both hands and wrists
- Seven stitches in my upper lip

Around 11:15 am, after all my tests came back with no brain injury or broken bones, I was released.

Since the accident, I have returned several times to the same location to understand better how the accident occurred. I have attached several pictures to help explain what happened:

Page 6 – Shows both the Southbound and Northbound view of Main Street and the construction between Exchange Street and Marine Drive. This will show the only path I could take while riding South on Main Street.

Page 7 – Shows the faulty grid with the sizeable gap that caused the front wheel of my bike to drop 10 inches. This grid is located about 3 feet from the exit ramp of the Erie Canal Harbor Station and about 7 feet from the retaining wall as you pass the Marriott on the lefthand side.

Page 8 & 9 – Shows the width of the gap measuring over 1 ½ inch and the dept of the grid that is well over two feet.

Page 10- Shows how my bike became stuck in the large gap, causing it to stop abruptly.

Page 11 – Shows what a typical grid looks like on Main Street along with the measurements well under 1 inch.

Page 12 – Shows how a properly space grid would allow a bike wheel to ride over it without the front wheel getting stuck.

Because of this accident, I anticipate my out of pocket expenses to be rather substantial because of my high deductible insurance and damage to my personal property :

Injury-related - Costs:

The ambulance ride to ECMC - \$1,954.17 – Health Insurance out of pocket \$519.30 (**Attachment “A”**)

Care at Emergency Room – On Thursday, August 6, 2020, I contacted ECMC and received an explanation of my expenses of just over \$9,000 before any health care adjustments. (**Attachment “B”**)

Dental Xrays and new retainer - \$311 –Letter from Dr. Kazmierczak (**Attachment “C”**)

Removal of Stitches – At Well Now \$75.00, -(**Attachment “D”**)

Misc Supplies – Ice Bag, Neosporin Ointment, gauze sponge, (2) wrist bands \$87.18 (**Attachment “D”**)

Personal Property damaged:

Apple Watch 3 - \$302.33 – **Page 13** and the receipt on (**Attachment “E”**)

Helmet - \$65 – **Page 13** – and the receipt on (**Attachment “E”**)

Riding Shirt - \$20 – **Page 13**

Ray-Ban Sun Glasses – \$150- **Page 14**

Apple iPhone 8+ List Price \$499.99 – **Page 14**

It appears to me that this defect grid next to the - Erie Canal Harbor Station, which was caused by neglect of the “surface grade” from either the NFTA/City of Buffalo/ECWA/Buffalo Sewer Authority. Physically, I was bumped and bruised and expect to make a full recovery because I was wearing a helmet, riding gloves, and mouth retainer. Because of the circumstances, it's clear to me that at no fault of my own, someone should be responsible. At this time, I would like to speak with the parties responsible for reimbursement of my out of pocket expenses.

I truly believe this is a life-threatening defect that must be fixed immediately so that no one else could suffer an event like mine with a much worse outcome.

Sincerely,

Peter C Ronca





Independent Health Association, Inc.
511 Farber Lakes Drive
Buffalo, NY 14221

Attachment "A"

202008100120



ENV 12231 1 OF 2 F

Electronic Service Requested

12231 0.5738 AB 0.416 ALL FOR AADC 140
PETER C RONCA 42
600 MAIN ST UNIT 904
BUFFALO, NY 14202-1972

If you have any questions, please call Independent Health at (716) 631-8701 or (800) 501-3439 or visit us online at www.independenthealth.com

Statement Date: 08/14/20

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CONFIDENTIAL



EXPLANATION OF BENEFITS - THIS IS NOT A BILL

Please retain this copy for your records and tax purposes

Name: PETER C RONCA		Group Name: DataSure24		Group #: 4001200000						
Member ID#: XXXXXXXXXX		Provider: Lasalle Ambulance Inc		Claim #: XXXXXXXXXX						
Dates of Service	Service Description	Total Charges	Rate	Deductible	Copay/Coins	Not Covered	COB Adj. Amt.	Provider Liability	Remark Code(s)	Plan Pays
07/22/20	Ambulance service	1814.32	1814.32	494.30	25.00	0.00		0.00	B007 26 25	1295.02
07/22/20	Ambulance service	143.10	143.10	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	B007	143.10
Claim Totals:		1957.42		494.30	25.00	0.00				
Total Member Responsibility:										519.30
Total Plan Payment:										1438.12
Interest:										0.00

Remark Code Description:

- 25 Deductible Amount
- 26 Co-payment Amount
- B007 Paid at Usual, Customary and Reasonable rate. You are responsible for the not covered amount when the provider balance bills



ERIE COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER CORPORATION

Attachment B

Patient: RONCA, PETER

[Redacted]

Location: EMERGENCY ROOM

Physician: MONACO, BRIAN A MD

Date: 07/22/20

Patient Visit Information

You were seen today for:

- Facial laceration
- Bicycle accident
- Abrasion of knee, bilateral
- Abrasion of left shoulder



Staff

Your caregivers today were:

- Physician
- Practitioner
- Nurse



Patient Instructions Reviewed

Laceration

received 07/22/20 - 1114

ED Discharge Instructions

You have received emergency treatment at ECMC. Follow the instructions carefully. **If your condition worsens, or you develop new symptoms, call your follow-up provider for advice.** Call 911 if you are experiencing a medical emergency, otherwise follow up as instructed.

RETURN TO THE ECMC EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT IF YOU HAVE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SYMPTOMS:

Return to ER for any new or concerning symptoms such as difficulty breathing, inability to swallow, worsening redness/drainage from your wounds, high fever.

FOLLOW UP WITH:

Your primary provider As needed

Attachment "c"

KAZMIERCZAK AND NOWAK, D.D.S., P.C.
MICHAEL D. KAZMIERCZAK, D.D.S.
MARTIN J. NOWAK, D.D.S.

800 DELAWARE ROAD
KENMORE, NEW YORK 14223-1236
(716) 877-5566

August 6, 2020

Re: Peter Ronca

I saw the above named patient on day Thursday 7/23/2020 following a bicycle mishap. On Wednesday 7/22/2020 Peter presented to my office with a lacerated upper lip with stitches placed on 7/22/2020 at a local hospital.

We did a panorex x-ray and 2 periapical films on his upper front teeth to evaluate any injuries to this area of his mouth and to his teeth.

Also, his orthodontic retainers which he was wearing at the time of the bicycle accident were damaged beyond repair.

The charges for the two visits:

7/23/20		
D0330 Panorex	\$85	
D0220 Periapical	\$28	
D0230 Periapical x-ray	\$23	
8/6/20		
D8680 Upper Retainer	\$87.50	
<u>D8680 Upper Retainer</u>	<u>\$87.50</u>	
Total	\$311.00	

Sincerely,



Michael D. Kazmierczak D.D.S.

Attachment "D"



With us, it's personal.

Store #90565
452 MAIN STREET
BUFFALO, NY 14202
(716) 854-3387

Register #5 Transaction #1142193
Cashier #3559097 7/22/20 2:43PM

1	FX ADV COMP	1	24.99	T
1	RA GAUZE SPONGE 4IN 50CT		7.79	
1	RA ICE BAG CLOTH SMALL 10		12.99	
1	ACE REVERSIBLE SPLINT WRI		24.99	
1	NEOSPORIN OINTMENT 1Z		9.49	H
1	NEOSPORIN OINTMENT 1Z		4.74	
	SALE 1/4.74, Reg 1/9.49			

6

Cash Change \$.00



WELLNOW URG CARE

5136

1751 SHERIDAN DRIVE
TONAWANDA, NY 14223

3154546000

<http://www.wellnow.com>

Cashier: Tonawanda O.

Transaction 008146

\$75.00

\$75.00

<https://clowr.com/privacy>