

**554.04 FEES AND DAMAGES.**

Subdivision 1. **Attorney fees and costs.** The court shall award a moving party who prevails in a motion under this chapter reasonable attorney fees and costs associated with the bringing of the motion.

Subd. 2. **Damages.** (a) A moving party may petition the court for damages under this section in conjunction with a motion under this chapter.

(b) If a motion under this chapter is granted and the moving party demonstrates that the respondent brought the cause of action in the underlying lawsuit for the purpose of harassment, to inhibit the moving party's public participation, to interfere with the moving party's exercise of protected constitutional rights, or otherwise wrongfully injure the moving party, the court shall award the moving party actual damages. The court may award the moving party punitive damages under section 549.20. A motion to amend the pleadings under section 549.191 is not required under this section, but the claim for punitive damages must meet all other requirements of section 549.191.

**History:** 1994 c 566 s 4; 1995 c 186 s 98