



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

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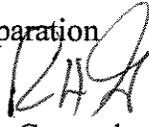
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June 29, 2016

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TO: LORI GLASGOW
Executive Officer
Board of Supervisors

Attention: Agenda Preparation

FROM: ROGER H. GRANBO 
Senior Assistant County Counsel
Executive Office

RE: **Item for the Board of Supervisors' Agenda**
County Claims Board Recommendation
Ricardo Gonzalez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. PC 053 422

Attached is the Agenda entry for the Los Angeles County Claims Board's recommendation regarding the above-referenced matter. Also attached are the Case Summary and Summary Corrective Action Plan to be made available to the public.

It is requested that this recommendation, the Case Summary, and Summary Corrective Action Plan be placed on the Board of Supervisors' agenda.

RHG:scr

Attachments

Board Agenda

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

Los Angeles County Claims Board's recommendation: Authorize settlement of the matter entitled Ricardo Gonzalez v. County of Los Angeles, et al., Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. PC 053 422 in the amount of \$130,000 and instruct the Auditor-Controller to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the Department of Parks and Recreation's budget.

This lawsuit seeks compensation for alleged injuries sustained in a vehicle accident involving an employee from the Department of Parks and Recreation while in the course and scope of his employment.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Ricardo Gonzalez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	PC 053422
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	July 25, 2012
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Parks and Recreation
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 130,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Frank Canter, Esq.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Brian T. Chu Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>On August 15, 2011, an employee of the County of Los Angeles, Department of Parks and Recreation, driving a County-owned work truck while in the course and scope of his employment, rear-ended a Ford F450 at the signalized intersection of Newhall Boulevard and Lyons Avenue. Ricardo Gonzalez was a rear-seated passenger in the Ford F450 and received injuries.</p> <p>Due to the inherent risks and uncertainties involved in a trial, and the potential liability and potential exposure to an adverse verdict, the County proceeded with settlement negotiations and eventually developed this recommended settlement.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 204,509
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 75,929

Case Name: Ricardo Gonzalez v. County of Los Angeles



Summary Corrective Action Plan

The intent of this form is to assist departments in writing a corrective action plan summary for attachment to the settlement documents developed for the Board of Supervisors and/or the County of Los Angeles Claims Board. The summary should be a specific overview of the claims/lawsuits' identified root causes and corrective actions (status, time frame, and responsible party). This summary does not replace the Corrective Action Plan form. If there is a question related to confidentiality, please consult County Counsel.

Date of incident/event:	August 15, 2011
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	On August 15, 2011 at 6:30 A.M. Plaintiff was a rear passenger in his employer's vehicle, a Ford F450 when they were involved in a rear end accident with a County employee.

1. Briefly describe the root cause(s) of the claim/lawsuit:

A Sheriff's deputy investigated the collision and concluded that the County driver violated VC 21703 (following too closely) and was the primary cause of the accident for failing to drive at a reasonable speed and maintaining a safe distance.

2. Briefly describe recommended corrective actions:
(Include each corrective action, due date, responsible party, and any disciplinary actions if appropriate)

As a result of this accident, the following actions were taken:

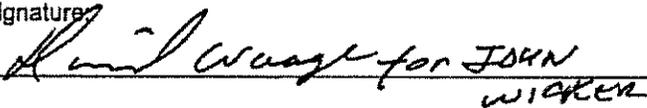
- On January 18, 2014, appropriate administrative action was imposed on to the employee.
- On July 16, 2014, employee completed an adaptive defensive driver training online.
- On August 25, 2014, employee completed a Road Evaluation Test conducted by Trukspect, Inc.

3. Are the corrective actions addressing department-wide system issues?

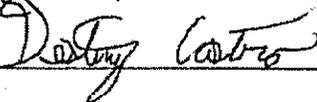
- Yes – The corrective actions address department-wide system issues.
 No – The corrective actions are only applicable to the affected parties.

County of Los Angeles
Summary Corrective Action Plan

Name: (Risk Management Coordinator) Anush Gambaryan DONALD LIMBRICK For Anush Gambaryan	
Signature: 	Date: 6-8-16

Name: (Department Head) John Wicker	
Signature:  for JOHN WICKER	Date: 6/9/16

Chief Executive Office Risk Management Inspector General USE ONLY
Are the corrective actions applicable to other departments within the County?
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, the corrective actions potentially have County-wide applicability.
<input type="checkbox"/> No, the corrective actions are applicable only to this department.

Name: (Risk Management Inspector General) Destiny Castro	
Signature: 	Date: 5/25/2016