

STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD
HELD VIA ONLINE CONFERENCE CALL
ON MONDAY, AUGUST 16, 2021, AT 9:30 A.M.

Present: Chair Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Adrienne Byers.

1. **Call to Order.**
2. **Opportunity for members of the public to address the Claims Board on items of interest within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Claims Board.**

No members of the public were on the public teleconference line to address the Claims Board or to listen to the reportable actions of the Claims Board.

3. **Closed Session – Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Subdivision [a] of Government Code section 54956.9).**

- a. **Grace Community Church of the Valley, et al. v. Gavin Newsom, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20BBCV00497**

**County of Los Angeles, et al. v. Grace Community Church of the Valley, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV30695**

These consolidated lawsuits relate to the Health Officer Orders issued by the Department of Public Health.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$4000,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Adrienne Byers

[See Supporting Document](#)

- b. **Yvonne Dominguez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV35602**

This lawsuit arises from injuries plaintiff allegedly sustained in an automobile accident involving a deputy with the Sheriff's Department.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$40,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Adrienne Byers

[See Supporting Document](#)

c. **Victor White v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
United States District Court Case No. 2:20-cv-04071

This federal civil rights lawsuit alleges plaintiff was wrongfully arrested and incarcerated by Sheriff's Department deputies.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$125,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Adrienne Byers

[See Supporting Document](#)

d. **Non-Litigated Matter of Eleni Pappas**

This matter concerns allegations that a Fire Department employee was subjected to gender discrimination.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$57,400.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Adrienne Byers

4. Report of actions taken in Closed Session.

The Claims Board reconvened in open session and reported the actions taken in Closed Session as indicated under Agenda Item No. 3 above.

5. Approval of the Minutes of the August 2, 2021, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Adrienne Byers

[See Supporting Document](#)

6. Items not on the posted agenda, to be referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a further meeting of the Board, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take immediate action came to the attention of the Board subsequent to the posting of the agenda.

No such matters were discussed.

7. Adjournment.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Grace Community Church of the Valley, et al. v. Gavin Newsom, et al. LASC Case No. 20BBCV00497 (consol. with County of Los Angeles, et al. v. Grace Community Church of the Valley, et al. LASC Case No. 20STCV30695)
CASE NUMBER	20BBCV00497
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	August 13, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Public Health
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 400,000 (The State as co-defendant is paying an additional \$400,000)
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Charles S. LiMandri, Esq. LiMandri & Jonna, LLP
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Jason H. Tokoro, Esq. Miller Barondess, LLP
NATURE OF CASE	Grace Community Church of the Valley alleges State and United States constitutional violations related to COVID-19 infection control measures, including capacity limits on indoor services, the requirement to practice social distancing and masking, and the prohibition on chanting and singing. Grace Community Church of the Valley seeks a court order to prevent enforcement of "Coronavirus Pandemic" regulations.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ \$938,096
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ \$13,831

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Yvonne Dominguez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	19STCV35602
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	10/4/2019
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 40,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Benjamin Berkley, Esq. Carpenter, Zuckerman & Rowley
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Yuan Chang, Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This case arises from an automobile accident which occurred on October 6, 2018, on the Interstate 605, in the City of Santa Fe Springs. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is recommended.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 42,210
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 13,548

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Victor White v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	2:20-cv-04071
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	June 19, 2019
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ \$125,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Thomas C. Hurrell of Hurrell & Cantrall LLP.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Tyson B. Nelson, Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a recommendation to settle for \$125,000, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, a federal civil rights lawsuit filed by Victor White alleging he was arrested and incarcerated for three days based on a Sheriff's deputies error when running the serial number on Mr. White's gun.</p> <p>Given the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a reasonable settlement at this time will avoid further litigation costs. The full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$125,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 15,633
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 0

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

AUGUST 2, 2021

1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the County of Los Angeles Claims Board was called to order at 9:37 a.m. The meeting was held via teleconference with all Claims Board Members participating telephonically. Claims Board Members online for the teleconference meeting were: Chair Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Adrienne Byers.

All other persons also appeared telephonically. Those attending the meeting were: Office of the County Counsel: Richard Kudo, Mark Lomax, Kelly Hassel, Jasmine Bath, Pirjo Ranasinghe, Eduardo Montelongo, and Camille Granville; Department of Public Works: Michael Hays, and Ronald Castaneda; Department of Health Services: Rowena Roxas, and Karen Nunn; Sheriff's Department: Joel Barnett; Department of Children and Family Services: Armand Montiel, and Cestre Balderamos; Human Resources Department: Lisa Garrett, and Dr. Sepideh Souris; and Outside Counsel: Thomas Hurrell, Jennifer Gysler, and Geoffrey Sheldon.

2. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Claims Board on items of interest within the subject-matter jurisdiction of the Claims Board.

No members of the public were on the public teleconference phone line to address the Claims Board.

3. Closed Session – Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Subdivision [a] of Government Code section 54956.9).

At 9:38 a.m., the Chair convened the meeting into closed session to discuss the items listed as 4(a) through 4(g).

4. Report of actions taken in Closed Session.

No members of the public were on the public teleconference phone line to hear the reportable actions of the Claims Board.

At 11:59 a.m., the Claims Board reconvened in open session via the public teleconference phone line and reported the actions taken in closed session as follows:

**a. Georgia F. Law v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV37498**

This dangerous condition lawsuit arises from injuries allegedly sustained in an alleged trip and fall accident on a street maintained by the Department of Public Works.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$25,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Adrienne Byers

b. **Korrie O'Neal v. Jessica Martinez, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV26201

This lawsuit arises from injuries plaintiff allegedly sustained in an automobile accident involving an employee of the Department of Children and Family Services.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$26,640.02.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Adrienne Byers

c. **Long Beach Memorial Medical Center, et al. v. Los Angeles County Department of Health Services**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV04018

This lawsuit against the Department of Health Services alleges breach of contract arising out health care services provided by plaintiff.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$45,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Adrienne Byers

d. **Memorial Health Services v. Los Angeles County Department of Health Services**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20LBCV00261

This lawsuit against the Department of Health Services alleges breach of contract arising out of health care services provided by plaintiff.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$50,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Adrienne Byers

e. **Nathan Booker v. County of Los Angeles**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV02257

This lawsuit concerns allegations that a Department of Health Services employee was subjected to harassment, discrimination and retaliation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$175,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Steve Robles and Arlene Barrera
Abstention: 1 – Adrienne Byers

f. **Michael Rathbun, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC526951

This lawsuit concerns allegations that a Sheriff's deputy was subjected to retaliation by the Sheriff's Department.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$400,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Adrienne Byers

g. **Danessa Valentine v. County of Los Angeles**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC602184

This lawsuit concerns allegations that the Department of Children and Family Services subjected two applicants for employment to discrimination, violation of privacy, and unlawful medical inquiries.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$1,250,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Arlene Barrera and Adrienne Byers
Abstention: 1 – Steve Robles

5. **Approval of the Minutes of the July 19, 2021, regular meeting of the Claims Board.**

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Adrienne Byers

6. **Items not on the posted agenda, to be referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a further meeting of the Board, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take immediate action came to the attention of the Board subsequent to the posting of the agenda.**

No such matters were discussed.

7. **Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

By 
Derek Stane