

STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOS ANGELES
CONTRACT CITIES LIABILITY TRUST FUND CLAIMS BOARD
HELD VIA-TELECONFERENCE
ON
WEDNESDAY, May 13, 2020, AT 11:00 AM

Members Present: Mark Waronek, James Bozajian, Reva Feldman, Lindsey Horvath, Margaret Finlay, Mark Alexander, Patrick Kearney, Ken Striplin, Marcel Rodarte, Jennifer Vasquez.

Alternates Present: *Kevin Chun, Steven Hofbauer, John Moreno, Rob Wishner, Gustavo Camacho, Bryan Cook, Michael Davitt, Jose Gonzalez.*

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

No members of the public addressed the Claims Board.

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

- a Estate of Sean West v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:18-CV-05098

This lawsuit concerns allegations of wrongful death and federal civil rights violations by Sheriff's Deputies.

Action Taken:

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisor the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$400,000.

Vote: Ayes: 10 - Mark Waronek, Marcel Rodarte, Mark Alexander, James Bozajian, Reva Feldman, Margaret Finlay, Patrick Kearney, Linsey Horvath, Jennifer Vasquez, Ken Striplin.

Absent: Ernie Hernandez

[See Supporting Document](#)

- b. Juan Ubaldo Pena-Sanchez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC699805
Alliance United Insurance Co. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV04367

This lawsuit concerns allegations of an automobile accident involving a Sheriff's Deputy.

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$50,000.

Vote: Ayes: 10 - Mark Waronek, Marcel Rodarte, Mark Alexander, James Bozajian, Reva Feldman, Margaret Finlay, Patrick Kearney, Linsey Horvath, Jennifer Vasquez, Ken Striplin.

Absent: Ernie Hernandez

[See Supporting Document](#)

4. Closed Session – Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Government Code Section 54956.9).

- a. Garden, Mark Julian v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:19-CV-01529

This lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations, wrongful detention, malicious prosecution and excessive force by a Sheriff's Deputies.

Action Taken:

No reportable action taken

- b. Lockett, Sheldon, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:18-CV-05838

This lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations, excessive force, false arrest, false imprisonment, and unreasonable search and seizure by Sheriff's Deputies.

Action Taken:

No reportable action taken

- c. Sanchez, Juan, et al. v. County of Los Angeles; California et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC MC028233

This lawsuit concerns allegations of injuries and property damage received in an automobile accident involving a Sheriff's Deputy.

Action Taken:

No reportable action taken

- d. Taylor, Stafford By Davies, Grace, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 18-CV-09259 AB (SSx)

This lawsuit concerns allegation of civil rights violations by Sheriff's Deputies.

Action Taken:

No reportable action taken

5. Report of actions taken in Closed Session.

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board reconvened in open session and reported the actions taken in closed session as indicated under Agenda Items No. 3 and No. 4 above.

6. Approval of the minutes of the March 11, 2020 meeting of the Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board.

Action Taken:

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board approved the minutes.

Vote: Ayes: 10 - Mark Waronek, Marcel Rodarte, Mark Alexander, James Bozajian, Reva Feldman, Margaret Finlay, Patrick Kearney, Linsey Horvath, Jennifer Vasquez, Ken Striplin.

Absent: Ernie Hernandez

[See Supporting Document](#)

7. 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 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.

8. Other Business.

None

9. Adjournment.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Estate of Sean West, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	2:18-CV-05098
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	June 8, 2018
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 400,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Jorge Gonzalez, Esq.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Richard Hsueh, Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a recommendation to settle for \$400,000, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, this federal civil rights and wrongful death lawsuit filed by decedent Sean West's parents, Tim and Monique West, and his two children, Jesse Vella and I.W., a minor by and through his Guardian ad Litem ("Plaintiffs"), against the County and four Sheriff's Department ("LASD") Deputies. Mr. West died from acute methamphetamine intoxication after he was arrested for possession of methamphetamine during a traffic stop. Plaintiffs claim the Deputies were negligent and deliberately indifferent in not calling for medical help quickly enough after they suspected Mr. West had ingested methamphetamine.</p> <p>Given the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a reasonable settlement at this time will avoid further litigation costs. Therefore, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$400,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 83,048
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 16,600

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Juan Ubaldo Pena-Sanchez v. County of Los Angeles, et al. Alliance United Insurance Co. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	BC699805 19STCV04367
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	March 27, 2018 February 19, 2019
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department - Lakewood Station
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 50,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Kenneth L. Synder, Esq. Law Offices of Kenneth L. Synder Robert A. Ring, Esq. Ring & Green, APC
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Jonathan McCaverty Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This case involves a vehicle collision that occurred on April 21, 2017, in the City of Paramount when a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department vehicle collided with Plaintiff Pena-Sanchez after entering an intersection on a red light.</p> <p>Plaintiff Pena-Sanchez claim's to have suffered injuries and damages from the accident. Plaintiff Alliance is seeking subrogation to recover money it paid for the damaged vehicle of it's insured. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 89,416
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 5,443

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CONTRACT CITIES LIABILITY TRUST FUND
CLAIMS BOARD**

MINUTES OF MEETING

March 11, 2020

1. Call to Order

This meeting of the County of Los Angeles Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board was called to order by Margaret Finlay at 11:11 a.m. The meeting was held in the City of Monterey Park, Luminarias Restaurant, Posada Ballroom, 3500 Ramona Boulevard, Monterey Park, California 91754.

Present at the meeting were **Claims Board Members:** Mark Waronek, Chair; James Bozajian, North Division; Reva Feldman, At-Large; Ernie Hernandez, South Division; Margaret Finlay, East Division; Mark Alexander, East Division; Curtis Morris, At-Large; Patrick Kearney, Central Division; Ken Striplin, North Division; Jennifer Vasquez, Central Division; Marcel Rodarte, At-Large; **Alternate:** Steve Hofbauer, North Division; Kevin Chun, Central Division; John Moreno, South Division; Rob Wishner, East Division; **County of Los Angeles Staff:** Adrian Gragas, Assistant County Counsel; Amie Park, Deputy County Counsel; Michael Gordon, Deputy County Counsel; Steve Robles, County of Los Angeles; Bryan Aguilera, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Patrick Jordan, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Tom McNeal, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Eduardo Lopez, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Sergio Escobedo, Scott Johnson, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Maxine Kallenberger, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Greg McNight, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Albert Maldonado, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; John Wolak, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; **Attendees:** Kristen DesCombes, Alliant Insurance Services; Chris Gray, Alliant Insurance Services; **Third Party Administrator for the County of Los Angeles:** Sylvia Hernandez, Claims Manager, Carl Warren & Company; **California JPIA:** Jonathan Shull, Chief Executive Officer; Jim Thyden, Insurance Programs Manager; Veronica Ruiz, Agency Clerk; Lilian Salcedo, Office Assistant.

2. Public Comment

Members of the public were provided the opportunity to address the Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board on items of interest that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Claims Board. No members of the public addressed the Board.

At 11:12 a.m., the Chair adjourned the County of Los Angeles Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board into Closed Session.

**3. Closed Session - Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation
(Subdivision (a) of Government Code Section 54956.9)**

- a. Rene Duarte v. City of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 18AVCV00098

This lawsuit concerns allegations of injuries and property damage received in an automobile accident involving a Sheriff's Deputy.

Action Taken:

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$35,000.

Vote: Ayes: 11 - Mark Waronek, Marcel Rodarte, Mark Alexander, James Bozajian, Reva Feldman, Margaret Finlay, Patrick Kearney, Curtis Morris, Ernie Hernandez, Jennifer Vasquez, Ken Striplin.

**4. Closed Session - Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation
(Subdivision (a) of Government Code Section 54956.9)**

- a. Donna Huff v. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:16-CV-01733

This lawsuit concerns allegations of false arrest and excessive force by Sheriff's Deputies.

Action Taken:

No reportable action taken

- b. Matthew Richardson v. Christopher Quinn Jackson; Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; County of Los Angeles; Does 1 through 20, inclusive.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 669104

This lawsuit concerns allegations of injuries received in an automobile accident involving a Sheriff's Deputy.

Action Taken:

No reportable action taken

5. Report of actions taken in Closed Session.

The meeting was reconvened into public session at 11:35 a.m. No action was taken in Closed Session which required a public report pursuant to Government Code section 54957.1.

6. Approval of the Minutes for February 12, 2020, meeting of the Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board.

Action Taken:

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board approved the minutes.

Vote: Ayes: 11 - Mark Waronek, Marcel Rodarte, Mark Alexander, James Bozajian, Reva Feldman, Margaret Finlay, Patrick Kearney, Curtis Morris, Ernie Hernandez, Jennifer Vasquez, Ken Striplin.

7. Items Not on the Posted Agenda, to be Referred to Staff or Placed on the Agenda for Action at a Further Meeting of the Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board, or Matters Requiring Immediate Action Because of Emergency Situation or Where the Need to Take Immediate Action Came to the Attention of the Board Subsequent to the Posting of the Agenda.

None

8. Other Business

None

9. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:36 a.m.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CONTRACT CITIES LIABILITY
TRUST FUND CLAIMS BOARD



JAHIEL SAUCEDO