



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

CLAIMS BOARD

500 WEST TEMPLE STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2713

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Arlene Barrera
Auditor-Controller
Steve Robles
Chief Executive Office
Adrienne M. Byers
Office of the County Counsel

NOTICE OF MEETING

The County of Los Angeles Claims Board will hold a regular meeting on **Monday, November 1, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.**, via online conference call. Members of the public who would like to listen to the open sessions of the meeting may call (323) 776-6996, then enter ID 802 425 930#, at 9:30 a.m. on November 1, 2021.

Reports of actions taken in Closed Session. The County of Los Angeles Claims Board will report actions taken on any Closed Session Items on Monday, November 1, 2021 at 10:50 a.m. Members of the public who would like to hear reportable actions taken on any Closed Session items may call (323) 776-6996, then enter ID 802 425 930# at 10:40 a.m. on November 1, 2021. Please note that this time is an approximate start time and there may be a short delay before the Closed Session is concluded and the actions can be reported.

TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT:

You may submit written public comments by e-mail to claimsboard@counsel.lacounty.gov or by mail to: Attention: Los Angeles County Claims Board, Executive Office, County Counsel, 500 W. Temple St., Los Angeles, CA, 90012.

Written public comment or documentation must be submitted no later than 4 p.m. on Friday, October 29, 2021. Please include the Agenda item and meeting date in your correspondence. Comments and any other written submissions will become part of the official record of the meeting.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION: Any supporting documents will be posted and can be provided upon request. Please submit requests for supporting documents to claimsboard@counsel.lacounty.gov.

If you would like more information, please contact Derek Stane at dstane@counsel.lacounty.gov.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order.
2. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Claims Board on items of interest that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Claims Board.
3. Closed Session – Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Government Code Section 54956.9).

a. Non-Litigated Claims of Edith Morgan, Sal Casola and Jennifer Conrad

The claimants seek compensation from the Department of Public Works for property damage allegedly caused by a backflow of sewage due to a mainline blockage; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$252,233.19.

[See Supporting Document](#)

b. Non-Litigated Claim of Patrick Lim, et al.

These claims seek compensation from the Department of Public Works for property damage allegedly caused by a backflow of sewage due to a mainline blockage; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$140,354.83.

[See Supporting Document](#)

c. Ashlee Lischke by Stephanie Lischke v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV05385

This lawsuit arises from injuries plaintiff allegedly sustained in an automobile accident involving an employee of the Department of Parks and Recreation; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$60,000.

[See Supporting Document](#)

d. Mark Anthony Brown v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:15-CV-02162

This lawsuit alleges federal civil rights violations while plaintiff was in custody of the Sheriff's Department and was an inmate at the Men's Central Jail; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$1,000,000.

[See Supporting Documents](#)

4. Approval of the minutes of the October 18, 2021, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

[See Supporting Document](#)

5. 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.
6. Adjournment.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Non-litigated Claims of Edith Morgan, Sal Casola and Jennifer Conrad
CASE NUMBER	N/A
COURT	N/A
DATE FILED	N/A
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Public Works
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 252,233.19
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	N/A
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Joseph A. Langton Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This claim arises from a water main rupture that flowed onto the Claimants' properties and damaged their real and personal property. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full settlement of the claim is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 0
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 0

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Non-Litigated Claims of Patrick Lim, Leann Lim, Griselda Vara Hidalgo, Jose Parra, Nancy Cantor, Miguel Cantor, Marisol Hernandez, Salvador Hernandez, and Guadalupe Serrano
CASE NUMBER	N/A
COURT	N/A
DATE FILED	N/A
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Public Works
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 140,354.83
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	N/A
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Jessica Rivas Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This is a recommendation to settle for \$140,354.83, claims brought by Patrick Lim, Leann Lim, Griselda Vara Hidalgo, Jose Parra, Nancy Cantor, Miguel Cantor, Marisol Hernandez, Salvador Hernandez, and Guadalupe Serrano for damages sustained to their property on January 2, 2020. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full settlement of the claim is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 0
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ \$7,227.80

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Ashlee Lischke by Stephanie Lischke v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	20STCV05385
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	July 30, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Parks and Recreation
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 60,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Joyce R. Fujimaki, Esq. Sailer Law Firm, APC
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Kevin Engalien Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This lawsuit arises from a vehicle versus pedestrian accident which occurred on June 11, 2019, at Bonelli Park Swim Beach, when a vehicle operated by an employee of the Department of Parks and Recreation struck Plaintiff. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 4,673
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 51

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Brown, Mark Anthony v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	2:15-CV-02162
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	03/24/2015
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 1,000,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Milton C. Grimes, Esq.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Timothy J. Kral, Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a recommendation to settle for \$1,000,000, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, a federal civil rights lawsuit filed by Mark Anthony Brown for alleged violation of his constitutional rights while an inmate at various Los Angeles County jail facilities. Mr. Brown served as an informant for the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI") in August and September of 2011 when that agency was investigating civil rights abuses by deputies against inmates and other corruption in Los Angeles County jails.</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 \$1,000,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 168,145
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 184

Case Name:	<u>Anthony Brown V. County of Los Angeles</u>
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County of Los Angeles
 Summary Corrective Action Plan



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:	
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2011, Plaintiff Anthony Brown alleges that while he was in custody with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) he was an informant for the FBI. Plaintiff Brown claimed that LASD personnel attempted to hide his whereabouts, while he was in custody, from the FBI. Plaintiff Brown claims this was an attempt to obstruct the FBI's ongoing investigation into the abuses and corruptions in the LASD Jail System.

Case Name:	<u>Anthony Brown V. County of Los Angeles</u>
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County of Los Angeles
Summary Corrective Action Plan

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

The primary Departmental root cause in this incident was the actions performed by Department members that resulted in the obstruction of a Federal investigation of civil rights violations in the jails.
The secondary Departmental root cause in this incident was the failure of Department members to follow applicable laws and policy with regards to inmate movement within and outside of custody facilities.
The third Departmental root cause in this incident was the act of a Department member smuggling a cell phone into custody for an inmate.

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

<p><u>Oversight and Reform</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In an effort to improve the conditions in the jails, the Department entered into several court ordered oversight agreements. As part of these oversight agreements, court appointed monitors work closely with Department executives to ensure all agreed upon provisions are being met by the Department.
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Case Name:	<u>Anthony Brown V. County of Los Angeles</u>
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County of Los Angeles
Summary Corrective Action Plan

Policy and Training

- As a result of this incident Department executives recognized the need to ensure all employees are aware of the County's goal of proper movement of inmates throughout the Los Angeles County Jail System.

Administrative and Legal Action

- As a result of this incident an administrative and criminal investigation was conducted. The deputy involved in smuggling the cell phone was convicted and sentenced to prison and subsequently fired from the department.
- Policy was written and implemented to prohibit the possession of wireless communication devices inside a custody facility.

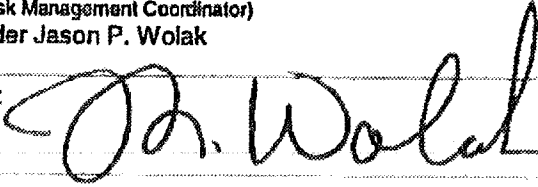
Responsible person: Assistant Sheriff Brendan J. Corbett

Case Name: Anthony Brown V. County of Los Angeles

County of Los Angeles
Summary Corrective Action Plan

Name: (Risk Management Coordinator)
Commander Jason P. Wolak

Signature:

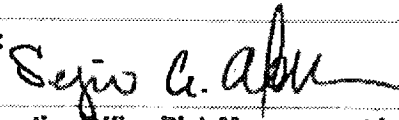


Date:

10-18-21

Name: (Department Head)
Chief Sergio A. Aloma

Signature:



Date:

10/18/21

Chief Executive Office Risk Management Inspector General USE ONLY

Are the corrective actions applicable to other departments within the County?

- Yes, the corrective actions potentially have County-wide applicability.
- No, the corrective actions are applicable only to this department.

Name: (Risk Management Inspector General)
CEO Destiny Castro

Signature:

Date:

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

OCTOBER 18, 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: Joseph Langton, Keever Rhodes Muir, Michael Ervin, Kevin Engelen, and Pirjo Ranasinghe; Department of Public Works: Michael Hays; Sheriff's Department: Melynie Rivers, Shanese Winfrey, Kerry Carter, Chris Cale, Raymond Jones, Rick Mejia, Jose Rios, and Chris Johnson;

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 9:41 a.m., the Chair convened the meeting into closed session to discuss the items listed as 4(a) through 4(d).

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 10:57 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. Non-Litigated Claims of Miriam Khatchatrian

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

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

b. **Jovany Munoz v. County of Los Angeles.**
United States District Court Case No. 2:20-CV-10110-JFW-GJS

This lawsuit alleges Americans with Disabilities Act and California Disabled Persons Act violations against the Sheriff's department and the Department of Public Work's for alleged failure to enforce parking restrictions.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$99,000.

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

c. **Camille Harris v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV12418

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

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$99,000.

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

d. **Carrie Couser v. County of Los Angeles**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV19733

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

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$290,000.

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

5. **Approval of the Minutes of the October 4, 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 11:01 a.m.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

By *Derek Stane*
Derek Stane