

STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD
HELD IN ROOM 648 OF THE KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION,
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

ON

MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 2008, AT 8:00 AM

Present: Maria M. Oms, Rocky Armfield and John Krattli

The following items were presented to the Claims Board for consideration and the Claims Board took actions as indicated in bold.

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 addressed the Claims Board.

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

- a. John Alderson v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 367 781

This lawsuit concerns allegations that the Department of Parks and Recreation wrongfully rescinded an offer of employment.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$250,000 and that the Auditor-Controller be instructed to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the Department of Parks and Recreation's budget.

Absent: None

Vote: Unanimously carried

b. Claim of Daniel Lopez

This claim concerns allegations that the Lennox Sheriff's Station lacked an accessible entry ramp in violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

See Supporting Documents

Action Taken:

This matter was continued for 45 days.

Absent: None

Vote: Unanimously carried

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.

7. Adjournment.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Claim of Daniel Lopez
CASE NUMBER	Claim No.: 07-1054082
COURT	Not Applicable
DATE FILED	Claim filed on July 13, 2007
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department General Fund
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$40,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Mark D. Potter
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Roger H. Granbo
NATURE OF CASE	On May 18, 2007, Daniel Lopez, a wheelchair-bound paraplegic, went to Lennox Sheriff's Station to pick up his impounded car. There were no accessible ramps for Mr. Lopez to use, so a Sheriff's Deputy assisted Mr. Lopez by pulling him and his wheelchair up the front steps. Mr. Lopez fell forward landing on the ground whereupon he was taken to the hospital complaining of

injuries and kept overnight. Mr. Lopez alleges that the Sheriff's Department was in violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Due to the risks, uncertainties and costs of litigation, a full and final settlement of the claim in the amount of \$40,000 is recommended.

PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE

This matter is in the claim stage.

PAID COSTS, TO DATE

None.



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:	<p align="center"><u>Claim of Daniel Lopez (07-1054082)</u></p> <p>May 18, 2007 (Corrective Action Plan #2007-008S)</p>
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	<p>On May 18, 2007, Daniel Lopez, a wheelchair-bound paraplegic, arrived at Lennox Station (Field Operations Region II) to conduct business. Because Lennox Station was not equipped with wheelchair-accessible ramps, a sheriff's deputy assisted Mr. Lopez by pulling him up the front steps.</p>

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

While the sheriff's deputy was assisting Mr. Lopez, he (Mr. Lopez) fell forward and landed on the ground. Mr. Lopez was subsequently transported to a nearby hospital for medical evaluation and treatment.

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

In his claim, Mr. Lopez alleges the County of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department is in violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

An appropriate modification to the sidewalk at Lennox Station has been made. A wheelchair-accessible ramp was constructed from the sidewalk to the front door of the station. In addition, a sign has been prominently posted advising members of the public that station personnel will provide assistance or accommodation(s), if requested.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's investigation of the incident revealed no employee misconduct or malicious intent on the part of Department personnel.

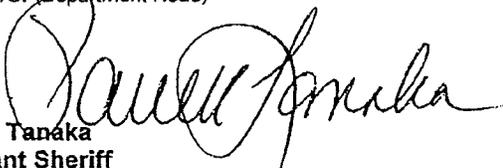
Due to the risks, uncertainties, and costs of litigation, a full and final settlement of this claim is recommended.

All County of Los Angeles facilities should be inspected to ensure compliance with ADA provisions (refer to #3 below).

RECOMMENDED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT: \$40,000

3. State if the corrective actions are applicable to only your department or other County departments:
(If unsure, please contact the Chief Executive Office Risk Management Branch for assistance)

- Potentially has County-wide implications.
- Potentially has implications to other departments (i.e., all human services, all safety departments, or one or more other departments).
- Does not appear to have County-wide or other department implications.

Signature: (Risk Management Coordinator)  David J. Long, Captain Risk Management Bureau	Date: 12-4-07
Signature: (Department Head)  Paul K. Tanaka Assistant Sheriff	Date: 12-21-07