

STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOS ANGELES
CONTRACT CITIES LIABILITY TRUST FUND CLAIMS BOARD
HELD IN THE CITY OF NORWALK, COMMUNITY MEETING CENTER
SPROUL ROOM, 13200 CLARKSDALE AVENUE, NORWALK,
CALIFORNIA 90650

ON

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2017, AT 11:00 AM

Members Present: Curtis Morris, Marcel Rodarte, Doug Prichard, Mark Waronek, Michael Egan, Mark Alexander, and Margaret Finlay

Alternates Present: Lindsey Horvath, Steve Mandoki, David Spence

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. Essam Assaad v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. CV 15-09233

This lawsuit concerns allegations of false arrest by a Sheriff's Deputy.

Action Taken:

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$100,000.

Vote: Ayes: 7 -- Curtis Morris, Mark Alexander, Marcel Rodarte, Margaret Finlay, Doug Prichard, Mark Waronek, and Michael Egan

- b. Susan Berry, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. CV 15-09715

This lawsuit involves allegations of excessive force shooting and wrongful death by a Sheriff's Deputy.

Action Taken:

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$3.3 Million.

Vote: Ayes: 7 -- Curtis Morris, Mark Alexander, Marcel Rodarte, Margaret Finlay, Doug Prichard, Mark Waronek, and Michael Egan

- c. Laurel Forrest v. Deputy Robin Soukup, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. MC 025025

This lawsuit involves excessive force and civil rights violations by Sheriff's Deputies.

Action Taken:

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$36,250.

Vote: Ayes: 7 -- Curtis Morris, Mark Alexander, Marcel Rodarte, Margaret Finlay, Doug Prichard, Mark Waronek, and Michael Egan

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

- a. Corozon Alvir v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 543100

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

Action taken:

No reportable action taken.

- b. Luis Arias v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. CV 15-02170

This lawsuit involves excessive force shooting and civil rights violations by Sheriff's Deputies.

Action taken:

No reportable action taken.

- c. Rosa Linda Bellman v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 545771

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

Action taken:

No reportable action taken.

- d. Rabecca Lynn Braden v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 499223

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

Action taken:

No reportable action taken.

- e. Leeza Nelly De Santiago v. Monty Rankin Buckallew, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 586383

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

Action taken:

No reportable action taken.

- f. Allison Ewart v. Gillian Verner, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 522492

This lawsuit concerns allegations of vehicular negligence by a Sheriff's Deputy.

Action taken:

No reportable action taken.

- g. Louise Olin v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 551857

This lawsuit concerns allegations of vehicular negligence by a Sheriff's Deputy.

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 8, 2017, 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: 7 -- Curtis Morris, Marcel Rodarte, Doug Prichard, Mark Waronek, Michael Egan, Mark Alexander, and Margaret Finlay

[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	Essam Assaad v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	CV 15-09233
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	November 30, 2015
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 100,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Peter Williamson, Esquire Williamson Law Firm
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Diane Reagan Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a recommendation to settle for \$100,000, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, the federal civil rights lawsuit filed by Plaintiff Essam Assaad, alleging he was falsely arrested on December 7, 2013, and denied access to his daughter. The County denies the allegations.</p> <p>Due to the high 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 \$100,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 31,858
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 120

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Susan Berry, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	CV 15-09715
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	October 14, 2015
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 3,300,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Steven F. Carlson, Esquire Randy A. Johnson, Esquire
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Millicent L. Rolon Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a recommendation to settle for \$3,300,000, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, a Sheriff's Department Contract Cities federal civil rights lawsuit filed by decedent John Berry's mother, siblings, and niece, alleging wrongful death, civil rights violations, and various State-law causes of action.</p> <p>The Deputies claim their actions were reasonable under the circumstances.</p> <p>Due to 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 \$3,300,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 101,887
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 8,292

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Laurel Forrest v. Deputy Robin Soukup, et al.
CASE NUMBER	MC 025025
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	11/10/2014
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 36,250
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	John L. Burris, Esq. Law Offices of John L. Burris
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Diane Reagan Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a recommendation to settle for \$36,250, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, the civil rights lawsuit filed by Plaintiff Laurel Forrest, who alleges that a Sheriff's Deputy violated her civil rights by grabbing and detaining her on November 10, 2012.</p> <p>Due to 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 \$36,250 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 43,335
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 6,809

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

MINUTES OF MEETING

March 8, 2017

1. Call to Order

This meeting of the County of Los Angeles Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board was called to order by Curtis Morris at 11:19 a.m. The meeting was held in the Community Meeting Center, Sproul Room, 13200 Clarkdale Avenue, Norwalk, CA 90650.

Present at the meeting were **Claims Board Members:** Curtis Morris, Chair, At-Large; Mark Alexander, East Division; Michael Egan, South Division; Margaret Finlay, East Division; Doug Prichard, At-Large; Mark Waronek, South Division; Marcel Rodarte, California Contract Cities Association; **Alternates:** Reva Feldman, At-Large; Darrell George, East Division; Steve Hofbauer, North Division; Cheri Kelley, South Division; Steve Mandoki, Central Division; David Spence, East Division; **County of Los Angeles Staff:** Jennifer Lehman, Assistant County Counsel; Ruben Baeza, Assistant County Counsel; Chris Deacon, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Dominic Dannan, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Buddy Goldman, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Scott Johnson, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Maxine Kallenberger, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Kevin Percy, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; **Attendees:** James Bozajian, North Division; Jose Pulido, Central Division; Ken Striplin, North Division; Karen Bartak, President, Bedford Falls Insurance; **Third Party Administrator for the County of Los Angeles:** Silvia Hernandez, Claims, Carl Warren & Company; **California JPIA:** Jim Thyden, Insurance Programs Manager; Denise Covell, Office Assistant; Jennifer Fullerton, Administrative Analyst.

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 11:19 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)**

There were no settlement proposals at this meeting.

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

- a. Corozon Alvior v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 543100

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

Action taken:

No reportable action taken.

- b. Leeza Nelly De Santiago v. Monty Rankin Buckallew, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 586383

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

Action Taken:

No reportable action taken.

- c. Gerardo Felix v. Los Angeles County Sheriff, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 560405

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

Action Taken:

No reportable action taken.

- d. William Fetters by Kim Harding v. Los Angeles County Sheriff, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 437875

This lawsuit involves excessive force shooting and civil rights violations by a Sheriff's Deputy.

Action Taken:

No reportable action taken.

- e. Teresita Garcia v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 553204

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

Action Taken:

No reportable action taken.

- f. Bertha Yanez Gonzalez, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Raymundo Garcia Ceja v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 540696

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

Action Taken:

No reportable action taken.

- g. Timothy Paynter, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Lancaster Superior Court Case No. MC 024475

This lawsuit concerns allegations of 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 12:07 p.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 1, 2017, 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: 7 -- Curtis Morris, Marcel Rodarte, Doug Prichard, Mark Waronek, Michael Egan, Mark Alexander, and Margaret Finlay

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 12:07 p.m.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CONTRACT CITIES LIABILITY
TRUST FUND CLAIMS BOARD


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