



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
Roger H. Granbo
Office of the County Counsel

NOTICE OF MEETING

The County of Los Angeles Claims Board will hold a regular meeting on **Monday, November 20, 2017, at 9:30 a.m.**, in the Executive Conference Room, 648 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Los Angeles, California.

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. Stacie Laws v. Fire Department, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 631 586

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained in a vehicle accident involving an employee of the Fire Department; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$29,500.

See Supporting Document
 - b. Eyasu Mekonnen v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
California Department of Fair Employment and Housing Charge No. 856944-27604

This complaint filed with the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing by a former employee of the Department of Health Services alleges discrimination and retaliation; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$60,000.

4. Report of actions taken in Closed Session.
5. Approval of the minutes of the November 6, 2017, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

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 emergency situation or where the need to take immediate action came to the attention of the Board subsequent to the posting of the agenda.
7. Adjournment.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Stacie Laws v. Los Angeles County Fire Department, et al.
CASE NUMBER	BC631586
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	August 25, 2016
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Fire Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 29,500
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Arman Sahakyan
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Richard K. Kudo Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This case involves a vehicle collision that occurred on August 25, 2016, when the Ford F-250 truck driven by a County Fire Department employee rear-ended the Lexus RX-350 sport utility vehicle driven by plaintiff Stacie Laws on southbound Hawthorne Boulevard, just south of Broadway, in the City of Hawthorne. Ms. Laws claims to have suffered injuries and damages from the accident. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 30,322
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 6,343

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

November 6, 2017

1. Call to Order.

This meeting of the County of Los Angeles Claims Board was called to order at 9:31 a.m. The meeting was held in the Executive Conference Room, 648 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Los Angeles, California.

Claims Board Members present at the meeting were: Chair Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo.

Other persons in attendance at the meeting were: Office of the County Counsel: Kelsey Nau, Michael Gordon, Millicent Rolon, Jonathan McCaverty, Adrian Gragas, Craig Hoetger, and Eduardo Montelongo; Department of Public Works: William Winter and Michael Hays; Sheriff's Department: Jason Wolak, April Carter, Pat Nelson, Sergio Aloma, Angela Gonzalez, Kevin Percy, and Dominic Dannan; Department of Children and Family Services: Christina Lee; Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk: Rita Figueroa; Department of Health Services: Karen White; Department of Public Health: Nichole Alcaraz.

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)

At 9:33 a.m., the Chairperson adjourned the meeting into Closed Session to discuss the items listed as 4(a) through 4(i) below.

4. Report of actions taken in Closed Session.

At 10:43 a.m., the Claims Board reconvened in open session and reported the actions taken in Closed Session as follows:

a. Non-Litigated Claim of Sergio Ocampo

This inverse condemnation claim against the Department of Public Works contends that a main line sewer backed into Claimant's business office building.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$30,446.97 (includes prior payment of \$10,000).

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo

b. **Samuel Morales v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. EC 085 265

This dangerous condition lawsuit against the Department of Public Works arises from injuries sustained in a motorcycle versus motorcycle accident.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$80,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo

c. **Sadie Distin, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 520 210

This wrongful death lawsuit alleges federal civil rights violations and negligence arising out of the death of an inmate while incarcerated at Twin Towers Correctional Facility.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$46,500.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo

d. **Altrikii Brown v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
United States District Court Case No. CV 16-01413

This lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations and excessive force when Plaintiff was shot and arrested by a Sheriff's Deputy.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$300,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo

e. **Joseph Giovannetti v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 611 622

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries and damages sustained in a vehicle accident involving an employee from the Department of Children and Family Services.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$49,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo

f. **Vernon McBride v. County of Los Angeles**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 580 633

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee from the Department of Children and Family Services was subjected to disability discrimination and unlawful medical inquiry.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$29,999.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo

g. **Olga Gutierrez v. County of Los Angeles**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. VC 064 684

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee from the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk was subjected to discrimination, harassment, and retaliation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$300,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo

h. **Tami Olenik v. County of Los Angeles**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 600 346

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee from the Department of Health Services was subjected to disability discrimination, harassment based on disability, and that the Department failed to engage in the interactive process.

Action Taken:

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

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo

i. **Stephanie Lewis v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 634 363

This lawsuit concerns allegations that the Department of Health Services and the Department of Public Health denied employment to Plaintiff based on medical disability and that both Departments failed to engage in the interactive process.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$75,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo

5. **Approval of the minutes of the October 16, 2017, regular meeting of the Claims Board.**

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the minutes.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo

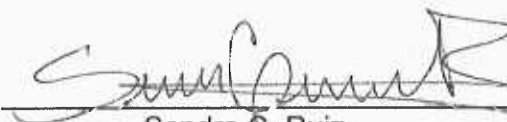
6. **Items not on the posted agenda, to be referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a further meeting of the Board, or matters requiring immediate action because of emergency situation or where the need to take immediate action came to the attention of the Board subsequent to the posting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

No such matters were discussed.

7. **Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD

By 
Sandra C. Ruiz