



ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

76 MAY 7, 2024

County of Los Angeles

May 7, 2024

Dawyn R. Harrison
County Counsel

JEFF LEVINSON
INTERIM EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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Supervisor, Fifth District

TO: JEFF LEVINSON
Interim Executive Officer
Board of Supervisors

Attention: Agenda Preparation

FROM: ADRIENNE M. BYERS
Litigation Cost Manager

RE: **Item for the Board of Supervisors' Agenda**
County Claims Board Recommendation
Edith R. Perez, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV44371



Attached is the Agenda entry for the Los Angeles County Claims Board's recommendation regarding the above-referenced matter. Also attached are the Case Summary and Summary Corrective Action Plan to be made available to the public.

It is requested that this recommendation, Case Summary, and Summary Corrective Action Plan be placed on the Board of Supervisors' agenda.

AMB:lzs

Attachments

Board Agenda

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

Los Angeles County Claims Board's recommendation: Authorize settlement of the matter entitled Edith R. Perez, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al., Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV44371, in the amount of \$175,000, and instruct the Auditor-Controller to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the Department of Health Services' budget.

This lawsuit involves allegations that medical malpractice by Olive View-UCLA Medical Center contributed to the death of Mr. Perez.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Edith Perez, et al. vs. County of Los Angeles
CASE NUMBER	21STCV44371
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	December 6, 2021
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Health Services
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 175,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Gerald L. Marcus Law Offices of Gerald L. Marcus
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Narbeh Bagdasarian Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	On December 2, 2020, Martin De Jesus Perez, a 55-year-old male, was brought to Olive View-UCLA Medical Center. Due to an administrative error, on December 3, 2020, Mr. Perez received an incorrect medication. Mr. Perez's surviving family filed a wrongful death lawsuit against the County of Los Angeles.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 23,473
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 5,723



Summary Corrective Action Plan

The intent of this form is to assist departments in writing a corrective action plan summary for 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:	December 3, 2020
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	On December 2, 2020, M.D.J.P., a 55-year-old male, was brought to Olive View-UCLA Medical Center. Due to an administrative error, on December 3, 2020, Mr. Perez received an incorrect medication.

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

Medication error resulting from the mis-identification of a patient.


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


- All appropriate personnel actions were taken including education and counseling of staff involved
- A new policy was developed related to the components required for patient identification
- The hospital policy related to patient registration in emergent situations was revised
- Education of staff was completed regarding the above policy changes and medical protocols to be utilized in similar situations
- Policies related to identification of patients needing emergent care were updated.
- The Department provides initial and ongoing training for staff related to accurate patient identification.

3. Are the corrective actions addressing department-wide system issues?


- Yes – The corrective actions address department-wide system issues.
 No – The corrective actions are only applicable to the affected parties.

County of Los Angeles
Summary Corrective Action Plan

Name: (Risk Management Coordinator) Arun Patel, MD, JD	
Signature: 	Date: 3/14/24

Name: (Department Head) Christina Ghaly, MD	
Signature: 	Date: 3/14/2024

Chief Executive Office Risk Management Inspector General USE ONLY
Are the corrective actions applicable to other departments within the County?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the corrective actions potentially have County-wide applicability.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No, the corrective actions are applicable only to this department.

Name: (Risk Management Inspector General) Daniela Prowizor	
Signature:  Daniela Prowizor	Date: 3/14/2024

Digitally signed by Daniela Prowizor
Date: 2024.03.14 09:11:01 -07'00'