



County of Los Angeles

October 14, 2025

Dawyn R. Harrison  
County Counsel

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**Board of Supervisors**

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Supervisor, First District


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Supervisor, Second District

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Supervisor, Third District

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Kathryn Barger  
Supervisor, Fifth District

TO: EDWARD YEN  
Executive Officer  
Board of Supervisors

FROM: TIMOTHY J. KRAL   
Assistant County Counsel  
Justice and Safety Division

RE: **Item for the Board of Supervisors' Agenda**  
**County Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund**  
**Claims Board Recommendation**  
**Nava, Rosa, et al. v. County of Los Angeles Sheriff's**  
**Department, et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No.22STCV18914**



Attached is the Agenda entry for the Los Angeles County Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board's recommendation in the above-referenced matter. Also attached is the Case Summary and the Summary Corrective Action Plan for the case.

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

TJK:as

Attachment

Board Agenda

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

**Settlement for Matter Entitled Nava, Rosa, et al. v. County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, et al.** Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV18914.

Los Angeles County Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board's recommendation: Authorized Settlement of the matter entitled **Nava, Rosa, et al. v. County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, et al.** Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV18914 in the amount of \$220,000 and instruct the Auditor-Controller to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the Sheriff's Department Contract Cities Trust Fund's budget.

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

## **CASE SUMMARY**

### **INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION**

CASE NAME	Rosa Nava, et al. vs. County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, et al.
CASE NUMBER	22STCV18914
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	June 9, 2022
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 220,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	RICHARD C. DEANDA, ESQ. Law Offices of Richard C. DeAnda
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	LATASHA N. CORRY, ESQ. Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>On December 3, 2021, Deputy Ledesma crossed double yellow lines to make a U-turn, when Plaintiffs' car collided into Deputy Ledesma's patrol car. Nava claims she sustained severe injuries as a result of the accident.</p> <p>Given the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$220,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 50,400
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 45,554



## 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:	December 3, 2021, approximately 9:15 p.m.
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	<p>Summary Corrective Action Plan 2024-199</p> <p><b>Details in this document summarize the incident. The information provided is a culmination of various sources to provide an abstract of the incident.</b></p> <p>Based on multiple investigative reports, on December 3, 2021, at approximately 9:15 p.m., an on-duty Los Angeles County Sheriff's deputy assigned to patrol at Temple Station, was driving an unmarked Ford, Crown Victoria when he made an unsafe U-turn in front of Plaintiff One, causing a collision.</p> <p>Deputy One was traveling westbound. Deputy One believed he saw a vandalism (tagging) occurring near the northeast corner. Deputy One conducted a U-turn, crossing over the double yellow lines, turning in front of Plaintiff One who was traveling east on Garvey Avenue. Plaintiff One was unable to stop and collided into Deputy One. The Supervisor's Report of Incident or Damage to County Vehicle or Permittee's Vehicle, indicated Deputy One was traveling at approximately five miles per hour when he made the U-turn. The report also indicated Deputy One was at fault for failing to yield to oncoming traffic when making a U-turn.</p> <p>At the time of the incident, Plaintiff Two (son), was also in the vehicle and was seated in the rear passenger seat. As Plaintiff One was driving, she struck the right front bumper area of Deputy One's vehicle at approximately 40 mph. The force of the impact caused the airbag in Plaintiff One's vehicle to deploy, and the vehicle traveled an additional 150-200 feet before coming to a complete stop. Plaintiff One's vehicle sustained moderate damage to the front end. Deputy One immediately exited his vehicle and checked on the welfare of Plaintiff One and Plaintiff Two.</p>

	<p>The Los Angeles County Fire Department responded to the traffic collision and evaluated both plaintiffs. Both plaintiffs were subsequently transported to a hospital for further medical treatment.</p> <p>A Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department sergeant from Temple Station was notified of the traffic collision and responded to the location. The sergeant subsequently conducted an investigation and authored a Supervisor's Report of Incident or Damage to County Vehicle Form.</p> <p>As part of the investigation, Plaintiff One was interviewed. Plaintiff One stated she was traveling eastbound, approaching the next cross street in the number one lane. Plaintiff One said she never saw Deputy One's vehicle cross into her path, and she collided into Deputy One at approximately 40 mph. Plaintiff One complained of pain to her chest area due to the airbag deployment. Plaintiff One added, she did not hear sirens or see the emergency lights of Deputy One's vehicle. Plaintiff One stated Plaintiff Two, was in the rear passenger seat of her vehicle. Plaintiff Two said he did not see when the impact occurred. Plaintiff Two said prior to Plaintiff One's vehicle coming to a stop, he jumped out of the vehicle which caused him to scratch his left knee when he fell to the ground.</p> <p>An uninvolved deputy assigned to Temple Station responded to the location and conducted a traffic collision investigation. His investigation concluded Deputy One was the primary cause of the traffic collision for not yielding to oncoming traffic when making a U-turn, in violation of California Vehicle Code Section – 21801(a).</p>
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1. Briefly describe the **root cause(s)** of the claim/lawsuit:

A **Department** root cause of this incident is Deputy One's failure to yield to oncoming traffic.

A **Department** root cause in this incident was Deputy One's failure to turn safely giving an appropriate signal.

A **Department** root cause in this incident was Deputy One's failure to activate his emergency lights and sirens when crossing double yellow lines into oncoming traffic lanes while make a U-turn.

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

### **Traffic Collision Investigation**

This incident was investigated by a traffic deputy assigned to Temple Station.

The collision investigation concluded Deputy One was the primary cause of the collision by failing to yield to oncoming traffic when making a U-turn, in violation of California Vehicle Code Section 21801(a).

### **Administrative Investigation/Assignment of Administrative Driving Points**

This incident was investigated by representatives of Temple Station to determine if any administrative misconduct occurred before, during, or after this incident. The results of the investigation were presented for Department executive adjudication.

An executive evaluation found the collision was preventable. Appropriate administrative actions were taken. The deputy involved in this incident received additional training pertaining to the circumstances surrounding this incident.

### **Traffic Collision Assessment and Review**

The unit conducted a review and assessment of all traffic collisions for the calendar year 2020 through the end of 2024. The audit revealed the following:

- 107 preventable collisions have occurred during the past five years.
- The most common casual factor was unsafe turning movements.

Based on the results of the audit, Temple Station has implemented traffic collision mitigation efforts, which include increased safety briefings, the use of peer leaders to talk about lessons learned in preventable traffic collisions, the use of visual aids, and having patrol trainees start driving sooner.

### **Sheriff Department Announcement - Department Wide Re-brief**

The purpose of this re-brief is to remind Department personnel that the safety of Department members and the public is paramount when engaged in routine driving and Code 3 responses.

It is essential to maintain heightened officer safety, common sense, and sound tactics to reduce collision-related injuries, deaths, and financial liability to the Department.

### **Department-Wide Broadcast Announcements – Sheriff's Communication Center (SCC)**

In an effort to mitigate preventable Department traffic collisions, Risk Management Bureau has partnered with SCC (Sheriff's Communication Center) to create Department-Wide announcements.

The purpose of this broadcast is to remind Department personnel that the safety of Department members and the public is paramount when engaged in routine driving and Code 3 responses.

The safety message also reminds personnel of their responsibilities when entering intersections and their duties to drive in a safe manner and clear intersections lane by lane.

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

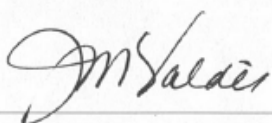
- ☐ Yes – The corrective actions address Department-wide system issues.
- ☒ No – The corrective actions are only applicable to the affected parties.

#### Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Name: (Risk Management Coordinator)

Julia Valdes, A/Captain  
Risk Management Bureau

Signature:



Date:

06/03/2025

Name: (Department Head)

Myron Johnson, Assistant Sheriff  
Patrol Operations

Signature:



Date:

6/5/25

**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: Betty Karmirlian (Risk Management Inspector General)

Signature:

*Betty Karmirlian*

Date:

6/6/2025