



County of Los Angeles

October 21, 2025

Dawyn R. Harrison
County Counsel

Board of Supervisors

Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor, First District

Holly J. Mitchell
Supervisor, Second District

Lindsey P. Horvath
Supervisor, Third District

Janice Hahn
Supervisor, Fourth District

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
Flores, George v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No.23CHCV03852



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 Flores, George v. County of Los Angeles, et al. Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23CHCV03852.

Los Angeles County Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board's recommendation:
Authorized Settlement of the matter entitled **Flores, George v. County of Los Angeles, et al.** Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23CHCV03852 in the amount of \$300,000 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 automobile accident involving a Sheriff's Deputy.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	George Flores vs. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	23CHCV03852
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	December 20, 2023
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 300,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	ANNA OKHOVAT, ESQ. Okhovat Law Firm, APLC
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	KEVIN ENGELIEN Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This is an auto-liability lawsuit which arises from a traffic collision that occurred on May 5, 2023. Plaintiff claims he suffered injuries and damages as a result of the collision. Given the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 14,406
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 3,235



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:	May 5, 2023
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	Summary Corrective Action Plan 2025-205 Details in this document summarize the incident. The information provided is a culmination of various sources to provide an abstract of the incident. Multiple investigative reports indicate, on Saturday, May 5, 2023, at approximately 5:00 p.m., an on-duty Los Angeles County Sheriff Deputy assigned to patrol was involved in a traffic collision. Deputy One was responding to an emergent "person down" call with his emergency lights and siren activated. Deputy One was travelling in the southbound lanes of the highway, as he approached the intersection leading to the on-ramp of the freeway. Deputy One observed the traffic in the southbound lanes blocked his path of travel. In order to pass, he entered the northbound lanes and continued southbound towards the intersection. Deputy One was travelling approximately 72 (M.P.H) as he approached the intersection. Deputy One observed the Plaintiff's vehicle make a left-hand turn from the southbound turn-lane to enter the on-ramp of the freeway. Deputy One applied his brakes but was unable to avoid a collision and struck the Plaintiff 's vehicle at approximately 42 miles per hour. The front of the patrol vehicle collided with the driver's side of the Plaintiff's vehicle. The Plaintiff reported that he was in the left-hand turn lane of the highway. After he began to make the left turn, he heard sirens but did not know which direction they were coming from. He intended to clear the intersection and pull onto the shoulder of the on-ramp to the freeway. However, he felt a heavy impact on the driver's side of his vehicle before he could clear the intersection. The force of the collision caused his vehicle to travel off the roadway and into the ditch along the side of the freeway. The Los Angeles County Fire Department (LAFD) responded and transported the plaintiff to a hospital.

	Deputy One was transported to a local hospital for medical treatment. There was significant front-end damage to both the LASD vehicle and the Plaintiff's vehicle.
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1. Briefly describe the **root cause(s)** of the claim/lawsuit:

A **Department** root cause in this incident was Deputy One traveling southbound in the northbound lanes of the highway at speeds of more than 70 miles per hour.

A **Department** root cause in this incident was Deputy One's failure to clear the intersection lane by lane.

A **non-Contributing** root cause in this incident was Deputy One's failure to utilize the patrol vehicle's factory-installed seatbelt.

A **non-Contributing** root cause in this incident was Deputy One's failure to activate his Body Worn Camera (BWC).

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

Traffic and Administrative Investigations:

Appropriate Administrative actions were taken and Deputy One was assigned additional training due to this incident.

Station Traffic Collision Assessment:

As a result of this collision, a station-wide assessment of employee-involved traffic collisions from January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2024, was conducted.

To improve employee safety and reduce the Department's liability exposure, the station continually schedules personnel to attend the Department's Sheriff Traffic Accident Reduction (S.T.A.R.) driving program.

This program focuses on low-speed parking and starting maneuvers and is held at the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Emergency Vehicle Operations Center.

Additionally, since 2020, the Department requires all patrol personnel to attend an 8-hour Emergency Vehicle Operations Course training every two years.

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.

Department-Wide Broadcast Announcements–Sheriff’s Communication Center (SCC):

In an effort to further mitigate Department traffic collisions, Risk Management has partnered with SCC to create Department-Wide announcements.

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 M. Valdes, Acting Captain Risk Management Bureau	
Signature: 	Date: 1/23/2025

Name: (Department Head)	
Justin R. Diez, Acting Chief North Patrol Division	
Signature: 	Date: 7/30/25

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: 	Date: 8/4/25