



County of Los Angeles

February 3, 2026

Dawyn R. Harrison
County Counsel

Board of Supervisors

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Supervisor, First District

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Supervisor, Third District

Janice Hahn
Supervisor, Fourth District

Kathryn Barger
Supervisor, Fifth District

TO: EDWARD YEN
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
Mercedes Torres, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:22-cv-04250

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

It is requested that this recommendation, and Case Summary, 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 Mercedes Torres, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al., United States District Court Case No. 2:22-cv-04250, in the amount of \$1,450,000, and instruct the Auditor-Controller to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the Sheriff's Department's budget.

This federal civil rights lawsuit seeks compensation for the death of an inmate in the custody of the Sheriff's Department.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Mercedes Torres, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.	
CASE NUMBER	2:22-cv-04250	
COURT	United States District Court	
DATE FILED	June 21, 2022	
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department	
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$	1,450,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	ALEXIS GALINDO Curd, Galindo & Smith	
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	CAROLINE S. CRADDOCK Senior Deputy County Counsel	
NATURE OF CASE	Plaintiffs allege that decedent died on January 27, 2022, as a result of an attack by his cellmates on September 1, 2021. Due to the uncertainties and the risks of litigation, the proposed settlement is recommended.	
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$	399,381
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$	30,460