



County of Los Angeles

February 3, 2026

Dawyn R. Harrison  
County Counsel

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**Board of Supervisors**

Hilda L. Solis  
Supervisor, First District

Holly J. Mitchell  
Supervisor, Second District

Lindsay P. Horvath  
Supervisor, Third District

Janice Hahn  
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Supervisor, Fifth District



The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

RE: **County of Los Angeles Annual Litigation Cost Report  
Fiscal Year 2024-25**

Dear Supervisors:

Enclosed is the County Counsel Annual Litigation Cost Report (Cost Report) for Fiscal Year 2024-25. The Cost Report is a public document and will be posted on the County Counsel website.

Very truly yours,

DAWYN R. HARRISON  
County Counsel

By *A M Byers*  
ADRIENNE M. BYERS  
Litigation Cost Manager

APPROVED AND RELEASED:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dawyn R. Harrison', written over a horizontal line.

DAWYN R. HARRISON  
County Counsel

DRH:AMB:rm

Enclosure



# ANNUAL LITIGATION COST REPORT FY 2024-2025

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# Table of Contents

<b>A. OVERVIEW .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>B. LITIGATION ACTIVITIES .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>C. TOP FIVE DEPARTMENTS .....</b>	<b>27</b>
Sheriff's Department .....	29
Health Services .....	45
Public Works .....	57
Fire .....	65
Public Social Services .....	75





# Overview

Highlights Introduction

Judgments and  
Settlements

Fees and Costs

Expenses by Case Type



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# INTRODUCTION

Annual litigation expenses for FY 24-25 for the County of Los Angeles (County) totaled \$229.3 million, a four percent increase from the \$220.4 million spent in FY 23-24. This rise was primarily due to a 20 percent increase, or \$14.6 million, in Contract Law Firm fees and costs. In addition, Judgments increased by 29 percent, or \$7.1 million.

The \$229.3 million paid in FY 24-25 consists of \$118 million in judgments and settlements, and \$111.3 million in attorneys' fees and costs.

Some litigation expenses incurred by County departments are reimbursed by the Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund or special districts. These reimbursements reduce the net County cost for the department receiving reimbursement.

While this report references such reimbursements, its focus is on total litigation expenses incurred in FY 24-25, and how they compare to prior years. FY 24-25 spans the period from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

## LITIGATION EXPENSES STATEMENT

	FY 24-25	% Change from FY 23-24
Contract Law Firm Fees	\$75,525,478	18%
Contract Law Firm Costs	\$13,744,849	32%
<b>Total Contract Law Firm Fees &amp; Costs</b>	<b>\$89,270,327</b>	<b>20%</b>
County Counsel Fees	\$18,020,372	7%
County Counsel Costs	\$3,973,679	-1%
<b>Total County Counsel Fees &amp; Costs</b>	<b>\$21,994,051</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>TOTAL FEES &amp; COSTS</b>	<b>\$111,264,378</b>	<b>17%</b>
Judgments	\$30,971,954	29%
Settlements	\$87,029,972	-14%
<b>TOTAL JUDGMENTS &amp; SETTLEMENTS</b>	<b>\$118,001,926</b>	<b>-6%</b>
<b>TOTAL ANNUAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$229,266,304</b>	<b>4%</b>

## HIGHLIGHTS

**Total Expenses** — Expenses, consisting of judgments, settlements, attorneys' fees, and costs, increased to \$229.3 million, from \$220.4 million in FY 23-24. The four-year average is \$234.6 million.

**Judgments and Settlements** — Judgments and settlements decreased to \$118 million in FY 24-25, from \$125 million in FY 23-24. The four-year average is \$145.7 million.

**Fees and Costs** — Fees and costs increased to \$111.3 million in FY 24-25, from \$95.5 million in FY 23-24. The four-year average is \$88.8 million.

**Recoveries** — County Counsel's Affirmative Litigation and Consumer Protection Division (ALCP) brought in \$13.5 million to the County.

**Most Expensive Case Types** — Law Enforcement, Employment, and General Liability accounted for 78 percent of FY 24-25 total litigation expenses.

**Top Five Departments** — Sheriff, Health Services, Public Works, Fire, and Public Social Service accounted for 75 percent of FY 24-25 total litigation expenses.

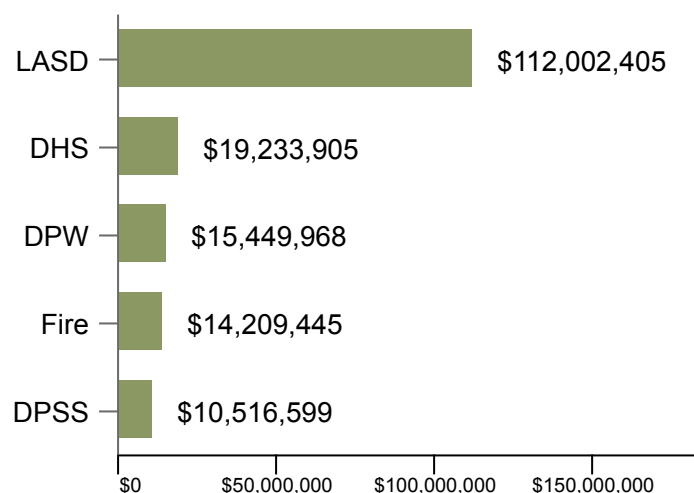
**Reductions of \$1 Million or More** — District Attorney, Children and Family Services, Public Works, and LA County Public Library reduced their litigation expenses by \$1 million or more.

**Increases of \$1 Million or More** — Sheriff, Public Social Service, Public Defender, Fire, Probation, Health Services, and Parks and Recreation had increases of \$1 million or more in total litigation expenses.

**Largest Judgment** — The largest judgment paid in FY 24-25 — \$7.5 million — was *M.G. (a minor)*, a dangerous condition lawsuit against the Sheriff's Department.

**Largest Settlement** — The largest settlement paid in FY 24-25 — \$25 million — was *Cervantes, et al.*, an excessive force lawsuit against the Sheriff's Department.

### Top Five Departments



## COUNTY DEPARTMENT ACRONYMS

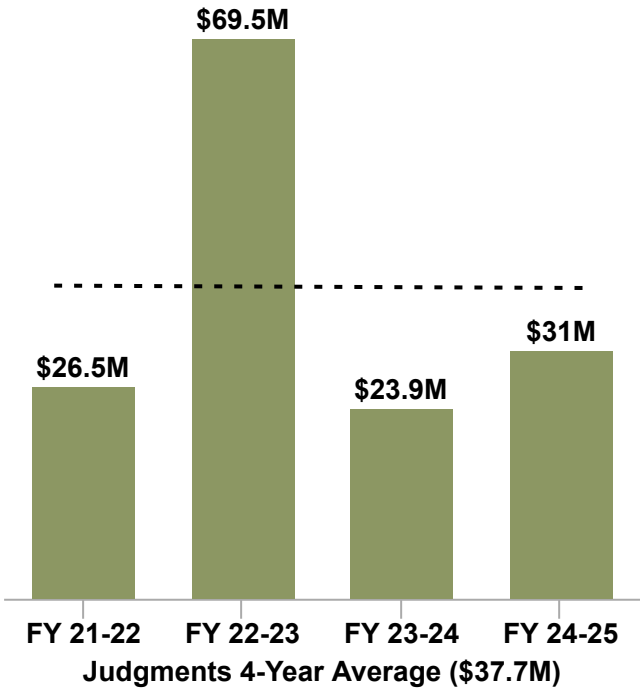
The acronyms for County departments are provided in the table below for reference.

Acronym	Department
ACWM	Agricultural Commissioner/ Weights & Measures
AD	Aging and Disabilities
APD	Alternate Public Defender
Arts	Arts and Culture
Assessor	Assessor
Auditor	Auditor-Controller
BH	Beaches & Harbors
BOS	Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
CEO	Chief Executive Office
CoCo	County Counsel
CSSD	Child Support Services
DACC	Animal Care & Control
DAO	District Attorney's Office
DCBA	Consumer & Business Affairs
DCFS	Children & Family Services
DEO	Economic Opportunity
DHR	Human Resources
DHS	Health Services
DMH	Mental Health
DPH	Public Health
DPR	Parks & Recreation
DPR	Regional Planning
DPSS	Public Social Services
DPW	Public Works
DYD	Youth Development
Fire	Fire Department
ISD	Internal Services
JCOD	Justice Care and Opportunities
LACMA	Museum of Art
LASD	Sheriff
Library	Library
MEC	Medical Examiner/Coroner
MVA	Military & Veterans Affairs
NHM	Natural History Museum
Probation	Probation
PubDef	Public Defender
RRCC	Registrar-Recorder/ County Clerk
TTC	Treasurer & Tax Collector

# JUDGMENTS

Of the \$229.3 million the County spent on litigation in FY 24-25, \$118 million was paid to satisfy 18 judgments and settle 290 lawsuits. This marks a six percent decrease from the \$125 million the County expended on judgments and settlements in FY 23-24.

The County paid \$31 million for judgments in FY 24-25, compared to \$23.9 million in FY 23-24. The \$31 million consisted of 18 judgments.



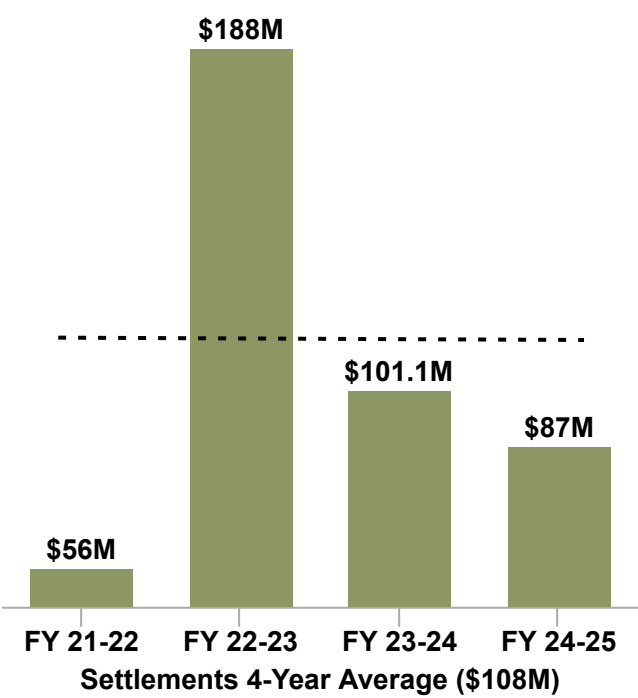
## JUDGMENTS BY DEPARTMENT

Department	Total
Sheriff	\$12,747,691
Public Social Services	\$8,486,611
Health Services	\$6,203,184
District Attorney	\$2,367,386
Mental Health	\$469,647
Public Works	\$459,581
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk	\$225,600
Public Defender	\$7,088
Assessor	\$2,803
Human Resources	\$2,363
Total	\$30,971,954

# SETTLEMENTS

Of the \$229.3 million the County spent on litigation in FY 24-25, \$118 million was paid to satisfy 18 judgments and settle 290 lawsuits. This marks a six percent decrease from the \$125 million the County expended on judgments and settlements in FY 23-24.

The County paid \$87 million for 290 settlements in FY 24-25, a decrease of 14 percent compared to the \$101.1 million spent in FY 23-24.



## SETTLEMENTS OVER \$2.5 MILLION

Department	Total
Sheriff	\$56,441,293
Fire	\$9,648,254
Public Defender	\$5,550,000
Health Services	\$5,178,404
Public Works	\$4,136,719
Children and Family Services	\$2,763,918
Total	\$83,718,588

# FEES AND COSTS

The County paid \$111.3 million for fees and costs in FY 24-25, an increase of \$15.8 million, or 17 percent, from the \$95.5 million the County paid in FY 23-24.

Of the \$111.3 million, \$89.3 million was paid to contract counsel firms, and \$22 million was billed by County Counsel attorneys to various County departments engaged in litigation.

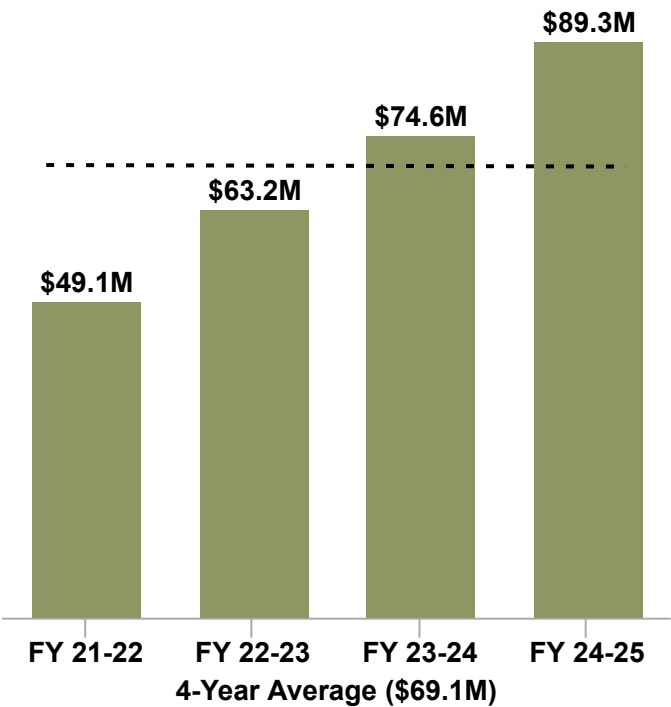
## CONTRACT COUNSEL

Contract counsel fees and costs totaled \$89.3 million in FY 24-25, an increase of \$14.6 million, or 20 percent, from \$74.6 million in FY 23-24. The four-year average is \$69.1 million. Of the \$89.3 million paid to contract counsel in FY 24-25, \$75.5 million was for fees and \$13.7 million was for costs.

Contract counsel fees increased to \$75.5 million from \$64.2 million in FY 23-24. The \$11.3 million rise was attributed to increased spending on fees for LASD, Probation, DPW, DMH, and DHS.

Contract counsel costs increased to \$13.7 million from \$10.4 million in FY 23-24. The \$3.3 million increase was attributed mainly to increased spending on costs for LASD and DPW.

## CONTRACT COUNSEL FEES & COSTS



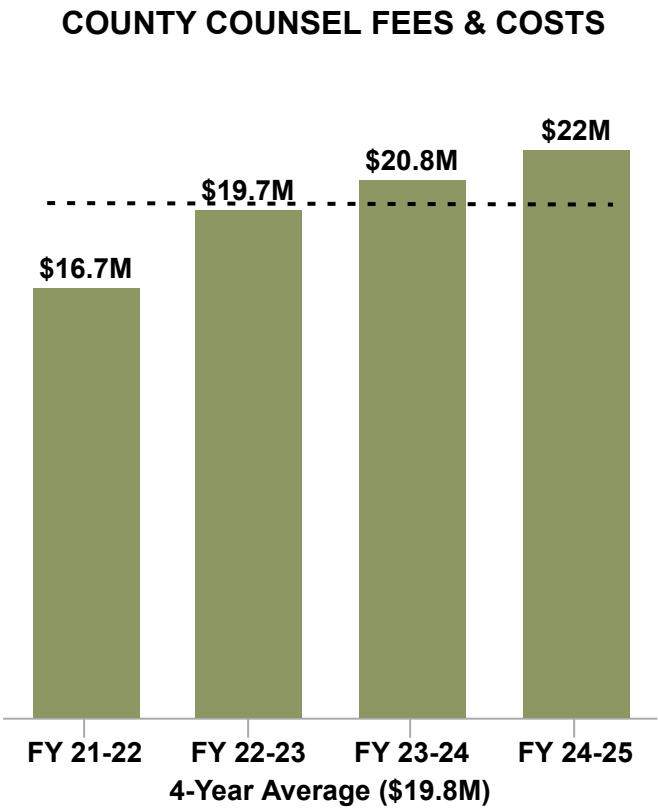
# FEES AND COSTS

## COUNTY COUNSEL

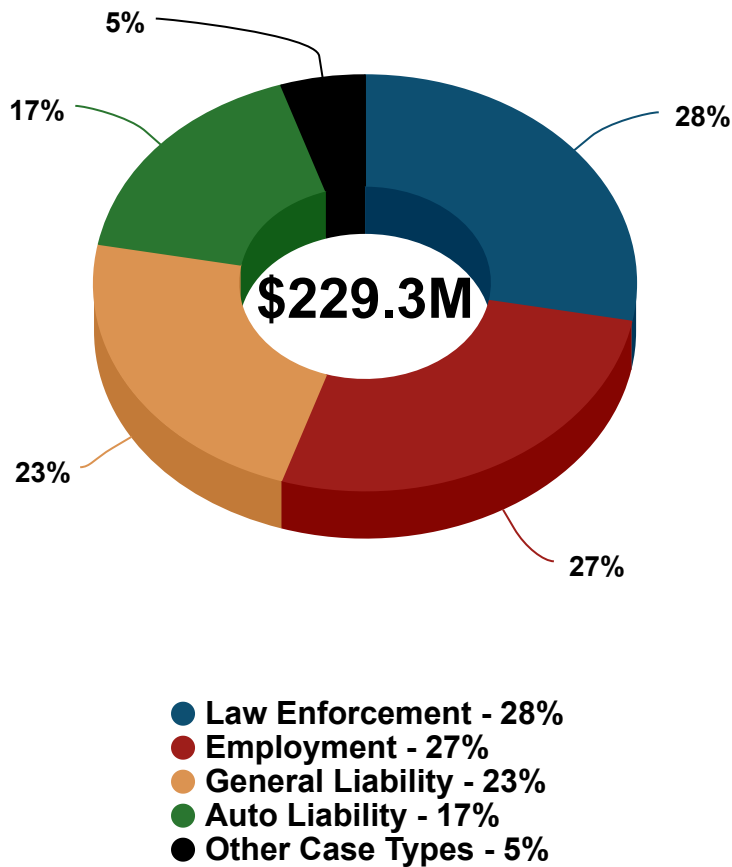
In FY 24-25, the County spent \$22 million on fees and costs billed by the Office of County Counsel, compared to \$20.8 million in FY 23-24. The four-year average is \$19.8 million.

Of the \$22 million paid to County Counsel in FY 24-25, \$18 million was for fees and \$4 million was for costs.

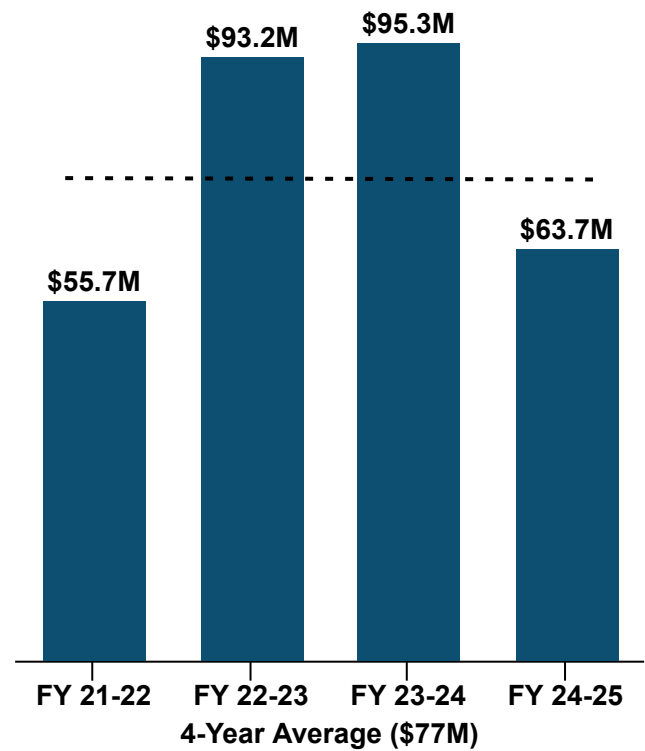
County Counsel fees increased to \$18 million in FY 24-25, an increase of \$1.2 million, or seven percent, from \$16.8 million in FY 23-24.



## EXPENSES BY CASE TYPE



### LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPENSES



## LAW ENFORCEMENT

Law Enforcement was the costliest case type for the County, representing 28 percent of total expenses in FY 24-25. The County spent \$63.7 million on Law Enforcement, down from \$95.3 million in FY 23-24. The four-year average is \$77 million.

Of the \$63.7 million spent on Law Enforcement lawsuits, the majority of the expense was incurred by LASD. LASD spent \$56.7 million, accounting for 89 percent of Law Enforcement total expenses.

### DEPARTMENT WITH LARGEST INCREASE

Public Defender had the largest increase in Law Enforcement expenses in FY 24-25. The department spent \$3.8 million on Law Enforcement, compared to \$194,000 in FY 23-24. The \$3.6 million surge is mostly attributed to increased settlements.

### DEPARTMENT WITH LARGEST DECREASE

The District Attorney's Office had the largest decrease in Law Enforcement expenses in FY 24-25. The department spent \$2.4 million on Law Enforcement in FY 24-25, compared to \$21.8 million in FY 23-24. The \$19.4 million drop is attributed to decreased settlements.

## EMPLOYMENT

Employment was the second costliest case type for the County, accounting for 27 percent of total expenses. The County spent \$62.3 million on Employment, up from \$47.2 million in FY 23-24. The four-year average is \$44.5 million.

Of the \$62.3 million spent on Employment lawsuits, 72 percent was incurred by four departments:

1. LASD – \$14.1M
2. DHS – \$11.3M
3. DPSS – \$10.1M
4. Fire – \$9.4M

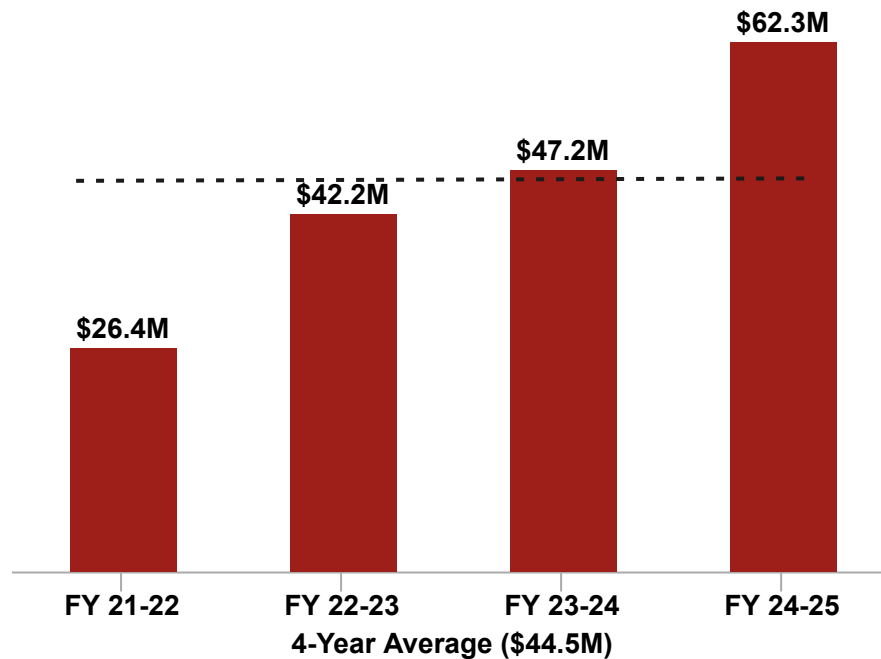
### DEPARTMENT WITH LARGEST INCREASE

DPSS had the largest increase in Employment expenses in FY 24-25. The department spent \$10.1 million, compared to \$1.4 million in FY 23-24. The \$8.7 million rise is attributed to increased judgments.

### DEPARTMENT WITH LARGEST DECREASE

DCFS had the largest decrease in Employment expenses in FY 24-25. The department spent \$1.7 million in FY 24-25, compared to \$4.9 million in FY 23-24. This \$3.2 million reduction is attributed to decreased settlements.

## LITIGATION EXPENSES



# GENERAL LIABILITY

General Liability was the third costliest case type for the County, accounting for 23 percent of total expenses. The County spent \$51.9 million on General Liability, up from \$42.9 million spent in FY 23-24. The four-year average is \$69.7 million.

Of the \$51.9 million spent on General Liability lawsuits, 58 percent was incurred by three departments:

- 1. DPW – \$12.8M
- 2. LASD – \$10.3M
- 3. DCFS – \$6.8M

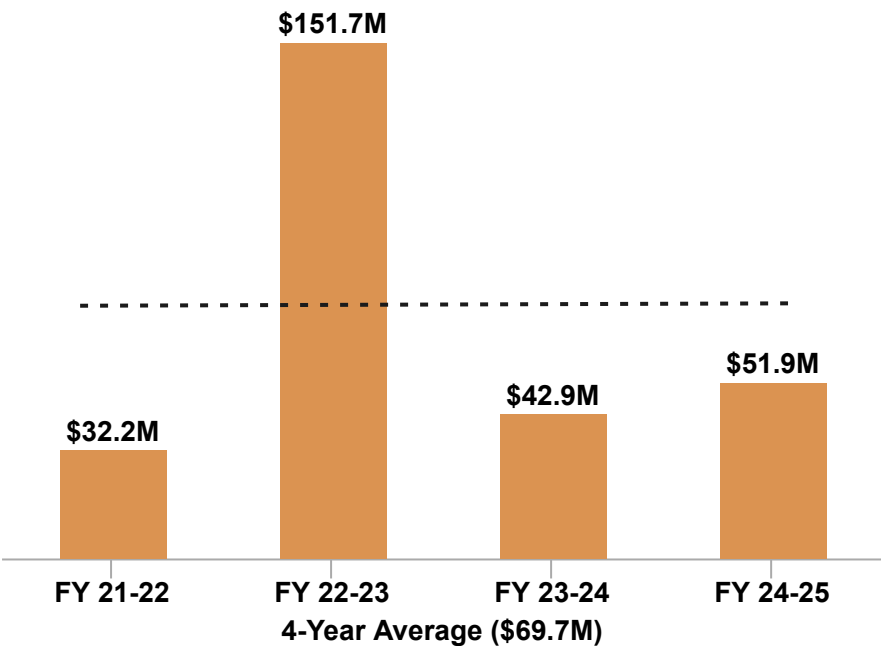
## DEPARTMENT WITH LARGEST INCREASE

LASD had the largest increase in General Liability expenses in FY 24-25. The department spent \$10.3 million on General Liability, compared to \$1.7 million in FY 23-24. The \$8.6 million increase is largely attributed to judgments.

## DEPARTMENT WITH LARGEST DECREASE

DPW and DCFS had the largest decrease in General Liability expenses in FY 24-25. Both DPW and DCFS decreased their total litigation expenses by at least \$1 million.

## LITIGATION EXPENSES



# AUTO LIABILITY

Auto Liability was the fourth costliest case type for the County, accounting for 17 percent of total expenses in FY 24-25. The County spent \$38.4 million on Auto Liability in FY 24-25, up from \$24.1 million in FY 23-24. The four-year average is \$27 million.

Of the \$38.4 million spent on Auto Liability lawsuits in FY 24-25, 76 percent was incurred by LASD (\$29.1 million).

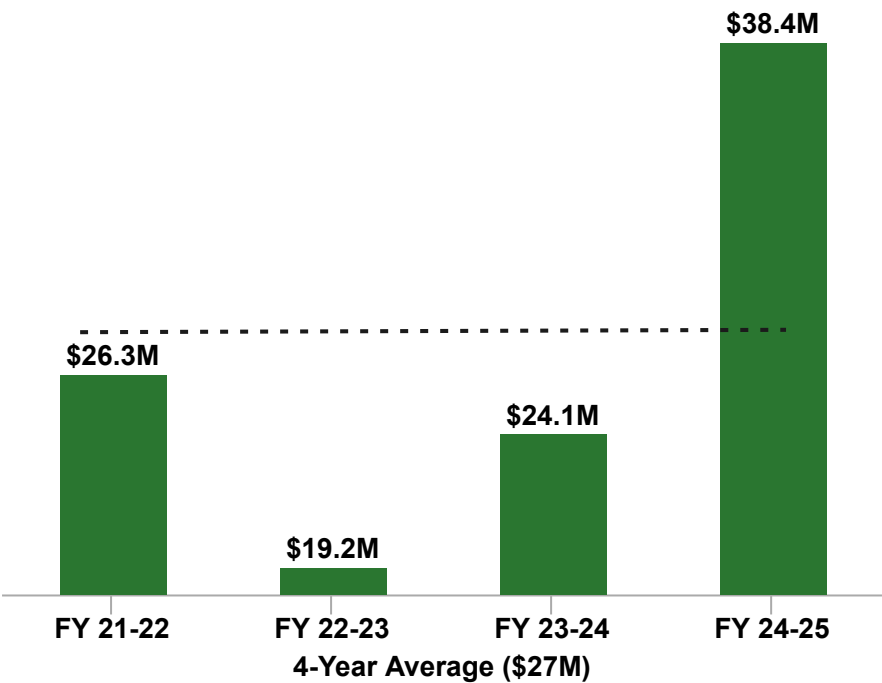
## DEPARTMENT WITH LARGEST INCREASE

LASD had the largest increase in Auto Liability expenses in FY 24-25. The department spent \$29.1 million on Auto Liability, compared to \$15.8 million in FY 23-24. This \$13.3 million increase is largely attributed to increased settlements.

## DEPARTMENT WITH LARGEST DECREASE

DPW had the largest decrease in Auto Liability expenses in FY 24-25. The department spent \$1.6 million in FY 24-25, compared to \$3.2 million in FY 23-24. This \$1.6 million reduction is attributed to a decrease in settlements.

# LITIGATION EXPENSES



## MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

Medical Malpractice was the fifth costly case type for the County, accounting for five percent of total litigation expenses in FY 24-25.

The County spent \$11.6 million on Medical Malpractice in FY 24-25, up from \$10 million in FY 23-24. The four-year average is \$13.3 million.

Of the \$11.6 million spent on Medical Malpractice lawsuits in FY 24-25, 56 percent was incurred by DHS (\$6.6 million).

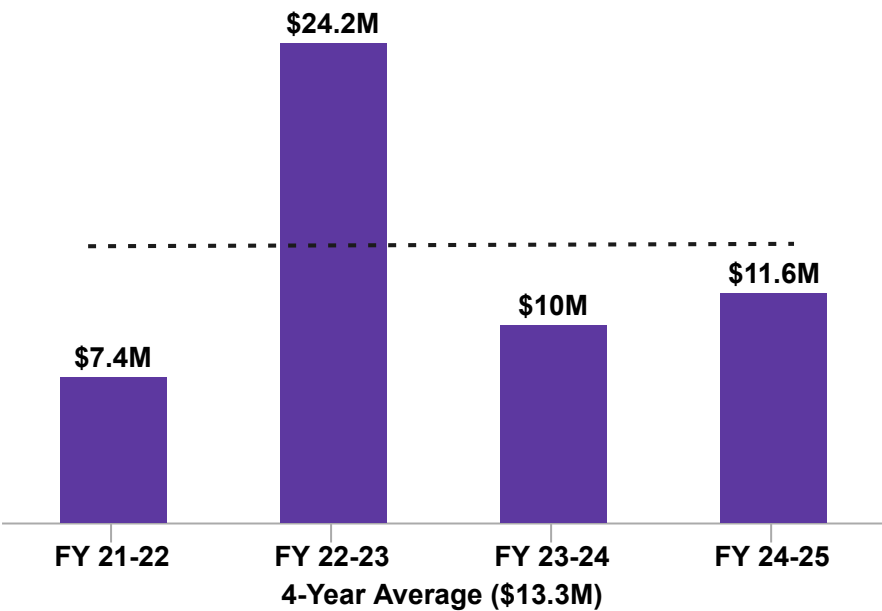
### DEPARTMENT WITH LARGEST INCREASE

Fire had the largest increase in Medical Malpractice expenses in FY 24-25. The department spent \$1.7 million, compared to \$127,469 in FY 23-24. This \$1.6 million increase is attributed to settlements.

### DEPARTMENT WITH LARGEST DECREASE

DHS had the largest decrease in Medical Malpractice expenses in FY 24-25. The department spent \$6.5 million compared to \$7.3 million in FY 23-24. The difference is attributed to a decrease in settlements.

### LITIGATION EXPENSES



Overview | Litigation Cost Report FY 24-25

Department	Auto Liability	Employment	Environmental	General Liability	Law Enforcement	Medical Malpractice	Total Expenses	% Change from FY 23-24
LASD	\$29,092,089	\$14,102,990		\$10,339,313	\$56,726,883	\$1,741,130	\$112,002,405	12%
DHS	\$12,807	\$11,281,713		\$1,412,415		\$6,526,970	\$19,233,905	7%
DPW	\$1,644,088	\$568,947	\$482,318	\$12,754,615			\$15,449,968	-13%
Fire	\$1,319,309	\$9,382,028		\$1,574,882	\$225,005	\$1,708,221	\$14,209,445	66%
DPSS		\$10,084,469		\$432,130			\$10,516,599	558%
DCFS	\$729,676	\$1,736,255		\$6,802,203		\$1,381	\$9,269,515	-31%
PubDef	\$1,925,497	\$790,681		\$148,362	\$3,793,379		\$6,657,919	786%
DAO	\$76,500	\$3,364,095		\$227,975	\$2,441,292	\$40,357	\$6,150,219	-75%
Probation	\$19,531	\$3,173,012		\$2,229,324	\$376,700	\$405	\$5,798,972	27%
DMH	\$90,185	\$1,466,337		\$1,329,796	\$12,110	\$297,710	\$3,196,138	3%
Non-Jurisdictional	\$506,283	\$67,197		\$2,313,118	\$17,613	\$13,391	\$2,917,602	74%
DPR	\$507,284	\$479,147		\$1,183,372			\$2,169,803	97%
Assessor	\$19,725	\$347,870		\$1,624,499	\$1,740		\$1,993,834	11%
DPH	\$123,547	\$1,141,409	\$3,505	\$542,718		\$38,236	\$1,849,415	-14%
ISD	\$237,386	\$96,077		\$1,462,431			\$1,795,894	9%
DPR		\$72,765	\$819,398	\$619,763			\$1,511,926	-30%
RRCC	\$3,759	\$70		\$872,211			\$876,040	-31%
BH	\$43,077	\$96,949		\$456,190			\$596,216	-23%
Auditor		\$533,026		\$56,744			\$589,770	86%
DCBA				\$510,431			\$510,431	0%
CEO	\$13,908			\$457,739			\$471,647	-7%
TTC		\$126,658		\$276,927			\$403,585	-30%
AD	\$153,018	\$119,807		\$60,544			\$333,369	111%
MEC		\$38,870		\$225,327	\$12,738	\$52,716	\$329,651	18%
CSSD	\$26,005	\$97,270		\$183,185			\$306,460	12%
CoCo		\$114,281		\$136,236	\$2,287		\$252,804	-25%
BOS	\$33,040	\$51,690		\$79,100	\$21,164	\$534	\$185,528	-73%
DACC	\$27,160	\$54,142		\$65,107			\$146,409	-48%
ACWM	\$87,232						\$87,232	353%
DHR		\$71,987					\$71,987	-64%
APD				\$67,795			\$67,795	269%
Superior Court					\$40,958		\$40,958	
Museum of Art	\$5,309						\$5,309	-100%
MVA				\$1,095			\$1,095	
Unallocated Expenses	\$1,740,490	\$2,848,075		\$3,471,503		\$1,206,391	\$9,266,459	3%
Total	\$38,436,905	\$62,307,817	\$1,305,221	\$51,917,050	\$63,671,869	\$11,627,442	\$229,266,304	4%

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# Litigation Activities

New Lawsuits

Dismissals

Trials

Writs

Appeals

Recoveries

Contract Cities and  
Special Districts

Judgments and  
Settlements



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# LITIGATION ACTIVITIES

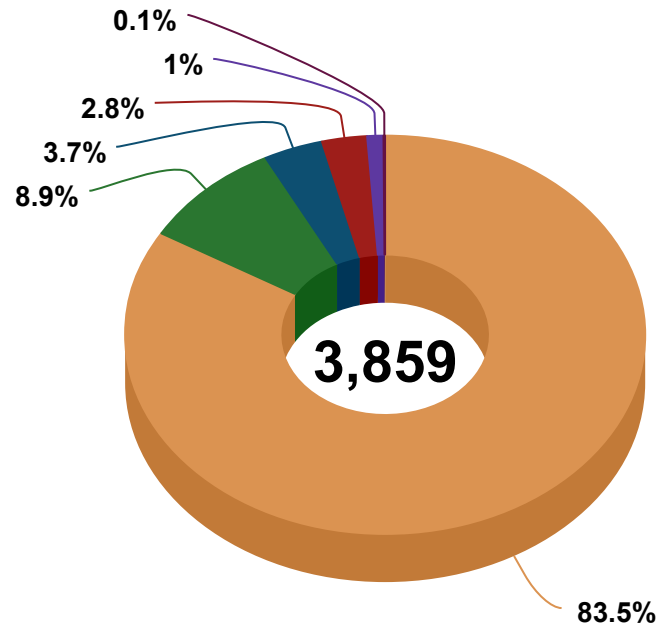
## NEW LAWSUITS

The number of new lawsuits served on the County increased to 3,859 in FY 24-25, from 2,675 in FY 23-24. Among all departments, Probation was sued more often than any other County department in FY 24-25.

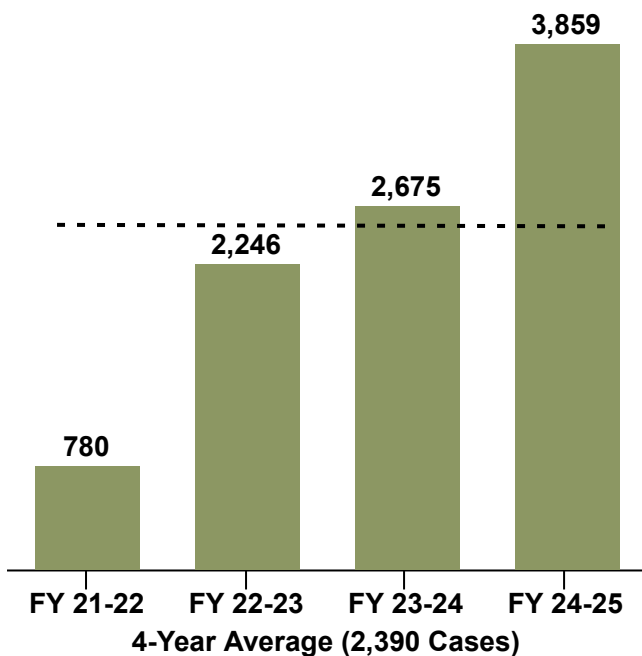
Probation was served with 1,984 lawsuits in FY 24-25, an increase from 304 in FY 23-24. DCFS was second with 419 new lawsuits in FY 24-25, compared to 882 in FY 23-24. LASD was third, with 252 new lawsuits in FY 24-25, compared to 304 in FY 23-24. DPW was fourth, with 106 new lawsuits in FY 24-25, compared to 89 in FY 23-24.

Ten additional departments were named in 10 or more new lawsuits in FY 24-25.

### NEW LAWSUITS BY CASE TYPE



### NEW LAWSUITS



- General Liability - 83.5%
- Auto Liability - 8.9%
- Law Enforcement - 3.7%
- Employment - 2.8%
- Medical Malpractice - 1%
- Environmental - 0.1%

The County was also named in 821 non-jurisdictional lawsuits in FY 24-25, compared to 741 in FY 23-24. These lawsuits consist of allegations that do not involve the County, County officers or employees acting in the scope of their employment, or County property.

The new lawsuits cover six case types:

- 1) General Liability (3,224)
- 2) Auto Liability (342)
- 3) Law Enforcement (141)
- 4) Employment (109)
- 5) Medical Malpractice (39)
- 6) Environmental (4)

## DISMISSALS

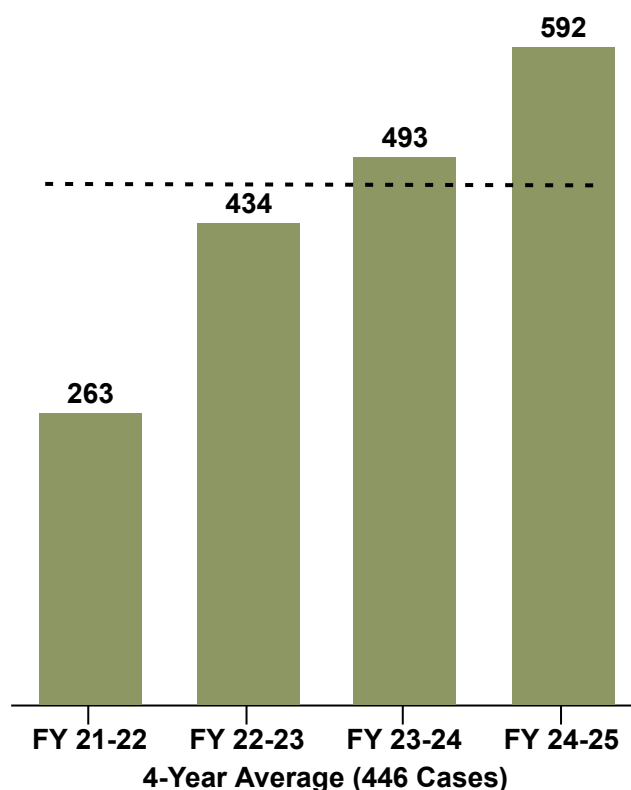
This section reports the number of lawsuits dismissed by a trial court without any County payment or other liability. These dismissals are usually the result of: (1) a voluntary dismissal initiated by the plaintiff, often resulting from a pretrial court ruling exposing defects in the lawsuit or insufficient evidence to win at trial; or (2) an involuntary dismissal ordered by the court after a demurrer is sustained or a pretrial motion to dismiss, motion to strike, or motion for summary judgment is granted.

Involuntary dismissals, which are subject to appeal by the plaintiff, are not reported until the appeal period has expired, which can range from 30 days for federal lawsuits to as long as 180 days for some state court lawsuits. Involuntary dismissals that have been appealed are not reported in this section. Instead, they are reported in the Appellate Decisions section of this report, after the appellate decision is final.

Finally, lawsuits that were settled in exchange for a waiver of costs by the County are not reported in the Dismissals section of this Report.

A total of 592 lawsuits against the County were dismissed in FY 24-25, compared to 493 in FY 23-24. Of the 592 dismissals, 560 were voluntary dismissals. Voluntary dismissals accounted for 95 percent of all FY 24-25 dismissals.

### NUMBER OF DISMISSED LAWSUITS



## TRIALS

In FY 24-25, the County had 16 trials, down from 23 in FY 23-24. The County prevailed in eight trials in FY 24-25, a success rate of 50 percent.

### TRIALS SUCCESS RATE



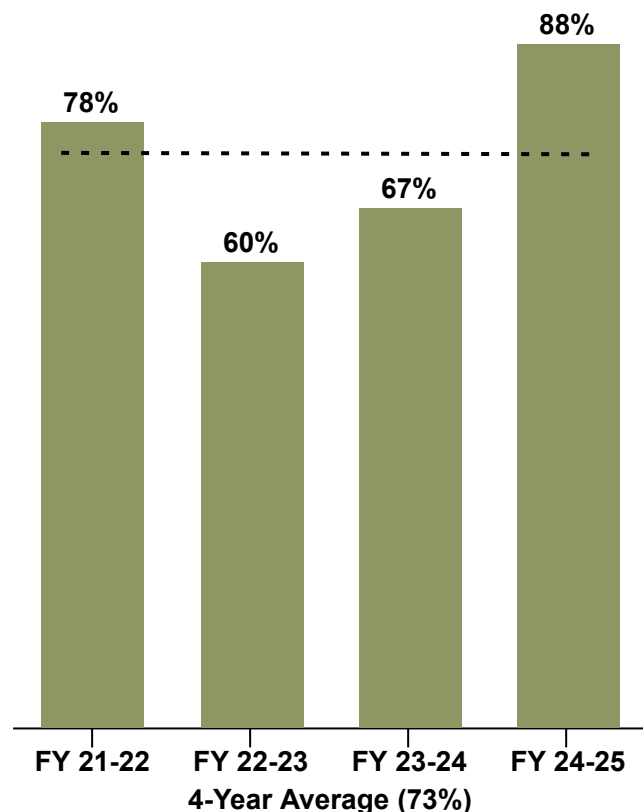
## WRITS

A petition for a writ of mandate can be filed to: (1) compel an officer or agency to perform a legal duty; or (2) obtain court review of an administrative decision made by an officer or agency. A petition for a writ of prohibition can be filed to prevent an officer or agency from acting in excess of the officer's or agency's jurisdiction.

The County was named as a party in 26 writ petitions in FY 24-25, down from 24 in FY 23-24. The 26 writ petitions involved the following departments: LASD, DRP, DCFS, DPR, DPW, COCO, DHS, ACC and DMH.

The County prevailed in 23 of the 26 writ actions, a success rate of 88 percent, compared to the 67 percent success rate in FY 23-24.

### WRITS SUCCESS RATE

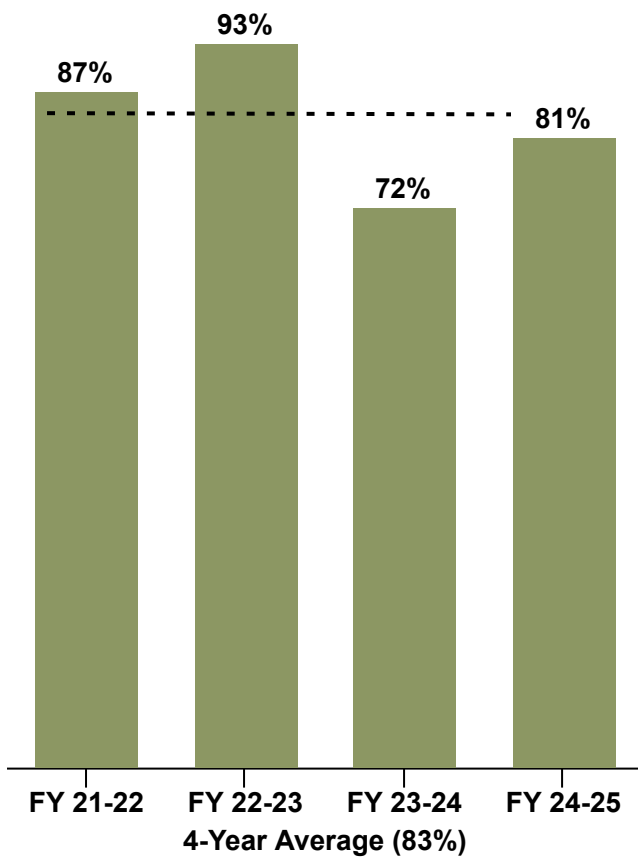


## APPEALS

### FINAL APPELLATE DECISIONS

The County was a party to 21 appeals in FY 24-25, winning 17 of them resulting in an 81% percent success rate.

### APPELLATE SUCCESS RATE



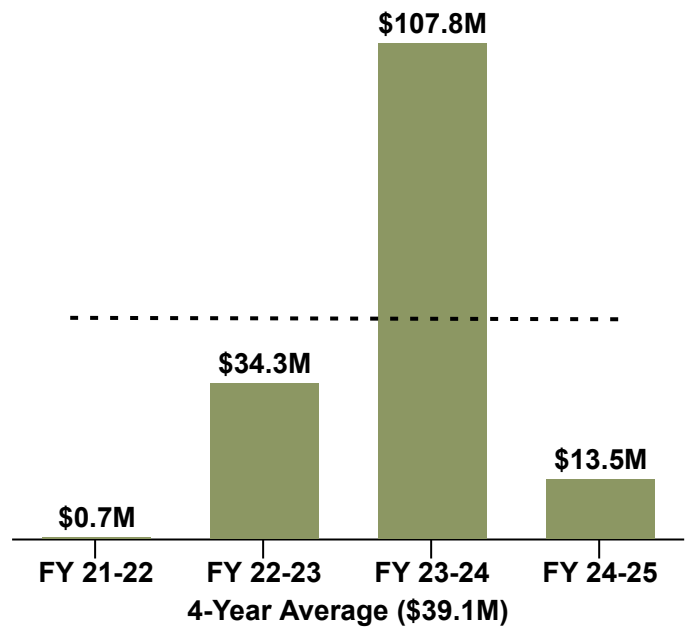
## RECOVERIES

The County recovered \$13.5 million through litigation efforts in 20 lawsuits in FY 24-25.

County Counsel's Affirmative Litigation and Consumer Protection Division (ALCP) works to bring high-impact lawsuits to protect the County's interests, stop unfair business practices, end code violations, and protect County residents from threats to the public health and environmental harms.

Notable recoveries included \$9.7 million from ALCP's work on the Johnson & Johnson litigation, \$2.1 million from the Ordorica litigation, \$957,227 from the Monsanto litigation, and \$222,740 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

### RECOVERIES



## CONTRACT CITIES AND SPECIAL DISTRICTS

Of the \$229.3 million reported in annual litigation expenses in FY 24-25, the Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund (Fund) and Special Districts reimbursed the County \$42.4 million.

### CONTRACT CITIES

The Fund is a trust account capitalized by contract cities that contract for County employees to perform services in their cities. Litigation expenses that arise from these operations are initially paid by the County. The County is then reimbursed by the Fund for those expenses.

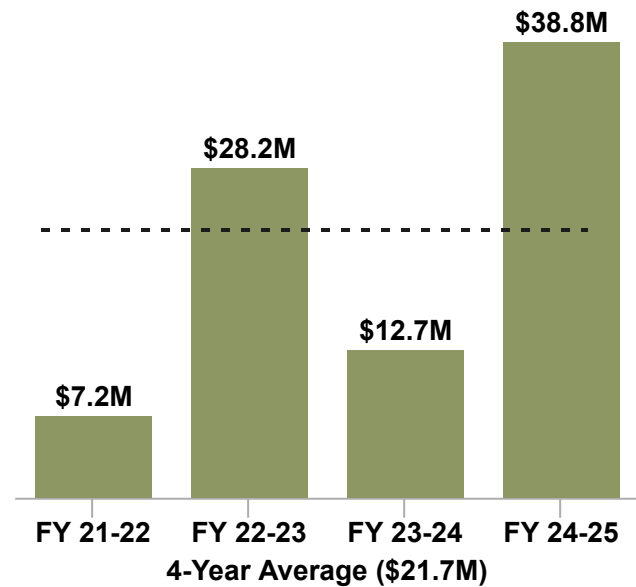
The Fund is self-insured for liabilities up to two or three million dollars, depending on the period of coverage, and the Fund maintains excess insurance policies to cover losses of up to \$50 million.

In FY 24-25, the Fund reimbursed \$39.1 million of the \$42.4 million. Of the \$39.1 million paid by the Fund, \$38.8 million was for settlements, fees, and costs arising from alleged misconduct of Sheriff's deputies contractually assigned to various cities throughout the County. The remaining \$272,322 was for fees, costs and a settlement associated with DPW.

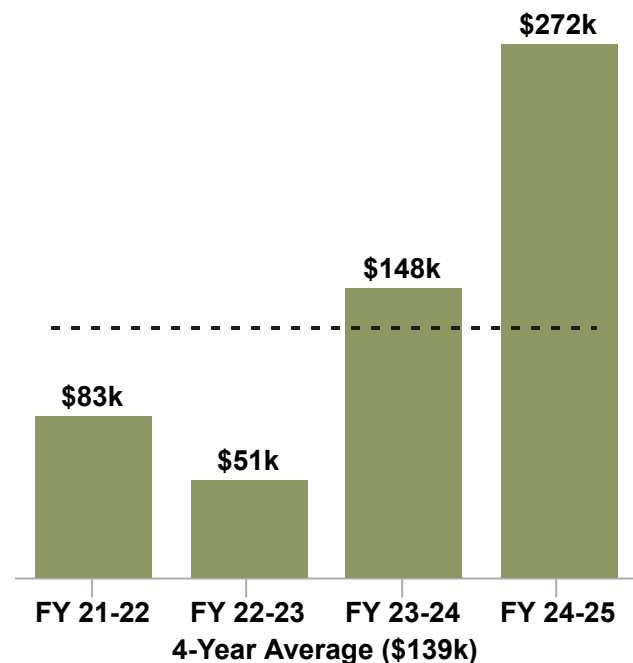
### SPECIAL DISTRICTS

In FY 24-25, the County was reimbursed \$3.3 million for litigation expenses incurred on behalf of its special districts, each supported by its own funding source, as follows: Flood Control District, \$2,371,100; Sewer and Drain District, \$667,201; Waterworks District, \$79,324; and Road District, \$137,633.

#### LASD TRUST FUND



#### DPW TRUST FUND



# JUDGMENTS AND SETTLEMENTS

## JUDGMENTS OVER \$2.5M

Case Name	Case No.	Dept.	Case Type	Judgment Amount
<b><i>M.G. (a minor)</i></b>	20STCV15846	LASD	General Liability - Dangerous Condition	\$7,493,008
<b><i>Trina Ray</i></b>	2:17-cv-04239	DPSS	Employment - Wage & Hour / OT	\$7,325,000
<b><i>Timothy Jang, M.D.</i></b>	BC587400	DHS	Employment - Retaliation	\$4,794,242
<b><i>Jennifer Seetoo</i></b>	20STCV03294	LASD	Employment - Gender Discrimination	\$3,774,979

## SETTLEMENTS OVER \$2.5M

Case Name	Case No.	Dept.	Case Type	Settlement Amount
<b><i>Romelia Chaidez, et al.</i></b>	21STCV37845	LASD	Auto Liability - Unsafe Speed	\$10,525,000 (\$17.2M total)
<b><i>Isaias Cervantes, et al.</i></b>	21STCV29317	LASD	Law Enforcement - Excessive Force	\$8,720,585 (\$25M total)
<b><i>Heidi Carlon, et al.</i></b>	22STCV02526	Fire	Employment - Employee Conduct	\$7,200,000
<b><i>Samuel Nelson</i></b>	2:22-cv-00832	LASD	Law Enforcement - Excessive Force	\$7,000,000
<b><i>Carlos Towns, et al.</i></b>	2:23-cv-01635	LASD	Law Enforcement - Excessive Force	\$5,250,000
<b><i>Dianne Lugardo</i></b>	20STCV15283	LASD	Auto Liability - Unsafe Speed	\$4,700,000
<b><i>Corey Williams</i></b>	2:21-cv-08077	Public Defender	Law Enforcement - Wrongful Prosecution	\$3,650,000
<b><i>Lisa Vargas</i></b>	2:19-cv-03279	LASD	Law Enforcement - Excessive Force	\$3,000,000

# FY 24-25 SETTLEMENTS OVER \$2.5M

## TIMELINE BY INCIDENT YEAR

2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Lisa Vargas</i> (LASD) - \$3M</li></ul>
2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Dianne Lugardo</i> (LASD) - \$4.7M</li><li>• <i>Corey Williams</i> (PubDef) - \$3.7M</li></ul>
2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Romelia Chaidez, et al.</i> (LASD) - \$10.5M (\$17.2M total)</li><li>• <i>Samuel Nelson</i> (LASD) - \$7M</li></ul>
2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Isaias Cervantes, et al.</i> (LASD) - \$8.7M (\$25M total)</li><li>• <i>Heidi Carlon, et al.</i> (Fire) - \$7.2M</li></ul>
2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Carlos Towns, et al.</i> (LASD) - \$5.3M</li></ul>

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# Top Five Departments

Sheriff's Dept.  
Health Services  
Public Works  
Fire  
Public Social  
Services



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# Sheriff's Department



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# SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

**Total Expenses** — Expenses, consisting of judgments, settlements, attorney's fees, and costs, for the Sheriff's Department increased to \$112,002,405 in FY 24-25, from \$99,902,321 in FY 23-24. The four-year average is \$108,911,485.

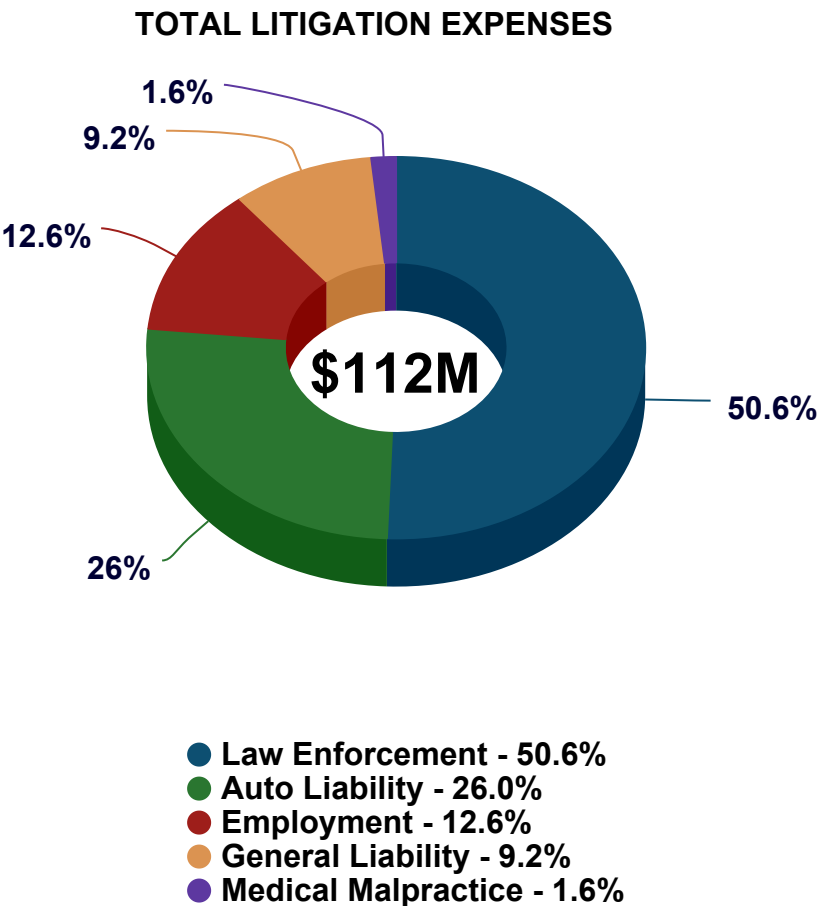
**Judgments and Settlements** — Judgments and settlements increased to \$69,188,984 in FY 24-25, from \$62,892,699 in FY 23-24. The four-year average is \$74,184,323.

**Fees and Costs** — Fees and costs increased to \$42,813,421, from \$37,009,622 in FY 23-24. The four-year average is \$34,727,163.

**Lawsuits** — Lawsuits decreased to 832 in FY 24-25, from 833 in FY 23-24. Of the 832 lawsuits, 417 were Law Enforcement, 250 were Auto Liability, 86 were Employment, 51 were General Liability, and 28 were Medical Malpractice.

**Contract Cities** — The County received reimbursement of \$38,825,075 from the Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund for expenses incurred in defending lawsuits arising from services provided by the Department to Contract Cities. In FY 24-25, reimbursement was received for three case types: Auto Liability (\$21,346,240), Law Enforcement (\$17,412,623), and General Liability (\$66,212).

**Most Expensive Case Types** — Law Enforcement, with total expenses of \$56,726,883 was the Department's costliest case type. Law Enforcement total expenses decreased by \$15,307,767 in FY 24-25, from \$72,034,649 in FY 23-24. The second costliest case type was Auto Liability, which had an increase of \$13,263,636 in expenses from \$15,828,453 in FY 23-24 to \$29,092,089 in FY 24-25.

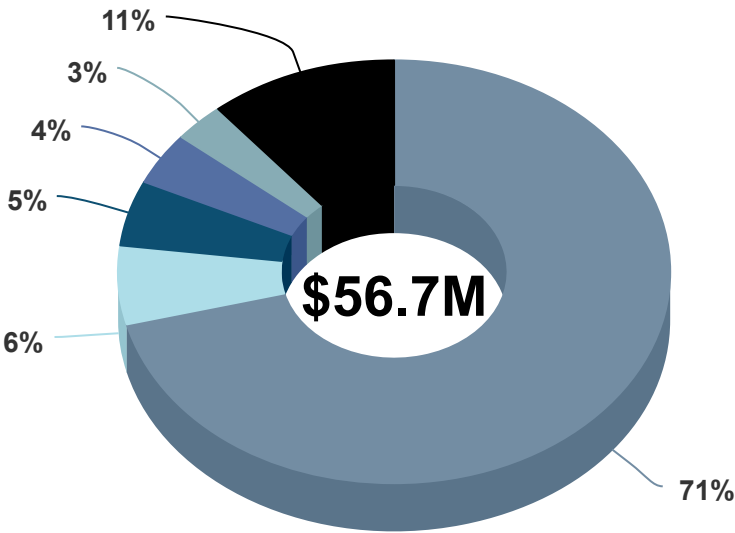


TOTAL EXPENSES	JUDGMENTS & SETTLEMENTS	FEES & COSTS	LAWSUITS
compared to FY 23-24	compared to FY 23-24	compared to FY 23-24	compared to FY 23-24
↑ 12%	↑ 10%	↑ 16%	↓ 0.1%

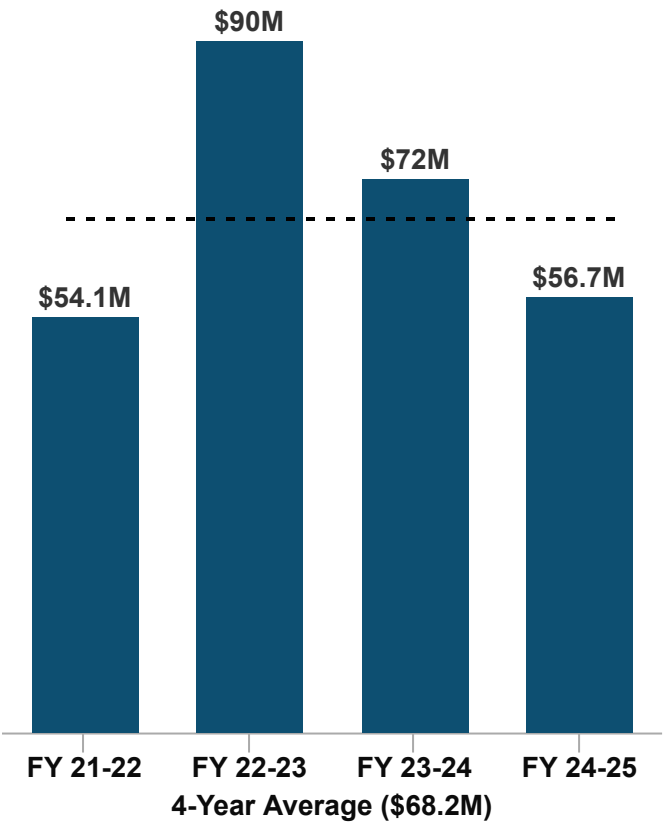
## LAW ENFORCEMENT

Law Enforcement was LASD's costliest case type in FY 24-25. The Department spent \$56,726,883 on Law Enforcement lawsuits in FY 24-25, down from \$72,034,649 in FY 23-24. Of the total spent on Law Enforcement lawsuits, \$33,405,925 was for judgments and settlements, and \$23,320,958 was for fees and costs. The Department defended 417 Law Enforcement lawsuits in FY 24-25, down from 423 in FY 23-24.

EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



LITIGATION EXPENSES



- Excessive Force - 71%
- Jail Conditions - 6%
- False Arrest - 5%
- Civil Rights Violation - 4%
- Failure to Protect - 3%
- All Other Case Subtypes - 11%

LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPENSES COMPARISON

Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 24-25	% Change from FY 23-24
Excessive Force	147	\$40,050,012	88%
Other-Law Enforcement	70	\$3,510,553	13%
Jail Conditions	26	\$3,442,372	-83%
False Arrest	36	\$2,681,872	70%
Civil Rights Violation	29	\$1,992,825	-15%
Failure to Protect	48	\$1,502,318	78%
Detention	11	\$1,135,149	-81%
Search And Seizure	14	\$871,465	-67%
Wrongful Prosecution	5	\$528,726	2597%
Non-Patrol/Non-Custody	8	\$510,576	10%
Sexual Assault By Deputy	11	\$289,311	-79%
False Imprisonment	8	\$182,879	1232%
Malicious Prosecution	1	\$26,975	-100%
Wrongful Seizure	3	\$1,850	-80%
TOTAL	417	\$56,726,883	-21%

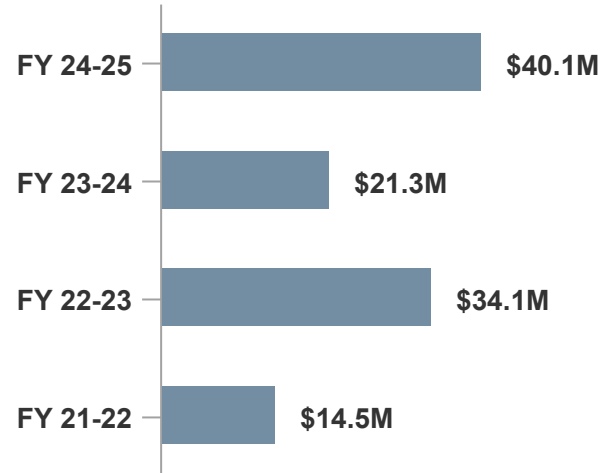
EXCESSIVE FORCE

Excessive Force was the Department's costliest Law Enforcement case subtype in FY 24-25.

The Department spent \$40,050,012 on Excessive Force lawsuits in FY 24-25, compared to \$21,343,366 in FY 23-24. Of the total spent on Excessive Force, \$30,156,531 was for judgments and settlements, and \$9,893,481 was for fees and costs.

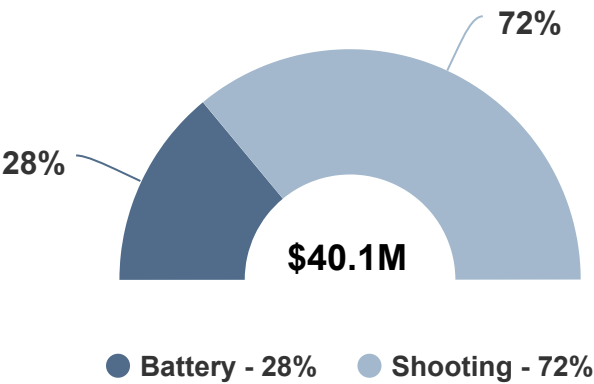
The Department defended 147 Excessive Force lawsuits in FY 24-25, down from 158 in FY 23-24.

EXCESSIVE FORCE  
LITIGATION EXPENSES



**Excessive Force lawsuits** are classified into two detailed case subtypes: Battery and Shooting.

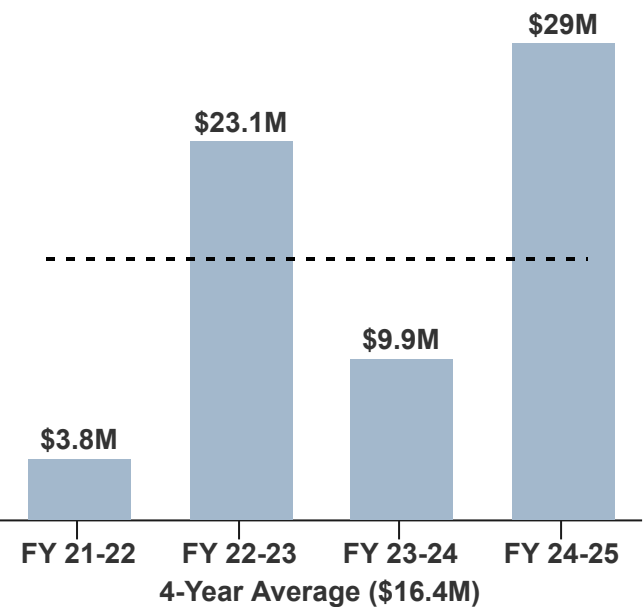
**EXCESSIVE FORCE  
BATTERY AND SHOOTING**



**SHOOTING**

In FY 24-25, Shooting was the costliest Excessive Force detailed case subtype. The Department spent \$29,016,054 on Shooting lawsuits in FY 24-25, compared to \$9,877,330 in FY 23-24. Of the total spent on Shooting, \$25,220,586 was for judgments and settlements, and \$3,795,468 was for fees and costs. The Department defended 55 Shooting lawsuits in FY 24-25, down from 56 in FY 23-24.

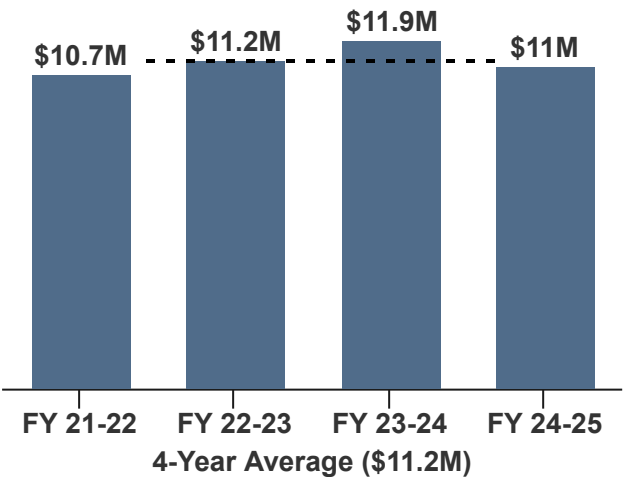
**SHOOTING  
LITIGATION EXPENSES**



**BATTERY**

In FY 24-25, Battery was the second costliest Excessive Force detailed case subtype. The Department spent \$11,033,958 on Battery lawsuits in FY 24-25, compared to \$11,903,159 in FY 23-24. Of the total spent on Battery, \$4,935,945 was for judgments and settlements, and \$6,098,013 was for fees and costs. The Department defended 92 Battery lawsuits in FY 24-25, down from 108 in FY 23-24.

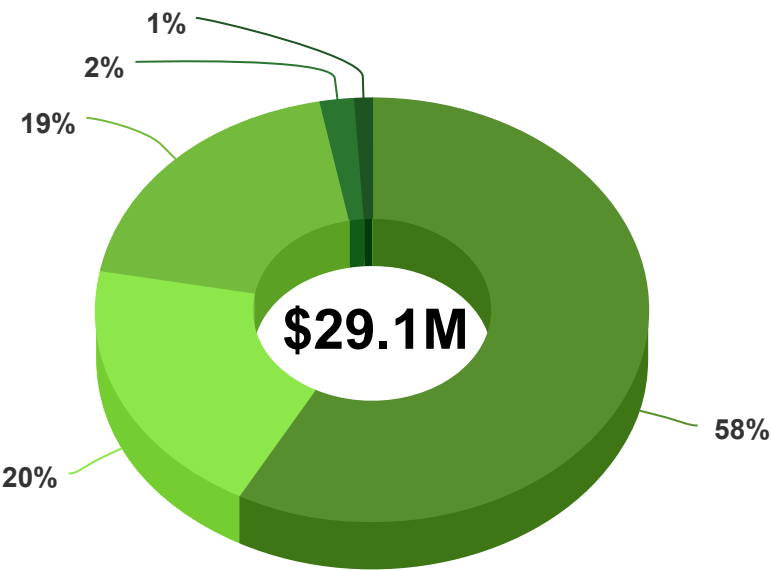
**BATTERY  
LITIGATION EXPENSES**



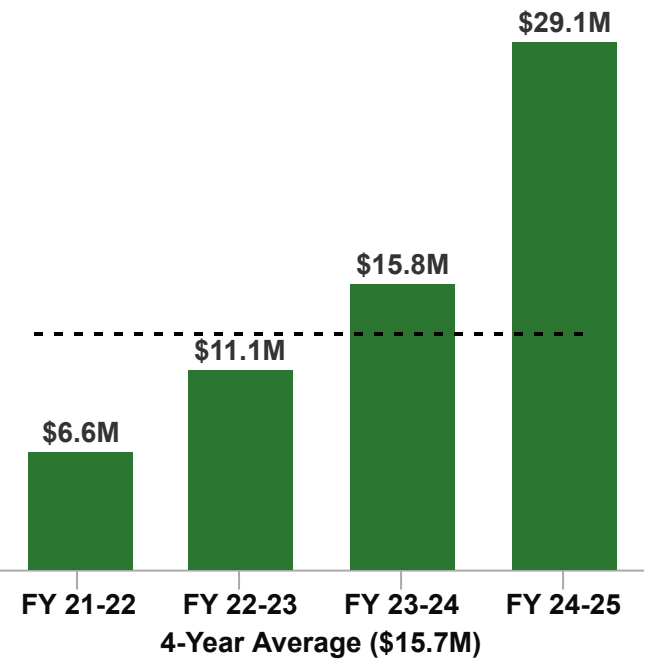
## AUTO LIABILITY

Auto Liability was LASD's second costliest case type in FY 24-25. The Department spent \$29,092,089 on Auto Liability lawsuits in FY 24-25, compared to \$15,828,453 in FY 23-24. Of the total spent on Auto Liability lawsuits, \$22,574,955 was for judgments and settlements, and \$6,517,134 was for fees and costs. The Department defended 250 Auto Liability lawsuits in FY 24-25, up from 228 in FY 23-24.

EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



LITIGATION EXPENSES



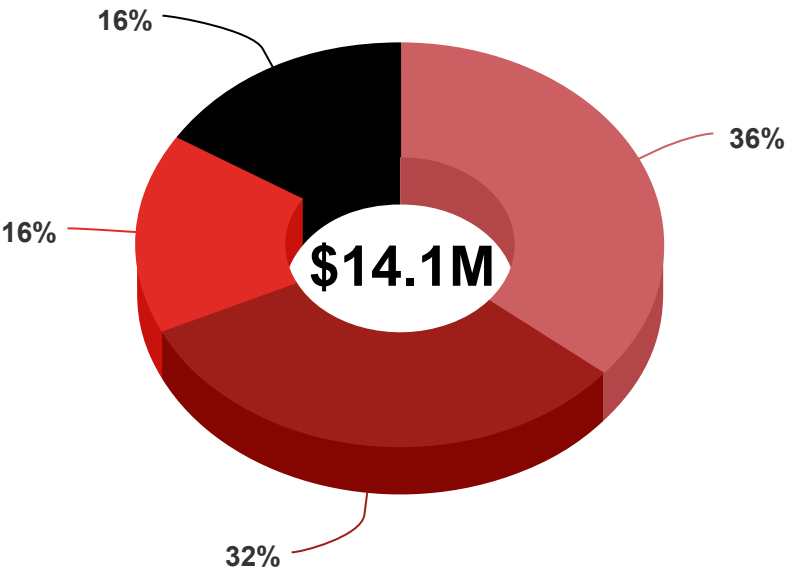
- Unsafe Speed - 58%
- Inattention - 20%
- Unsafe Maneuver - 19%
- Service Call - 2%
- Pursuit - 1%

Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 24-25	% Change from FY 23-24
Unsafe Speed	48	\$16,758,591	377%
Inattention	80	\$5,854,951	95%
Unsafe Maneuver	110	\$5,554,646	-2%
Service Call	6	\$619,089	-82%
Pursuit	6	\$304,812	126%
TOTAL	250	\$29,092,089	84%

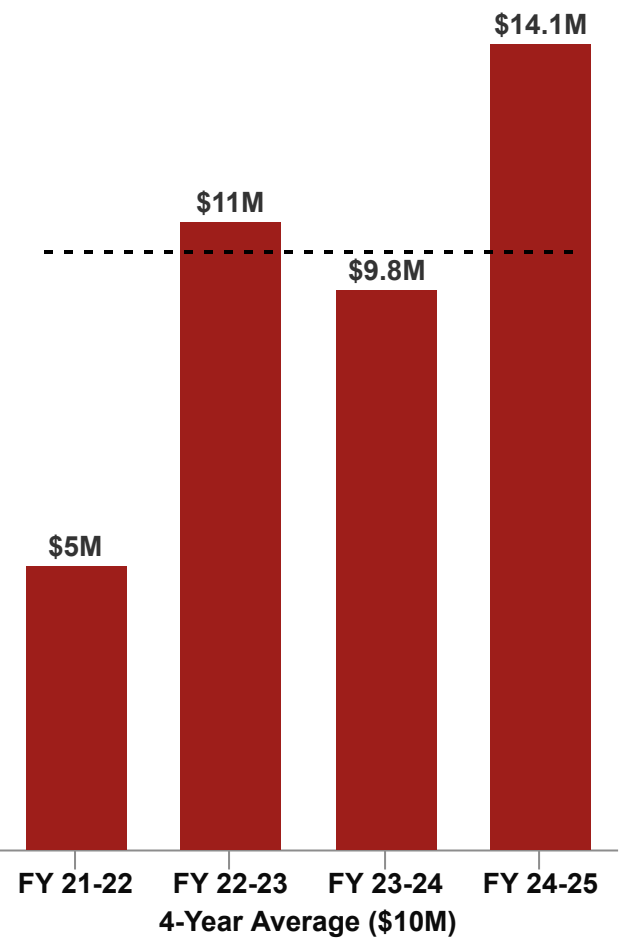
# EMPLOYMENT

Employment was LASD's third costliest case type in FY 24-25. The Department spent \$14,102,990 on Employment lawsuits, compared to \$9,818,931 in FY 23-24. Of the total spent on Employment lawsuits, \$3,974,846 was for judgments and settlements, and \$10,128,144 was for fees and costs. The Department defended 86 Employment lawsuits in FY 24-25, down from 90 in FY 23-24.

EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



LITIGATION EXPENSES



- Retaliation - 36%
- Gender Discrimination - 32%
- Race Discrimination - 16%
- All Other Case Subtypes - 16%

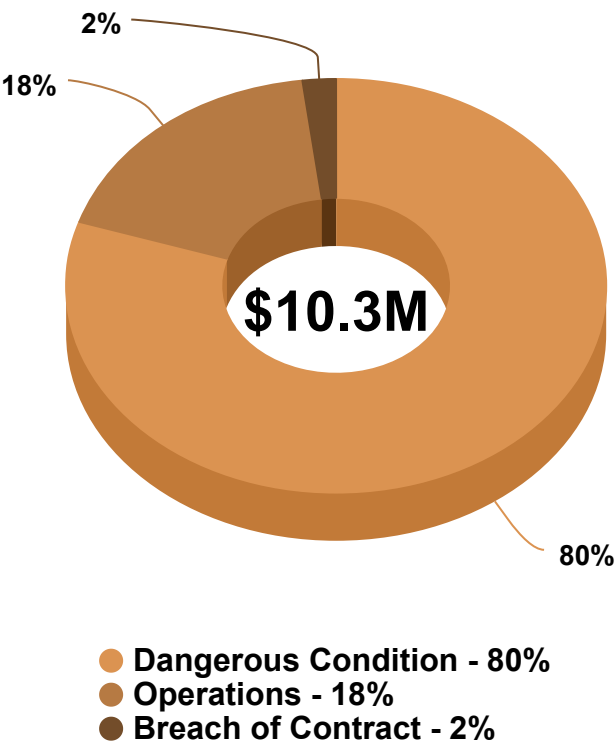
**EMPLOYMENT EXPENSES COMPARISON**

<b>Case Subtype</b>	<b># of Lawsuits</b>	<b>Total Expenses FY 24-25</b>	<b>% Change from FY 23-24</b>
Retaliation	34	\$5,111,980	29%
Gender Discrimination	5	\$4,536,145	1256%
Race Discrimination	8	\$2,189,739	-45%
Sexual Harassment	5	\$452,677	124%
Denial of Promotion	1	\$401,500	580%
Wage & Hour/Over-Time	6	\$396,223	27%
Wrongful Termination	9	\$318,595	37%
Failure to Promote	1	\$146,008	81%
Breach of Settlement Agreement	1	\$106,918	11%
Disability Discrimination	3	\$104,649	149%
Age Discrimination	2	\$85,204	-66%
Failure to Hire	1	\$71,096	208%
National Origin Discrimination	1	\$60,219	267%
Employee Benefits	3	\$56,726	19%
Investigating Employee Conduct	2	\$46,913	-68%
COVID-19	1	\$6,078	177%
Sexual Orientation Discrimination	1	\$4,884	No Expenses
Denial of Retirement Benefits	1	\$3,751	No Expenses
Wrongful Suspension	1	\$3,685	-87%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>\$14,102,990</b>	<b>44%</b>

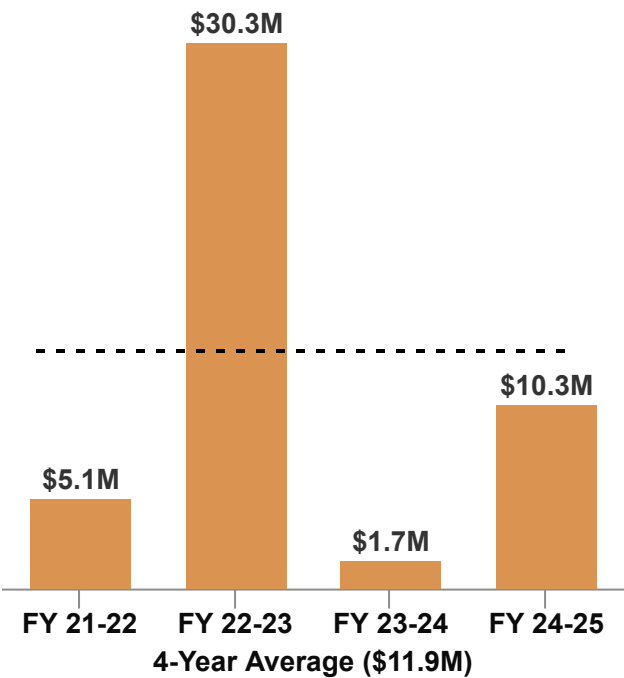
## GENERAL LIABILITY

General Liability was LASD's fourth costliest case type in FY 24-25. The Department spent \$10,339,313 on General Liability lawsuits, compared to \$1,686,319 in FY 23-24. Of the total spent on General Liability lawsuits, \$8,115,758 was for judgments and settlements, and \$2,223,555 was for fees and costs. The Department defended 51 General Liability lawsuits in FY 24-25, down from 63 in FY 23-24.

EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



LITIGATION EXPENSES



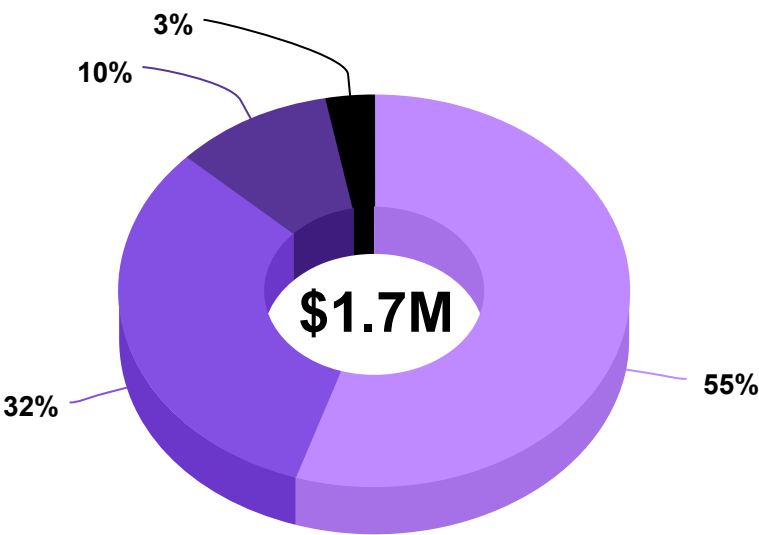
Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 24-25	% Change from FY 23-24
Dangerous Condition	6	\$8,253,912	3128%
Operations	42	\$1,830,304	29%
Breach of Contract	3	\$255,097	1731%
TOTAL	51	\$10,339,313	513%

## MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

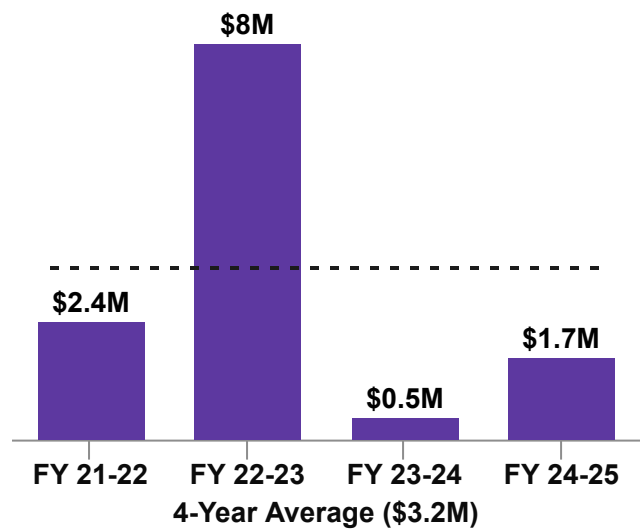
Medical Malpractice was the least costly case type for LASD in FY 24-25. The Department spent \$1,741,130 on Medical Malpractice lawsuits in FY 24-25, compared to \$533,969 in FY 23-24. Of the total spent on Medical Malpractice, \$1,117,500 was for judgments and settlements, and \$623,630 was for fees and costs.

The Department defended 28 Medical Malpractice lawsuits in FY 24-25, down from 29 in FY 23-24.

EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



LITIGATION EXPENSES



- Delay In Treatment - 55%
- Failure To Monitor - 32%
- Failure To Treat - 10%
- All Other Case Subtypes - 3%

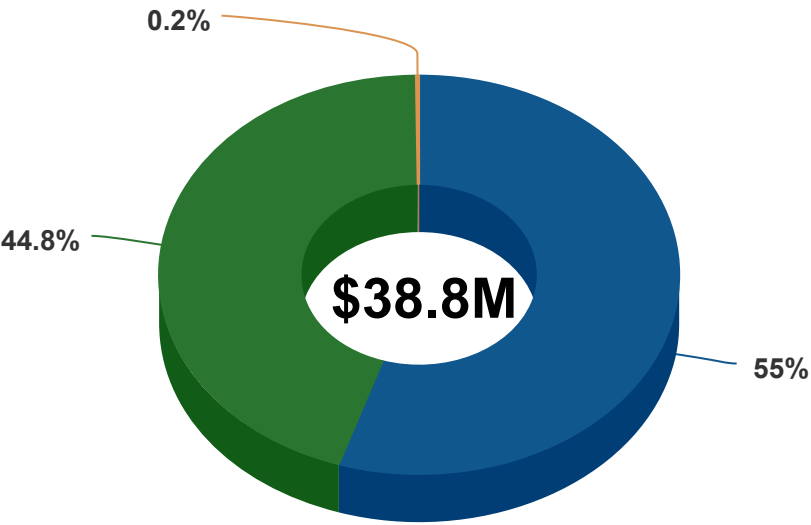
Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 24-25	% Change from FY 23-24
Delay in Treatment	7	\$963,716	234%
Failure to Monitor	4	\$551,493	405%
Failure to Treat	10	\$165,494	130%
Lack of/Delayed Medical Custody Care	2	\$24,914	1410%
Withholding of Medication	1	\$21,901	111%
Negligent Treatment	3	\$10,159	-43%
Delay in Diagnosis	1	\$3,453	-82%
TOTAL	28	\$1,741,130	226%

# CONTRACT CITIES

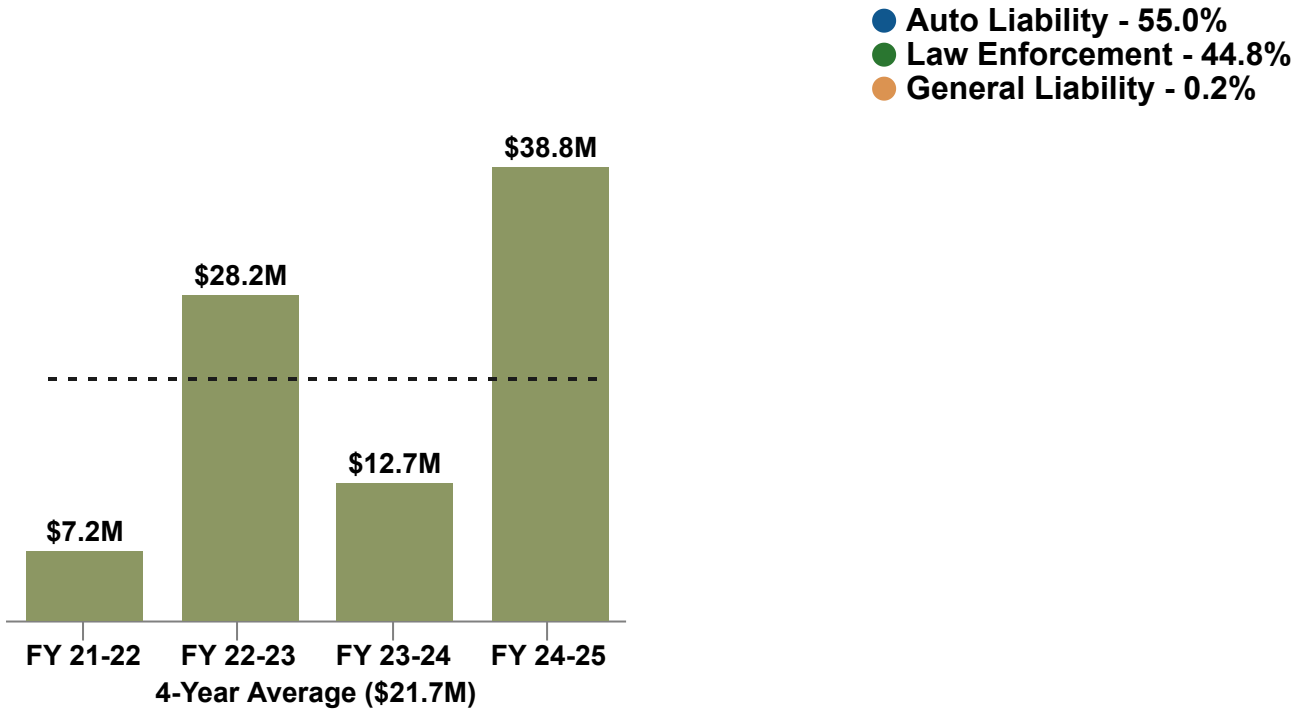
Contract Cities spent \$38,825,075 on lawsuits in FY 24-25, compared to \$12,673,214 in FY 23-24. Of the total spent in FY 24-25, \$30,652,807 was for judgments and settlements, \$8,172,268 was for fees and costs.

Contract Cities expenses include Auto Liability, Law Enforcement, and General Liability lawsuits. Auto Liability, with total expenses of \$21,346,240, was Contract Cities' costliest case type. The second costliest case type was Law Enforcement, with total expenses of \$17,412,623. General Liability was the least costly case type at \$66,212.

EXPENSES BY CASE TYPE



## LITIGATION EXPENSES



# CONTRACT CITIES

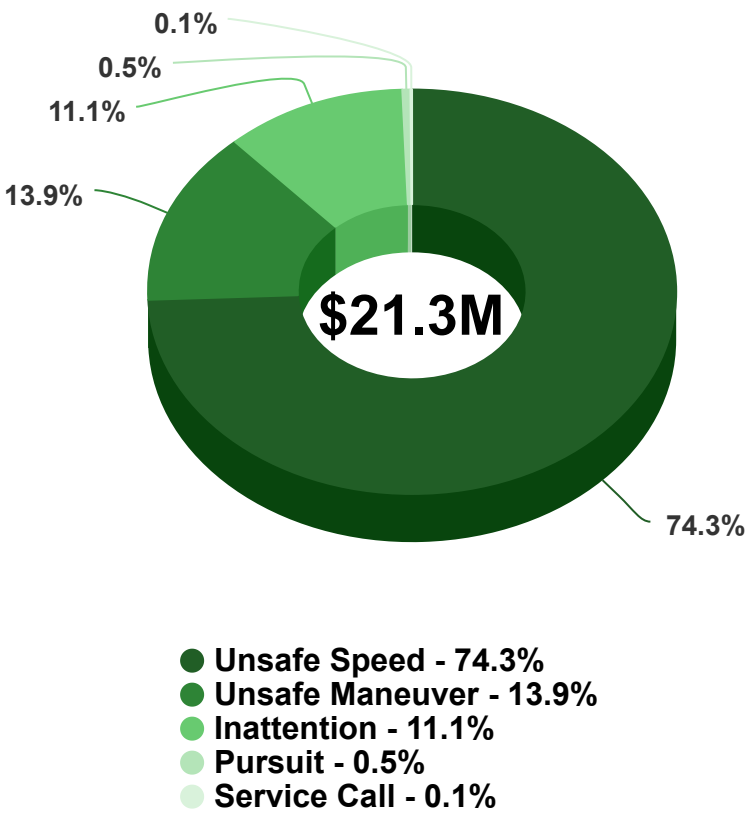
## Auto Liability

Auto Liability was the costliest case type for Contract Cities. Contract Cities spent \$21,346,240 on Auto Liability lawsuits in FY 24-25, compared to \$5,911,695 in FY 23-24.

Of the total spent in FY 24-25, \$18,237,221 was for judgments and settlements, and \$3,109,019 was for fees and costs.

LASD defended 126 Auto Liability lawsuits on behalf of Contract Cities in FY 24-25, up from 110 in FY 23-24.

EXPENSES BY CASE TYPE



Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 24-25
Unsafe Speed	24	\$15,868,907
Unsafe Maneuver	56	\$2,977,525
Inattention	38	\$2,377,876
Pursuit	3	\$107,697
Service Call	5	\$14,235
TOTAL	126	\$21,346,240

# CONTRACT CITIES

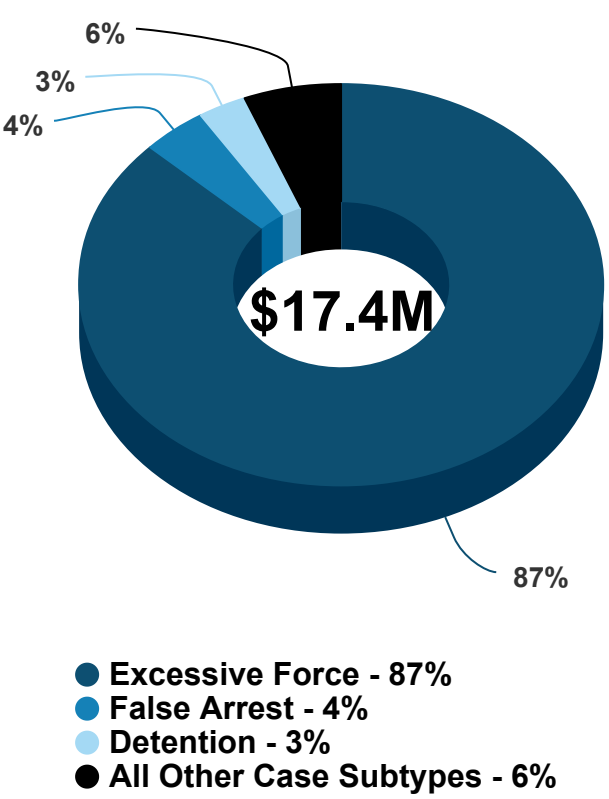
## Law Enforcement

In FY 24-25, Law Enforcement was the second costliest case type for Contract Cities. Contract Cities spent \$17,412,623 on Law Enforcement lawsuits in FY 24-25, compared to \$6,505,152 in FY 23-24.

Of the total spent on Law Enforcement lawsuits in FY 24-25, \$12,415,586 was for judgments and settlements, and \$4,997,037 was for fees and costs.

LASD defended 99 Law Enforcement lawsuits on behalf of Contract Cities in FY 24-25, down from 111 in FY 23-24.

EXPENSES BY CASE TYPE



Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 24-25
Excessive Force	52	\$15,194,175
False Arrest	12	\$740,593
Detention	1	\$507,885
Search And Seizure	8	\$493,777
Civil Rights Violation	9	\$214,652
Law Enforcement Other	10	\$172,037
Failure to Protect	5	\$75,374
Sexual Assault By Deputy	2	\$14,130
TOTAL	99	\$17,412,623

# CONTRACT CITIES

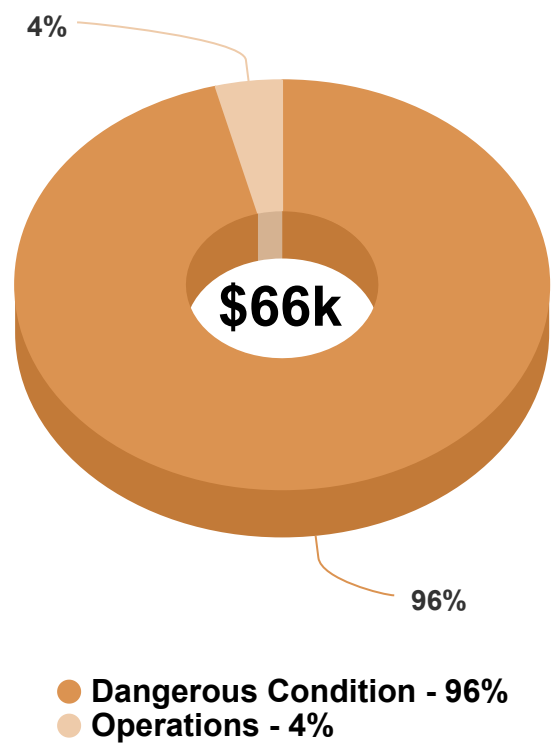
## General Liability

General Liability was the least costly case type for Contract Cities. Contract Cities spent \$66,212 on General Liability lawsuits in FY 24-25, compared to \$256,367 in FY 23-24.

The \$66,212 consisted entirely of fees and costs.

LASD defended five General Liability lawsuits on behalf of Contract Cities in FY 24-25, up from four in FY 23-24.

EXPENSES BY CASE TYPE



Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 24-25
Dangerous Condition	2	\$63,694
Operations	3	\$2,518
TOTAL	5	\$66,212

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# Department of Health Services



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# HEALTH SERVICES

**Total Expenses** — Expenses, consisting of judgments, settlements, attorneys' fees, and costs, for the Department of Health Services (DHS) increased to \$19,233,905 in FY 24-25, from \$18,009,111 in FY 23-24. The four-year average was \$16,022,246.

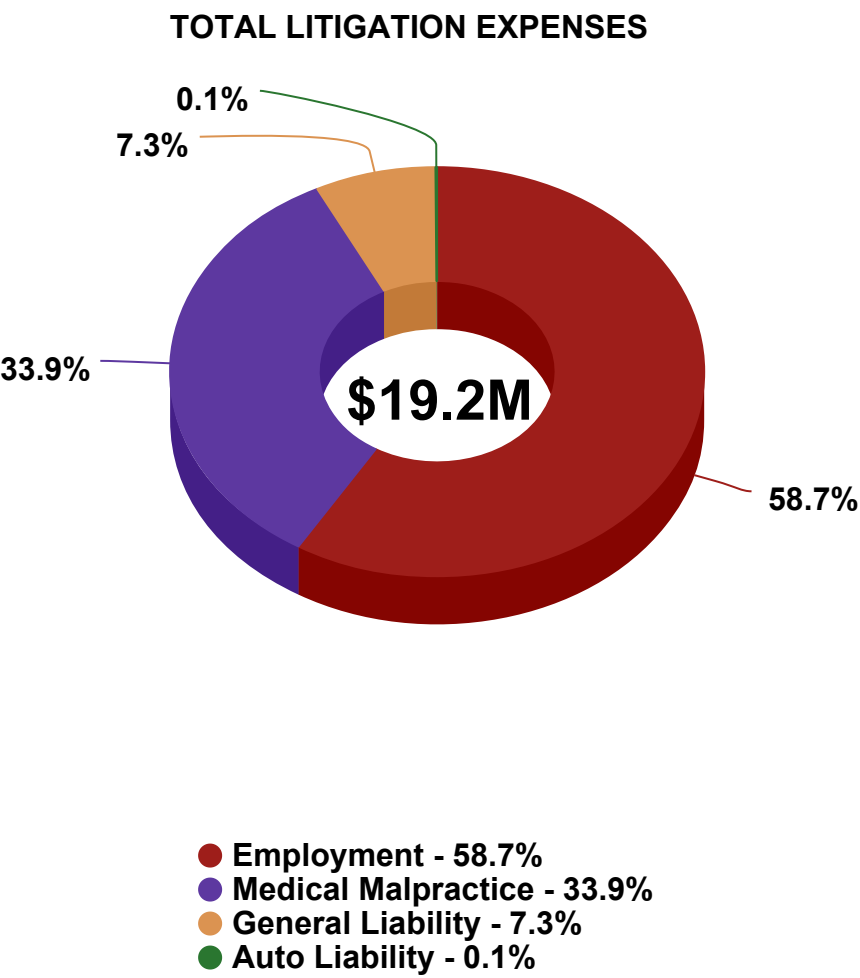
**Judgments and Settlements** — Judgments and settlements increased to \$11,381,588 in FY 24-25, from \$11,298,221 in FY 23-24. The four-year average was \$9,836,743.

**Fees and Costs** — Fees and costs increased to \$7,852,317 in FY 24-25, from \$6,710,890 in FY 23-24. The four-year average was \$6,185,502.

**Lawsuits** — Lawsuits rose to 230 in FY 24-25, from 224 in FY 23-24. Of the 230 lawsuits, 117 were Medical Malpractice, 73 were Employment, 38 were General Liability, and two were Auto Liability.

**Expenses by Facility** — The share of total expenses by medical facility in FY 24-25 was: Ambulatory Care Network, 4.4 percent; Correctional Health Services, 15 percent; Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, 40.7 percent; Juvenile Court Health Services, 0.1 percent; LA General Medical Center, 23.2 percent; Olive View-UCLA Medical Center, 5.9 percent; Rancho Los Amigos National Rehab Center, 0.5 percent; Other DHS Facilities, 9.7 percent; and MLK/Drew, 0.4 percent.

**Most Expensive Case Types** — Employment, with total expenses of \$11,281,713, was DHS's costliest case type. Employment expenses increased by \$1,302,622 in FY 24-25, from \$9,979,091 in FY 23-24. The second costliest case type was Medical Malpractice, which had a decrease of \$723,465 in expenses from \$7,250,435 in FY 23-24, to \$6,526,970 in FY 24-25.



**TOTAL EXPENSES**  
compared to FY 23-24

↑ 7%

**JUDGMENTS & SETTLEMENTS**  
compared to FY 23-24

↑ 1%

**FEES & COSTS**  
compared to FY 23-24

↑ 17%

**LAWSUITS**  
compared to FY 23-24

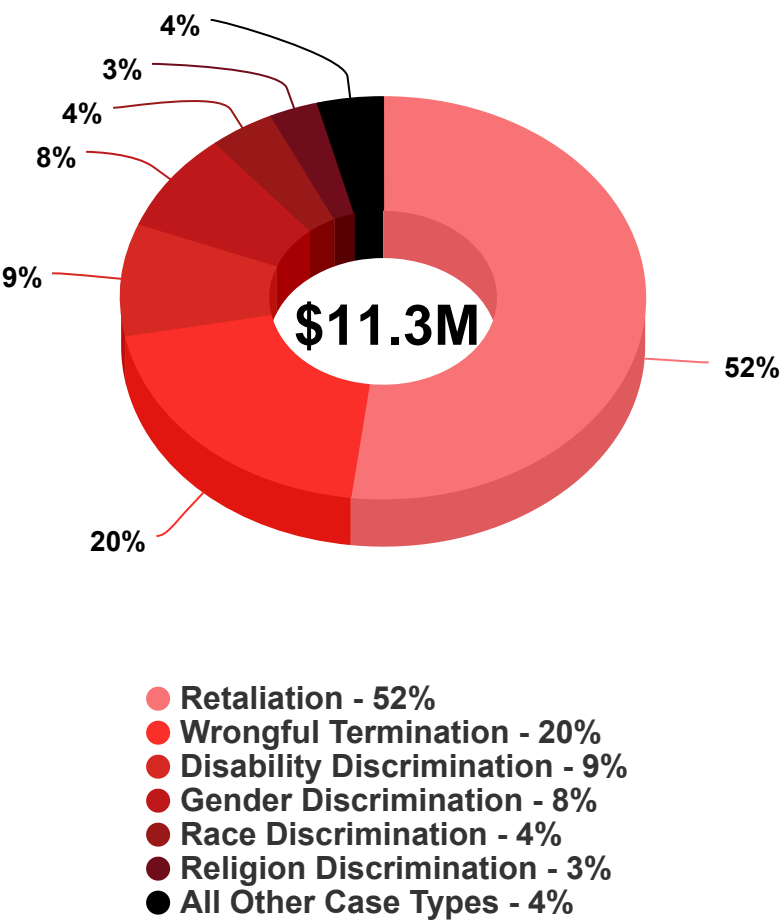
↑ 3%

# EMPLOYMENT

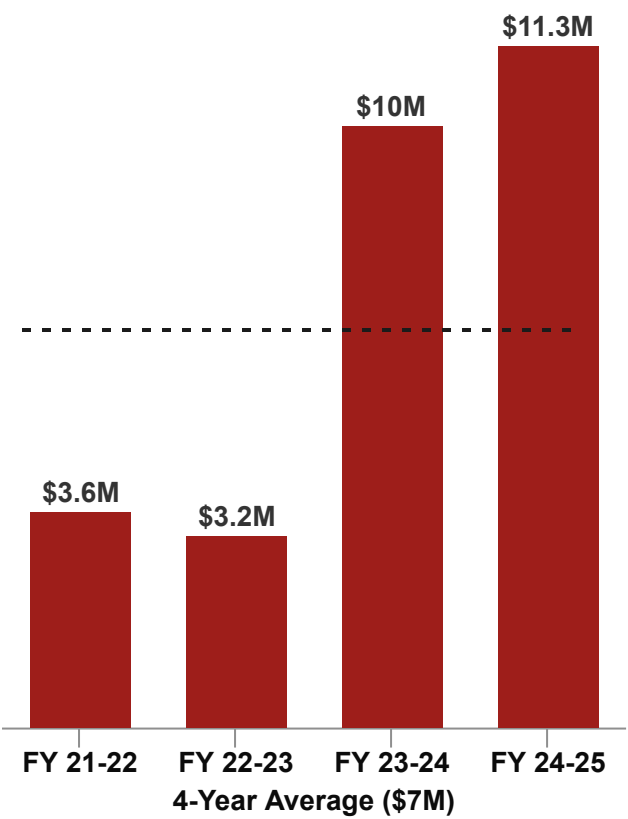
Employment was the costliest case type for DHS in FY 24-25. The Department spent \$11,281,713 on Employment lawsuits in FY 24-25, compared to \$9,979,091 in FY 23-24. Of the total spent, \$6,318,834 was for judgments and settlements, and \$4,962,879 was for fees and costs.

DHS defended 73 Employment lawsuits in FY 24-25, same as in FY 23-24.

EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



LITIGATION EXPENSES



**EMPLOYMENT EXPENSES COMPARISON**

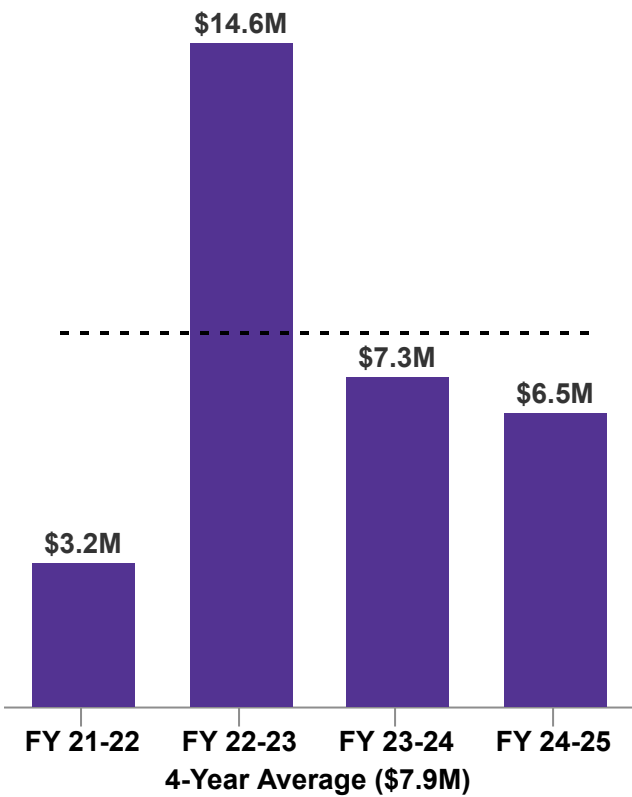
<b>Case Subtype</b>	<b># of Lawsuits</b>	<b>Total Expenses FY 24-25</b>	<b>% Change from FY 23-24</b>
Retaliation	13	\$5,866,613	336%
Wrongful Termination	13	\$2,234,818	323%
Disability Discrimination	16	\$1,040,691	4%
Gender Discrimination	8	\$849,781	191%
Race Discrimination	7	\$397,921	-93%
Religion Discrimination	2	\$361,399	383%
Sexual Harassment	7	\$330,188	-51%
Denial of Promotion	1	\$88,946	2%
Sexual Assault	1	\$54,556	-58%
Age Discrimination	2	\$35,639	-30%
Denial of Retirement Benefits	1	\$13,357	-8%
Wage & Hour/OT/Employee Benefits	2	\$7,804	No Expenses
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>\$11,281,713</b>	<b>13%</b>

## MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

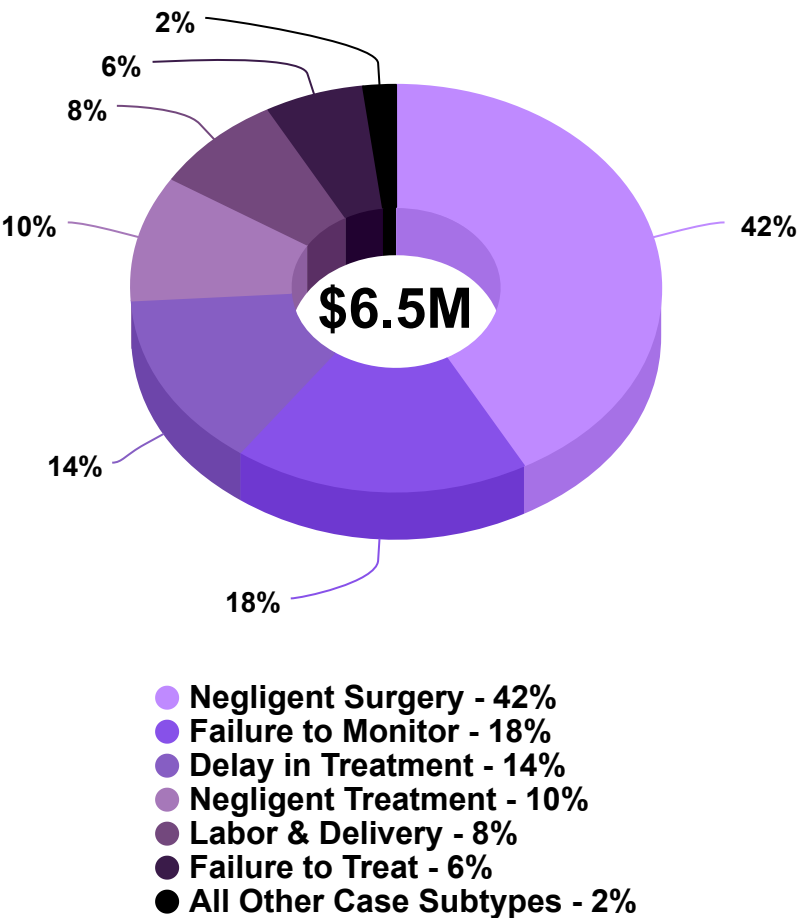
Medical Malpractice was the second costliest case type for DHS in FY 24-25. The Department spent \$6,526,970 on Medical Malpractice lawsuits in FY 24-25, down from \$7,250,435 in FY 23-24. Of the total spent on Medical Malpractice lawsuits, \$4,952,004 was for judgments and settlements, and \$1,574,966 was for fees and costs.

The Department defended 117 Medical Malpractice lawsuits in FY 24-25, up from 113 in FY 23-24.

LITIGATION EXPENSES



EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



**MEDICAL MALPRACTICE EXPENSES COMPARISON**

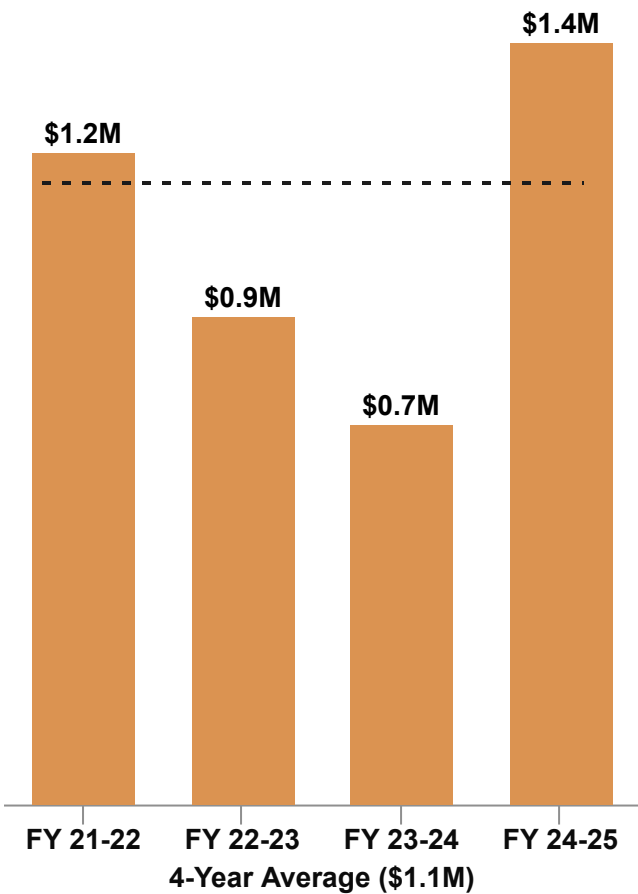
<b>Case Subtype</b>	<b># of Lawsuits</b>	<b>Total Expenses FY 24-25</b>	<b>% Change from FY 23-24</b>
Negligent Surgery	17	\$2,710,455	965%
Failure to Monitor	13	\$1,160,288	238%
Delay in Treatment	10	\$923,947	137%
Negligent Treatment	29	\$630,545	-10%
Labor & Delivery	15	\$540,410	-88%
Failure to Treat	21	\$361,385	-7%
Delay in Diagnosis	2	\$74,914	295%
Wrong Medication	1	\$43,890	-56%
Failure to Diagnose	4	\$41,551	8%
Withholding of Medication	1	\$21,901	111%
Lack of/Delayed Medical Custody Care	1	\$9,860	498%
Administration of Medication	2	\$5,099	-43%
Misdiagnosis	1	\$2,725	-94%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>\$6,526,970</b>	<b>-10%</b>

# GENERAL LIABILITY

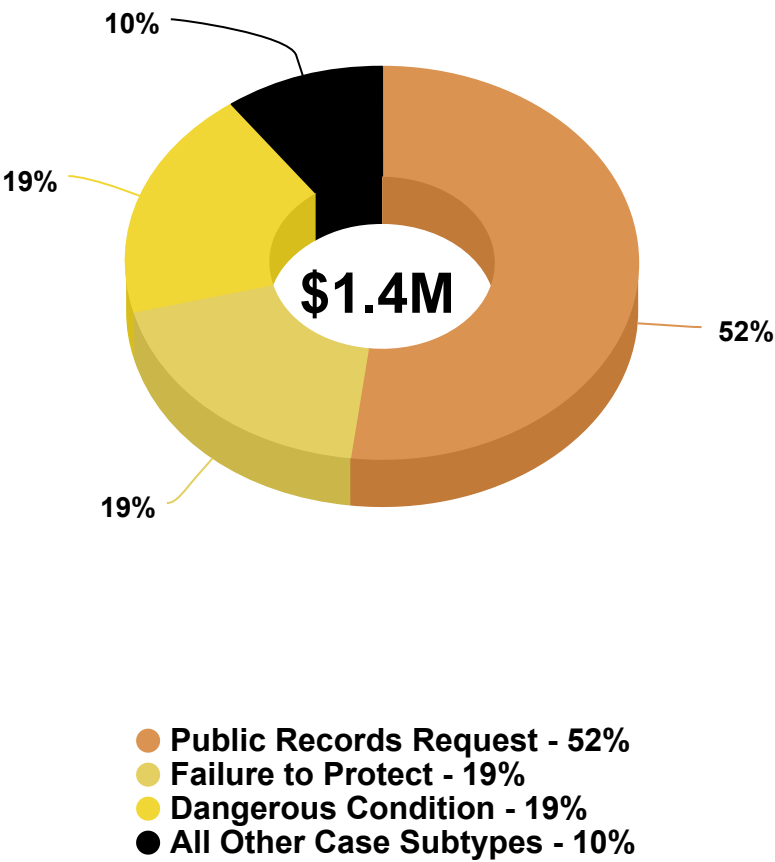
General Liability was DHS's third costliest case type in FY 24-25. The Department spent \$1,412,415 on General Liability lawsuits, compared to \$739,454 in FY 23-24. Of the total spent on General Liability lawsuits, \$110,750 was for judgments and settlements, and \$1,301,665 was for fees and costs.

The Department defended 38 General Liability lawsuits in FY 24-25, up from 36 in FY 23-24.

LITIGATION EXPENSES



EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



**GENERAL LIABILITY EXPENSES COMPARISON**

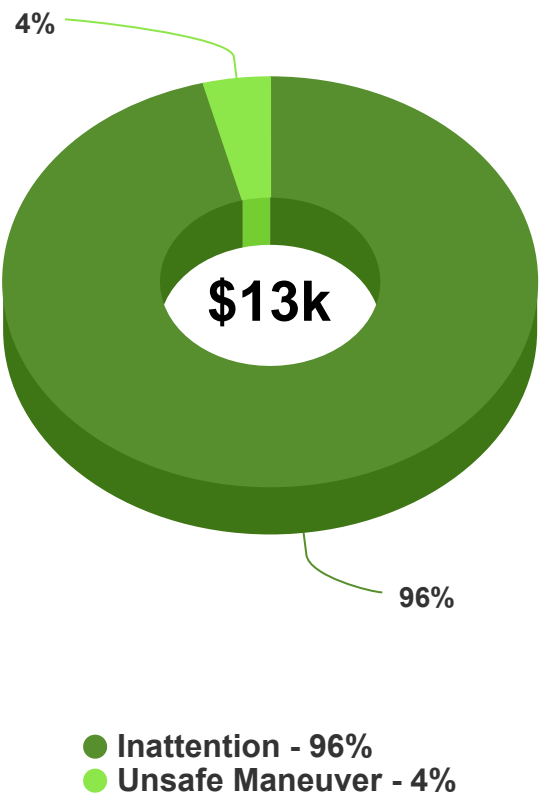
Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 24-25	% Change from FY 23-24
Public Records Request	1	\$734,392	465%
Failure to Protect	9	\$274,163	-17%
Dangerous Condition	13	\$267,636	28%
Breach of Contract	3	\$53,736	134%
Civil Rights Violation	5	\$48,533	235%
Transfer of Structural Settlement	1	\$18,000	0%
Operations	5	\$14,450	2611%
Sexual Assault by Employee	1	\$1,505	72%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>\$1,412,415</b>	<b>91%</b>

## AUTO LIABILITY

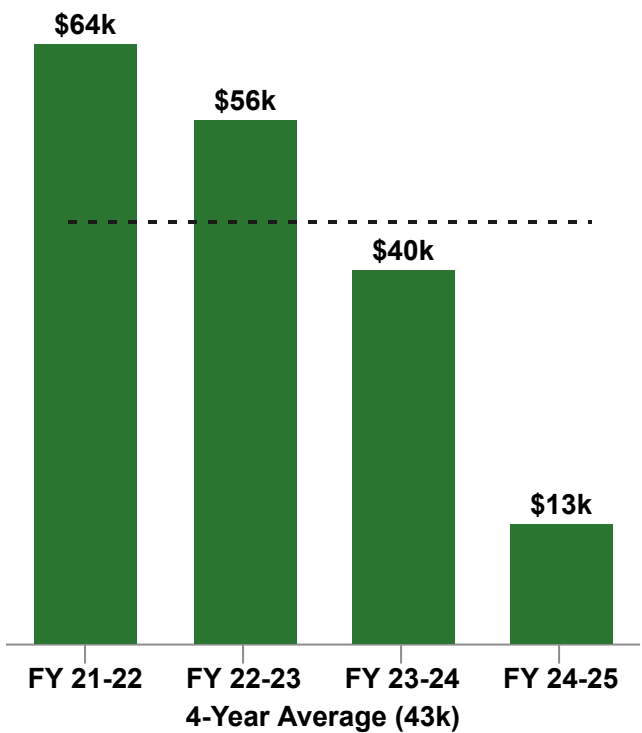
Auto Liability was DHS's least costly case type in FY 24-25. The Department spent \$12,807 on Auto Liability, compared to \$40,131 in FY 23-24. Of the total spent on Auto Liability lawsuits, no expenses were for judgments and settlements, and \$12,807 was for fees and costs.

The Department defended two Auto Liability lawsuits in FY 24-25, same count as in FY 23-24.

EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



LITIGATION EXPENSES



Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 24-25	% Change from FY 23-24
Inattention	1	\$12,316	147%
Unsafe Maneuver	1	\$491	-99%
TOTAL	2	\$12,807	-68%

## FACILITIES

### Ambulatory Care Network (ACN)

Annual litigation expenses totaled \$841,832 for 14 cases, with the following breakdown: Employment - \$95,174; Medical Malpractice - \$732,837; General Liability - \$1,505; and Auto Liability - \$12,316.

### Correctional Health Services (CHS)

Annual litigation expenses totaled \$2,882,460 for 55 cases, with the following breakdown: Employment - \$1,966,212; Medical Malpractice - \$636,037; and General Liability - \$280,211.

### Harbor-UCLA Medical Center

Annual litigation expenses totaled \$7,826,697 for 40 cases, with the following breakdown: Employment - \$6,656,686; Medical Malpractice - \$368,608; and General Liability - \$801,403.

### Juvenile Court Health Services (JCHS)

Annual litigation expenses totaled \$23,810 for three cases, with the following breakdown: Medical Malpractice - \$405; and General Liability - \$23,405.

### LA General Medical Center

Annual litigation expenses totaled \$4,463,283 for 70 cases, with the following breakdown: Employment - \$758,106; Medical Malpractice - \$3,545,913; and General Liability - \$159,264.

### Olive View-UCLA Medical Center

Annual litigation expenses totaled \$1,135,103 for 14 cases, with the following breakdown: Employment - \$7,088; Medical Malpractice - \$1,063,851; and General Liability - \$64,164.

### Rancho Los Amigos National Rehab Center (Rancho Los Amigos)

Annual litigation expenses totaled \$104,037 for four cases, with the following breakdown: Employment - \$56,602; and Medical Malpractice - \$47,435.

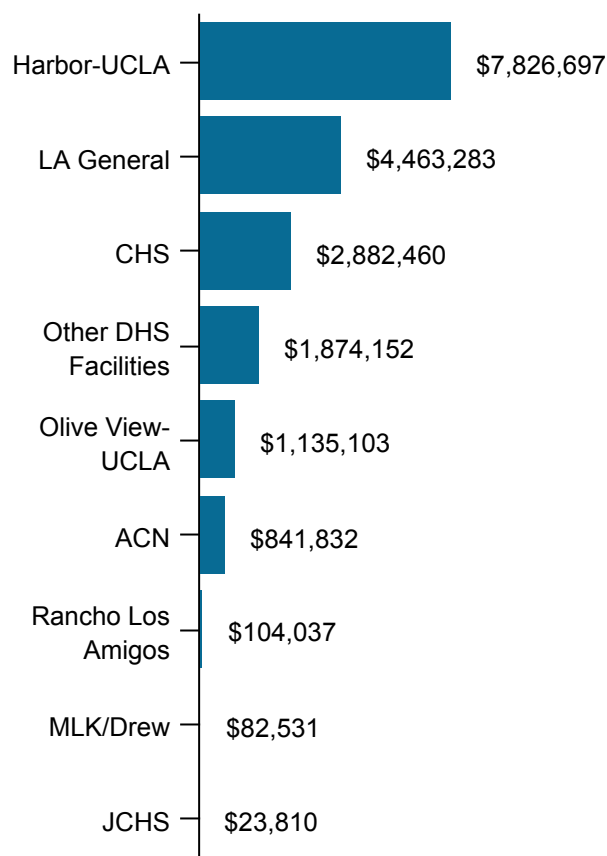
### Other DHS Facilities

Annual litigation expenses totaled \$1,874,152 for 38 cases, as follows: Employment - \$1,741,845; Medical Malpractice - \$49,353; General Liability - \$82,463; and Auto Liability - \$491.

### MLK/Drew

Annual litigation expenses totaled \$82,531 for six medical malpractice cases.

## EXPENSES BY FACILITY



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# Department of Public Works



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# PUBLIC WORKS

**Total Expenses** — Expenses, consisting of judgments, settlements, attorney's fees, and costs, for the Department of Public Works (DPW) decreased to \$15,449,968 in FY 24-25 from \$17,856,125 in FY 23-24. The four-year average amounted to \$17,538,332.

**Judgments and Settlements** — Judgments and settlements decreased to \$4,596,300 from \$10,349,763 in FY 23-24. The four-year average amounted to \$10,685,947.

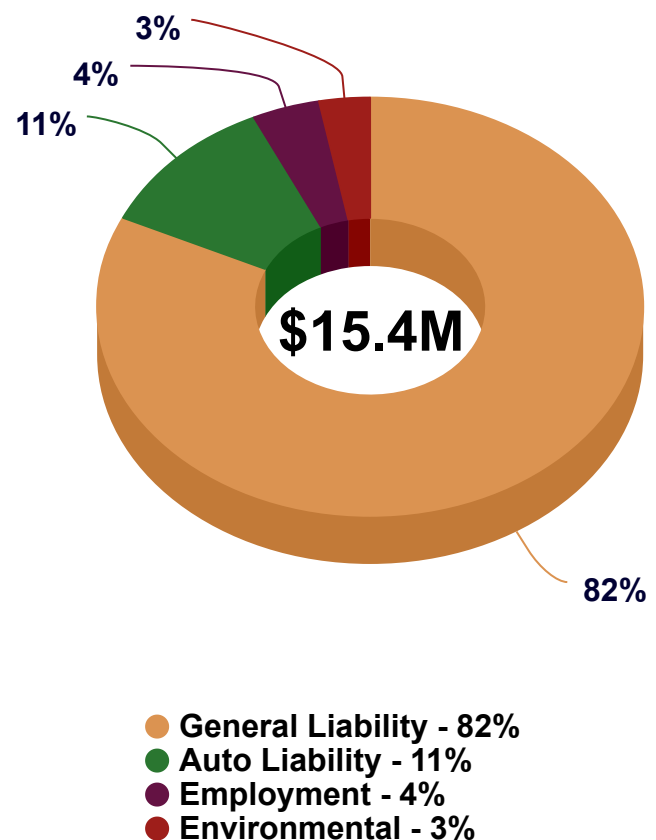
**Fees and Costs** — Fees and costs increased to \$10,853,668 in FY 24-25, from \$7,506,362 in FY 23-24. The four-year average amounted to \$6,852,385.

**Lawsuits** — Lawsuits rose to 266 in FY 24-25, from 221 in FY 23-24. Of the 266 lawsuits, 211 were General Liability, 37 were Auto Liability, 13 were Employment, and five were Environmental.

**Contract Cities/Special Districts** — Of the \$15,449,968 in litigation expenses incurred by DPW in FY 24-25, \$3,527,580 was reimbursed by Special Districts (Waterworks, Flood Control, Sewer & Drain, and Road), and by Contract Cities.

**Most Expensive Case Types** — General Liability, with total expenses of \$12,754,615, was the Department's costliest case type. General Liability total expenses decreased by \$1,100,211 in FY 24-25, from \$13,854,826 in FY 23-24. The second costliest case type was Auto Liability, which had a decrease of \$1,602,810 in expenses from \$3,246,898 in FY 23-24 to \$1,644,088 in FY 24-25.

TOTAL LITIGATION EXPENSES



**TOTAL EXPENSES**  
compared to FY 23-24

↓ 13%

**JUDGMENTS & SETTLEMENTS**  
compared to FY 23-24

↓ 56%

**FEES & COSTS**  
compared to FY 23-24

↑ 45%

**LAWSUITS**  
compared to FY 23-24

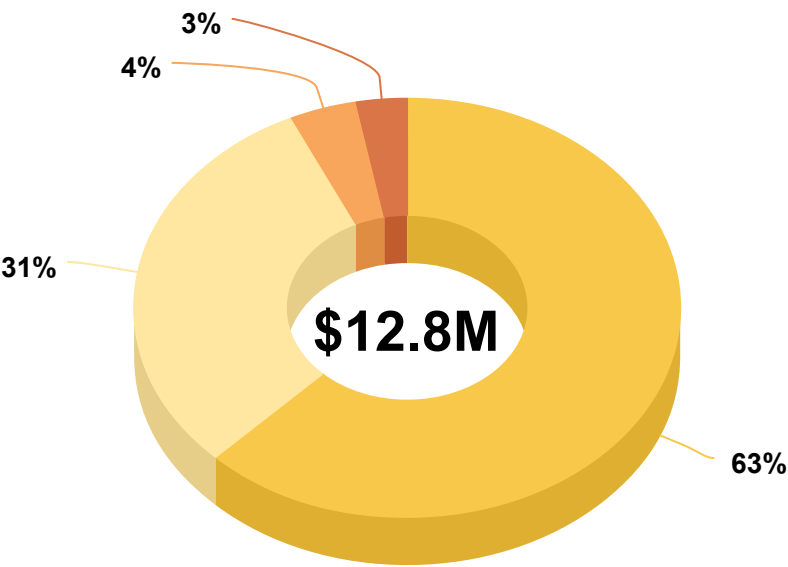
↑ 20%

## GENERAL LIABILITY

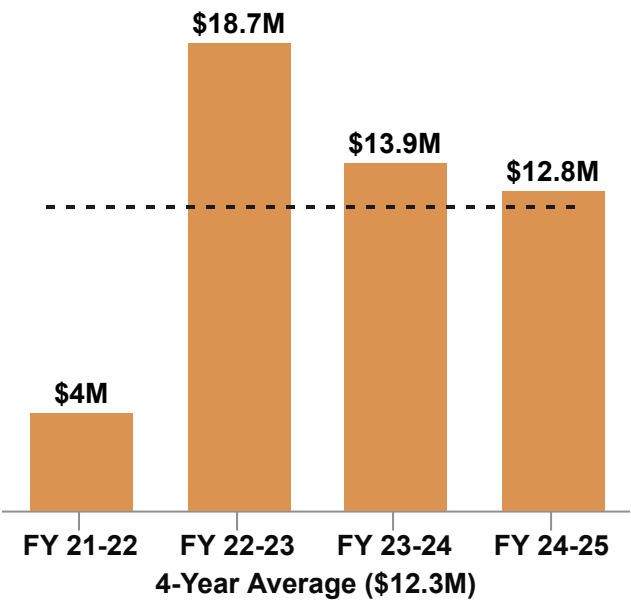
General Liability was DPW's costliest case type in FY 24-25. The Department spent \$12,754,615 on General Liability lawsuits, compared to \$13,854,826 in FY 23-24. Of the total spent on General Liability, \$3,669,604 was for judgments and settlements, and \$9,085,011 was for fees and costs.

The Department defended 211 General Liability lawsuits in FY 24-25, up from 175 in FY 23-24.

EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



LITIGATION EXPENSES



- Dangerous Condition - 63%
- Operations - 31%
- Real Property - 4%
- Breach of Contract - 3%

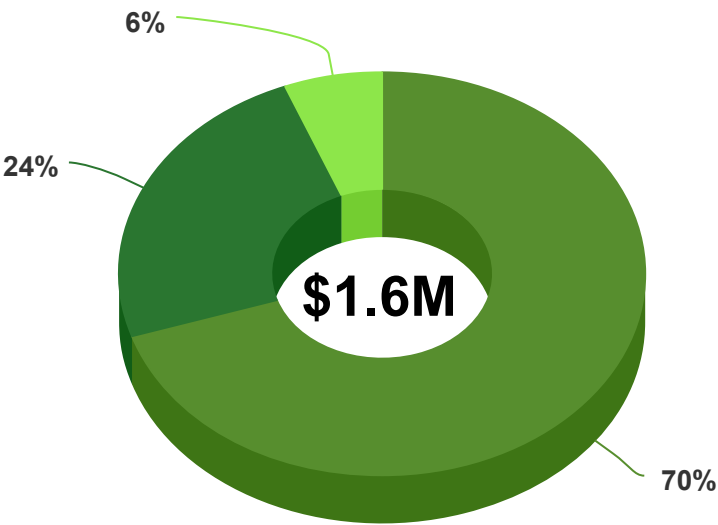
Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 24-25	% Change from FY 23-24
Dangerous Condition	145	\$8,007,854	-23%
Operations	31	\$3,901,101	57%
Real Property	32	\$526,119	-40%
Breach of Contract	3	\$319,541	466%
TOTAL	211	\$12,754,615	-8%

## AUTO LIABILITY

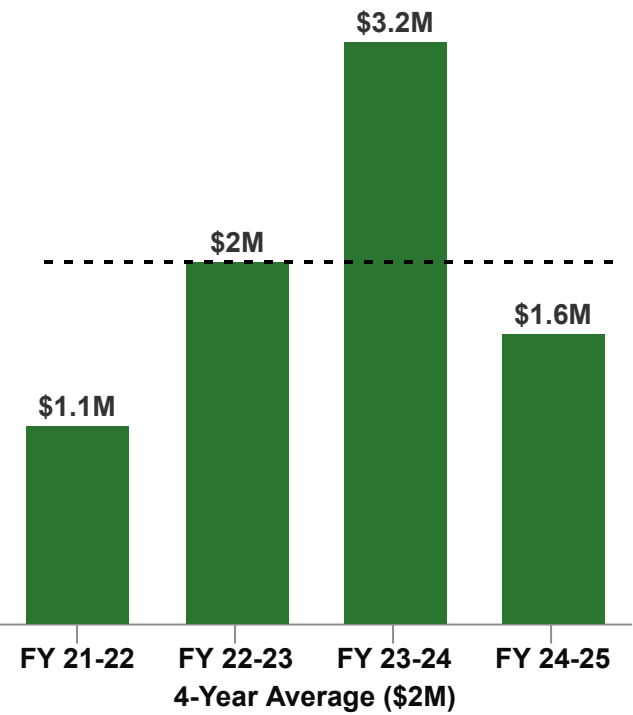
Auto Liability was DPW's second costliest case type in FY 24-25. The Department spent \$1,644,088 on Auto Liability lawsuits in FY 24-25, compared to \$3,246,898 in FY 23-24. Of the total spent on Auto Liability, \$726,696 was for judgments and settlements, and \$917,392 was for fees and costs.

The Department defended 37 Auto Liability lawsuits in FY 24-25, up from 26 in FY 23-24.

EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



LITIGATION EXPENSES



- Unsafe Maneuver - 70%
- Inattention - 24%
- Unsafe Speed - 6%

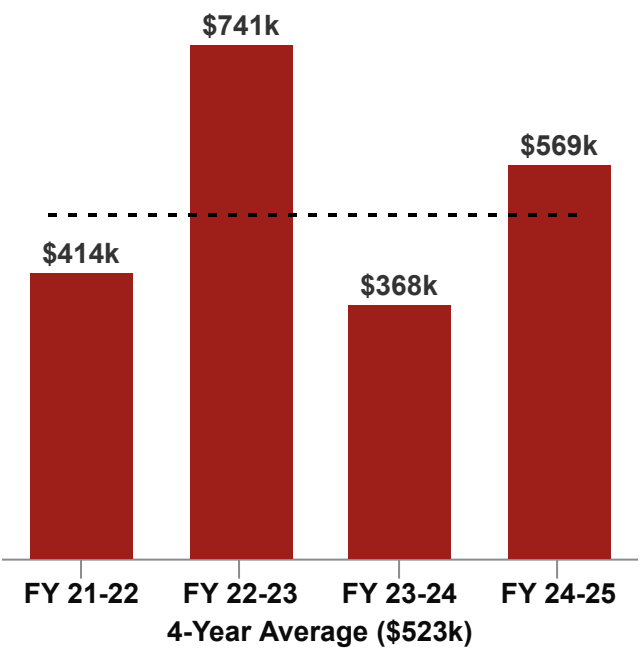
Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 24-25	% Change from FY 23-24
Unsafe Maneuver	15	\$1,148,777	-62%
Inattention	18	393,718	68%
Unsafe Speed	4	\$101,593	318%
TOTAL	37	\$1,644,088	-49%

## EMPLOYMENT

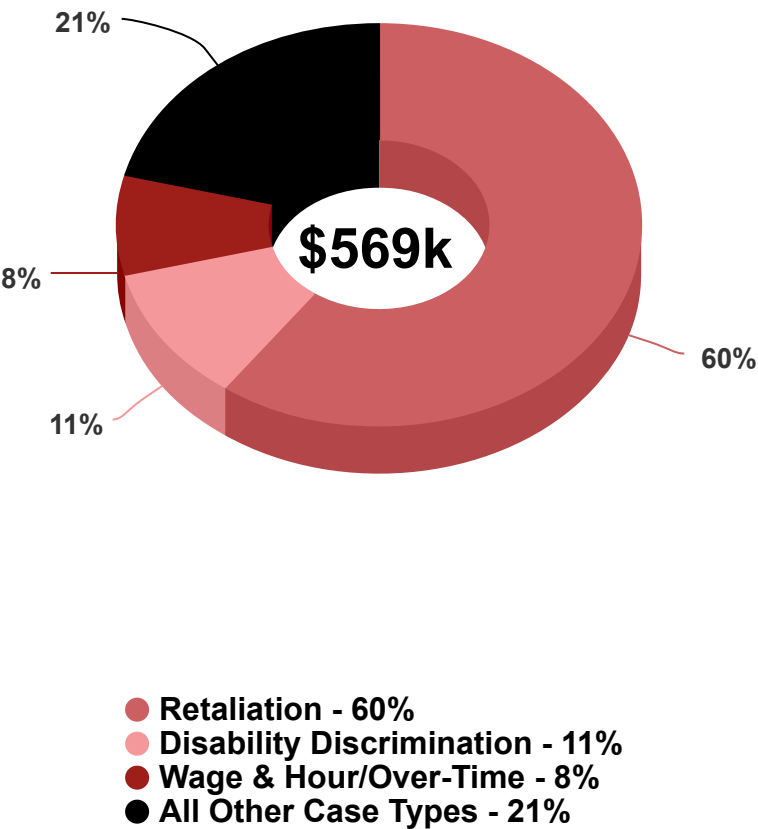
Employment was the third costliest case type for DPW in FY 24-25. DPW spent \$568,947 on Employment lawsuits, compared to \$367,772 in FY 23-24. Of the total spent on Employment, \$200,000 was for judgments and settlements, and \$368,947 was for fees and costs.

DPW defended 13 Employment lawsuits in FY 24-25, the same as in FY 23-24.

LITIGATION EXPENSES



EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



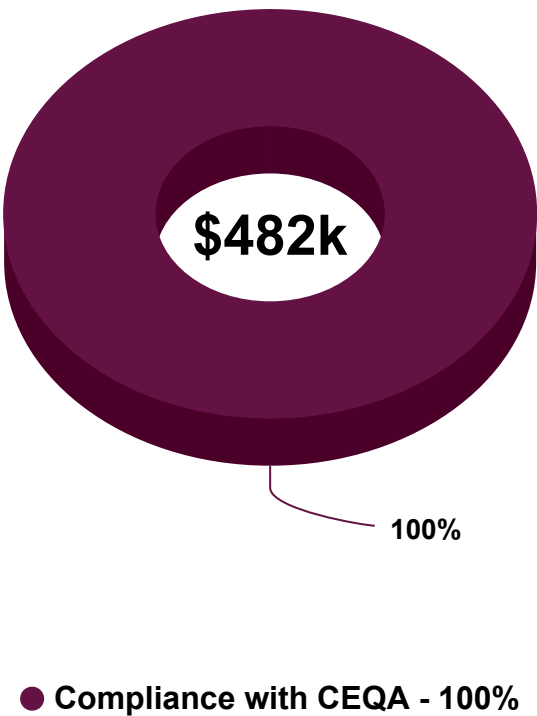
Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 24-25	% Change from FY 23-24
Retaliation	3	\$341,808	426%
Disability Discrimination	3	\$65,067	-9%
Wage & Hour/Over-Time	1	\$47,732	-33%
Wrongful Termination	2	\$36,550	-20%
National Origin Discrimination	2	\$35,115	5%
Race Discrimination	1	\$27,509	-64%
Age Discrimination	1	\$15,166	254%
TOTAL	13	\$568,947	55%

# ENVIRONMENTAL

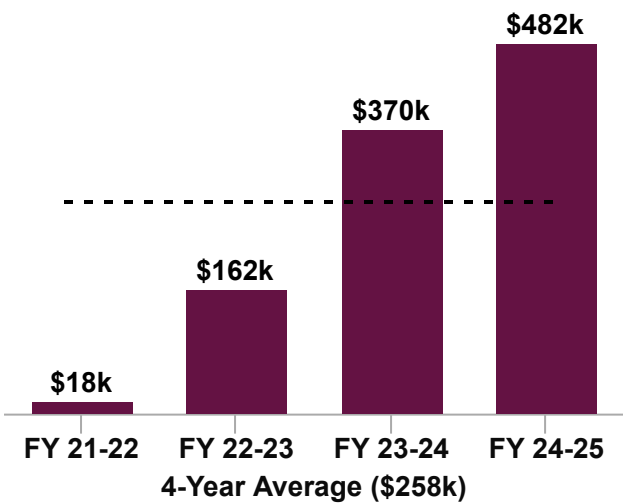
Environmental was the fourth costliest case type for DPW in FY 24-25. DPW spent \$482,318 on Environmental lawsuits in FY 24-25 compared to \$369,812 in FY 23-24. The \$482,318 consisted entirely of fees and costs.

The Department defended five Environmental lawsuits in FY 24-25, the same as in FY 23-24.

## EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



## LITIGATION EXPENSES



Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 24-25	% Change from FY 23-24
Compliance with CEQA	5	\$482,318	30%
TOTAL	5	\$482,318	30%

## SPECIAL DISTRICTS AND CONTRACT CITIES

Of the \$15,449,968 DPW spent on litigation in FY 24-25, \$3,527,580 was reimbursed by Special Districts (Waterworks, Flood Control, Sewer & Drain, and Road) and Contract Cities. The reimbursed amount is more than the \$1,876,852 reimbursed in FY 23-24.

Of the total reimbursement, \$2,371,100 was reimbursed by Flood Control; \$667,201 was reimbursed by Sewer & Drain; \$137,633 was reimbursed by Road; \$79,324 was reimbursed by Waterworks; and \$272,322 was reimbursed by Contract Cities.

Although Special Districts and Contract Cities' expenses are included in the Department's overall expenses, they are not ultimately paid with County funds because of the reimbursement to the Department. After the \$3,527,580 in reimbursements is credited to the litigation expenses, the bottom-line payment by the Department in FY 24-25 is \$11,922,388.

Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 24-25	% Change from FY 23-24
Flood Control - Special District	30	\$2,371,100	87%
Sewer & Drain - Special District	8	\$667,201	179%
Contract Cities	8	\$272,322	84%
Road - Special District	13	\$137,633	363%
Waterworks - Special District	5	\$79,324	-59%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>\$3,527,580</b>	<b>88%</b>



# Fire Department



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# FIRE DEPARTMENT

**Total Expenses** — Expenses, consisting of judgments, settlements, attorney's fees, and costs, for the Fire Department increased to \$14,209,445 in FY 24-25, from \$8,556,049 in FY 23-24. The four-year average amounted to \$17,647,557.

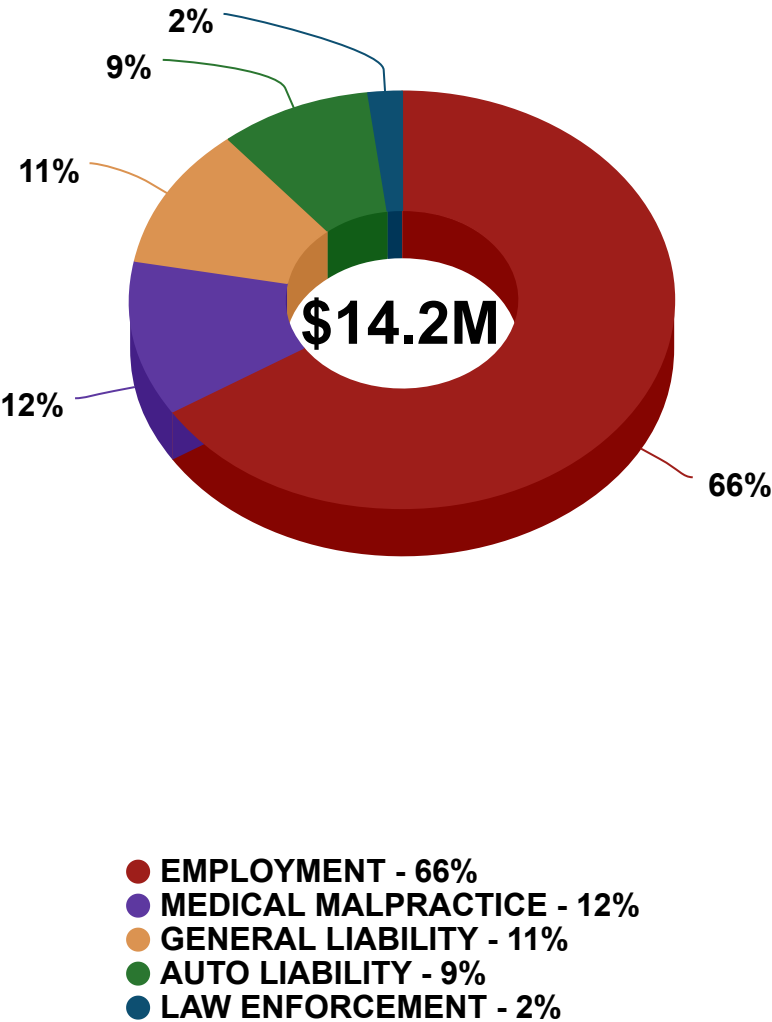
**Judgments and Settlements** — Judgments and settlements increased to \$9,648,254 in FY 24-25, from \$5,046,786 in FY 23-24. The four-year average amounted to \$13,576,806.

**Fees and Costs** — Fees and costs increased to \$4,561,191 in FY 24-25, from \$3,509,263 in FY 23-24. The four-year average amounted to \$4,070,752.

**Lawsuits** — Lawsuits rose to 101 in FY 24-25, from 98 in FY 23-24. Of the 101 lawsuits, 41 were Auto Liability, 38 were Employment, 13 were General Liability, six were Medical Malpractice, and three were Law Enforcement.

**Most Expensive Case Types** — Employment, with total expenses of \$9,382,028, was the Department's costliest case type. Employment expenses increased by \$2,803,307 in FY 24-25 from \$6,578,721 in FY 23-24. The second costliest case type was Medical Malpractice, at \$1,708,221, an increase of \$1,580,752 from \$127,469 in FY 23-24.

TOTAL LITIGATION EXPENSES



**TOTAL EXPENSES**  
compared to FY 23-24

↑ 66%

**JUDGMENTS & SETTLEMENTS**  
compared to FY 23-24

↑ 91%

**FEES & COSTS**  
compared to FY 23-24

↑ 30%

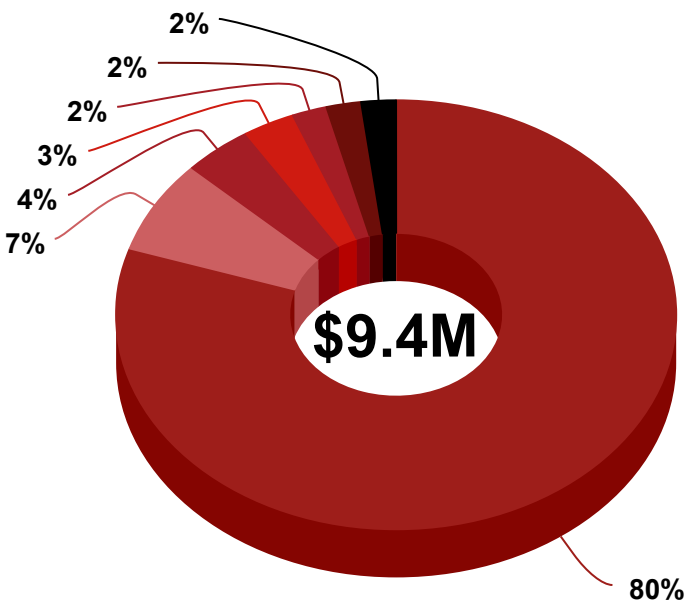
**LAWSUITS**  
compared to FY 23-24

↑ 3%

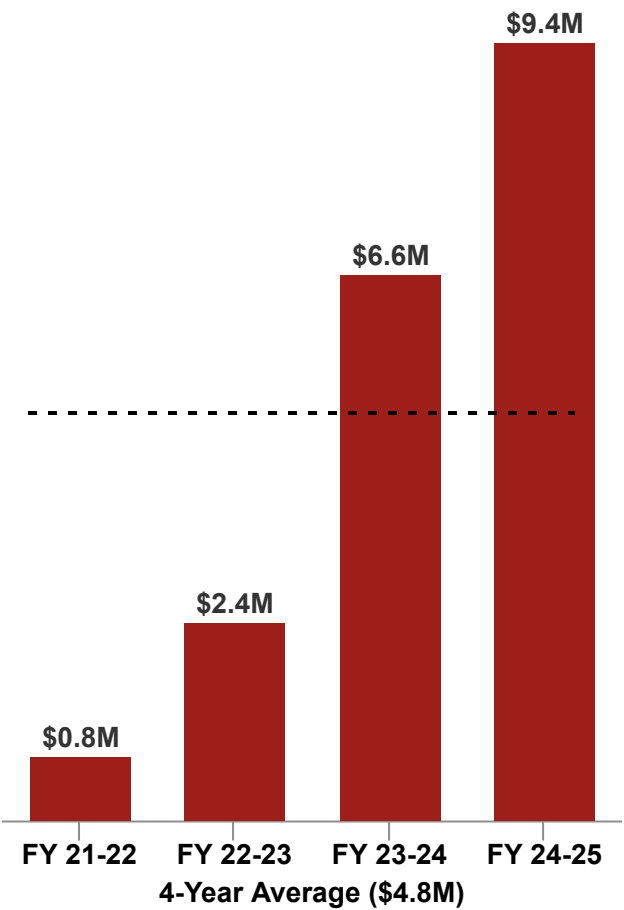
# EMPLOYMENT

Employment was the Department's costliest case type in FY 24-25. The Department spent \$9,382,028 on Employment lawsuits, compared to \$6,578,721 in FY 23-24. Of the total spent on Employment lawsuits, \$7,260,000 was for judgments and settlements, and \$2,122,028 was for fees and costs. The Department defended 38 Employment lawsuits in FY 24-25, up from 33 in FY 23-24.

EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



LITIGATION EXPENSES



- Investigating Employee Conduct - 80%
- Wrongful Termination - 7%
- Retaliation - 4%
- Wage & Hour/Over-Time - 3%
- Race Discrimination - 2%
- Disability Discrimination - 2%
- All Other Case Subtypes - 2%

**EMPLOYMENT EXPENSES COMPARISON**

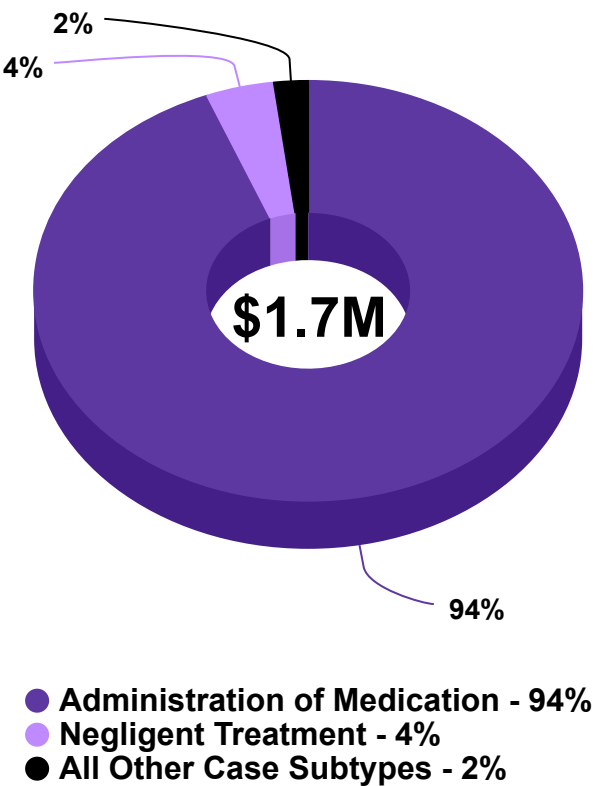
<b>Case Subtype</b>	<b># of Lawsuits</b>	<b>Total Expenses FY 24-25</b>	<b>% Change from FY 23-24</b>
Investigating Employee Conduct	2	\$7,470,317	161%
Wrongful Termination	7	\$673,769	-16%
Retaliation	6	\$348,635	-83%
Wage & Hour/Over-Time	5	\$271,418	-14%
Race Discrimination	6	\$229,594	227%
Disability Discrimination	4	\$152,058	43%
Denial of Promotion	2	\$108,051	49%
Age Discrimination	1	\$50,302	-4%
Gender Discrimination	2	\$43,828	-16%
Refusal to Indemnify	1	\$17,496	-87%
Failure to Promote	1	\$13,472	-64%
National Origin Discrimination	1	\$3,088	205%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>\$9,382,028</b>	<b>43%</b>

## MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

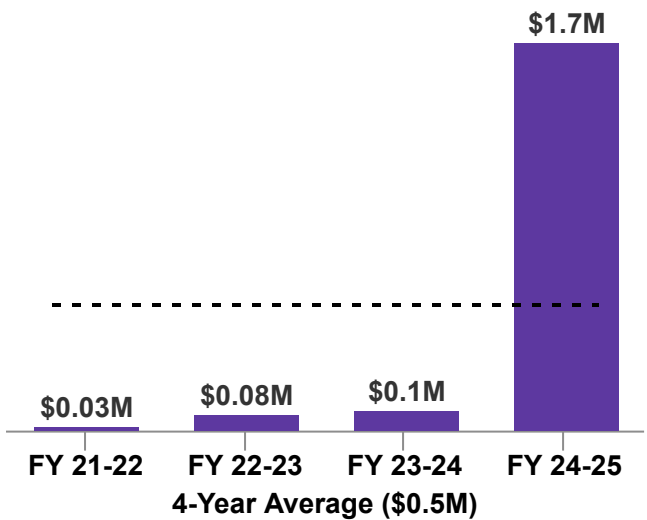
Medical Malpractice was the second costliest case type for Fire in FY 24-25. The Department spent \$1,708,221 on Medical Malpractice lawsuits in FY 24-25, compared to \$127,469 in FY 23-24. Of the total spent on Medical Malpractice lawsuits, \$1,600,000 was for judgments and settlements, and \$108,221 was for fees and costs.

The Department defended six Medical Malpractice lawsuits in FY 24-25, same as in FY 23-24.

EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



LITIGATION EXPENSES



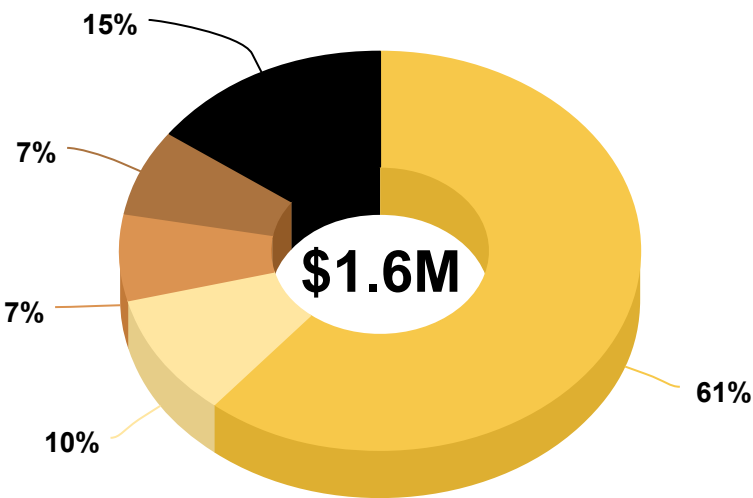
Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 24-25	% Change from FY 23-24
Administration of Medication	1	\$1,606,911	1762%
Negligent Treatment	3	\$69,154	175%
Failure to Monitor	1	\$31,155	357%
Improper Placement of 5150 Hold	1	\$1,001	-89%
TOTAL	6	\$1,708,221	1240%

# GENERAL LIABILITY

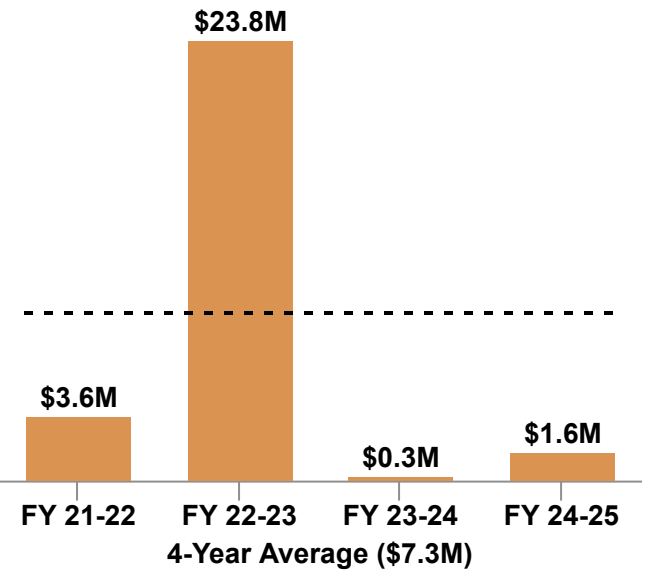
General Liability was the Department's third costliest case type in FY 24-25. The Department spent \$1,574,882 on General Liability lawsuits, compared to \$343,610 in FY 23-24.

Of the total spent on General Liability lawsuits, \$108,000 was for judgments and settlements, and \$1,466,882 was for fees and costs. The Department defended 13 General Liability lawsuits in FY 24-25, down from 14 in FY 23-24.

EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



LITIGATION EXPENSES



- Operations - 61%
- Dangerous Condition - 10%
- Sexual Assault by Employee - 7%
- Real Property - 7%
- All Other Case Subtypes - 15%

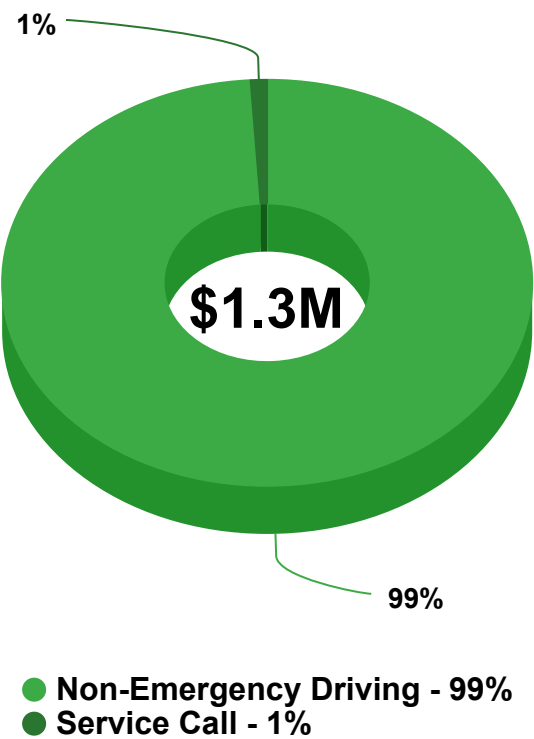
**GENERAL LIABILITY EXPENSES COMPARISON**

Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 24-25	% Change from FY 23-24
Operations	2	\$966,732	1346%
Dangerous Condition	3	\$149,899	194%
Sexual Assault by Employee	1	\$108,178	359%
Real Property	2	\$108,165	312%
Failure to Protect	1	\$82,975	20592%
Negligent Training	2	\$66,614	195%
Invasion of Privacy	1	\$64,364	-1%
Civil Rights Violation	1	\$27,955	-68%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>\$1,574,882</b>	<b>358%</b>

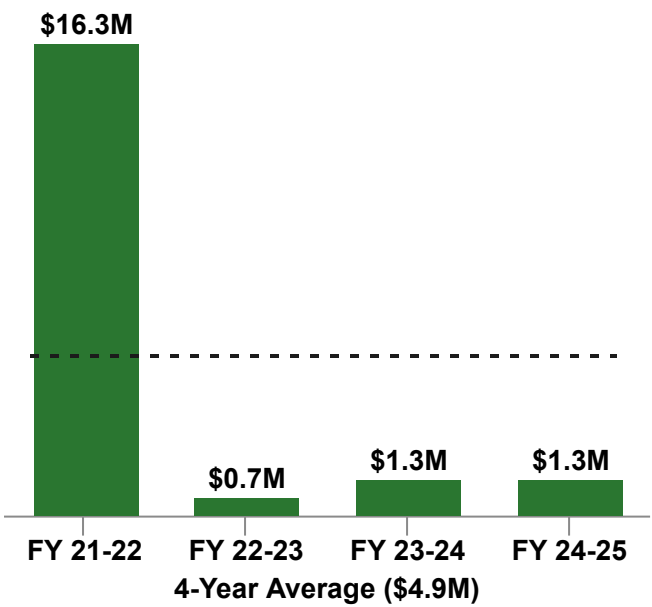
# AUTO LIABILITY

Auto Liability was the Department's fourth costliest case type in FY 24-25. The Department spent \$1,319,309 on Auto Liability, compared to \$1,300,163 in FY 23-24. Of the total spent on Auto Liability lawsuits, \$680,254 was for judgments and settlements, and \$639,055 was for fees and costs. The Department defended 41 Auto Liability lawsuits in FY 24-25, down from 42 in FY 23-24.

EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



LITIGATION EXPENSES



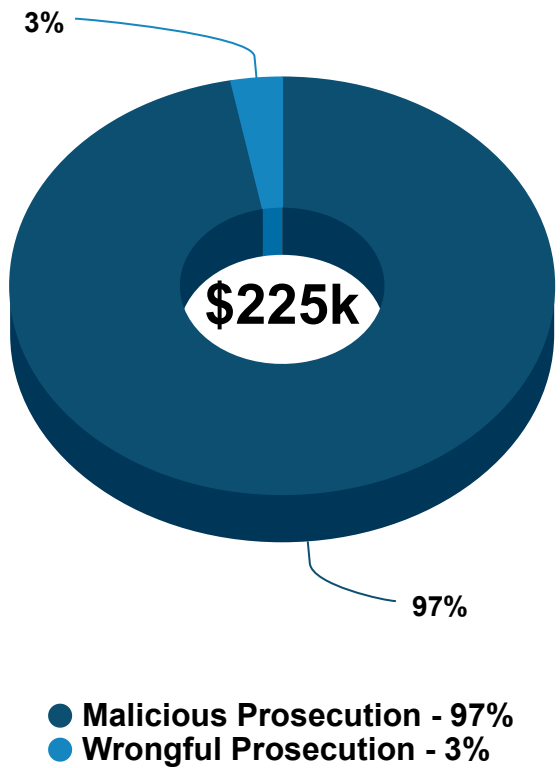
Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 24-25	% Change from FY 23-24
Non-Emergency Driving	32	\$1,088,701	-15%
Service Call	9	\$230,608	1030%
TOTAL	41	\$1,319,309	1%

## LAW ENFORCEMENT

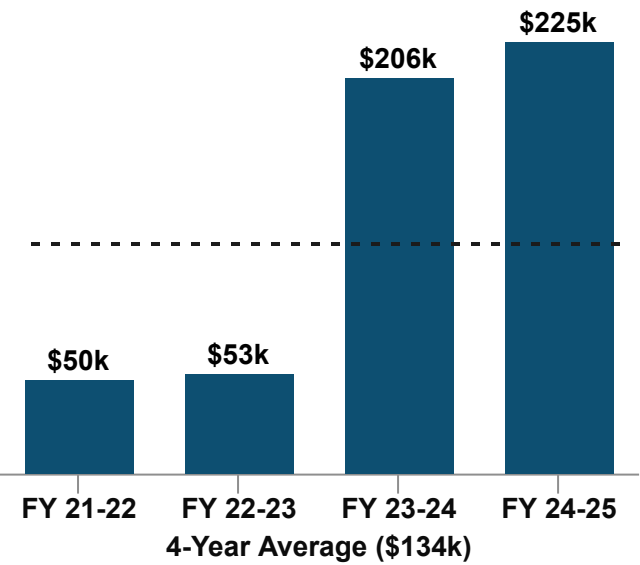
Law Enforcement was Fire's least costliest case type in FY 24-25. The Department spent \$225,005 on Law Enforcement lawsuits, compared to \$206,086 in FY 23-24. Of the total spent on Law Enforcement, \$225,005 was for fees and costs with no expenses for judgments and settlements.

Fire defended three Law Enforcement lawsuits in FY 24-25, matching FY 23-24.

EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



LITIGATION EXPENSES



Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 24-25	% Change from FY 23-24
Excessive Force	2	\$218,971	6%
Civil Rights Violation	1	\$6,034	No Expenses
TOTAL	3	\$225,005	9%



# Department of Public Social Services



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# PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

**Total Expenses** — Expenses, consisting of judgments, settlements, attorney's fees, and costs, for the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) increased to \$10,516,599 in FY 24-25 from \$1,599,249 in FY 23-24. The four-year average amounted to \$5,250,288.

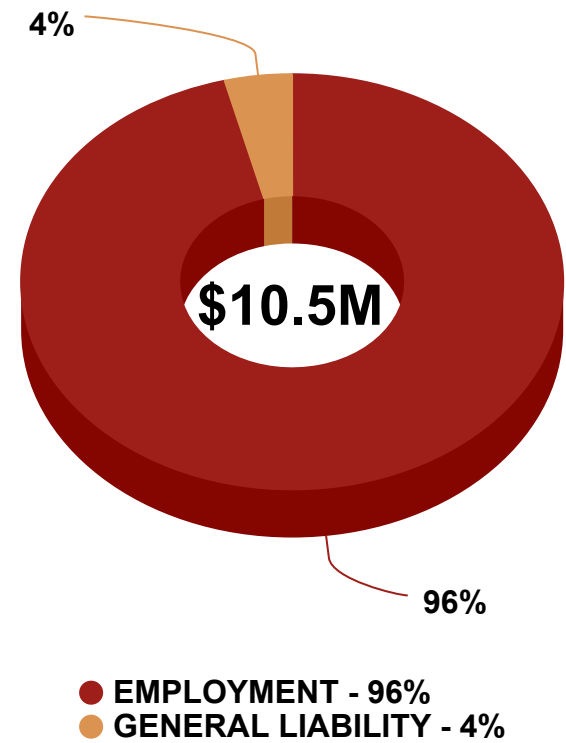
**Judgments and Settlements** — Judgments and settlements increased to \$8,781,610 in FY 24-25 from \$277,215 in FY 23-24. The four-year average amounted to \$3,680,396.

**Fees and Costs** — Fees and costs increased to \$1,734,989 in FY 24-25, from \$1,322,034 in FY 23-24. The four-year average amounted to \$1,569,892.

**Lawsuits** — Lawsuits rose to 55 in FY 24-25, from 48 in FY 23-24. Of the 55 lawsuits, 29 involved Employment matters, and 26 were General Liability.

**Most Expensive Case Types** — Employment, with total expenses of \$10,084,469, was the Department's costliest case type. Employment expenses increased by \$8,696,830 in FY 24-25, from \$1,387,639 in FY 23-24. The second costliest case type was General Liability, which had an increase of \$220,520 in expenses from \$211,610 to \$432,130 in FY 24-25.

## TOTAL LITIGATION EXPENSES



**TOTAL EXPENSES**  
compared to FY 23-24

**JUDGMENTS & SETTLEMENTS**  
compared to FY 23-24

**FEES & COSTS**  
compared to FY 23-24

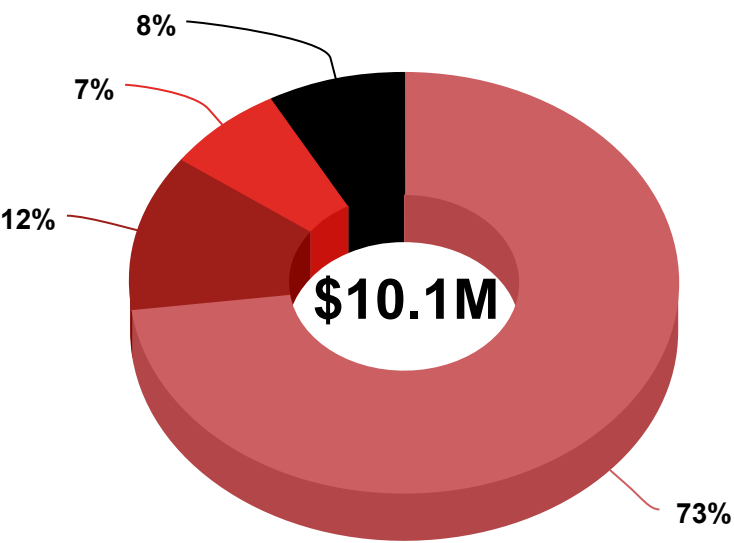
**LAWSUITS**  
compared to FY 23-24

↑558%    ↑3068%    ↑31%    ↑15%

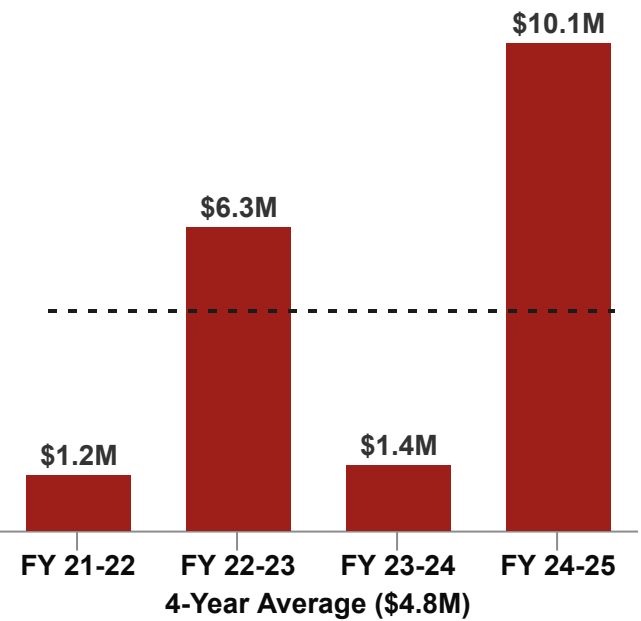
# EMPLOYMENT

Employment was the Department's costliest case type in FY 24-25. The Department spent \$10,084,469 on Employment lawsuits, compared to \$1,387,639 in FY 23-24. Of the total spent, \$8,781,610 was for judgments and settlements, and \$1,302,859 was for fees and costs. The Department defended 29 Employment lawsuits in FY 24-25, up from 27 in FY 23-24.

EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



LITIGATION EXPENSES



- Wage & Hour/Over-Time - 73%
- Wrongful Termination - 12%
- Disability Discrimination - 7%
- All Other Case Subtypes - 8%

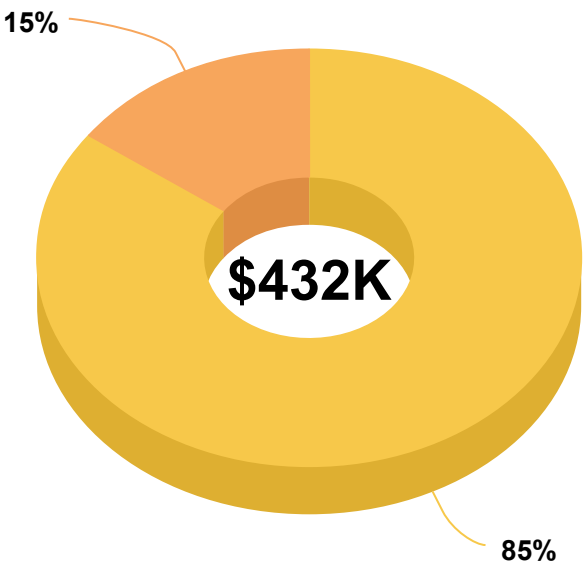
**EMPLOYMENT EXPENSES COMPARISON**

<b>Case Subtype</b>	<b># of Lawsuits</b>	<b>Total Expenses FY 24-25</b>	<b>% Change from FY 23-24</b>
Wage & Hour/Over-Time	2	\$7,378,618	5805%
Wrongful Termination	2	\$1,178,794	2006%
Disability Discrimination	8	\$689,875	74%
Sexual Harassment	3	\$304,046	121%
Retaliation	6	\$141,328	-68%
Failure to Hire	1	\$131,645	284%
Race Discrimination	2	\$122,242	-30%
Age Discrimination	2	\$93,556	1251%
Breach of Settlement Agreement	1	\$22,735	412%
Religion Discrimination	1	\$21,380	No Expenses
Investigating Employee Conduct	1	\$250	-97%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>\$10,084,469</b>	<b>627%</b>

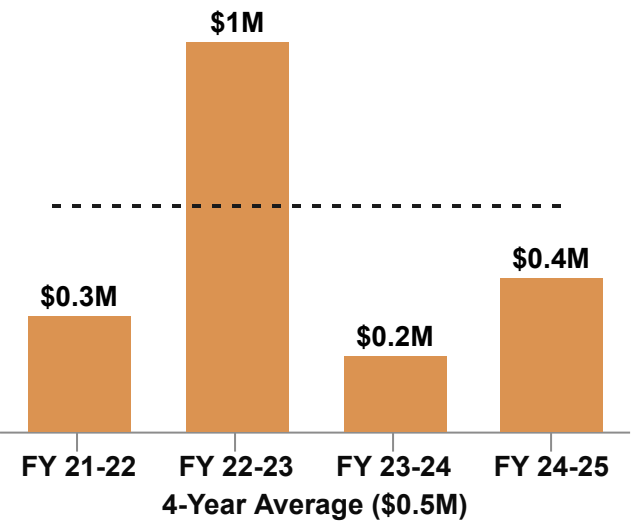
## GENERAL LIABILITY

General Liability was the second costliest case type for DPSS in FY 24-25. The Department spent \$432,130 on General Liability lawsuits, compared to \$211,610 in FY 23-24. Of the total spent on General Liability lawsuits in FY 24-25, \$432,130 was for fees and costs with no expenses for judgments and settlements. The Department defended 26 General Liability lawsuits in FY 24-25, up from 21 in FY 23-24.

EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



LITIGATION EXPENSES



● Operations - 85%  
● Dangerous Condition - 15%

Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 24-25	% Change from FY 23-24
Operations	21	\$368,029	101%
Dangerous Condition	5	\$64,101	137%
TOTAL	26	\$432,130	104%