



County of Los Angeles

March 3, 2026

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County Counsel

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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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
Kamryn Garbutt v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:24-cv-10947**



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

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

AMB:rm

Attachments

Board Agenda

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

Los Angeles County Claims Board's recommendation: Authorize settlement of the matter entitled Kamryn Garbutt v. County of Los Angeles, et al., United States District Court Case No. 2:24-cv-10947, in the amount of \$400,000, and instruct the Auditor-Controller to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the Probation Department's budget.

This federal civil rights lawsuit alleges that Plaintiff was assaulted by a probation officer and subsequently missed a court hearing, resulting in his over-detention.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Kamryn Garbutt v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	2:24-CV-10947-WLH (BFMx)
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	December 19, 2024
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Los Angeles Probation Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 400,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	ERIN DARLING Law Offices of Erin Darling
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	ANNA REITANO Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	ANDREW BAUM Glaser Weil Fink Howard Jordan & Shapiro LLP This is a recommendation to settle the federal civil rights lawsuit filed by Kamryn Garbutt arising out of an alleged assault and extended incarceration after missing his court date of \$400,000, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs. Due to the high risks and uncertainties of litigation, a reasonable settlement at this time will avoid further litigation costs. The full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$400,000 is recommended.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 49,871
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 10,000



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:	January 21, 2024
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	<p>Plaintiff Kamryn Garbutt sued the County of Los Angeles for the following: Violation of Civil Rights against a Probation Officer and two Supervising Probation Officers; Unconstitutional Custom, Practice or Policy; Inadequate Training/Policy of Inaction; Conspiracy to Violate Civil Rights; and Supervisory Liability.</p> <p>On Sunday, January 21, 2024, Plaintiff alleges he was physically abused by a Probation Officer in the shower area of Camp Paige and that Supervising Deputy Probation Officers were aware and failed to intervene, or act. The Plaintiff alleges he teased the defendant, a Probation Officer, about supporting the opposing football team, which ended up upsetting him. Later that evening, the Plaintiff alleges the Probation Officer choked him while taking a shower and did not stop until another probation officer intervened. The next day, the plaintiff alleges supervisors urged the Plaintiff to complete an affidavit stating nothing happened to him and threatened to delay his release from court the following day should he speak up regarding the alleged attack on him by the Probation Officer. Plaintiff further alleges the supervisors cancelled his court appearance that was scheduled for the next day and consequently confined for another month because of it.</p>

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

- A. Employee used unreasonable/prohibited use of force in violation of Abusive Institutional Practices.
- B. Allegations of retaliatory action and cover up (threatening to cancel youth court appearance so he would not report use of force)
- C. Lack of CCTV around facility

2. Briefly describe recommended corrective actions:

(Include each corrective action, due date, responsible party, and any disciplinary actions if appropriate)

- A. The department's current policy prohibits inappropriate and/or abusive acts to youth. A memo was issued on September 17, 2025, to all RTSB staff, reminding them of the policy outlined in RTSB Manual Section 1108 – Abusive Institutional Practices.
- B. A memo was issued on September 17, 2025, to all RTSB staff, reminding them of the guidelines outlined in RTSB Manual Section 1705 –Anti-Retaliation (L) regarding the Bureau's anti-retaliation policy.

RTSB Manual Section 1705 (L) Anti-Retaliation policy states the department has zero tolerance for retaliation against anyone who reports alleged policy violations, including inappropriate or excessive force. Officers, youth, partner agency personnel, visitors, or other staff assigned to the facility shall not be retaliated against (including shunning) for reporting and/or intervening in any alleged policy violation. Any activity or knowledge involving verbal, physical, or written threat to youth, staff, partner personnel, or visitors shall be immediately reported. This includes incidents of suspected abuse, use of force, or retaliation against whistleblowing (whistle-blowers report alleged wrongdoing or acts of fraud). Every person reporting an incident and acting in good faith shall be able to report an incident and be free from influence, threats, or restraint. No one shall prevent any other person from reporting or otherwise bringing to the attention of inappropriate and/or prohibited behavior. Staff shall be trained on the prohibitions, consequences, and measures to ensure the reliability of the complaint/grievance process related to retaliation, including the assignment of a Bureau Chief to address the need for interim protections for those who report. Those who violate this provision are subject to discipline up to and including termination.

- C. Camp Paige is temporarily closed but scheduled for the installation of CCTV cameras in early 2026. The camp may reopen later depending on operational needs of the department. Although cameras will not be installed in the shower area, they will be placed at the entrance of the showers which provide access to who enters and exits the area.

During shower supervision, staff are positioned within the shower area to eliminate any blind spots and to ensure all youth are safely supervised.

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.

Name: (Risk Management Coordinator) Crystal Hurtado	
Signature: <i>Crystal Hurtado</i>	Date: 11/18/2025

Name: (Department Head) Stacy Lopez-Maddox	
Signature: <i>Stacy Lopez-Maddox</i>	Date: 11/19/2025

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: (Risk Management Inspector General)

Betty Karmirlian

Signature:

Betty Karmirlian

Date:

11/19/25