

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR LINDSEY P. HORVATH

March 17, 2026

Improving Transparency in Legal Settlements by Creating a Public-Facing Dashboard and Updating Board Agendas

On October 14, 2025, it was publicly reported that the County entered into a \$2 million settlement agreement¹ with a department executive.² Similar payments have been made to other County executives upon their departure from County service. The settlement reported in October was disclosed, as allowed by current law, in response to a California Public Records Act request.

On December 2, 2025, this Board passed a motion directing the County to take steps to prospectively disclose settlements with County executives and explore the possibility of increasing transparency of any such settlements by developing a publicly

¹ <https://s3.documentcloud.org/documents/26185037/la-county-ceo-settlement-agreement-for-2-million-dollars.pdf> (Oct. 9, 2025 Letter from County Counsel to N. Gerda).

² <https://laist.com/news/politics/county-settlement-ceo>; <https://laist.com/news/la-countys-ceo-payout-ballot-measure-g>; <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2025-10-14/los-angeles-county-chief-executive-settlement>

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accessible dashboard that would publish and describe the basic details of any such settlements.

In addition to a dashboard, the County can also update its Board of Supervisors meeting agendas to incorporate basic details regarding legal settlements. For example, some California counties, such as Alameda County, include in their Board agenda a re-agendized item after a settlement has been entered into that reports the date when settlement authority was authorized, the case name, the final settlement amount and the result of the vote approving the settlement.

I, THEREFORE MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Direct the Auditor-Controller's Office, in collaboration with County Counsel, to create a public-facing information dashboard for settlements between the County and County executives that displays the settling party's name, settlement amount, and Claims Board or Board of Supervisors approval dates. The dashboard should also provide a link to each settlement agreement after it is posted on the Executive Office of the Board's Statement of Proceedings website, so the public can easily access settlements in a single online location.
2. Going forward, for cases where the Board voted to give authority to enter into a settlement or settlement negotiations, once the settlement is finalized, direct the Executive Office of the Board to re-agendize the item in a way that reports the date when the settlement authority was authorized, the party or case name as appropriate, the final settlement amount, and the result of the vote approving the settlement.

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