



County of Los Angeles

March 3, 2026

Dawyn R. Harrison
County Counsel

Board of Supervisors

Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor, First District

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Supervisor, Second District

Lindsey P. Horvath
Supervisor, Third District

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Supervisor, Fourth District

Kathryn Barger
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

Dear Supervisors:

**SETTLEMENT OF EMPLOYMENT MATTER
GOVERNMENT CLAIM NO. 25-2037
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Recommendation to settle an employment claim involving the District Attorney's Office (DA) and the Justice, Care and Opportunities Department (JCOD).

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Approve settlement in the amount of \$250,000 of a government claim filed by a JCOD employee, who was formerly an employee of the DA.
2. Instruct the Auditor-Controller to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the DA and JCOD.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

A proposed settlement of this employment claim alleging whistleblower retaliation has been reached with the employee. Your Board's authorization is now required to complete the proposed settlement. The settlement will result in payment of \$250,000, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs and the employee's resignation from County service.

If the County continued with litigation, the employee, who is currently represented by counsel, is likely to file a lawsuit against the County. The cost of defending a lawsuit regarding this claim would likely exceed the cost to settle this matter. The parties have been able to reach an amicable settlement of this matter.



FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The attorneys' fees paid to date total \$38,553. Funds will be allocated between the DA and JCOD's existing budgets.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The JCOD employee alleged whistleblower retaliation and subsequently filed a claim for damages on April 25, 2025. The employee is seeking past and future wages, emotional distress damages, and attorneys' fees. As a result of this claim, the parties engaged in lengthy settlement negotiations, and the proposed settlement was reached. Based on the agreement reached by the parties, we recommend the settlement in the amount of \$250,000, which also includes the employee's resignation from County service. The settlement agreement is subject to Board of Supervisors' approval.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

None.

CONCLUSION

County Counsel, the DA, and JCOD recommend that your Board approve the settlement of an employment claim filed by a County employee alleging whistleblower retaliation; and instruct the Auditor-Controller to draw a warrant to implement the settlement from the DA and JCOD budgets.

Respectfully submitted,



DAWYN R. HARRISON
County Counsel

DRH:EM:WS:bd

c: Honorable Nathan J. Hochman, District Attorney
Joseph M. Nicchitta, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Edward Yen, Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Judge Songhai Armstead, Director, Justice, Care and Opportunites Department