

County of Los Angeles

May 19, 2026

Dawyn R. Harrison
County Counsel



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

Dear Commissioners:

**SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION ARISING OUT
OF AN EMPLOYMENT MATTER
(ALL DISTRICTS AFFECTED)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Recommendation to settle a lawsuit filed against the Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA) by a former LACDA employee.

RECOMMENDATION TO YOUR BOARD

1. Approve settlement in the amount of \$70,000 in Rakhi Chames v. Los Angeles County Development Authority, Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 24STCV13472.
2. Instruct LACDA to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from LACDA's budget.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDATION

This is an employment-related lawsuit filed by a former LACDA employee alleging a hostile work environment and retaliation in violation of the Fair Employment and Housing Act.

A proposed settlement has been reached. Your Board's authorization is now required to complete the proposed settlement, which would result in payment of \$70,000 to the Plaintiff. The proposed settlement is recommended due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, and resolution at this time would avoid further litigation costs.

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FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

To date, LACDA has incurred approximately \$70,173 in attorneys' fees and \$1,817 in costs.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The parties engaged in settlement negotiations and reached the proposed settlement. We recommend settling this case for \$70,000. Settlement is subject to your Board's approval.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

None.

CONCLUSION

County Counsel recommends your Board approve settlement of this matter and instruct LACDA to draw a warrant to implement the settlement from LACDA's budget.

Respectfully submitted,



DAWYN R. HARRISON
County Counsel

DRH:PR:PB:gr

c: Joseph M. Nicchitta
Interim Chief Executive Officer

Edward Yen
Executive Officer
Board of Supervisors

Emilio Salas, Executive Director
Los Angeles County Development Authority