



County of Los Angeles

June 30, 2026

Dawyn R. Harrison  
County Counsel

**Board of Supervisors**

Hilda L. Solis  
Supervisor, First District

Holly Mitchell  
Supervisor, Second District

Lindsey P. Horvath  
Supervisor, Third District

Janice Hahn  
Supervisor, Fourth District

Kathryn Barger  
Supervisor, Fifth District

TO: EDWARD YEN  
Executive Officer  
Board of Supervisors

Attention: Agenda Preparation

FROM: LILIANA CAMPOS  
Litigation Cost Manager

RE: **Item for the Board of Supervisors' Agenda  
County Claims Board Recommendation  
Daniel Cortinas v. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department,  
et al., Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23STCV29805**



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.

LC:tf

Attachments

## Board Agenda

### MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

Los Angeles County Claims Board's recommendation: Authorize settlement of the matter entitled Daniel Cortinas v. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, et al., Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23STCV29805, in the amount of \$554,000, and instruct the Auditor-Controller to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the Sheriff's Department's budget.

This lawsuit arises from injuries Plaintiff allegedly sustained in a traffic collision involving a Sheriff's Department employee.

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Daniel Cortinas vs. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, et al.
CASE NUMBER	23STCV29805
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	December 6, 2023
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 554,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	PAUL S. ZUCKERMAN, ESQ. Carpenter & Zuckerman
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	KEVIN ENGELIEN, ESQ. Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This is an auto-liability lawsuit which arises from a traffic collision that occurred on December 13, 2022. Plaintiff claims he suffered injuries and damages as a result of the collision. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 93,835
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 52,325



## 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:	December 13, 2022
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	<p style="text-align: center;">Summary Corrective Action Plan 2025-284</p> <p><b>Details in this document summarize the incident. The information provided is a culmination of various sources to provide an abstract of the incident.</b></p> <p>Based on multiple investigative reports, on December 13, 2022, at approximately 5:05 p.m., the Plaintiff was driving southbound on a roadway toward an uncontrolled intersection for northbound and southbound traffic; the perpendicular cross street he was approaching is controlled by a stop sign. As the Plaintiff's vehicle reached the intersection, Deputy One, after having stopped at the stop sign, proceeded into the intersection without yielding the right of way to the Plaintiff. Deputy One's patrol vehicle collided with the driver's side of Plaintiff's vehicle.</p> <p>The California Highway Patrol responded to the scene and investigated the collision. It was determined Deputy One caused the collision by failing to yield at the stop sign in violation of California Vehicle Code § 21802 (a).</p>

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

A **Department** root cause in this incident was Deputy One entered into the intersection and failed to yield the right of way, after stopping at a posted stop sign.

2. Briefly describe recommended corrective actions:  
(Include each corrective action, due date, responsible party, and any disciplinary actions if appropriate)

### Traffic Investigation

The collision investigation concluded Deputy One caused the collision when she failed to yield the right of way to the Plaintiff's vehicle, in violation of California Vehicle Code Section 21802(a). Appropriate administrative action was taken.

Traffic Collision Assessment

As a result of this collision, the station conducted an assessment of traffic collisions for the past five years. The review revealed there has been a decrease in preventable collisions since 2021.

To improve employee safety and reduce the Department's liability exposure, the station continually schedules personnel to attend driver training courses.

Sheriff's Department Announcement - Department Wide Driver's Safety Broadcast

Safety messages are broadcast to remind personnel of their responsibilities when entering intersections and their duties to drive in a safe manner and clear intersections lane by lane.

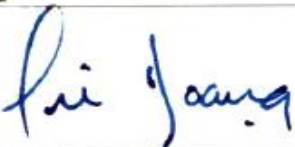
Sheriff Department Announcement - Department Wide Re-brief


Department wide briefings of policies related to safe driving practices were issued to remind Department personnel that the safety of Department members and the public is paramount when engaged in routine driving and Code 3 responses.

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.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Name: (Risk Management Coordinator)	
Tri T. Hoang, Captain Risk Management Bureau	
Signature: 	Date: 4.8.26

Name: (Department Head)	
Yolanda R. Figueroa, Chief Central Patrol Division	
Signature: 	Date: 4/15/2024

**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: Betty Karmirlian (Risk Management Inspector General)

Signature:

*Betty Karmirlian*

Date:

4/15/26