



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  
Carlos Lopez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23STCV22284**



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 Carlos Lopez v. County of Los Angeles, et al., Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23STCV22284, in the amount of \$170,000, and instruct the Auditor-Controller to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the Fire Department's budget.

This lawsuit arises from injuries Plaintiff allegedly sustained in a traffic collision involving a Los Angeles County Fire Department employee.

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Carlos Lopez vs. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	23STCV22284
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	September 15, 2023
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Fire Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 170,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	LENORE KELLY, ESQ. Kern, Segal & Murray
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	KEVIN J. ENGELIEN Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This case arises from a traffic collision that occurred involving Plaintiff and Fire Department employee Aaron Walsh.  Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 5,900
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 2,363



## 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:	October 27, 2022
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	<p>On October 27, 2022, a Facilities Project Manager I (FPM) was operating the Fire Department's 2010 Ford Ranger. FPM was driving behind a 2019 Hyundai Tucson, which was being operated by Plaintiff. Plaintiff stopped his vehicle due to traffic ahead of him. FPM attempted to bring the Department's vehicle to a stop but was unable to do so in time. FPM subsequently rear-ended Plaintiff's vehicle. The force of this collision pushed Plaintiff's vehicle into the vehicle in front of him.</p> <p>All parties exchanged information and reported the collision to law enforcement; however, law enforcement did not respond to the scene of the incident as there were no reports of injuries or property damage. Both Plaintiff and FPM Walsh were able to drive their vehicles from the scene.</p> <p>Prior to the incident, Plaintiff allegedly suffered from minor chronic neck and upper back pain. He alleges that, after the incident, his back pain was exacerbated.</p>

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

FPM's failure to travel at a safe speed and distance behind the Plaintiff's vehicle caused a preventable accident.

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


The Department's Safety Officer reviewed the incident and deemed the incident to be preventable. The FPM has been driving for the County for over 12 years and has been involved in two collisions (the first was non-preventable and the FPM was rear-ended by another driver; the second was the subject incident). The FPM was assigned and completed Defensive Driver Enrichment (4 hours and 25 minutes) on August 1, 2023.


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.

County of Los Angeles  
Summary Corrective Action Plan

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Name: (Risk Management Coordinator) Julia Kim	
Signature: 	Date: April 7, 2026

Name: (Department Head) ANTHONY C. MARRONE	
Signature: 	Date: 4-8-26

**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 Karmirian	
Signature: 	Date: 4/9/26