



County of Los Angeles

August 4, 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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'LC' or similar initials.

RE: **Item for the Board of Supervisors' Agenda**
County Claims Board Recommendation
Marina Barajas, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
San Bernardino Superior Court Case No. CIVSB2420710



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 Marina Barajas, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al., San Bernardino Superior Court Case No. CIVSB2420710, in the amount of \$305,964, and instruct the Auditor-Controller to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the Sheriff's Department's budget.

This federal lawsuit alleges Plaintiff sustained physical and emotional injuries by a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Deputy.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Marina Barajas, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	CIVSB2420710
COURT	San Bernardino Superior Court
DATE FILED	July 2, 2024
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 305,964
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	WARREN M. ELLIS, ESQ. Ellis & Ellis
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	MELISSA A. MCCAVERY, ESQ. Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This is an auto-liability lawsuit which arises from a traffic collision that occurred on December 19, 2023. Plaintiffs claim they 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	\$ 74,403
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 36,793



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:	
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	Summary Corrective Action Plan 2025-292 Details in this document summarize the incident. The information provided is a culmination of various sources to provide an abstract of the incident. On December 19, 2023, at approximately 7:30 a.m., the Plaintiff was driving her vehicle westbound on a roadway approaching an intersection in the City of Fontana, County of San Bernardino. The Plaintiff had three passengers (children) seated in the backseat. While traveling at an admitted speed of 60 mph, the Plaintiff's vehicle collided with a vehicle driven by a Chief as he entered the intersection. At the time of the incident, the Chief was commuting to work from his home and was 'on duty' at the time of the incident. The Chief maintains that he made a full stop at the stop sign at the intersection and looked both ways for cross-traffic before proceeding through the intersection to make a left (eastbound) turn onto the roadway. Immediately after entering the intersection, he noticed the Plaintiff's vehicle approaching at a high rate of speed and realized he was unable to avoid the collision. Following the collision, the Chief approached the driver's side of the Plaintiff's vehicle to determine whether she required assistance and noticed three children in the backseat. The Chief assisted in getting the children out of the vehicle. All occupants in the Plaintiff's vehicle reported injuries and were treated at the scene by paramedics. The Plaintiff was subsequently transported via ambulance to a local hospital for further treatment of her injuries. The Chief was also injured as a result of the collision and received subsequent medical treatment.

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

A **Department** root cause in this incident was the Chief's failure to yield to the Plaintiff's vehicle before entering onto the highway.

A **non-Department** root cause in this incident was attributed to the Plaintiff traveling at an unsafe speed (60 MPH in a 45 MPH zone).

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

Traffic Collision Investigation

This incident was thoroughly investigated by investigators from Fontana Police Department Officer. The collision investigation concluded the Chief caused the collision when he failed to yield to the Plaintiff's oncoming vehicle upon entry onto the highway, in violation of California Vehicle Code Section 21801(a).

Administrative Investigation

Executive evaluation of this incident concurred with the findings of the traffic collision investigation. Appropriate administrative action was taken.

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 Hoang, Captain
Risk Management Bureau

Signature:



Date:

5.27.26

Name: (Department Head)

Yolanda Figueroa, Chief
Central Patrol Division

Signature:



Date:

6/1/2026

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:

6/2/26