



# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## CLAIMS BOARD

500 WEST TEMPLE STREET  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2713

### MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Oscar Valdez  
Office of the Auditor-Controller  
Destiny Castro  
Chief Executive Office  
Adrienne M. Byers  
Office of the County Counsel

### **NOTICE OF MEETING AND AGENDA**

The Los Angeles County Claims Board will hold a regular meeting on **Monday, June 17, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.**, at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Sixth Floor, Conference Room C, Los Angeles, California 90012. Members of the public who would like to listen to the open session of the meeting or would like to provide public comment may call (323) 776-6996, then enter ID 940 100 480# at 9:30 a.m. on June 17, 2024.

**Reports of actions taken in Closed Session.** The Los Angeles County Claims Board will report actions taken on any Closed Session Items on Monday, June 17, 2024, at approximately 10:30 a.m. Members of the public who would like to hear reportable actions taken on any Closed Session items may call (323) 776-6996, then enter ID 940 100 480# at 10:30 a.m. on June 17, 2024. Please note that these are approximate start times and there may be a short delay before the Closed Session is concluded and the actions can be reported.

### **TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT:**

You may submit written public comments by e-mail to [claimsboard@counsel.lacounty.gov](mailto:claimsboard@counsel.lacounty.gov) or by mail to: Attention: Los Angeles County Claims Board, Executive Office, County Counsel, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California, 90012.

Written public comment or documentation must be submitted no later than 12:00 p.m. on Friday, June 14, 2024. Please include the agenda item and meeting date in your correspondence. Comments and any other written submissions will become part of the official record of the meeting.

If you wish to address the Los Angeles County Claims Board in person, you may come to the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California, 90012, and enter on the Second Floor. Please advise the security guard station personnel that you would like to attend the public portion of the Claims Board meeting and a security guard will escort you to the Sixth Floor where you will be assisted.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Public comment is limited to the specific items on the agenda and general public comment is limited to subject matters within the jurisdiction of the Claims Board.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:** The Agenda and any supporting documents will be posted at <https://lacounty.gov/newsroom/public-information/los-angeles-county-claims-board/> and can be provided upon request. Please submit requests for supporting documents to [claimsboard@counsel.lacounty.gov](mailto:claimsboard@counsel.lacounty.gov).

If you would like more information, please contact Claims Board Secretary Laura Z. Salazar at [lzsalazar@counsel.lacounty.gov](mailto:lzsalazar@counsel.lacounty.gov) or Raina Mey [RMey@counsel.lacounty.gov](mailto:RMey@counsel.lacounty.gov).

AGENDA

1. Call to Order.
2. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Claims Board on items of interest that are within the subject-matter jurisdiction of the Claims Board.
3. Closed Session – Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Government Code section 54956.9, subdivision (a)).
  - a. Favian Villalpando v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV27632  
  
This dangerous condition of public property lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained from a slip and fall incident that occurred at City Terrace Park; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$80,000.  
  
[See Supporting Document](#)
  - b. Lydia Cardenas v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC688501  
  
This dangerous condition of public property lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained from a trip and fall incident in unincorporated East Los Angeles; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$92,500.  
  
[See Supporting Document](#)
  - c. California Apartment Association v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23STCP01114  
  
This writ action against the County of Los Angeles arises from provisions of the COVID-19 Tenant Protections Resolution whereby the Court granted the writ and Petitioner is entitled to attorneys' fees; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$50,000.  
  
[See Supporting Document](#)
  - d. Craig D. Milligan v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22AVCV00956  
  
This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained in a traffic collision that occurred when an employee of the Department of Children and Family Services rear-ended Plaintiff's vehicle; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$51,500.  
  
[See Supporting Document](#)
  - e. Deborah D. Allen v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV25913  
  
This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee of the Department of Public Social Services was subjected to sexual harassment; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$40,000.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the June 3, 2024, regular meeting of the Claims Board.  
[See Supporting Document](#)
5. Adjournment.

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Favian Villalpando v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	20STCV27632
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	July 22, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Parks & Recreation
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 80,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Andrew Ellis Ellis Law Corporation
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Michael Gordon Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>On August 19, 2019, Plaintiff Favian Villalpando slipped and fell in a paved corridor at City Terrace Park in Los Angeles. Mr. Villalpando alleges the incident caused injuries for which he seeks compensation.</p> <p>Given the risk and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$80,000 is warranted.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 80,477
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 38,524

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Lydia Cardenas v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	BC688501
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	December 27, 2017
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Public Works
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 92,500
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Raymond Ghermezian Law Offices of Raymond Ghermezian
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Michael Gordon Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>On July 5, 2017, Plaintiff Lydia Cardenas tripped and fell over a parkway tree root on Union Pacific Avenue near its intersection with Atlantic Boulevard in East Los Angeles. Ms. Cardenas alleges the incident caused injuries for which she seeks compensation.</p> <p>Given the risk and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$92,500 is warranted.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 138,556
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 62,257

**CASE SUMMARY**

**INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION**

CASE NAME	California Apartment Association v. County of Los Angeles
CASE NUMBER	23STCP01114
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	April 11, 2023
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Consumer and Business Affairs & Chief Executive Office
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 50,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Christopher E. Skinnell Nielsen, Merksamer, Parrinello, Gross & Leoni, LLP
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Behnaz Tashakorian Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This is a recommendation to settle for \$50,000, a claim for prevailing party attorneys' fees incurred in a Petition for Writ of Mandate brought by Plaintiffs. Plaintiffs invalidating provisions of the County's COVID-19 Tenant Protections Resolution which required a landlord to first serve a 30-day notice to cure or quit prior to initiating an unlawful detainer action.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 102,642.50
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 843.25

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Craig D. Milligan v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	22AVCV00956
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	November 18, 2022
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Children and Family Services
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 51,500
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Darlene Trevino Law Offices of Darlene Trevino
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Kevin Engeliem Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This lawsuit arises from a vehicle collision that occurred on April 20, 2022, when an employee of the Department of Children and Family Services collided with Plaintiff's vehicle on Avenue K in the City of Lancaster.</p> <p>Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 18,042
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 13,121

# LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

June 3, 2024

### 1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Los Angeles County Claims Board was called to order at 9:30 a.m. The meeting was held virtually with Claims Board Chair Destiny Castro, Claims Board Member Oscar Valdez, and Claims Board Secretary Laura Z. Salazar participating in person at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Sixth Floor, Conference Room C, Los Angeles, California 90012. Claims Board Member Adrienne M. Byers was absent.

All other participants at the Claims Board meeting appeared virtually: Latasha Corry, Mark Lomax, Ann Aguilar, Narbeh Bagdasarian, Edward Morrissey, Michael Gordon, Richard Kudo, Edwin Lewis, Joseph Langton, Hayden Campbell, Mikayla Grande, Maryanne Koussa, Alison Ryan, Hayden Campbell, Lenneal McKudo, Erin Chang, and Benjamin Familuyi appeared for the Office of the County Counsel. Brian Mejia appeared for the Department of Parks and Recreation. Alex Villarama, Jacklin Injjian, Andrew Ngumba appeared for the Department of Public Works. Julia Kim, William Mayfield, Dr. Clayton Kazan appeared for the Fire Department. Sergeant Shanese Winfrey, Deputy Renata Phillip, Captain Michael G. Shaw, Commander Crystal M. Miranda, Lieutenant Thomas V. Kim, Acting Captain/Lieutenant Julia Valdes, and Acting Captain/Lieutenant Lucas W. Darland appeared for the Sheriff's Department. Christina Marie Sprenger appeared for Lawrence Beach Allen & Choi, PC. Gary A. Bacio appeared for Bacio & Associates.

### 2. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Claims Board on items of interest within the subject-matter jurisdiction of the Claims Board.

No member of the public appeared in person or on the public teleconference phone line to address the Claims Board.

### 3. Closed Session – Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Government Code section 54956.9, subdivision (a)).

At 9:30 a.m., Claims Board Chair Destiny Castro convened the meeting in closed session to discuss the items listed below as 4(a) through 4(i).

### 4. Report on Actions Taken in Closed Session.

No members of the public were present on the teleconference phone line to hear the reportable actions of the Claims Board.

At 11:40 a.m., the Claims Board reconvened in open session to report the actions taken in closed session as follows:

#### a. Natalie Reusch v. County of Los Angeles Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV05287

This dangerous condition of public property lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained from a slip accident that occurred at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Park.

#### Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.a. in the amount of \$150,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Oscar Valdez, and Destiny Castro  
Absent: Adrienne M. Byers



**b. Non-Litigated Claim of Natalie Beck**

This inverse condemnation claim alleged property damage caused by a backflow of sewage from a sewer mainline blockage.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.b. in the amount of \$22,786.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Oscar Valdez, and Destiny Castro  
Absent: Adrienne M. Byers

**c. Non-Litigated Claim of Ryan Dougherty**

This inverse condemnation claim alleged property damage due to a backflow of sewage from a sewer mainline blockage.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.c. in the amount of \$24,368.14.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Oscar Valdez, and Destiny Castro  
Absent: Adrienne M. Byers

**d. Jordan Primo v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV43596**

This medical malpractice lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained by a firefighter while being treated by County paramedics at a Los Angeles County Fire Station.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.d. in the amount of \$1,600,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Oscar Valdez, and Destiny Castro  
Absent: Adrienne M. Byers

**e. Judicial Council of California v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV20493**

Plaintiff seeks compensation for the cost to repair a gate that was allegedly damaged by a Sheriff's Department bus.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.e. in the amount of \$75,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Oscar Valdez, and Destiny Castro  
Absent: Adrienne M. Byers

**f. Juan Ponce, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV16028**

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained when a pedestrian walking within a marked crosswalk was struck by a Sheriff's Department vehicle.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.f. in the amount of \$1,400,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Oscar Valdez, and Destiny Castro  
Absent: Adrienne M. Byers

**g. Non-Litigated Claim of San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department**

This claim by the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department seeks reimbursement of expenses associated with the search and rescue operation of a missing Los Angeles County resident.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.g. in the amount of \$29,501.34.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Oscar Valdez, and Destiny Castro  
Absent: Adrienne M. Byers

**h. Non-Litigated Claim for Insook Park**

This claim for alleged personal injuries arises from a traffic collision that occurred when a Department of Children and Family Services employee rear-ended Claimant's vehicle.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.h. in the amount of \$35,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Oscar Valdez, and Destiny Castro  
Absent: Adrienne M. Byers

**i. Non-Litigated Claim of Efrain S. Marca**

This claim arises from alleged injuries sustained in a vehicle accident involving a Department of Public Social Services employee who rear-ended Claimant's vehicle.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.i. in the amount of \$25,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Oscar Valdez, and Destiny Castro  
Absent: Adrienne M. Byers

**5. Approval of the Minutes for the May 20, 2024, regular meeting of the Claims Board.**

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes of the May 20, 2024, meeting.

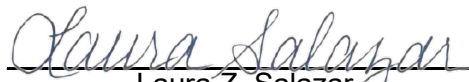
Vote: Ayes: 2 – Oscar Valdez, and Destiny Castro  
Absent: Adrienne M. Byers

**6. Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:41 a.m.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

By



Laura Z. Salazar  
Claims Board Secretary