



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, August 5, 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 280 064 37# at 9:30 a.m. on August 5, 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, August 5, 2024, at approximately 11:30 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 280 064 37# at 11:30 a.m. on August 5, 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 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, August 2, 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.

If you would like more information, please contact Claims Board Secretary Laura Z. Salazar at lzsalazar@counsel.lacounty.gov or Raina Mey at 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. Non-Litigated Claim of Premier America Credit Union

This claim for property damage arises from a traffic collision that occurred when a Department of Public Works vehicle collided with a vehicle financed by Claimant; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$37,643.

[See Supporting Document](#)
 - b. Marina Rodriguez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV18044

This dangerous condition of public property lawsuit arises from alleged injuries Plaintiff sustained from a trip and fall incident on a parkway in unincorporated Florence; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$125,000.

[See Supporting Documents](#)
 - c. Sheriff's Department's Palmdale Station OSHA Citation
Inspection No.: 1513298

This citation against the Sheriff's Department concerns allegations of regulatory violations related to COVID-19; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$28,160.
 - d. Ricardo Lopez-Garcia v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV07044

This personal injury lawsuit concerns allegations of assault and battery by Sheriff's Department deputies responding to a robbery and arson call involving Plaintiff; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$1,300,000.

[See Supporting Documents](#)
 - e. Earl Hibbert v. David Morgan Wright, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23CHCV00835

This lawsuit arises from a highway accident that occurred when two tires detached from a Fire Department truck and rolled into traffic and struck Plaintiff's vehicle; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$50,000.

- f. Makai P., et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV11690

This lawsuit against the Department of Children and Family Services concerns allegations of negligence and breach of mandatory duties resulting in the abuse of minors while in foster care; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$70,000.

[See Supporting Document](#)

- g. Non-Litigated Claim of Lequita Best

This inverse condemnation claim contends that a ruptured pipe supplying water to a Beaches and Harbors restroom caused flooding and erosion on Claimant's property; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$250,000.

[See Supporting Document](#)

- h. Crystal Brock v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:23-cv-02205

This lawsuit concerns allegations that the Department of Public Health failed to accommodate Plaintiff's request for a religious exemption from a COVID-19 vaccination requirement; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$99,999.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the July 15, 2024, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

[See Supporting Document](#)

5. Adjournment.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Non-Litigated Claim of Premier America Credit Union
CASE NUMBER	N/A
COURT	N/A
DATE FILED	N/A
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	PUBLIC WORKS
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 37,643
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	N/A
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Mark W. Lomax, Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This claim involves property damage sustained when a Public Works vehicle sideswiped a vehicle financed by the claimant. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the matter is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ -0-
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ -0-

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Marina Rodriguez vs. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	21STCV18044
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	October 26, 2021
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Public Works
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 125,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Navid Natanian, Esq. Law Offices of Navid Natania, APLC
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Kevin J. Engeliem Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a dangerous condition of public property lawsuit which arises from a trip and fall accident that occurred on July 31, 2020, when Ms. Rodriguez tripped and fell over a three-inch pole stub sticking out of the ground of a parkway adjacent to 6511 Holmes Avenue. The complaint alleges Ms. Rodriguez suffered orthopedic injuries as a result of the fall. She claims the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works is responsible for her injuries as the walkway was in a dangerous condition of public property.</p> <p>Given the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 25,466
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 13,734



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:	7/31/2020
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	<p>Plaintiff, alleges that on July 31, 2020, she was injured when she tripped and fell over a 2-inch diameter pipe stub from a missing Street Sweeping sign arising 3 inches from the ground that was embedded in the planting area of the parkway located at 6511 Holmes Avenue in the unincorporated Florence/Firestone area.</p> <p>Public Works records do not reflect any reports or complaints of any missing street sweeping signpost at the incident location prior to July 31, 2020. As part of the Monthly Road Inspection Program and the biennial Sidewalk Inspection Program, Road Maintenance Division (RMD) road crews inspect the condition of the roadway and sidewalks, and any necessary repairs or other actions are noted and completed following these inspections. Road Maintenance District 241 crew in our RMD inspected the sidewalks in the Florence/Firestone area, including the sidewalk at the incident location, between September and October 2019 and observed no maintenance issues during this inspection.</p>

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

The 2-inch diameter pipe stub arising 3 inches from the ground embedded in the planting area of the parkway located at 6511 Holmes Avenue in the unincorporated Florence/Firestone area was allegedly a dangerous condition. The stub was determined to be part of a "Street Sweeping" sign, which was inadvertently omitted from the Street Sign Inventory.

2. Briefly describe recommended corrective actions:

(Include each corrective action, due date, responsible party, and any disciplinary actions if appropriate)

Public Works implements the Biennial Sidewalk Inspection and Repair Guidelines. Although the focus of this sidewalk inspection is the identification of damage and displacement in the sidewalk, curb and gutter, driveway aprons, and wheelchair ramps, the guidelines state that if other significant maintenance issues are found, a barricade shall be placed before the end of the day and noted on the Sidewalk Inspection "Other Significant Maintenance Discovery Form." This form will include the Road Division, date, inspector's name, location, deficiency found, appropriate action taken, and any recommended repairs.


Operational Services Division maintains signs in a three-year cycle; however, the subject sign was not included in the Street Sign Inventory and therefore overlooked during when it came up in its maintenance cycle, nor did Operational Services Division receive any internal or external reports that it was missing prior to the incident. Upon becoming aware of the concern, Operational Services Division investigated and determined the sign not in inventory was a street sweeping signs, however it was no longer needed. The stub was immediately removed.

The pole/stub was removed by Operational Services Division on August 4, 2021. The sign was never replaced as it was determined unnecessary; therefore, it was not added to the Street Sign Inventory. There was no determining factor identified for the omission.

County of Los Angeles
Summary Corrective Action Plan

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.

Name: (Risk Manager) Jacklin E. Injijian	
Signature: 	Date: 05/21/2024

Name: (Deputy Director) Steve Burger	
Signature: 	Date: 5/30/24

Name: (Department Head) Mark Pestrella	
Signature: 	Date: 6/10/24

Chief Executive Office Risk Management Inspector General USE ONLY	
Are the corrective actions applicable to other departments within the County?	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, the corrective actions potentially have County-wide applicability.	
<input type="checkbox"/> No, the corrective actions are applicable only to this department.	

Name: (Risk Management Inspector General) Daniela Prowizor	
Signature: 	Date: 6/27/2024

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CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Ricardo Lopez-Garcia v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	19STCV07044
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	March 1, 2019
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 1,300,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Casillas & Associates
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Richard Hsueh Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a recommendation to settle for \$1.3 million, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, the State-law personal injury lawsuit filed by Ricardo Lopez-Garcia, who was injured after two Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department ("LASD") deputies responded to a robbery and arson call involving Mr. Lopez-Garcia and used force, including a TASER, against him.</p> <p>Due to the high risks and uncertainties of litigation, a reasonable settlement at this time will avoid further litigation costs. The full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$1.3 million is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 301,231
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 64,354



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:	March 8, 2018, at approximately 5:24 p.m.
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	<p>Summary Corrective Action Plan 2023-125</p> <p>Details provided in this document summarize the incident. The information provided is a culmination of various sources that provide an abstract of the incident.</p> <p>On Thursday, March 8, 2018, at approximately 5:24 p.m., Deputies One and Two responded to the 3900 block of East Olympic Boulevard in East Los Angeles regarding a mini market's silent robbery alarm. While en route, the market's manager called 911 stating the suspect (Plaintiff) was attempting to assault him, pouring gasoline all over himself and the store, and had at least two knives in a backpack. He explained that Plaintiff came into the store and threatened employees with the knives, then returned shortly after with a gas canister and lighter. Due to the additional information, the call was upgraded to a Code-3 lights and sirens response.</p> <p>Deputies One and Two, who were the first to arrive, were immediately directed to the Plaintiff by a group of bystanders. The Plaintiff was on the sidewalk in front of the market wearing a black backpack worn on the front of his body and holding a case of beer in his left hand. Deputy Two smelled gasoline while Deputy One did not. Both Deputies attempted to detain the Plaintiff at gunpoint due to the serious nature of the call, giving him orders to stop, and get on the ground in both English and Spanish (both deputies are fluent in Spanish). The Plaintiff would not comply and walked away from the Deputies. Using his Department-issued hand-held radio, Deputy One requested a responding unit deploy a stun bag and attempted to set up a containment, but it was not transmitted because his radio battery died.</p> <p>The Deputies followed the Plaintiff across the street, where he observed the Plaintiff conceals his right hand between his torso and his backpack. The Plaintiff stated in Spanish that he would ignite his backpack strapped to the front of his body. He continued to disobey orders to stop and get on the ground. Both Deputies were concerned that the Plaintiff had an explosive in his backpack and intended to detonate it.</p> <p>As there were several civilians in the area, and the threat to detonate was imminent, Deputy One informed Deputy Two he was transitioning to his TASER and instructed Deputy Two to remain on lethal. To avoid hitting the backpack, Deputy One waited until the Plaintiff turned around and aimed for the Plaintiff's back. Deputy One announced, "TASER, TASER, TASER!" before firing his TASER at the Plaintiff.</p>

	<p>Deputy One cycled his TASER twice, eight seconds apart, each time for a full five-second burst.</p> <p>Deputy One did not recall when exactly the second cycle occurred, but during his Internal Affairs Bureau interview, stated that it was before Deputy Two tried to handcuff the Plaintiff.</p> <p>As captured on bystander cellphone video, the Plaintiff fell to the ground after Deputy One fired his TASER. Deputy Two then approached and attempted to handcuff the Plaintiff. The Plaintiff resisted and kept his right hand concealed between his backpack and body. Approximately eight seconds after falling to the ground, the Plaintiff burst into flames, with the flames fully engulfing his upper body.</p> <p>When Deputy Two backed off due to the flames, the Plaintiff got up and ran west down the sidewalk. Deputy Two found a shirt hung by a street vendor on a nearby fence and attempted to smother the flames while the Plaintiff continued to run. The Plaintiff turned a corner at the end of the block and was confronted by additional deputy personnel who arrived on scene. To avoid injury from the flames, Deputy Three kicked the Plaintiff on his rear hip to stop him from running and the Plaintiff fell to the ground.</p> <p>The Deputies approached the Plaintiff, who was facedown and no longer on fire. He was severely burned and crying in pain with skin falling off his arms and hands making handcuffing difficult. The Plaintiff, in a panic, struggled with the deputies. Deputy personnel held the Plaintiff down, took control of his arms, and handcuffed him.</p> <p>Aero Bureau was on scene throughout the incident. Aero and ground units immediately requested emergency medical rescue to the scene. The Plaintiff was treated by paramedics on scene before being transported to the hospital. The Plaintiff sustained severe burn injuries on his face, upper torso, arms, and hands.</p>
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1. Briefly describe the **root cause(s)** of the claim/lawsuit:

<p>A Department root cause in this incident was the Deputy's deployment of a TASER while attempting to detain the Plaintiff regarding a possible robbery/arson investigation.</p> <p>A Department root cause in this incident was Deputy One was unable to transmit radio traffic because his portable radio battery was dead.</p> <p>A Department root cause in this incident was the dispatcher's failure to communicate more detailed information about the Plaintiff pouring gasoline on himself to responding personnel.</p> <p>A Department root cause in this incident was the deputy sheriffs were not yet equipped with Body-Worn Cameras. The recorded video would have captured the deputies' contact with the Plaintiff to prove or disprove the Plaintiff's allegations.</p> <p>A non-Department root cause in this incident was the Plaintiff's failure to comply with the lawful orders of Los Angeles County Deputy Sheriffs.</p> <p>A non-Department root cause in this incident was unbeknownst to responding deputies, the Plaintiff poured gasoline on himself and threatened to light himself on fire while in possession of a lighter.</p>
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2. Briefly describe recommended corrective actions:
(Include each corrective action, due date, responsible party, and any disciplinary actions if appropriate)

Administrative Investigation

This use-of-force was investigated by representatives of the Sheriff's Department's Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) to determine if any administrative misconduct occurred before, during, or after this incident. The results of the investigation were presented to the Executive Force Review Committee (EFRC) for adjudication.

On February 7, 2019, EFRC determined the use-of-force and tactics were within Department policy.

Tactical Debriefing / Station Training

In the days following the incident, personnel were briefed on the events known at the time and based on information provided by Arson investigators and East Los Angeles Station personnel. Special focus was placed on officer safety, tactical preparedness, increased communication between dispatch and field deputies, and lessons learned to assist employees should they find themselves in a similar situation. Personnel were briefed on the use of the TASER, including tactics and strategies involving high-risk scenarios, including the risk of ignition/combustion due to flammable materials.

Briefings occurred on all shifts and were given by the field sergeants and watch commanders.

The involved deputies attended training pertaining to the circumstances surrounding this incident.

Body-Worn Cameras (BWC)


As of November 2020, all sworn personnel assigned to East Los Angeles Station were issued a BWC to ensure all public contacts are transparent. The use of BWCs ensures reliable recording of enforcement and investigative contacts with the public. The Department established the policy and procedures for the purpose, use, and deployment of the Department-issued BWC.


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) Julia M. Valdés, A/Captain Risk Management Bureau	
Signature: 	Date: 06/20/2024

Name: (Department Head) Jorge Valdez, A/Assistant Sheriff Patrol Operations	
Signature: 	Date: 6/24/24

Chief Executive Office Risk Management Inspector General USE ONLY	
Are the corrective actions applicable to other departments within the County?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the corrective actions potentially have County-wide applicability. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No, the corrective actions are applicable only to this Department.	
Name: Daniela Prowizor-Lacayo (Risk Management Inspector General)	
Signature: 	Date: 6/27/2024

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Makai P., a minor by Mcguigan, Kathryn T., et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	19STCV11690
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	April 4, 2019
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Children and Family Services
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 70,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Greg W. Garrotto Law Offices of Greg W. Garroto
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Armita Radjabian Senior Deputy County Counsel Avi Burkwitz, Esq. Peterson, Bradford, Burkwitz, Gregorio, Burkwitz & Su, LLP George Chuang, Esq. GC Law
NATURE OF CASE	Plaintiffs claim the Department of Children and Family Service failed to provide proper supervision and custodial services for Plaintiffs while they were foster children and as a result, they were abused while in foster care. Due to the high risks and uncertainties of litigation, a reasonable settlement at this time will avoid further litigation costs.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 71,327
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 6,934

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF NON-LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Non-Litigated Claim of Lequita Best
CASE NUMBER	N/A
COURT	N/A
DATE FILED	N/A
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Beaches and Harbors
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 250,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	N/A
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Keever Rhodes Muir
NATURE OF CASE	Claim
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ No pending invoices from outside counsel. In-house costs were attributed as general advice to the Department of Beaches and Harbors.
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ \$212,214 consulting, project management services, and permit fees.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

July 15, 2024

1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Los Angeles County Claims Board was called to order at 9:35 a.m. The meeting was held virtually with Claims Board Chair Destiny Castro, Claims Board Member Adrienne M. Byers, 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. Sally Garcia from CEO Risk Management participated in person for item 4.i. Claims Board Member Oscar Valdez was absent.

All other participants at the Claims Board meeting appeared virtually: Raina Mey, Narbeh Bagdasarian, Christopher Keosian, Edwin Lewis, Richard Hsueh, Minas Samuelian, Joseph Langton, Melissa McCaverty, Shawn Luna, Katherine Bowser, Susana Fuentes, Mikayla Grande, and Lenneal McKudu appeared for the Office of the County Counsel. Arun Patel, Nickolay Teophilov, Roberto Avitia, and Gordon Sun appeared for the Department of Health Services. Deputy Renata K. Phillip, Commander Mark A. Reyes, Sergeant John E. Addington, Angelic Tzec, Lieutenant Arturo R. Spencer, Captain/Commander Robert Jones II, Captain Chris M. Kusayanagi, Acting Chief/Commander Crystal M. Miranda, Lieutenant Matthew Gauthier, Lieutenant Albert Plazola, and Lieutenant Michael Gomez appeared for the Sheriff's Department. Vicky Santana, Brian Mejia, and Donald Limbrick appeared for the Department of Parks and Recreation. Christina Lee appeared for the Department of Children and Family Services. Raymond Sakai appeared for Lawrence Beach Allen & Choi, PC. James C. Jardin appeared for Collins + Collins, LLP. Marija Kristich Decker appeared for Laquer Urban Clifford & Hodge, LLP. Scott Carpenter appeared for Carpenter, Rothans & Dumont.

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 9:35 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 12:01 p.m., the Claims Board reconvened in open session to report the actions taken in closed session as follows:

a. Heather Randall v. County of Los Angeles, et al. Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23AVCV00122

This medical malpractice lawsuit arises from alleged injuries Plaintiff suffered after receiving care and treatment at High Desert Regional Health Center.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.a. in the amount of \$200,000.

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

**b. Sheriff's Department's Palmdale Station OSHA Citation
Inspection No.: 1513298**

This citation against the Sheriff's Department concerns allegations of regulatory violations related to COVID-19.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board continued Item 4.b. to a future meeting.

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

c. Non-Litigated Claim of Sylvia Martinez

This claim arises from alleged injuries Claimant sustained in a traffic collision involving a Sheriff's Department sergeant.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.c. in the amount of \$48,000.

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

**d. Ricardo Lopez-Garcia v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV07044**

This personal injury lawsuit concerns allegations of assault and battery by Sheriff's Department deputies responding to a robbery and arson call involving Plaintiff.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board continued Item 4.d. to a future meeting.

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

**e. Samuel Nelson v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No.: 2:22-cv-00832**

This civil rights lawsuit concerns allegations of excessive force arising out of Plaintiff's detention and arrest by a Sheriff's Department deputy.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.e. in the amount of \$7,000,000.

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

f. Non-Litigated Claim of Wilfrido Martinez-Mendez

This claim for alleged personal injury and property damage arises from a traffic collision involving a Parks and Recreation employee.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.f. in the amount of \$30,000.

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

**g. Michael Medina v. Robert Steven Gomez, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV23841**

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries Plaintiff sustained in a vehicle accident involving an employee of Parks and Recreation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.g. in the amount of \$250,000.

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

**h. Kevina Denise Crawford v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV35018**

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries Plaintiff sustained in a vehicle accident involving an employee of the Department of Children and Family Services.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.h. in the amount of \$100,000.

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

**i. Johnny Smith, et al. v. City of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV11178**

This lawsuit against the Department of Children and Family Services alleges negligence and breach of mandatory duties resulting in the death of a minor.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.i. in the amount of \$495,000.

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

Claims Board Secretary Laura Z. Salazar was not present for consideration of and vote for this matter; Sally Garcia participated in her stead.

5. Approval of the Minutes for the July 1, 2024, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

Action Taken:

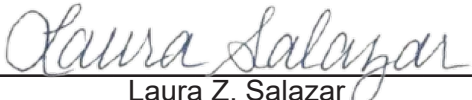
The Claims Board approved the Minutes of the July 1, 2024, meeting.

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


6. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:04 p.m.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

By 
Laura Z. Salazar
Claims Board Secretary

FOR CLOSED SESSION ITEM "I" ONLY

By 
Sally Garcia
CEO Risk Management

Digitally signed by Sally Garcia
Date: 2024.07.19 13:09:56
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