

**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD**  
**HELD IN PERSON AND ONLINE VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE**

**ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2024, AT 9:30 A.M.**

**Present: Chair Destiny Castro, Adrienne M. Byers, and Oscar Valdez**

1. **Call to Order.**
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 was 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)).**

- a. **Francisco Javier Castellanos v. City of Covina, et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22PSCV01235**

This dangerous condition of public property lawsuit against the Department of Public Works arises from alleged injuries Plaintiff sustained from a trip and fall that occurred in unincorporated Covina Islands.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 3(a) in the amount of \$45,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

[See Supporting Document](#)

- b. **Corey Williams v. Ricardo Garcia, et al.**  
**United States District Court Case No. 2:21-cv-08077**

This civil rights lawsuit filed against the Public Defender's Office by a former client alleges that his constitutional rights were violated when he was held in custody without trial for approximately 11 years.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 3(b) in the amount of \$3,650,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

[See Supporting Documents](#)

c. **Agustin Herrera, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 2:22-cv-01013**

This federal civil rights class action lawsuit contends that the Probation Department and Department of Mental Health failed to ensure safe and habitable conditions for more than 7,000 youth housed at juvenile facilities from 2014 to present.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 3(c) in the amount of \$30,000,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

[See Supporting Documents](#)

d. **Ben Mosco, et al. v. County of Los Angeles**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22CHCP00248**

This petition for writ of mandate against the Sheriff's Department involves the resolution of a California Public Records Act request.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 3(d) in the amount of \$41,250.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

[See Supporting Document](#)

e. **Heidi Sam v. Francisco Aban Ong, Jr., et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV11118**

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

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 3(e) in the amount of \$162,500.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

[See Supporting Documents](#)

f. **N.B., et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**  
**United States District Court Case No. 2:21-cv-02165**

This federal civil rights and wrongful death lawsuit arises out of a fatal deputy-involved shooting of Decedent while deputies attempted to arrest him pursuant to a felony arrest warrant.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 3(f) in the amount of \$275,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro  
Noes: 1 – Oscar Valdez

[See Supporting Documents](#)

g. **Virginia Olivera Diaz, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV24227**

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

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 3(g) in the amount of \$495,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

[See Supporting Documents](#)

h. **Adrian Cruz, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**  
**United States District Court Case No. 2:23-cv-02702**

This civil rights lawsuit concerns allegations of excessive force by Sheriff's deputies during the detention of Plaintiff.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 3(h) in the amount of \$525,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

[See Supporting Documents](#)

i. **Non-Litigated Claim of County of San Bernardino**

This claim by 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 3(i) in the amount of \$26,960.35.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

[See Supporting Document](#)

j. **Non-Litigated Tax Claims of Hernandez and Gallegos**

These two tax claims brought by property owners allegedly impacted by fraudulent behavior of home improvement contractors under the County's PACE program seek compensation for incomplete construction.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 3(j) in the amounts of \$49,952.92 and \$76,827.87.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

[See Supporting Document](#)

k. **Hasmik Yaghobyan v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV11119**

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee of the Auditor Controller's Office was subjected to discrimination, harassment, and retaliation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 3(k) in the amount of \$87,500.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro  
Recusal: 1 – Oscar Valdez

4. **Approval of the Minutes for the September 16, 2024, regular meeting of the Claims Board.**

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes of the September 16, 2024, meeting.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

[See Supporting Document](#)



5. **Items not on the posted agenda, to be referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a further meeting of the Board, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take immediate action came to the attention of the Board subsequent to the posting of the agenda.**

No such matters were discussed.

6. **Adjournment.**

## **CASE SUMMARY**

### **INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION**

CASE NAME	Francisco Javier Castellanos v. City of Covina, et al.
CASE NUMBER	22PSCV01235
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	October 12, 2022
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Public Works
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 45,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	DANIEL A. GIBALEVICH, ESQ. DAG Law Firm, APC
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	RICHARD K. KUDO Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This lawsuit arose from an August 31, 2022, incident when Franciso Javier Castellanos ("Plaintiff") was injured when he tripped and fell on an exposed metal sign-post stub that protruded above the sidewalk surface on the southeast corner of North Vincent Avenue/East Chadmont Street intersection in the unincorporated area of the County known as the Covina Islands. Plaintiff claims to have suffered injuries and damages from the incident.</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	\$ 21,685
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 5,945

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Corey Williams vs. Ricardo Garcia, et al.
CASE NUMBER	2:21-cv-08077
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	October 11, 2021
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Office of the Public Defender
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 3,650,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Arnoldo Casillas, Esq. Casillas & Associates
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Jonathan McCaverty Assistant County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a recommendation to settle for \$3,650,000, an Office of the Public Defender ("PD") civil rights lawsuit filed by former PD client, Plaintiff Corey Williams, claims his constitutional rights were violated arising out of his approximately 11-year pre-trial detention as a civil detainee pursuant to the Sexually Violent Predators Act.</p> <p>Given the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a reasonable settlement at this time will avoid further litigation costs; therefore, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 170,291
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 7,107



## 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:	February 6, 2008 to November 4, 2019
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	<p>This matter arises out of a federal civil rights complaint by a former County Public Defender Office (PD) client, naming a former and current Public Defender, one Supervisor and two former Supervisors, alleging constitutional due process and speedy trial violations because he was held in custody without a trial for approximately 11 years under the Sexually Violent Predators Act ("SVPA").</p> <p>In 1999, plaintiff was convicted of rape and sentenced to State prison. In February 2008, near the end of his prison sentence, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office filed a petition to have plaintiff deemed an SVP, and a County Deputy Public Defender ("DPD") was assigned to represent him. Plaintiff was represented by attorneys from the PD's Office from February 2008 until November 2019, when the PD's Office declared a conflict. After the conflict was declared, bar panel counsel represented plaintiff until his case was dismissed in May 2021.</p> <p>Plaintiff alleges in 2013 and 2014 that he wrote letters to his counsel and made other requests that his SVP case proceed to trial; however, the PD's office ignored his requests and he remained incarcerated. Plaintiff also filed several motions himself, including a petition for a writ of habeas corpus and several motions in an effort to disqualify the PD's Office from representing him, but these were all denied.</p> <p>In 2014, approximately half of the PD's Office SVP Unit staff was cut. The Deputy-in-Charge (DIC) of the Unit drafted multiple memoranda to the Assistant Public Defender, Division Chief, and Head Deputy of the SVP Unit warning that attorneys in the unit would face increased workloads and the quality of their work would suffer. In a memorandum following the cuts, the DIC reported to his senior management attorneys expressed concerns that caseloads had increased, that the cuts placed the SVP unit in an untenable position, and that further cuts could lead to liability. Also, in 2014, attorneys in the SVP Unit sent letters to the PD's Office, the Board of Supervisors, and the State Bar of California complaining about the cuts to the SVP Unit.</p> <p>Plaintiff alleges the staff cuts of the SVP Unit in 2014 created a constitutional dilemma – either proceed with unprepared counsel representing him or waive his right to a speedy trial. He supported this</p>

	<p>theory with the communications and memoranda that SVP staff attorneys sent to administrators in the PD's Office as well as to the Board of Supervisors.</p> <p>In February 2019, plaintiff filed a "Motion for Replacement of Counsel" in which he alleged he had requested no more waivers of time and that he was demanding his trial. This motion was denied, but the court suggested the PD's Office file a <i>Litmon-Vasquez</i> motion to dismiss the case due to speedy trial right violations. The assigned DPD responded that she was "restrained" and could not file such a motion, to which the court responded that her office's policy could not override her duty to represent plaintiff (filing such a motion would necessarily attack the prior DPD's who represented plaintiff). While the DPD did not file a <i>Litmon-Vasquez</i> motion, she did file a motion for new psychiatric evaluations based on the fact that the State's evaluators based their opinions on information contained in juvenile records that, due to a change in law the law in July 2016, had been improperly relied upon. The court granted this motion.</p> <p>In November 2019, the PD's Office declared a conflict and private counsel was appointed. From November 2019 to early 2021, bar panel counsel filed motions to destroy plaintiff's juvenile records, which was granted. Bar Panel counsel also filed a <i>Litmon-Vasquez</i> motion in February 2021, but, before that motion could be heard, the District Attorney's Office declared it could no longer proceed with the case, noting the State's evaluators had both filed evaluations indicating Plaintiff did not meet the criteria to be an SVP because they could not rely on his juvenile records. In May 2021, the SVP proceedings were dismissed, and plaintiff was released from custody.</p>
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1. Briefly describe the **root cause(s)** of the claim/lawsuit:

Inadequate training resulted in a legal/tactical error by attorneys who neglected to identify a legal issue that could have resulted in an earlier dismissal of the case; staffing reductions in the special unit resulted in continuances by attorneys who believed they had insufficient resources to take the cases to trial; failure to obtain clear time waivers from clients who preferred to remain at the state hospital during court appearances, and the Department did not have an adequate case management tracking and reporting system.

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

Ensure that attorney staff assigned to the special unit are trained in reviewing both the prior records and the legal basis the State's evaluators relied upon in determining a client qualified as an SVP.

Ensure that the weighted caseloads of attorneys assigned to the Civil Commitment Units are manageable and that adequate support services are provided. After the Vasquez decision in February 2018, the Supervising Judge of the Superior Court ordered all pending SVP trials to be heard before one court. The Public Defender's Office conducted an audit of all pending cases as to their status and level of preparation with monthly updates reported to the Assistant, Division Chief and Deputy-in-Charge. It has been determined that the high number of SVP cases reported to the BOS and State Bar, were in fact misrepresentations. SVP filings had been continually falling since 2009, at the time of the staff reductions in 2014 and continued to this date where caseloads have remained at or below pre-2014 levels.

Require a verbal waiver taken by the court on the record via video appearance. With the development of video conferencing and assignment of all pending trial cases to one court for all pretrial cases following the Vasquez decision, all waivers are now made on the record in open court with all parties present. Per this process, written waivers are no longer utilized and non-appearances by the client are not permitted.

The Department now has a digital Client Case Management System (CCMS) that maintains the Department's official case file for each case it handles. Attorneys, paralegals and investigators utilize CCMS to document all aspects of the case. There is a section for case file documentation where all staff can notate activity on the case. Attorneys can detail client conversations including the documentation of any time waivers. CCMS also allows management to track progress on cases in real time to be aware of the status on each case, as well as to notify staff in the event case file documentation is inadequate. Additionally, the CCU (SVP) Unit maintains an Excel spreadsheet that lists every active case along with its status, including age of the case, which is regularly monitored by the supervisor.


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 Management Coordinator)

Jon Troniez

Signature: 	Date: 5-4-24
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Name: (Department Head) Justine Esack, Chief Deputy	
Signature: 	Date: 9-6-2024

**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: (Risk Management Inspector General)

Betty Karmirlian, Acting Risk Management Inspector General

Signature: 	Date: 9/6/2024
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## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	<u>Agustin Herrera, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.</u>
CASE NUMBER	2:22-cv-01013
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	February 14, 2022
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Probation Department and Mental Health Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 30,000,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Barrett S. Litt, Esquire McLane, Bednarski & Litt, LLP
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Jonathan McCaverty Assistant County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a recommendation to settle for \$30,000,000, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, a federal civil rights class action lawsuit brought by Agustin Herrera on behalf of himself and other current and prior wards of the County's Probation Department concerning conditions of confinement at the County's Juvenile Halls and Juvenile Camps.</p> <p>Given the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a reasonable settlement at this time will avoid further litigation costs; therefore, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 272,144
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 202





## 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:	12/01/13
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	<p>A. H. was a 19-year-old man detained several times in Central Juvenile Hall (CJH) and Barry J. Nidorf (BJN) Juvenile Hall. During his confinement, A.H reported uninhabitable living quarters &amp; lack of sufficient access to care and needs.</p> <p>In October 2018, the California Attorney General's office conducted an investigation and made findings that the alleged conditions existed and Probations office had addressed some of the deficiencies within the most recent years. In the same year, the County funded the Youth Development Department (YDD) and subsequently created the County Department of Youth Development (DYD) to provide additional supportive services to incarcerated youth.</p> <p>On April 2019, the DMH Director issued a report addressing a response on the Office of Inspector General Investigation and Improving Mental Health Treatment and Safety in Juvenile Facilities. The report was part of the County's plan to eliminate Oleoresin Capsicum Spray (OC Spray). The report also indicated DMH would take on additional non-mental health responsibilities to assist probation. DMH would be a support role to probation with the additional responsibilities and roles to provide mental health services. DMH did not receive additional staffing to carry out the non-mental health services; however, DMH had sufficient staff to provide the mental health services.</p> <p>Proceeding to February 14, 2022, A.H filed a class action complaint seeking damages from the County for due process violations (unconstitutional conditions of confinement, use of mechanical restraints, room confinement/solitary confinement, excessive use of chemical force, and deliberate indifference to mental health conditions) and violations of the ADA Rehabilitation Act.</p>

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

One (1) root cause is identified in the claim/lawsuit. 1. Early intervention for youth crisis and a structure for effective communication between collaborating departments in juvenile halls and CAMPS were not sufficiently developed.

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

Recommended corrective action include Root Cause A:

Step 1: began in 2018 and completed on July 2022. Steered by the community members and young people, County BOS created the Division of Youth Diversion & Development (YDD). YDD advanced the County's new youth diversion model. The model empowered community-based health organizations to provide individualized care coordination, in lieu of arrest with the goal of equitably reducing youth arrest. In collaborating with YDD, DMH would assist in developing a care plan to connect individuals to meaningful services such as therapy and mental health treatment.

Step 2: began on July 2022 to ongoing and involved the Department of Youth Development (DYD). To implement Youth Justice Re-Imagined and eliminate OC spray, the County developed an independent County department. The DYD would enhance rehabilitative and recreational services in the juvenile halls. This was a transition from the program previously known as YDD to the newly formed DYD.

DMHs' role coordinates care with DYD to provide mental health services. DMH staff assesses all newly admitted youth and provides ongoing psychiatric services in the juvenile halls. DMH continues to treat youth with mental health matters and collaborates with other providers to benefit the individual. Treatment includes discussions on how to stabilize the client and aftercare plan coordination upon release.

DMH collaborates with DYD who has contracts with Community Based Organizations (CBOs) to bring in Credible Messengers to support, coach, mentor youth, and facilitate re-entry plans. Credible Messengers improved outcomes include reduction in recidivism, and antisocial behavior, increased compliance with court mandates, and increased engagement with programs and services. The Credible Messengers program support enriched relationships between system stakeholders, community members, and has helped communities to advance their capacity to support systems that engage youth.

Step 3: on October 2023 to ongoing, a collaborative effort between LACPD, LACOE, DMH, and JCHS enhanced efforts to develop and implement the Behavioral Management Program (BMP) in (3) major methods: reward positive behavior, discourage inappropriate behavior, and rehabilitative components. Each agency supports the facility-wide expectations for youth through common language, core values, multi-disciplinary team interventions and helps facilitate activities and/or targeted programming through their respective modalities. The program provides incentives to youth for demonstrating pro-social behaviors through-out the day in the unit, in school, and in their work with DMH clinical staff. The BMP allows staff and youth to see and measure growth. Interaction that occurs within BMP are viewed as opportunities to work with youth and to support staff in creating an environment that encourages positive behaviors in youth while in the facilities.

Step 4: November 2023 to ongoing, probation and DMH implement the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT). During normal business hour, the designated co-response team consist of (2) probation staff, and (1) DMH clinician. After business hours, designated officers serve as a member of CIT and are assigned (1) day a week. Consideration on identifying the designated staff to serve on CIT, includes individuals who demonstrate the ability to de-escalate and maintains a good rapport with youth.

CITs primary objective assists and de-escalates youth in crisis. The response team creates a trauma-informed environment and fosters a therapeutic approach to minimize the need for forceful intervention in critical situations and assist youth in crisis. The focus provides an immediate therapeutic- oriented approach to deescalate situations and resolve underlying issues. The initiation of the CIT occurs as an intervention when onsite staff recognizes a need for further support due to unsuccessful measure to de-escalate the crisis.

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 Management Coordinator) Curley L. Bonds		
Signature: Curley L. Bonds, M.D.	Digitally signed by Curley L. Bonds, M.D. Date: 2024.09.17 15:21:36 -07'00'	Date: 9/17/2024

Name: (Department Head) Rimmi Hundal		
Signature: Rimmi Hundal	Digitally signed by Rimmi Hundal Date: 2024.09.17 15:26:44 -07'00'	Date: 9/17/2024

**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: (Risk Management Inspector General) Betty Karmirian, Acting Risk Management Inspector General	
Signature: 	Date: 9/19/24

## **CASE SUMMARY**

### **INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION**

CASE NAME	Ben Mosco, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	22CHCP00248
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	July 26, 2022
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 41,250
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Yana G. Henriks, Esq.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Roderick E. Sasis, Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This is a recommendation to settle the attorneys' fees and costs in a California Public Records Act lawsuit filed by Petitioners/Plaintiffs Ben Mosco and Marlo Mosco against the County of Los Angeles for \$41,250.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 66,995
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 531

## **CASE SUMMARY**

### **INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION**

CASE NAME	Heidi Sam vs. Francisco Aban Ong, Jr., et al.
CASE NUMBER	21STCV11118
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	March 23, 2021
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 162,500
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Daniel Azizi, Esq. Downtown LA Law Group
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Kevin J. Engelen Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This case occurred from a traffic collision involving Plaintiff Heidi Sam and Los Angeles Sheriff's Department employee Francisco Aban Ong, Jr.</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	\$ 34,390
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 10,146





## 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 19, 2020, at approximately 8:40 a.m.
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	<p>Summary Corrective Action Plan 2023-143</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>Multiple investigative reports indicated on Thursday, March 19, 2020, at approximately 8:40 a.m., an on-duty Los Angeles County employee was driving an unmarked county vehicle northbound on the 101 Freeway when a traffic collision occurred.</p> <p>Employee One was driving northbound in the number one lane on the 101 Freeway at 65 mph. He looked to his right, and when he looked forward, he saw traffic ahead had abruptly stopped.</p> <p>His vehicle was approximately three car lengths away from the Plaintiff's vehicle, but he did not have enough distance to stop. The front of Employee One's vehicle collided with the rear of the Plaintiff's vehicle, which was stopped in his lane directly in front of him. The force of the collision caused the Plaintiff's vehicle to collide with the rear of an unknown third party's vehicle.</p> <p>The Plaintiff did not have any visible injuries.</p> <p>Employee One was wearing a factory-installed seatbelt at the time of the collision.</p> <p>A Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Sergeant was notified of the traffic collision and responded to the location. The Sergeant authored a Supervisor's Report of Incident or Damage to County Vehicle.</p> <p>An officer from the California Highway Patrol responded and conducted a traffic collision investigation. His investigation concluded Employee One was the primary cause of the traffic collision by operating a vehicle at speeds faster than is reasonable or prudent, in violation of California Vehicle Code Section 22350.</p>

	<p><b>The involved Employee's statement is based on the Supervisor's Report of Incident or Damage to County Vehicle:</b></p> <p>Employee One stated he was driving northbound on the 101 freeway at approximately 65 mph. He looked to his right, and when he looked back, he saw traffic had stopped abruptly. He applied his brakes but did not have enough time to conduct an "evasive maneuver," and rear ended the Plaintiff's vehicle. Employee One then notified a supervisor.</p>
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1. Briefly describe the **root cause(s)** of the claim/lawsuit:

The **Department** root cause of this incident is Employee One's operations of a vehicle at speeds faster than is reasonable or prudent, a violation of California Vehicle Code Section 22350.

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 representatives from the California Highway Patrol.

The collision investigation concluded that the employee caused the collision by operating a vehicle at speeds faster than is reasonable or prudent in violation of California Vehicle Code Section 22350.

#### **Supervisor's Report of Incident or Damage to County Vehicle**

The incident was investigated by a representative from Scientific Services Bureau to determine if any administrative misconduct occurred stemming from the traffic collision. The results of the investigation were presented for Department executive adjudication.

Executive evaluation found the collision was preventable and appropriate administrative action was taken.

The employee involved in this incident received training surrounding the circumstances pertaining to this incident.

#### **Traffic Collision Assessment and Review**

Scientific Services Bureau conducted a review and assessment of their traffic collisions for the calendar year 2019 through the end of 2023. The audit revealed the following:

There were 36 traffic collisions for this five-year period, 20 of which were found to be preventable.

Personnel who have been involved in more than one collision are directed to attend Department training.

#### **Sheriff Department Announcement – Department-Wide Rebrief**

The purpose of this rebrief is to remind Department personnel that the safety of Department members and the public is paramount when engaged in routine driving and code-3 responses.

It is essential to maintain heightened officer safety, common sense, and sound tactics to reduce collision-related injuries, deaths, and financial liability to the Department.

**Department Expanded Briefing**

In hopes of further mitigating financial liability to the Department as a result of traffic collisions, representatives from the Department briefed the participants of Department driving courses on current trends related to Department driving practices.



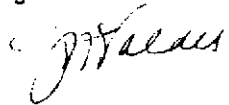
County of Los Angeles  
Summary Corrective Action Plan


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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. Valdes, A/Captain Risk Management Bureau	
Signature: 	Date: 09/20/24

Name: (Department Head)  Jill Torres, Assistant Sheriff Chief Financial and Administrative Officer	
Signature: 	Date: 9/19/24

<b>Chief Executive Office Risk Management Inspector General USE ONLY</b>	
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: Betty Karmirlian (A/Risk Management Inspector General)	
Signature: 	Date: 9/20/24

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	N.B., A minor by Elonda Holman, et al., v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	2:21-CV-02165
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	March 10, 2021
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 275,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Dale K. Galipo, Esq. Law Office of Dale K. Galipo
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Richard Hsueh Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a recommendation to settle for \$275,000, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, a federal civil rights and wrongful death lawsuit filed by Shellondra Thomas and her child, and decedent Terron Boone's three children, arising out of a fatal deputy-involved shooting of Mr. Boone while deputies attempted to arrest him pursuant to a felony arrest warrant.</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 \$275,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 111,208
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 106,238

Case Name: B.N. et al v. County of Los Angeles



## 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:	June 17, 2020, at approximately 4:37 p.m.
	<p>Summary Corrective Action Plan 2023-131</p> <p><b>Details provided 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><b>Call for Service</b></p> <p>Multiple investigative reports indicated, on June 15, 2020, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department deputies responded to a call in Palmdale. Deputy sheriffs contacted a female adult (Victim) who informed them she was involved in a domestic violence incident with her boyfriend (Decedent).</p> <p>The Decedent held the Victim against her will in the apartment bedroom, from June 9, 2020, to June 15, 2020, and blamed her for the death of his brother. The Decedent repeatedly sexually assaulted the Victim, struck her on her right forearm with a semi-automatic pistol, and threatened to kill her and her five children. The Decedent told her he was going to "go out with a bang," and would kill the Victim and any police who attempted to help her. The Victim interpreted this as the Decedent saying he would die in a shootout with police. The Victim explained the Decedent possessed a black semi-automatic handgun and a black rifle.</p> <p>The Victim escaped on June 15, 2020, and ran to a nearby business to call the police because the Decedent took her cell phone. During the interview, the investigating deputies observed visible injuries to the Victim's neck, bruising and swelling to her left eye, and reported pain in her ribs.</p> <p>Although the Decedent was never diagnosed with any mental illness, the Victim suspected he was mentally ill. An Emergency Protective Order was issued against the Decedent.</p> <p>The Victim was transported to the hospital for medical treatment.</p> <p>LASD subsequently lost contact with the Victim.</p> <p><b>Summary of the Incident</b></p> <p>An arrest warrant was issued for the Decedent, and detectives worked in conjunction with Major Crimes Bureau (MCB) and the Surveillance and Apprehension Team (SAT) to author a cellphone "ping" search warrant for cellphones believed to be in the Decedent's possession.</p>

	<p>On June 17, 2020, MCB detectives, along with SAT detectives, met to conduct a briefing in preparation to locate the Decedent. Department personnel were informed of the Decedent's violent criminal history, possible possession of firearms, and intentions to forcefully resist arrest efforts made by law enforcement.</p> <p>On June 17, 2020, at approximately 2:00 p.m., a cellphone "ping" revealed a potential address for the Decedent at an apartment complex. Detectives identified a specific apartment as the Decedent's most likely location within that address, due to the fact the owner of the apartment was an associate of the Decedent. The Detectives also identified a blue Jeep SUV registered to the Decedent's associate parked in the parking space designated for the apartment.</p> <p>At approximately 4:00 p.m. on June 17, 2021, a male adult (the Decedent), a female adult (Plaintiff One), and a child (Plaintiff Two) exited the apartment and entered the blue Jeep. At the time, detectives were unable to positively identify with 100 percent certainty the male adult as the individual they were looking for, although his physical features were consistent with that of the Decedent. Deputy Two noted the male (Decedent) appeared to intentionally conceal his identity by wearing large, dark sunglasses and a surgical mask.</p> <p>SAT Detectives followed the Jeep (in unmarked undercover police vehicles) to a nearby Family Dollar Discount store.</p> <p>Plaintiff One (driver) parked, exited the vehicle, and entered a store leaving the Decedent and Plaintiff Two behind.</p> <p>Plaintiff One returned to the Jeep and exited the parking lot, making several superfluous turns through a residential area in a possible effort to determine if they were being followed. Detectives planned to conduct a felony traffic stop of the Jeep when it stopped in the apartment parking lot, as their vehicles were not equipped with emergency lights and sirens to alert the public of an exigent circumstance should it arise.</p> <p>The Jeep stopped, and Department personnel gave the Decedent numerous verbal commands to show his hands. The Decedent opened the passenger door of the vehicle, exited, and began to shoot at the Deputy Sheriffs. Detectives returned gunfire at the Decedent.</p> <p>Using his Department-issued handheld radio, Detective Three notified dispatch that a shooting occurred.</p> <p>He requested emergency medical assistance and additional units, but initially provided the wrong address for the apartment complex. The address was ultimately corrected.</p> <p>A Major Crimes Bureau detective notified Kern County emergency services of the shooting and was patched through to Kern County Sheriff's Department. At this time, emergency medical aid was requested as well as "black and white" backup units to respond to the location of the shooting.</p> <p>Under direction from the Detectives, Plaintiff One exited the vehicle and retrieved Plaintiff Two before receiving medical aid from Major Crimes Bureau detectives, pending the arrival of paramedics.</p>
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	<p>The Detectives tactically approached the Jeep with a ballistic shield when it was safe to do so, unaware if the Decedent was still armed. They cleared the Jeep and deputies conducted life-saving measures on the Decedent (who was unresponsive) for several minutes. The Decedent was pronounced dead by Kern County Fire Department paramedics at approximately 5:02 p.m.</p> <p>Plaintiff One was transported to the hospital by ambulance and treated for her injuries.</p> <p>Plaintiff Two who was in the backseat at the time of the shooting, sustained a cut on her arm from a broken window. She received medical attention at the scene before being transported to Lancaster Sheriff's Station, where the Department of Children and Family Services was notified. No bystanders were injured.</p> <p>A functional, black Glock 27 .40 caliber handgun was recovered from the ground outside of the Jeep near the Decedent's feet. DNA from the Decedent was recovered from the slide of the gun.</p> <p>The following is based on Sergeant One's interview with Homicide Bureau:</p> <p>Sergeant One and his detective team assisted in apprehending the Decedent who had an arrest warrant for various felonious crimes. Utilizing digital phone surveillance, Sergeant One and his team of detectives located a vehicle containing a male adult (Decedent) whom they believed to be the suspect named in the warrant.</p> <p>The team followed the vehicle (in accordance with their tactical plan) as it drove to a nearby store, Plaintiff One exited and went inside, leaving the Decedent and child in the vehicle. Sergeant One parked his vehicle next to the Jeep to positively identify the male in the front passenger seat.</p> <p>The Decedent restlessly moved around in the vehicle, fidgeting with the sunglasses he was wearing, and attempting to look at Sergeant One. The female returned to the Jeep, backed out of the stall, stopping behind Sergeant One's vehicle. Sergeant One exited his vehicle and entered the store, pretending to be a patron. The occupants of the Jeep seemed satisfied they were not being followed, and left the Family Dollar Discount Store parking lot, taking a discursive route back to the apartment.</p> <p>Sergeant One and Detectives One through Three determined conducting a felony traffic stop of the Jeep was the safest plan of action. Based on the Decedent's evasive behavior and the information available, Sergeant One and his team were certain the Decedent was the suspect listed on the warrant. Sergeant One deduced it was imperative to assist his team during the felony traffic stop and did not have adequate time to don his vest prior to the stop. He retrieved his firearm and additional magazines and tucked his shirt behind his badge to make himself "easily identifiable" as a deputy sheriff.</p> <p>While maintaining a clear view of the Decedent from the side of Detective One's vehicle, Sergeant One saw the passenger door open. He heard a deputy yell, "Sheriff's Department, let me see your hands!"</p>
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	<p>The Decedent exited the vehicle and fired two to three rounds at Sergeant One. Sergeant One returned fire, engaging the Decedent.</p> <p>Believing he had been shot, Sergeant One moved to a different position, as the Decedent mirrored him from the Jeep.</p> <p>Sergeant One continued to fire, as the Decedent was still on his feet and, reacting to the gunfire. The Decedent ultimately sat down in the vehicle and fell back. Sergeant One yelled for Plaintiff One to get Plaintiff Two and get out of the car, to which she eventually complied.</p> <p>Sergeant One and Detective One assessed each other for injuries, and realizing they were uninjured, waited for additional uniformed personnel.</p> <p>When deputies arrived, they removed the Decedent from the vehicle and began to render emergency aid.</p> <p>The following is based on Detective One's interview with Homicide Bureau:</p> <p>Detective One attended a briefing, familiarizing himself with the team's tactical plan to locate the Decedent. The team planned to confirm the Decedent's identity and notify the Special Enforcement Bureau (if the Decedent was in a structure), or utilize their tactics if the Decedent was in a vehicle.</p> <p>During the briefing, the Decedent's phone "pinged" to an apartment in Rosamond. The "ping" then moved to the Lancaster/Palmdale area. Detective One surveilled the location, while two detectives responded to Lancaster.</p> <p>While maintaining a visual of the target location, Detective One saw a male adult concealing his identity (the Decedent) leave an apartment with Plaintiffs One and Two, and enter a blue Jeep.</p> <p>Detective One and his team initiated mobile surveillance and followed the Jeep as it exited the west side of the parking lot, ultimately parking at a nearby store.</p> <p>Detective One heard radio traffic advising the team Plaintiff One entered the store and left the Decedent and Plaintiff Two in the car. Sergeant One drove his unmarked vehicle into the stall parallel to the Decedent's vehicle, but was still unable to positively verify the Decedent's identity due to the heavy tint on the windows. To ease the Decedent's suspicion, Sergeant One entered the Dollar Store mimicking a patron.</p> <p>Plaintiff One returned, and the Jeep made several evasive turns before returning to the apartment and parking. Detective One positioned his vehicle at a 45-degree angle behind the passenger door of Detective Three's vehicle.</p> <p>Detective One activated the forward-facing emergency lights on his vehicle, retrieved his duty rifle, and stepped out of the vehicle while identifying himself as a member of the Sheriff's Department. He announced for the occupants in the vehicle to show their hands.</p>
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After approximately five seconds, the Decedent turned, shifted in the passenger seat, and turned his body toward Detective One. The front passenger door opened, and Detective One saw what he believed to be smoke from a firearm. Fearing for his life and the lives of his partners, Detective One fired seven to ten rounds at the Decedent from his position next to the driver's side door of his vehicle.

Detective One moved to a more tactically advantageous position at the rear of his vehicle, and the shooting from the Jeep stopped. Detective One was unsure if the Decedent was attempting to obtain an additional firearm. Once the Decedent appeared incapacitated, the Detectives ordered Plaintiff One to exit the vehicle with Plaintiff Two. After approximately ten minutes, Lancaster Sheriff's Station units arrived with a ballistic shield, allowing them to safely approach the Decedent and render aid pending the arrival of paramedics. Department personnel then contained the scene.

The following is based on Detective Two's interview with Homicide Bureau:

Detective Two and his team conducted surveillance of an apartment in Lancaster in conjunction with a warrant for the Decedent. When the Decedent exited the apartment with Plaintiffs One and Two, Detective Two and his team followed them as they drove to a nearby store in hopes of positively identifying the Decedent as the individual named in the warrant.

Detective Two and his team continued to surveil the Decedent as they drove back to the apartment complex. Detective Two and his team decided the safest option was to conduct a traffic stop of the vehicle to prevent a hostage situation should the Decedent reenter the apartment.

Detective Two communicated the tactical plan vehicle radio, and entered the apartment parking lot flanking himself behind the Decedent's vehicle. The additional members of his team parked their vehicle. Detective Two exited his vehicle and gave commands for the Decedent to exit his vehicle. The Decedent moved around in the vehicle, and Detective Two heard gunfire a short time later. Fearing for his life, Detective Two returned fire, and stopped when he could no longer see the Decedent in the vehicle.

Plaintiff's One and Two were instructed to exit the vehicle and Detective Two called for law enforcement and paramedics. Detective Two positioned himself on the passenger side of Detective One's vehicle, and saw the Decedent in the vehicle with a firearm on the ground near his feet.

The detectives confirmed the medical status Plaintiffs One and Two. Additional deputies arrived and safely approached the Decedent before rendering emergency aid.

The following is based on Detective Three's interview with Homicide Bureau:

Detective Three and his team followed the Victim's cell phone signal to an apartment in Lancaster and established physical surveillance of the location.

	<p>Detective Three, along with other members of his team, followed the Decedent and Plaintiffs One and Two as they entered a blue Jeep and traveled to a nearby Family Dollar Discount Store. Detective Three requested Sergeant One take a position on the passenger side of the Decedent's vehicle to get a better look at him, while the remaining detectives assumed strategic positions around the parking lot of the Dollar Store.</p> <p>Plaintiff One exited the vehicle and entered the store as Sergeant One positioned his vehicle and attempted to get a better visual of the Decedent. Plaintiff One exited the store and reentered the vehicle, backing out of the parking stall and stopping directly behind Sergeant One's vehicle. Sergeant One exited his vehicle and entered the store to appear as a patron.</p> <p>The vehicle drove away from the store and took what Detective Three believed were "counter-surveillance" measures. Detective Three told the team the safest option was to conduct a traffic stop of the Jeep.</p> <p>Detective Three entered the parking lot as the fourth vehicle in line, and positioned himself facing the passenger side rear quarter panel of the Jeep. He activated the red and blue lights on his vehicle, exited, and repeatedly commanded the occupants of the vehicle to show their hands.</p> <p>Detective Three used the engine block of his vehicle as cover, noting that verbal commands stopped for approximately five seconds. He then saw the Decedent open the front passenger door of the Jeep and extend his hand while holding a firearm. He simultaneously heard two gunshots and saw the gun recoil in the Decedent's hand.</p> <p>Detective Three saw the passenger door of the Jeep completely open, and the Decedent's feet planted themselves on the ground just outside the door while maintaining a hold of the firearm. In fear for his life and the lives of those around him, Detective Three fired five rounds from his Department-issued Colt model AR-15.</p> <p>The gunfire stopped after approximately seven seconds, and Detective Three reassessed the situation. He saw a firearm with an extended magazine lying on the ground near the Decedent's feet.</p> <p>Detective Three saw Plaintiff One exit the vehicle and followed deputies' commands to retrieve Plaintiff Two.</p> <p>On June 17, 2022, the Kern County District Attorney's Office determined, given the facts and circumstances known to and/or believed by the Sergeant and Detectives at the time of the shooting, that their actions were reasonable and lawful.</p> <p>Moreover, available evidence supported the Deputies' belief that the Decedent, if not apprehended, presented an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death to the public.</p>
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1. Briefly describe the root cause(s) of the claim/lawsuit:

A <b>Department</b> root cause in this incident was the Deputy Sheriffs' use of deadly force against the Decedent.
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A **Department** root cause in this incident was Detective Three transmitting the incorrect location over the radio, causing a delay in emergency medical response.

A **Department** root cause in this incident was Sergeant One not wearing a ballistic vest with visible Department insignia.

A **Department** root cause in this incident was lack of an appropriately- sized ballistic shield at the scene.

A **Department** root cause in this incident was the involved Deputy Sheriffs did not utilize marked patrol vehicles.

A **non-Department** root cause in this incident was the Decedent's felonious assault, kidnapping, and use of a firearm against a member of the public and Department personnel.

A **non-Department** root cause in this incident was the Decedent's failure to comply with lawful orders given by the Deputy Sheriffs.

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

**Criminal Investigation**

The incident was investigated by the Sheriff's Department's Homicide Bureau to determine if any criminal misconduct occurred. The results of their investigation were submitted to the Kern County District Attorney's Office.

On June 17, 2022, the Kern County District Attorney's Office concluded the deputy sheriffs acted reasonably and lawfully, in self-defense and in the defense of others to defend against an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury posed by the Decedent. There is no state criminal liability for their use of deadly force under the circumstances of this case, and the shooting was legally justified.

**Administrative Investigation**

Upon completion of the District Attorney's Office's findings, the Sheriff's Department's Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) will investigate this incident to determine if any administrative misconduct occurred before, during, or after the incident.

**Tactical Incident Debriefing**

The captains of both Lancaster Station and Major Crimes Bureau conducted a tactical incident debriefing regarding the dynamic circumstances of this incident with all involved personnel. All tactical aspects of this incident were addressed, including but not limited to the exigency of circumstances that dictated law enforcement action. A comprehensive review of the tactics and techniques implemented by deputy personnel was discussed.

The Deputy Sheriffs involved in this incident received additional training pertaining to the circumstances surrounding the incident.

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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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:



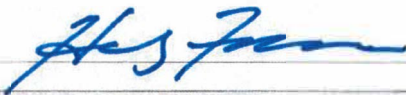
Date:

08/08/24

Name: (Department Head)

Holly A. Francisco  
Assistant Sheriff, Countywide Operations

Signature:



Date:

9/4/24

**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)  
Acting Risk Management Inspector General

Signature:



Date:

9/5/2024

## **CASE SUMMARY**

### **INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION**

CASE NAME	Virginia Olivera Diaz, et al. vs. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	20STCV24227
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	June 26, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 495,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	MAURO FIORE, JR., ESQ. LAW OFFICES OF MAURO FIORE, JR., APC
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	MELISSA A. MCCAVERTY Deputy County Counsel
	PATRICK E. STOCKALPER, ESQ. Kjar, McKenna & Stockalper, LLP
NATURE OF CASE	This case involves a vehicle collision between a Sheriff's Department Explorer and a Nissan Juke, driven by the Plaintiff that occurred on March 18, 2019, at the intersection of Live Oak Avenue and Longden Avenue in the City of Irwindale. Plaintiffs claim to have suffered injuries and damages from 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	\$ 38,238
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 20,538



## 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 18, 2019
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	<p style="text-align: center;">Summary Corrective Action Plan 2023-136</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 Saturday, March 18, 2019, at approximately 6:50 a.m., an on-duty Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Deputy Sheriff was involved in a traffic collision.</p> <p>The Deputy Sheriff was in a marked black and white patrol vehicle, traveling east when entered the center triangular center island at the intersection. The Deputy Sheriff stopped at the stop limit line and checked for oncoming traffic prior to entering the intersection.</p> <p>The Deputy Sheriff proceeded to merge into westbound traffic, traveling 5 mph, when he collided with the Plaintiff's driver's side door. The impact from the traffic collision caused the Plaintiff (driver) to lose control and strike a light pole with the front passenger's side (Plaintiff Two) bumper of her vehicle.</p> <p>Los Angeles County Fire Department Engine and Squad responded to the traffic collision. Upon their arrival, LACo Fire Department treated the Plaintiff at the collision site for pain in her left hand, left arm, and head; however, she refused to be transported to the hospital for further treatment.</p> <p>Additionally, Plaintiff Two refused to be transported to the hospital. Plaintiffs One and Two later sought treatment for their injuries.</p> <p>A Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Sergeant was notified of the traffic collision and responded to the location.</p> <p>The Sergeant authored a Supervisor's Report of Incident or Damage to County Vehicle investigation.</p> <p>The involved Deputy Sheriff's statement was based on the Supervisor's Report of Incident or Damage to County Vehicle:</p> <p>The involved Deputy Sheriff stated, he looked to his right towards oncoming traffic, and he did not observe any vehicle approaching. The Deputy Sheriff proceeded to enter the intersection (in the number one lane) and the traffic collision occurred.</p>

	A Police officer from Irwindale Police Department responded to the location and conducted a traffic collision investigation. His investigation concluded the Deputy Sheriff was the primary cause of the traffic collision by failing to yield to oncoming traffic while approaching an intersection, in violation of California Vehicle Code Section – 21803 (a).
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1. Briefly describe the **root cause(s)** of the claim/lawsuit:

A **Department** root cause in this incident was the Deputy Sheriff made an unsafe left turn and collided into the plaintiff's vehicle.

A **Department** root cause in this incident was the Deputy Sheriff did not properly clear the intersection prior to proceeding into on-coming traffic.

A **Department** root cause in this incident was the failure of the Deputy Sheriff to utilize his vehicle's seatbelt.

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

#### **Traffic Collision Investigation**

The traffic collision was investigated by representatives from the Irwindale Police Department.

The collision investigation concluded the Deputy Sheriff was the primary cause of the collision by failing to yield to oncoming traffic while approaching an intersection, in violation of California Vehicle Code Section - 21803 (a).

#### **Supervisor's Report of Incident of Damage to County Vehicle**

The incident was investigated by a representative from the Temple Sheriff's Station to determine if any administrative misconduct occurred stemming from the traffic collision. The results of the investigation were presented for Department executive adjudication.

Executive evaluation found the collision was preventable and appropriate administrative action was taken.

The Deputy Sheriff involved in this incident received training surrounding the circumstances pertaining to this incident.

#### **Traffic Collision Assessment and Review**

Temple Sheriff's Station conducted a review and assessment of all their traffic collisions for the calendar year 2019 through the end of 2023.

The audit revealed the following:

- 115 preventable collisions occurred during the past five years.
- The most common casual factor was unsafe backing and/or inattentiveness.

Based on the results of the audit, a comprehensive traffic collision reduction plan was developed and implemented at Temple Station in early 2022. This includes recurrent briefings with all personnel on a shift-by-shift basis as well as routine briefings by Temple Station training staff.

Vehicles involved in traffic collisions have also been staged at Temple Station to provide personnel with a visual reminder of the importance of adhering to safe driving techniques. Personnel also attend STAR drivers training classes, and The Los Angeles Sheriff's Station conducts quarterly traffic collision audits to identify potential problematic trends.

**Sheriff Department Announcement – Department-Wide Re-brief**

The purpose of this re-brief is to remind Department personnel that the safety of Department members and the public is paramount when engaged in routine driving and code 3 responses.

It is essential to maintain heightened officer safety, common sense, and sound tactics to reduce collision-related injuries, deaths, and financial liability to the Department.

3. Are the corrective actions addressing Department-wide system issues?

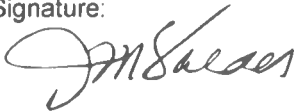
- ☐ Yes – The corrective actions address Department-wide system issues.
- ☒ No – The corrective actions are only applicable to the affected parties.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Name: (Risk Management Coordinator)

Julia M. Valdés, A/Captain  
Risk Management Bureau

Signature:



Date:

09/04/2024

Name: (Department Head)

Myron Johnson, Assistant Sheriff  
Patrol Operations

Signature:



Date:

9/23/24

**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 (A/Risk Management Inspector General)

Signature:



Date:

9/24/2024

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Adrian Cruz, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	2:23-CV-02702
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	March 14, 2023
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 525,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Greg L. Kirakosian
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Minas Samuelian Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a recommendation to settle for \$525,000 inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, a federal and State civil rights lawsuit filed by Adrian Cruz, Amanda Sainz, and A.C., a minor by and through his guardian ad litem, Krystle Garcia, ("Plaintiffs"), alleging excessive force arising out of Plaintiff Cruz's detention.</p> <p>Given 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 \$525,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 18,391
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 2,892





## 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:	November 9, 2022 approximately 5:30 p.m.
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	<p>Summary Corrective Action Plan 2023-138</p> <p><b>Details provided 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>Multiple investigative reports indicated on November 9, 2023, a stolen vehicle pursuit entered the Norwalk Station reporting district. Prior to that, the suspect was seen on live television broadcasts leading police on a prolonged vehicle pursuit; at one point exiting one vehicle and stealing another. The suspect's driving habits were erratic, and the suspect displayed no regard for the safety of the public or the police officers who were pursuing and attempting to apprehend him.</p> <p>As the suspect drove into the reporting area, his vehicle became disabled. The suspect exited the stolen vehicle and fled on foot, entering an occupied residence from a rear patio sliding door. Once inside the residence, he encountered the occupants and brandished a pair of scissors while stealing their car keys. The suspect exited the residence into the front yard and used the stolen car keys to enter another vehicle that was parked in the driveway. The suspect exited the property by driving through a closed gate, nearly striking one of the occupants of the residence.</p> <p>Emergent assistance was requested, and Department personnel responded to the area attempting to locate and apprehend the suspect. Deputies from neighboring stations pursued the suspect through several cities on the highway and residential streets, crossing several jurisdictions. As the suspect continued to flee, he side-swiped several vehicles on the roadway including a marked Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department patrol vehicle.</p> <p>Emergent radio traffic broadcast the suspect's locations and actions, but was infrequent and distorted at times.</p> <p>The vehicle pursuit terminated at an intersection when the suspect vehicle collided with the Plaintiff's vehicle and became disabled.</p> <p>Several deputies and peace officers from various agencies responded to the termination of the pursuit. Two deputies arrived and recognized Plaintiff One was not the suspect.</p>

Moments later, Deputies One, Two, and Three arrived on scene as an officer-involved shooting simultaneously occurred between the suspect and Department personnel. Emergent radio traffic was broadcast reporting the officer-involved shooting.

**The following is based on Deputy One's incident report and interview with Internal Affairs Bureau:**

Deputy One responded to an assistance request regarding a carjacking suspect that was leading law enforcement on a vehicle pursuit.

As Deputy One arrived on scene, he observed the suspect's vehicle reverse into a marked patrol vehicle. As Deputy One exited his vehicle, he heard gun shots followed by emergent radio traffic broadcasting a deputy-involved shooting occurred.

Deputy One moved to the rear of his vehicle where he observed Plaintiff One's vehicle approximately 20 feet away from the carjacking suspect's disabled vehicle. Deputy One observed a female and child screaming while running from the open driver's side door of the Plaintiff's vehicle. He also observed an unknown male (Plaintiff One) attempting to enter the driver's seat of the vehicle. Deputy One believed the person he observed attempting to enter the vehicle was the carjacking suspect continuing his efforts to escape capture. Deputy One approached on foot to assist additional personnel with detaining the individual he believed was the carjacking suspect.

Deputy One attempted to gain control of Plaintiff One's left arm, but he was uncooperative, argumentative, and resisted Deputy One's efforts to control his arm. Deputy Two arrived and began giving verbal commands to whom they believed to be the carjacking suspect. Deputy One maintained his control of Plaintiff One's left arm while forcibly turning Plaintiff One away from him, pushing him up against the rear passenger door of the vehicle, in preparation to handcuff him. He observed Deputy Two use a personal weapon (fist) to Plaintiff One's face. Deputy One conducted a takedown of Plaintiff One by pulling both his arms towards the ground, ultimately landing on his back with Plaintiff One partially on top of him.

Once on the ground, Deputy One observed Plaintiff One continue to physically resist efforts to control his arms. Deputy One maintained control of Plaintiff One's arms and observed Deputy Three attempting to control Plaintiff One's right arm. Plaintiff One ultimately complied and was handcuffed. He was escorted away from the white sedan and detained pending the outcome of the on-scene investigation.

**The following is based on Deputy Two's incident report and interview with Internal Affairs Bureau:**

Deputy Two responded to the scene, exited his vehicle, and immediately ran toward the carjacking suspect's vehicle. He continued to run towards the location when he observed Plaintiff One's vehicle approximately 20 feet away from the carjacking suspect's disabled vehicle. Deputy Two observed a female and child screaming while running from the open driver's side door of Plaintiff One's vehicle.

	<p>He also observed deputies contacting a male Hispanic (Plaintiff One) near the driver's side door, arguing, and refusing to comply with Deputy One's verbal commands to place his hands behind his back.</p> <p>Based on all the above, Deputy Two believed Plaintiff One was the carjacking suspect who was now attempting to steal the white sedan and was physically resisting Deputy One.</p> <p>Deputy Two saw Plaintiff One pull his right hand toward his pocket. He believed Plaintiff One was possibly attempting to retrieve a weapon, and used personal weapons (fist) to the right side of Plaintiff One's face. He observed Deputy One conduct a takedown of Plaintiff One, landing on the ground. Once on the ground, he observed Plaintiff One continue refusing to comply with Deputy One. Deputy Two began giving Plaintiff One verbal commands to put his hands behind his back. Plaintiff One ultimately complied and was handcuffed.</p> <p>He was escorted away from the white sedan and detained pending the outcome of the on-scene investigation.</p> <p><b>The following is based on Deputy Three's incident report and interview with Internal Affairs Bureau:</b></p> <p>Deputy Three arrived at the termination of the pursuit and heard emergent radio traffic of a deputy involved shooting with the suspect.</p> <p>Based on the emergent radio traffic, Deputy Three believed Plaintiff One was the carjacking suspect who was now attempting to steal another vehicle while physically resisting Deputy One. Deputy Three arrived at the same time as Deputy Two. Deputy Three observed Deputy Two use personal weapons (fist) to the right side of Plaintiff One's face, as Deputy One conducted a takedown of Plaintiff One who continued to physically resist efforts to handcuff him. Once on the ground, Deputy Three indicated he observed Plaintiff One on top of Deputy One, and Plaintiff One appeared to roll onto his side. Deputy Three believed Plaintiff One was attempting to escape and utilized personal weapons (fist) to Plaintiff One's face, attempting to gain compliance.</p> <p>The personal weapon proved effective, and Plaintiff One complied with all further orders. He was handcuffed and escorted to the rear of a marked patrol vehicle, where he was detained pending the outcome of the on-scene investigation.</p> <p>Plaintiff One was medically treated before being released.</p>
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1. Briefly describe the **root cause(s)** of the claim/lawsuit:

A **Department** root cause in this incident was Deputies One, Two, and Three detained Plaintiff One pending an assault with a deadly weapon investigation prior to having the suspect's physical description.

A **Department** root cause in this incident was Deputies One, Two, and Three failed to properly assess the situation prior to using force.

A **Department** root cause in this incident was the lack of de-escalation techniques used by Deputies One, Two, and Three.

A **Department** root cause in this incident was Deputy One failed to activate his body-worn camera.

A **Non-Department** root cause in this incident was the Plaintiff's failure to follow lawful orders given by Deputy One during the initial contact and detention resulting in a use of force.

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

#### **Administrative Investigation**

This incident was assigned to the Department Internal Affairs Bureau to determine if any Department policy violations occurred before, during, or after the incident. This case was subsequently reviewed by the Executive Force Review Committee, who determined the force used in this incident was not within Department policy. Appropriate administrative action was taken.

#### **Tactical Incident Debriefing**

Sheriff's Department personnel were briefed on the events known at the time and based on the information provided by responding personnel. Special focus was placed on emergency driving policies, initiation of Code-3 responses, vehicle operation and tactics, vehicle pursuits/tactics, responding field units' responsibilities, and lessons learned to assist employees should they find themselves in a similar situation.

The Deputy Sheriffs involved in this incident received additional training.

#### **EFRC Recommended Policy Re-brief and Tactical De-brief of Incident**

The EFRC Panel also recommended that all personnel involved in this incident undergo a tactical de-brief of this incident, as well as a re-briefing of Department policies.

County of Los Angeles  
Summary Corrective Action Plan

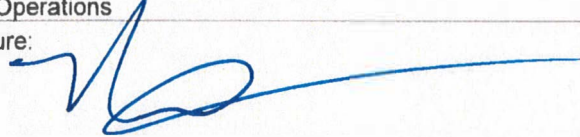
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3. Are the corrective actions addressing Department-wide system issues?

- ☐ 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. Valdes, A/Captain Risk Management Bureau	
Signature: 	Date: 09/04/2024

Name: (Department Head)	
Myron Jonson, Assistant Sheriff Patrol Operations	
Signature: 	Date: 9/9/24

<b>Chief Executive Office Risk Management Inspector General USE ONLY</b>	
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: Betty Karmirlian (A/Risk Management Inspector General) Acting Risk Management Inspector General	
Signature: 	Date: 9/10/2024

## **CASE SUMMARY**

### **INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION**

CASE NAME	Non-Litigated Claim of County of San Bernardino
CASE NUMBER	N/A
COURT	N/A
DATE FILED	N/A
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Non-Jurisdictional Administrative Fund
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 26,960.35
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	N/A
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Ann M. Aguilar Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This claim seeks reimbursement of expenses incurred by Claimant in connection with the search and rescue operation for a County of Los Angeles resident. 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	Two Tax Claims: Carolina Carrillo Hernandez and Norma Gallegos
CASE NUMBER	None
COURT	None
DATE FILED	None.
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Internal Services Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	Carolina Carrillo Hernandez: Up to \$49,952.92 Norma Gallegos: Up to \$76,827.87
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	None
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Michael Owens
NATURE OF CASE	This is a recommendation to pay two tax claims brought by property owners impacted by fraudulent behavior of home improvement contractors under the County's PACE Program. Each Claimant alleges their home improvement contractors did not complete construction on Claimant's residential property.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 0
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 0



# LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

September 16, 2024

### 1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Los Angeles County Claims Board was called to order at 9:34 a.m. The meeting was held virtually, with Claims Board Chair Destiny Castro, Claims Board Member Oscar Valdez, 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.

All other participants at the Claims Board meeting appeared virtually: Melissa McCaverty, Grace Chang, Sanjay Athalye, Jenny Tam, Mark Lomax, Irene Lee, Richard Hsueh, Michael Owens, Georgina Glaviano and Edward Morrissey appeared for the Office of the County Counsel. Jacklin Injijian, Voltaire Llana, and Mark Lombos appeared for the Department of Public Works. Lorena Moya-Rivas appeared for the Department of Children and Family Services. Deputy Fire Chief Julia Kim and Chief Ronald Durbin appeared for the Fire Department. Anush Gambaryan, Kevin Regan, Brian Mejia, and Donald Limbrick appeared for the Department of Parks and Recreation. Sergeant Shanese E. Winfrey, Deputy Renata K. Phillip, Lieutenant Jose Aguirre, Captain Sandra J. Lucio, and Commander Oscar O. Barragan appeared for the Sheriff's Department. Minh Le appeared for the Department of Internal Services. Nichelle Shaw and Akiko Tagawa appeared for the Department of Medical Examiner. Christopher M. Silva appeared for George L. Mallory, Jr. & Associates. Christopher Pisano appeared for Best Best & Krieger LLP. Jin S. Choi appeared for Lawrence Beach Allen & Choi, P.C. Jon F. Monroy appeared for Monroy, Averbuck & Gysler.

### 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 9:34 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 member of the public was present on the teleconference phone line to hear the reportable actions of the Claims Board.

At 12:30 p.m., the Claims Board reconvened in open session to report the actions taken in closed session as follows:

#### a. Adrien Szostak v. County of Los Angeles, et al. Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV24198

This lawsuit arises from injuries Plaintiff allegedly sustained in a traffic collision involving a Department of Public Works employee driving a department vehicle.

#### Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(a) in the amount of \$47,500.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

**b. Machado Lake TMDL Mandatory Min. Penalties—Administrative Notice of Violation Settlement Offer No. R4-2024-0021**

This Notice of Violation against the Los Angeles County Flood Control District alleged violations of MS4 Permit requirements.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(b) in the amount of \$93,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

**c. Mercury Insurance Company v. County of Los Angeles Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV24817**

This subrogation lawsuit seeks reimbursement of the insurance benefits Plaintiff paid to its insured as a result of a multiple vehicle collision involving an employee of the Department of Children and Family Services.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(c) in the amount of \$40,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

**d. Mary Evans v. County of Los Angeles Los Angeles Superior Court Case Nos. 21STCV45883 and 23TRCV02728**

These two lawsuits against the Fire Department arise from brush clearance that occurred at Plaintiff's property—Plaintiff alleged damages for trespass, negligence, and inverse condemnation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(d) in the amount of \$90,500.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

**e. Non-Litigated Claim of Daniel W. Austin**

This property damage claim against the Department of Parks and Recreation arises from a mudslide originating in Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area that flowed onto Claimant's property.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(e) in the amount of \$93,295.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

f. **AJSOCAL v. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23STCP00307**

This petition for writ of mandate against the Sheriff's Department involves a California Public Records Act request.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(f) in the amount of \$60,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

g. **Gabrielle Bynum v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**  
**United States District Court Case No. 2:21-cv-04453**

This federal civil rights lawsuit arises from Plaintiff's participation in a protest that took place on September 7, 2020, near South Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Station.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4(g) in the amount of \$485,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Destiny Castro, and Oscar Valdez  
Noes: 1 – Adrienne M. Byers

h. **Non-Litigated Tax Claims of Hernandez and Gallegos**

These two tax claims brought by property owners allegedly impacted by fraudulent behavior of home improvement contractors under the County's PACE program seek compensation for incomplete construction.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board continued Item 4(h) to a future meeting.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

i. **Golden State Practice Management, LLC v. County of Los Angeles**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. SC126530**

This lawsuit concerns allegations that the Department of Medical Examiner interfered with Plaintiffs' ability to do business because of the investigation and autopsy report arising out of the death of a patient who underwent surgery at one of Plaintiffs' facilities.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(i) in the amount of \$99,999.99 for economic reasons only.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro  
Noes: 1 – Oscar Valdez

**5. Approval of the Minutes for the August 19, 2024, regular meeting of the Claims Board.**

Action Taken:


The Claims Board approved the Minutes of the August 19, 2024, meeting.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

**6. Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

By   
Laura Z. Salazar  
Claims Board Secretary