

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

ON MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2025, AT 9:30 A.M.

Present: Chair Destiny Castro, and Oscar Valdez

Absent: Adrienne M. Byers

- 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 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)).**

- a. **Makroohi Nishanian, et al. v. Keck Hospital of USC, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 24STCV04775**

This medical malpractice lawsuit concerns allegations that a patient died at Los Angeles General Medical Center due to inadequate care.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 3(a) in the amount of \$550,000.

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

[See Supporting Documents](#)

- b. **Farzaneh Shirloo v. City of Calabasas, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV00177**

This dangerous condition of public property lawsuit alleges that Plaintiff sustained injuries when she tripped and fell over a sewer manhole.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 3(b) in the amount of \$75,000.

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

c. **Julio Cesar Mejia v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23NWCV01002

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained in a traffic collision involving a Sheriff's Department deputy and a pedestrian in a crosswalk.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 3(c) in the amount of \$95,000.

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

d. **Ana Patricia Fernandez v. Los Angeles County, et al.**
United States District Court Case No. 2:20-cv-09876

This federal civil rights lawsuit arises from Plaintiff's payment of a \$24,354 administrative fee charged by the Sheriff's Department for the return of 451 firearms.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 3(d) in the amount of \$60,000.

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

e. **Amayel Garfias v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23STCV01738

This employment lawsuit resulted from Plaintiff's allegations of assault and battery at work by a Sheriff's Department deputy.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 3(e) in the amount of \$30,000.

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

**f. Non-Litigated Claim of Delinia Leguie
CRD: 20304-2179905 / EEOC: 37A-20223-0211**

This complaint filed with the Civil Rights Department alleges that an employee of Child Support Services Department was subjected to disability discrimination and retaliation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 3(f) in the amount of \$350,000.

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

4. Approval of the Minutes of the March 3, 2025, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes of the March 3, 2025, meeting.

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

[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	Makroohi Nishanian, et al. v. Keck Hospital of USC, et al.
CASE NUMBER	24STCV04775
COURT	Los Angeles County Superior Court
DATE FILED	February 27, 2024
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Health Services
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 550,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Jason Argos Law Office of Kophan and Bablove
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Narbeh Bagdasarian Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	Plaintiffs allege that, on December 23, 2022, Taniel Nishanian died as a result of receiving inadequate care at Los Angeles General Medical Center. Due to the uncertainties of litigation, the proposed settlement of this matter is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 0
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 0



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:	December 23, 2022
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	On December 23, 2022, T.N. died at Los Angeles General Medical Center. His surviving family filed a lawsuit against the County of Los Angeles and other defendants. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, the proposed settlement of this matter is warranted.

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

Misinterpretation of an abnormal EKG due to hemorrhagic shock related to a liver biopsy at a non-county facility.


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

- The facility developed a tool to assist in categorizing patients with suspected myocardial infarctions.
- The department conducted a survey to evaluate use of the above tool by the other DHS facilities.
- The facility modified the process for recording laboratory values.

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) Arun Patel, MD, JD	
Signature: 	Date: 02/21/2025

Name: (Department Head) Christina Ghaly, MD	
Signature: 	Date: 3/3/2025

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: 3/5/2025

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Farzaneh Shirloo vs City of Calabasas, et al.
CASE NUMBER	22STCV00177
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	01/3/2022
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Public Works
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 75,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Gary Berkovich, Esq. Law Offices of Gary Berkovich, APC
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Michael J. Gordon Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>On May 25, 2021, Plaintiff Farzaneh Shirloo tripped and fell over a raised sewer manhole cover at 3571 Pansy Drive in the City of Calabasas due an allegedly dangerous roadway condition. Plaintiff alleges the incident caused injuries for which she seeks compensation.</p> <p>Given the risked and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$75,000 is warranted.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 39,667
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 5,703

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Julio Cesar Mejia vs County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	23NWCV01002
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	03/30/2023
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 95,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Analicia Avila, Esq. Dominguez Law Firm
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Michael J. Gordon Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>On April 12, 2022, a vehicle driven by a Deputy Sheriff collided with Plaintiff in a crosswalk at the intersection of Telegraph Road and Colima Road in the City of Whittier. Plaintiff alleges the collision caused injuries for which he seeks compensation.</p> <p>Given the risk and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$95,000 is warranted.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 38,045
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 11,476

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Ana Patricia Fernandez v. Los Angeles County, et al.
CASE NUMBER	2:20-cv-09876
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	October 27, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 60,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Anna M. Barvir Michel & Associates, P.C.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	LANA CHOI Senior Deputy County Counsel AMBER LOGAN Logan Mathevosian & Hur, LLP
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a recommendation to settle for \$60,000, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, a federal civil rights lawsuit filed by Ana Patricia Fernandez arising from her payment of a \$24,354 administrative fee charged by Los Angeles Sheriff's Department for the return of 451 firearms pursuant to the \$54 per firearm fee set by resolution of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.</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	\$ 99,368
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 1,933

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

March 3, 2025

1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Los Angeles County Claims Board was called to order at 9:40 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: Ann Aguilar, Mark Lomax, Thomas Fagan, Katherine Bowser, Melissa McCaverty, Millicent Rolon, Natalie Luongo, and Anthony Morrone appeared for the Office of the County Counsel. Jacklin Injijian, Ronald Castaneda, and Andrew Ngumba appeared for the Department of Public Works. Christina Lee appeared for the Department of Children and Family Services. Deputy Nancy K. Madarasz, Lieutenant Antonio Leon Jr, Captain Charles Calderaro, Sergeant Ron Minassian, Acting Commander Robert G. Hahnlein, Captain Glenn I. Emery, Lieutenant Ann T. Devane, Captain Bryan C. Aguilera, and Commander John P. MacDonald appeared for the Sheriff's Department. Nancy Canosa and Maribel Pulido appeared for Child Support Services Department. Jennifer E. Gysler appeared for Monroy, Averbuck & Gysler. Thomas Hurrell and Christina Gasparian appeared for Hurrell Cantrall LLP. Anni Safarloo appeared for Liebert Cassidy Whitmore.

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 9:40 a.m., Claims Board Chair Destiny Castro convened the meeting in closed session to discuss the items listed below as 4(a) through 4(g).

4. Report on Actions Taken in Closed Session.

No member of the public appeared in person or on the public teleconference phone line. Natalie Luongo, Office of the County Counsel, appeared to hear the reportable actions of the Claims Board.

At 11:49 a.m., the Claims Board reconvened in open session to report the actions taken in closed session as follows:

a. Non-Litigated Claim of Las Flores Apartments LLC

This inverse condemnation claim against the Department of Public Works contends that a residential property was damaged due to backflow of sewage from a sewer mainline.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(a) in the amount of \$46,398.64.

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

b. Non-Litigated Claims of Erik D. Simonsen and Dina G. Simonsen

These inverse condemnation claims against the Department of Public Works contend that a sewer mainline blockage and subsequent spill caused damage to Claimants' property.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(b) in the amount of \$55,929.

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

**c. Mark G. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:22-cv-04641**

This federal civil rights lawsuit alleges that the Department of Children and Family Services wrongfully detained Plaintiff's children.

Action Taken:

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

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

**d. Lailah Yoon v. Mark Stonich, et al.
Orange County Superior Court Case No. 30-2023-01348655-CU-PA-NJC**

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

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(d) in the amount of \$59,500.

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

**e. Alma Cervantes v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:22-cv-07764**

This federal civil rights lawsuit resulted from Plaintiff's arrest by Sheriff's Department deputies.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4(e) in the amount of \$300,000.

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

**f. Alondra Sandoval v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23STCV07967**

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee of the Sheriff's Department was subjected to discrimination and retaliation.

Action Taken:

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

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

**g. Non-Litigated Claim of Delinia Leguie
CRD: 20304-2179905 / EEOC: 37A-20223-0211**

This discrimination complaint filed with the Civil Rights Department alleges that an employee of Child Support Services Department was subjected to disability discrimination and retaliation.

Action Taken:

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

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

5. Approval of the Minutes of the February 3, 2025, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes of the February 3, 2025, meeting.

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

6. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:51 a.m.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

By



Laura Z. Salazar
Claims Board Secretary