COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

CLAIMS BOARD

500 WEST TEMPLE STREET

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2713

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Oscar Valdez
Office of the Auditor-Controller

Destiny Castro
Chief Executive Office

Liliana Campos
Office of the County Counsel

NOTICE OF MEETING AND AGENDA

The Los Angeles County Claims Board will hold a regular meeting on **Monday, May 18, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.**, at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Sixth Floor, Conference Room C, Los Angeles, California 90012. **Members of the public who would like to listen to the open session of the meeting or would like to provide public comment may call (323) 776-6996, then enter ID 949 841 792# at 9:30 a.m. on May 18, 2026.**

Reports of actions taken in Closed Session. The Los Angeles County Claims Board will report actions taken on any Closed Session Items on Monday, May 18, 2026, at approximately 12:00 p.m. Members of the public who would like to hear the reportable actions taken on any Closed Session items may call (323) 776-6996, then enter ID 949 841 792# at 12:00 p.m. on May 18, 2026. Please note that this is an approximate start time and there may be a short delay before the Closed Session is concluded and the actions can be reported.

TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT:

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

Written public comments or documentation must be submitted no later than 12:00 p.m. on Friday, May 15, 2026. Please include the agenda item and meeting date in your correspondence. Comments and any other written submissions will become part of the official record of the meeting.

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

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

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

If you would like more information, please contact Claims Board Administrator Thomas Finley at tfinley@counsel.lacounty.gov or Management Specialist Raina Mey at rmey@counsel.lacounty.gov.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order.

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

3. Closed Session Item(s) – Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Paragraph (1) of Subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9).

   a. Teresa Meza v. City of Temple, et al.
   Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23AHCV02282

   This dangerous condition lawsuit arises from the alleged trip and fall incident on a Department of Public Works maintained sidewalk; settlement is recommended in the amount of $40,000.

   See Supporting Document

   b. Cindy Martinez v. County of Los Angeles
   Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV48314

   This dangerous condition lawsuit arises from the alleged trip and fall incident on a Department of Parks and Recreations maintained walkway; settlement is recommended in the amount of $69,000.

   See Supporting Document

   c. Edward Larios Herrera v. Cynthia Alicia Dolson, et al.
   Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 24PSCV01977

   This lawsuit arises from injuries Plaintiff allegedly sustained in a traffic collision involving a Sheriff's Department employee; settlement is recommended in the amount of $200,000.

   See Supporting Documents

   d. K. G. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
   United States District Court Case No. 2:25-cv-04754

   This lawsuit concerns allegations of sexual assault by a Department of Menatal Health employee while Plaintiff was in custody at Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall; settlement is recommended in the amount of $550,000.

   See Supporting Document

   e. Antonia Jimenez v. County of Los Angeles
   Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 24STCV03357

   This lawsuit alleges that an employee of the Department of Public Social Services was subjected to discrimination and retaliation; settlement is recommended in the amount of $75,000.

f. Mitra Rashti v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC718438

This lawsuit alleges that an employee of the Department of Public Works was subjected to discrimination, harassment, and that the Department failed to accommodate Plaintiff and engage in the interactive process; settlement is recommended in the amount of $99,000.

g. Maria Rivero v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23STCV07694

This lawsuit alleges that an employee of the Child Support Services Department was subjected to discrimination, harassment, and retaliation; settlement is recommended in the amount of $188,000.

h. Maria Ramirez, et al. v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV08110

This lawsuit alleges that employees of the District Attorney's Office were subjected to retaliation; settlement is recommended in the amount of $1,500,000.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the May 4, 2026, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

See Supporting Document

5. Adjournment.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME		Teresa Meza v. City of Temple, et al.
CASE NUMBER		23AHCV02282
COURT		Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED		October 2, 2023
COUNTY DEPARTMENT		Department of Public Works
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	$	40,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF		DEMETRIOS PAPANIKOLAS Jacoby & Meyers Attorneys LLP
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY		STEVEN M. RICH Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE		This dangerous condition lawsuit arises from a trip and fall over a sidewalk height differential on March 26, 2023. Plaintiff claims personal injuries. Given the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	$	32,672
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	$	4,604

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME		Cindy Martinez vs. County of Los Angeles
CASE NUMBER		20STCV48314
COURT		Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED		December 17, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT		Department of Parks and Recreation
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	$	69,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF		RONALD BINDER, ESQ. Binder Law Group
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY		KEVIN J. ENGELIEN Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE		This case arises from a trip and fall causing Plaintiff to suffer injuries. Plaintiff alleges she tripped and fell due to a dangerous condition of public property at County owned and maintained Dalton Park in the City of Azusa. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	$	181,340
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	$	127,319

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME		Edward Larios Herrera vs. Cynthia Alicia Dolson, et al.
CASE NUMBER		24PSCV01977
COURT		Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED		June 18, 2024
COUNTY DEPARTMENT		Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	$	200,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF		LEO FASEN, ESQ. The Law Offices of John A Goalwin
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY		KEVIN ENGELIEN, ESQ. Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE		This is an auto-liability lawsuit which arises from a traffic collision that occurred on June 20, 2023. Plaintiff claims he suffered injuries and damages as a result of the collision. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	$	29,765
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	$	8,521

Case Name: Edward Larios Herrera v. County of Los Angeles, et al.

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 20, 2023
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	Summary Corrective Action Plan 2025-286 **Details in this document summarize the incident. The information provided is a culmination of various sources to provide an abstract of the incident.** On June 20, 2023, Lieutenant One was driving her assigned County vehicle in the County of Los Angeles. Lieutenant One was traveling eastbound on a roadway behind the Plaintiff's vehicle. The traffic signal facing the Plaintiff and Lieutenant One at the next intersection was red. Lieutenant One failed to observe the red traffic signal. She collided with the rear of the Plaintiff's vehicle at approximately 20 to 30 mph. The California Highway Patrol investigated the traffic collision. While interviewing Lieutenant One, the investigating officer perceived an odor of alcohol on her breath and observed her eyes to appear bloodshot. The investigating officer conducted a field sobriety test. The investigating officer determined Lieutenant One was at fault in causing the collision by illegally operating a vehicle under the influence of alcohol with an associated factor of traveling at a speed that is greater than is reasonably prudent pursuant to California Vehicle Code section 22350. Lieutenant One was placed under arrest for driving under the influence of alcohol. The Los Angeles County District Attorney's office filed charges against Lieutenant One. On March 6, 2026, she pleaded guilty for the DUI and was sentenced to three years summary probation. Lieutenant One has since retired from the Department.

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

A **Department** root cause in this incident was Lieutenant One's consumption of alcohol prior to driving.

A **Department** root cause in this incident was Lieutenant One's unsafe speed prior to, and at the time of the collision.

A **Department** root cause in this incident was Lieutenant One was driving her Department issued vehicle and was in possession of her duty weapon and equipment after the consumption of alcohol.

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

Traffic Collision Investigation

The incident was thoroughly investigated by representatives from the CHP. The collision investigation concluded that the deputy sheriff caused the collision as she was driving at an unsafe speed towards the intersection while intoxicated. The results of the traffic investigation were presented to Department executives for review and disposition.

Criminal Investigation

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's office filed misdemeanor DUI charges against Lieutenant One. On March 6, 2026, she pleaded guilty and was sentenced to three years summary probation.

Administrative Investigation

This incident will be investigated by representatives from the Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB), to determine if any administrative misconduct occurred before, during, or after this incident. Once the administrative investigation has concluded, the findings will be submitted for Executive review and disposition.

Traffic Collision Assessment and Review

The unit conducted a review and assessment of all traffic collisions for the past four years. Traffic mitigation efforts have been implemented, and the unit has since seen a reduction in collisions.

Sheriff's Department Announcement - Department Wide Driver's Safety Broadcast

Safety messages are broadcast to remind personnel of their responsibilities when entering intersections and their duties to drive in a safe manner and clear intersections lane by lane.

Sheriff Department Announcement - Department Wide Re-brief

Department wide briefings of policies related to safe driving practices were issued to remind Department personnel that the safety of Department members and the public is paramount when engaged in routine driving and Code 3 responses

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

☐ Yes – The corrective actions address Department-wide system issues.

☒ No – The corrective actions are only applicable to the affected parties.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Name: (Risk Management Coordinator) Tri T. Hoang, Captain Risk Management Bureau	
Signature:	Date: 4.8.26

Name: (Department Head) Jose G. Mendoza, Chief Detective Division	
Signature:	Date: 4-23-26

Chief Executive Office Risk Management Inspector General USE ONLY

Are the corrective actions applicable to other departments within the County?

☒ Yes, the corrective actions potentially have County-wide applicability.

☐ No, the corrective actions are applicable only to this Department.

Name: Betty Karmirlian (Risk Management Inspector General)	
Signature: Betty Karmirlian	Date: 4/28/26

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME		K.G. v. County of Los Angeles, Alyssa Villalobos, Guillermo Viera Rosa, Lisa H. Wong, and DOES 1-10
CASE NUMBER		2:25-cv-04754
COURT		United States District Court
DATE FILED		May 27, 2025
COUNTY DEPARTMENT		Los Angeles County Probation Department Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	$	550,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF		Jeremy I. Lessem LESSEM. NEWSTAT & TOOSON, LLP
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY		CAROLINE S. CRADDOCK Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE		Plaintiff alleges that he was coerced into a sexual relationship with his psychiatric social worker while in custody. Due to the risks and uncertainties of trial, a full and final settlement is recommended.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	$	120,000
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	$	2,000

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

May 4, 2026

1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Los Angeles County Claims Board was called to order at 9:37 a.m. The meeting was held virtually with Claims Board Chair Destiny Castro, Claims Board Member Oscar Valdez, Claims Board Member Liliana Campos, and Claims Board Administrator Thomas Finley 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: Minas Samuelian, Joseph A. Langton, Kevin Engelien, Melissa McCaverty, Nena Voung, Richard Bloom, and Pirjo L. Ranasinghe appeared for the Office of the County Counsel. Arun Patel, Roberto Avitia, Dawn Monique Abarca, and Sean Henderson appeared for the Department of Health Services. Joseph Horvath appeared for the Department of Regional Planning. Julia Kim, Joanne Schaeffer, Chad Idol, and Nicholas Berkuta IV appeared for the Fire Department. Stephanie Lara, Deputy Nancy Madarasz, Commander Christine Coles, Commander Walid Ashrafnia, Commander Terrence Bell, Commander Robert Jones II, Lieutenant Jennifer Roth, Lieutenant Hector Mancinas, Seargent Jennifer Romero, Captain Glenn Emery, Captain Chris Kusayanagi, and Captain Melvin Joseph appeared for the Sheriff's Department. Laura Inlow appeared for Collinson Greco. Avi Burkwitz appeared for Peterson Bradford Burkwitz Gregorio Burkwitz & Su, LLP.

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 9:38 a.m., Claims Board Chair Destiny Castro convened the meeting in closed session to discuss the items listed below as 4(a) through 4(h).

4. Report on Actions Taken in Closed Session.

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

At 12:02 a.m., the Claims Board reconvened in open session via video conference and reported the actions taken in closed session as follows:

[*Remainder of page intentionally left blank*.]

a. **Garcia, Teresa, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
United States District Court Case No. 2:24-cv-02492

This federal lawsuit stems from the alleged federal and state civil rights violations following the death of Decedent at Men's Central Jail.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(a) in the amount of $99,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Liliana Campos, and Destiny Castro

b. **Jane Doe v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
United States District Court Case No. 2:25-cv-00104

This lawsuit concerns allegations of sexual assault by a Sheriff's Department employee.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(b) in the amount of $38,395.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Liliana Campos, and Destiny Castro

c. **David Beas, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
United States District Court Case No. 2:24-cv-00744

This lawsuit arises from a detention where Plaintiffs allege the Sheriff's Department violated Department policy and their constitutional rights.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4(c) in the amount of $200,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Liliana Campos, and Destiny Castro

d. **Daniel Cortinas v. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23STCV29805

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 4(d) in the amount of $554,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Liliana Campos, and Destiny Castro

e. **Carlos Lopez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23STCV22284

This lawsuit arises from injuries Plaintiff allegedly sustained in a traffic collision involving a Los Angeles County Fire Department employee.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4(e) in the amount of $170,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Liliana Campos, and Destiny Castro

f. **Ismael Carbajal v. L.A. County Fire Department, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV02846

This lawsuit arises from injuries Plaintiff allegedly sustained when two tires detached from a Fire Department truck and struck Plaintiff's vehicle.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4(f) in the amount of $2,000,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Liliana Campos, and Destiny Castro

g. **James Singleton, Jr. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 25SMCV03121

This lawsuit arises from injuries Plaintiff allegedly sustained in a traffic collision involving a Department of Regional Planning employee.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4(g) in the amount of $120,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Liliana Campos, and Destiny Castro

h. **Lina Pimentel v. County of Los Angeles**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV01287

This lawsuit alleges that an employee of the Sheriff's Department was subjected to discrimination and harassment.

Action Taken:

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

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Liliana Campos, and Destiny Castro

5. Approval of the Minutes of the April 20, 2026, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes of the April 20, 2026, meeting.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Destiny Castro and Liliana Campos
Abstention: Oscar Valdez

6. Adjournment.

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

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

By _____
Thomas Finley
Claims Board Administrator
Office of the County Counsel