

STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD
HELD IN ROOM 648 OF THE KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION,
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
ON MONDAY, JULY 2, 2018, AT 9:30 A.M.

Present: Chair Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo.

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 members of the public addressed the Claims Board.

3. **Closed Session – Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Government Code section 54956.9).**

- a. **Orlando Perdomo and Rosalinda Castillo v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 631 624

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained in a vehicle accident involving an on-duty Sheriff's Deputy.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$59,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo

[See Supporting Document](#)

- b. **Jack Lopez, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 632 418

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained in a vehicle accident involving a Sheriff's Deputy.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$28,100.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo

[See Supporting Document](#)

- c. **Evangeline Cheshewalla, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 620 029
(consolidated with Sergio Salcedo, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.;
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 625 177)

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained in a vehicle accident involving an Internal Services Department employee.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$364,950.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo

[See Supporting Documents](#)

- d. **Micaela Ramos v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 632 349

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained in a vehicle accident involving a Department of Mental Health employee.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$375,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo

[See Supporting Document](#)

4. Report of actions taken in Closed Session.

The Claims Board reconvened in open session and reported the actions taken in Closed Session as indicated under Agenda Item No. 3 above.

5. Approval of the minutes of the June 18, 2018, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the minutes.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo

[See Supporting Document](#)

6. **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 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.

7. **Adjournment.**

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Perdomo, Orlando Castillo, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	BC 631624
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	August 24, 2016
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 59,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Donald T. Dunham, Esq. Law Offices of Donald T. Dunham & Associates
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Adrian G. Gragas Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This lawsuit arises from a vehicle collision that occurred on March 11, 2016. Plaintiffs Orlando Perdomo and Rosalinda Castillo allege a Sheriff's patrol vehicle lost control and collided with them as they waited in the left turn lane of northbound Foothill Boulevard at the intersection of Ocean View Boulevard. Mr. Perdomo and Ms. Castillo each claim damages as a result of the collision.</p> <p>Due to the uncertainty and risks of litigation, a full and final settlement of \$59,000 is warranted.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 27,660
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 3,762

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Jack Lopez, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	BC632418
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	August 31, 2016
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 28,100
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	John Ksajikian Ksajikian Law Firm
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Richard K. Kudo Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This case involves a vehicle collision that occurred on September 9, 2014, when the Chevrolet Impala driven by a Sheriff's Department employee collided with the Honda Accord driven by plaintiff Jack Lopez on westbound Avenida Cesar Chavez at East Los Angeles College in the City of Monterey Park. Mr. Lopez's wife plaintiff Hilda Rivera was also in the vehicle with him. Each of the plaintiffs claims to have suffered injuries and damages from the accident. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 7,347
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 3,839

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Evangeline Cheshewalla, et al. v. Anthony Sylvester Dean, et al., (consolidated with Sergio Salcedo, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.)
CASE NUMBER	BC620029 (Cheshewalla) and BC625177 (Salcedo)
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	May 11, 2016 (Cheshewalla) and June 27, 2016 (Salcedo)
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Internal Services Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$364,950 (\$315,000 to the Salcedo plaintiffs and \$49,950 to the Cheshewalla plaintiffs)
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Alan B. Snitzer (for the Cheshewallas) and John C. Ye (for the Salcedos)
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Richard K. Kudo Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This lawsuit arises out of a July 10, 2015, three-vehicle collision on State Route 60 when a County of Los Angeles truck driven by an Internal Services Department employee rear-ended the vehicle driven by plaintiff Sergio Salcedo and in which his wife, plaintiff Luz Salcedo, and their minor granddaughter were passengers. After colliding into the Salcedo vehicle, the County vehicle careened into the concrete center median wall, went airborne while flipping in the air, and landed top-side down on the hood of the vehicle in which plaintiff Evangeline Cheshewalla and her daughter, plaintiff Naya Cheshewalla, were passengers. After landing on the Cheshewalla vehicle, the County truck slid onto the ground and came to rest on the roadway perpendicular to the lanes of travel. Plaintiffs claim to have suffered injuries and damages as a result of the accident. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the cases is warranted.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$98,823
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$39,200



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:	July 10, 2015
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	An ISD employee (Sylvester Anthony, Carpenter Working Supervisor) had a preventable motor vehicle accident in an assigned County vehicle resulting in injury to himself, three (3) adults (non-County) and loss/damage to the County vehicle and the two other vehicles involved in the incident.

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

The CHP report states that the cause of the collision was determined to be Mr. Sylvester Anthony's violation of section 22350 of the Vehicle Code (VC), unsafe speed.

The CHP report states that the cause of the collision was determined to be Mr. Sylvester Anthony's violation of section 22107 of the Vehicle Code (VC), unsafe turning movement.

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

1. ISD Safety created a report using vehicle accident data to identify trends by tracking: total accidents by Service; accident type; amount of accidents per month; and year-to-date accident data comparison to the previous year. Completed: January 29, 2016. Responsible Party: Michael Hoover, Safety Inspector.
2. Mr. Anthony was assigned duties consistent with his classification that do not require him to operate a County vehicle or drive his personal vehicle on County business. Completed: September 9, 2015 and confirmed by ISD Risk Management January 16, 2018. Responsible Party: Cesar Menchaca, Administrative Manager, XIII ISD.
3. In conformance with Civil Service Rule 18.031 Discipline, Mr. Anthony was suspended for thirty days for violation of ISD Policy No. 602, *Driving Vehicles on County Business*. Completed: July 19, 2016. Responsible Party: Paul English, General Manager, FOS (retired).

County of Los Angeles
Summary Corrective Action Plan

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

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

Name: (Risk Management Coordinator)
Mark A. Colton, DHRM III

Signature:



Date:

6/12/18

Name: (Department Head)
Scott Minnix

Signature:



Date:

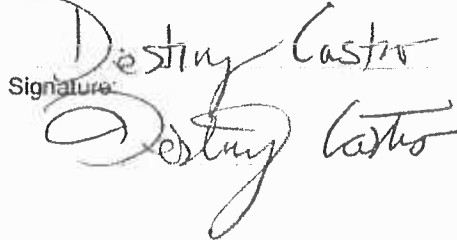
6/12/18

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)

Signature: 

Date:

6/18/2018

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Micaela Ramos v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	BC632349
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	August 31, 2016
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Mental Health
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 375,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Samer Habbas, Esq.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Yuan Chang Senior Associate County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	On November 5, 2015, Plaintiff Micaela Ramos was involved in a motor vehicle collision with a Department of Mental Health employee, at the intersection of 6 th Street and Stanford Street, in the City of Los Angeles. Ms. Ramos claims to have suffered significant injuries and damages as a result of the incident. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is recommended.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 60,542
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 20,498

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

June 18, 2018

1. Call to Order.

This meeting of the County of Los Angeles Claims Board was called to order at 9:30 a.m. The meeting was held in the Executive Conference Room, 648 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Los Angeles, California.

Claims Board Members present at the meeting were: Chair Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo.

Other persons in attendance at the meeting were: Office of the County Counsel: Jonathan McCaverty, Adrian Gragas, Michael Gordon, Millicent Rolon, Christopher Keosian, and Craig Hoetger; Probation Department: David Mitchell and Vicky Santana; Department of Public Works: Dominic Osmena; Sheriff's Department: April Tardy, Curtis Jensen, Kevin Percy, Scott Gage, Dominic Dannan, Ernest Chavez, Myron Johnson, Larry Waldie, Holly Perez, Kerry Carter, Kimberly Unland, and David Walters; Department of Public Social Services: Simone Agee.

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 members of the public addressed the Claims Board.

3. Closed Session – Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Government Code section 54956.9)

At 9:32 a.m., the Chairperson adjourned the meeting into Closed Session to discuss the items listed as 4(a) through 4(h) below.

4. Report of actions taken in Closed Session.

At 10:44 a.m., the Claims Board reconvened in open session and reported the actions taken in Closed Session as follows:

a. Ariana Amore v. County of Los Angeles, et al. United States District Court Case No. CV 17-5207

This lawsuit alleges that a probationer was sexually assaulted and her civil rights violated by a Probation Department employee.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$1,000,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo

b. **Devora Samet v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 636 898

This dangerous condition lawsuit against the Department of Public Works arises from injuries sustained while Plaintiff was riding her bicycle on the Marvin Braude Bike Path near Venice.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$75,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo

c. **Devin Dozier v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 626 447

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident involving an on-duty Sheriff's Deputy.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$75,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo

d. **Carson Scott v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 645 794

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained in an automobile accident involving an on-duty Sheriff's Deputy.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$26,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo

e. **Gracie Flores v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 642 363

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained in an automobile accident involving an on-duty Sheriff's Deputy.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approve the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$46,250.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo

**f. The Estate of Johnny Martinez, et al. v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 579 140**

This lawsuit concerns allegations of State-law civil rights violations, battery, and negligence after Plaintiff's son was fatally shot by Sheriff's Deputies.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$2,500,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo

**g. Omar Lopez v. v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 626 704**

This lawsuit alleges the Sheriff's Department breached the terms of a Civil Service settlement agreement.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$50,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo

**h. Malika Shakoor v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 589 698**

This lawsuit concerns allegations by an employee of the Department of Public Social Services for disability discrimination, retaliation, failure to make a reasonable accommodation, and engage in the interactive process.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$60,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo

5. Approval of the minutes of the May 21, 2018, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the minutes.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Roger Granbo

6. **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 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.

7. **Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD

By 
Sandra C. Ruiz