



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

CLAIMS BOARD

500 WEST TEMPLE STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2713

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Arlene Barrera
Auditor-Controller
Steve Robles
Chief Executive Office
Adrienne M. Byers
Office of the County Counsel

NOTICE OF MEETING

The County of Los Angeles Claims Board will hold a regular meeting on **Monday, October 21, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.**, in the Executive Conference Room, 648 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Los Angeles, California.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order.
2. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Claims Board on items of interest that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Claims Board.
3. Closed Session – Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Government Code Section 54956.9).

a. Non-Litigated Claim of David and Arlene Calvillo

This claim seeks compensation from the Department of Public Works for real and personal property damage allegedly caused from a backflow of sewage due to a sewer mainline blockage; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$75,414.93.

See Supporting Document

b. Maria Gutierrez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No.: BC 679 326

This lawsuit arises from injuries allegedly sustained in a vehicle accident involving a Sheriff's Department employee; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$75,000.

See Supporting Document

- c. Labor/Community Strategy Center v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No.: BS 171 816

Plaintiff seeks attorneys' fees as a result of filing a writ stemming from its request for documents pursuant to the California Public Records Act; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$43,000.

See Supporting Document

- d. Maureen Donohue v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No.: BC 698 083

This lawsuit involves allegations that an employee from the Department of Children and Family Services was subjected to discrimination, failure to accommodate, and retaliation; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$99,999.

- e. Karen Compton-Moore v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No.: BC 630 631

This lawsuit involves allegations that an employee from the Department of Children and Family Services was subjected to discrimination, retaliation, and wrongful demotion; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$40,000.

4. Report of actions taken in Closed Session.
5. Approval of the minutes of the October 7, 2019, regular meeting of the Claims Board.
- 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.
7. Adjournment.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Non-litigated Claim of Calvillo, David & Arlene
CASE NUMBER	N/A
COURT	N/A
DATE FILED	March 27, 2018
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Public Works
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 75,414.93 (sum includes remediation prepayment of \$35,414.93)
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	N/A
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Joseph A. Langton Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This claim arises from a blocked sewer mainline that caused a sewage backflow into Claimant's property which damaged its real and personal property. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full settlement of the claim is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 0
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 0

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Maria Gutierrez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	BC679326
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	October 6, 2017
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 75,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Thomas H. Schelly, Lipeles Law Group, APC
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Michael J. Gordon, County Counsel Allen L. Thomas, Thomas Law Firm, Inc.
NATURE OF CASE	On May 18, 2017, Plaintiff Maria Gutierrez was rear-ended by an LASD Deputy Sheriff in the number one lane of the Southbound I-710 Freeway near Atlantic Boulevard in the City of Bell. Ms. Gutierrez allegedly sustained injuries as a result of the collision.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 8,313
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 8,474

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Labor/Community Strategy Center v. Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority, et al.
CASE NUMBER	BS171816
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	December 13, 2017
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 43,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Janet I. Levine, et al.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Amie S. Park
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a recommendation to settle for \$43,000 the attorneys' fees owed to Labor/Community Strategy Center as a result of its filing a petition for writ of mandate asking the court to order the Sheriff's Department ("LASD") to produce records pursuant to the California Public Records Act ("CPRA").</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 in the amount of \$43,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 45,875
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 45

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

OCTOBER 7, 2019

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 Adrienne Byers.

Other persons in attendance at the meeting were: Office of the County Counsel: Michael Gordon, Richard Kudo, Kelsey Nau, Laura Jacobson, Rosanne Wong, and Adrian Gragas; Sheriff's Department: Daniel Gillespie, Kristine Corrales, and Kevin Pearcy; Department of Public Works: Michael Hays; Department of Children and Family Services: Armand Montiel; Outside Counsel: John Coleman and Tracy Egoscue.

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(f).

4. Report of actions taken in Closed Session.

At 10:38 a.m., the Claims Board reconvened in open session and reported the actions taken in Closed Session as follows:

**a. Ezequiel Garcia v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No.: MC 027 810**

This lawsuit arises from injuries allegedly sustained in a vehicle accident involving a Department of Children and Family Services employee.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$90,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Adrienne Byers

b. **Jeffrey Wilkes v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No.: BC 617 608

This dangerous condition lawsuit against the Department of Public Works arises from injuries allegedly sustained in a motorcycle accident.

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 Adrienne Byers

c. **Salvador Perez v. City of Whittier, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No.: BC 599 283

This dangerous condition lawsuit against the Department of Public Works arises from injuries allegedly sustained in a skateboard accident.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$66,667.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Adrienne Byers

d. **Jacob Soto, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No.: MC 027 678

This multiple fatality dangerous condition lawsuit against the Department of Public Works arises from injuries allegedly sustained in a solo vehicle accident.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$91,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Adrienne Byers

e. **Janell Alexander v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No.: BC 677 508

This lawsuit arises from injuries allegedly sustained in a vehicle accident involving a Sheriff's Department employee.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$39,999.
(Continued from the Claims Board Meeting of September 16, 2019.)

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Adrienne Byers

f. **Los Angeles County Hall of Justice Dewatering – Administrative Notice of Violation**

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board Claim No. 7014-2870-0001-4613-2372

This is a Notice of Violation from the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board against the Sheriff's Department relating to the utility plant at the Hall of Justice.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$27,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Adrienne Byers

5. **Approval of the Minutes of the September 16, 2019, regular meeting of the Claims Board.**

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the minutes.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera and Adrienne Byers

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 10:40 a.m.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD

By  _____
Derek Stane