

STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD
HELD VIA ONLINE CONFERENCE CALL
ON MONDAY, JUNE 21, 2021, AT 9:30 A.M.

Present: Chair Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Adrienne 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 members of the public were on the public teleconference line to address the Claims Board or to listen to the reportable actions of the Claims Board.

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

- a. Yolanda E. Barajas Luna, et al. v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV07525**

This lawsuit arises from alleged mishandling of a decedent's remains by the Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner employees.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$55,000.

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

- b. Jessica Dadisman v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:18-CV-10119**

This lawsuit alleges the wrongful detention of minor children and civil rights violations by the Department of Children and Family Services

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$165,000.

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

[See Supporting Documents](#)

c. **Michelle Mendoza, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV44924

This lawsuit arises from injuries plaintiff allegedly sustained in a multi-vehicle automobile accident involving a Sheriff's lieutenant

Action Taken:

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

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

d. **Karina Simon Schneidman, et al. v. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, et al.**
United States District Court Case No. 20-CV-4009 (JWH)

This lawsuit alleges federal civil rights violations, excessive force, and unlawful detention during the execution of a search warrant by the Sheriff's Department.

Action Taken:

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

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

e. **Thomas Krag v. County of Los Angeles**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV32229

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee of the District Attorney's office was subjected to discrimination, failure to provide reasonable accommodation, and retaliation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$150,000.

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

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 7, 2021, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes.

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

[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 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.

- 7. Adjournment.**

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Yolanda E. Barajas Luna, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	20STCV07525
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	February 24, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 55,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Luis Carrillo, Esq.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Brian T. Chu Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a recommendation to settle for \$55,000 a negligence lawsuit filed by eleven Plaintiffs seeking damages for the actions of Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner employees that led to the mistaken identity of their deceased relative and release to a different family.</p> <p>Given the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a reasonable settlement at this time will avoid further litigation costs. We recommend a full and final settlement in the amount of \$55,000.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 43,747
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 2,046

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Jessica Dadisman v. County of Los Angeles
CASE NUMBER	2:18-cv-10119
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	September 6, 2018
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Children & Family Services
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 165,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Shawn McMillan Law Offices of Shawn A. McMillan Takin Khorram Riley Khorram
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Katherine M. Bowser Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>Plaintiff claims her constitutional rights were violated when her three children were not immediately returned to her care when a legal guardianship was terminated.</p> <p>Due to the high risk of 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 \$165,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 70,143
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 7,297

Case Name: Jessica Dadisman v. COLA, 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:	January 31, 2017
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	Plaintiff alleged violation of civil rights by Department and Children and Family Services (DCFS) when DCFS removed her three children from her custody and care. She also alleged judicial deception when the Department submitted the WIC 300 petition with a false count.

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

The standard practice for writing a 300 petition against a parent who was unwilling or unable to care for the child was to write that the parent was both unwilling and unable to care for the child.


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


Intake Detention and Control (IDC) has modified its practice and will no longer draft 300 petitions against parents for unwilling and unable to care for the child, if the detention report only supports one. The petition will only include both if the detention report supports both. If not, the petition will only state the count that the detention report supports.


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

The corrective actions address department-wide system issues

✓ The corrective actions are only applicable to the affected parties.

Name: (Risk Management Coordinator)	
Diane Iglesias, Senior Deputy Director	
Signature: 	Date: 5/21/21

Name: (Department Head)	
Bobby D. Cagle, Director	
Signature: 	Date: 6-2-21

Chief Executive Office Risk Management Inspector General USE ONLY	
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: (Risk Management Inspector General)	
Destiny Castro	
Signature: 	Date: 06/03/2021

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Michelle Mendoza, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	20STCV44924
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	December 4, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 50,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Joan Kenegos, Esq. Kaplan, Kenegos, & Kadin
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Kevin J. Engelen Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This lawsuit arises from an automobile collision that occurred on January 25, 2020, when a vehicle operated by an employee of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department collided with Plaintiff's vehicle at the intersection of Melrose Avenue and Harvard Blvd. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 2,047
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 0

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Karina Simon Schneidman, et al. v. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, et al.
CASE NUMBER	20-CV-4009 (JWH)
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	April 30, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 75,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Estelle & Kennedy, A Professional Law Corporation
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Lana Choi, Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a request to settle for \$75,000, inclusive of attorney's fees and costs, the lawsuit brought against the County and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department by plaintiffs Karina Simon Schneidman, Adam L. Schneidman, Patricia J. Schneidman, Boris Turkulev, and Victoria Turkulev. Plaintiffs seek damages arising from a May 3, 2018 incident during which they allege they were unlawfully detained, searched and subjected to excessive force during the execution of a search warrant by the Sheriff's Department.</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 \$75,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 7,812
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 1,500

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

JUNE 7, 2021

1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the County of Los Angeles Claims Board was called to order at 9:40 a.m. The meeting was held via teleconference with all Claims Board Members participating telephonically. Claims Board Members online for the teleconference meeting were: Chair Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Adrienne Byers.

All other persons also appeared telephonically. Those attending the meeting were: Office of the County Counsel: Mark Lomax, Yuan Chang, Adrian Gragas, Richard Kudo, Kevin Engelen, Katherine Bowser, Kelly Hassel, Kent Sommer, Rosanne Wong, and Jennifer Lehman; Department of Public Works: Michael Hays, Ronald Castaneda, and Martin Moreno; Sheriff's Department: Hugo Macias, Mark Allen, Robert Jones, Jose Rios, Kerry Carter, Richard Mejia, Melynie Rivers, and Shanese Winfrey; Department of Children and Family Services: Armand Montiel; Department of Mental Health: Taneisha Franklin; and Outside Counsel: Tom Guterres, and Jennifer 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 members of the public were on the public teleconference phone line to address the Claims Board.

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

At 9:40 a.m., the Chair convened the meeting into closed session to discuss the items listed as 4(a) through 4(b).

4. Report of actions taken in Closed Session.

No members of the public were on the public teleconference phone line to hear the reportable actions of the Claims Board.

At 11:23 a.m., the Claims Board reconvened in open session via the public teleconference phone line and reported the actions taken in closed session as follows:

a. Non-Litigated Claim of Joseph Sorrenti

This claim seeks compensation from the Department of Public Works for property damage allegedly caused by a backflow of sewage due to a mainline blockage.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$21,276.26.

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

**b. Salvador Alonso Robles Aguiar v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV21227**

This lawsuit arises from injuries plaintiff allegedly sustained in an automobile accident involving an employee of the Department of Public Works.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$370,000.

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

**c. Brian Carlos Mandujano v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV27712**

This lawsuit seeks compensation for injuries allegedly sustained while plaintiff was in custody of the Sheriff's Department and assigned to an inmate work crew at the Pitchess Detention Facility.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$175,000.

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

**d. Bryan Eiermann v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV41745**

This lawsuit arises from injuries plaintiff allegedly sustained in an automobile accident involving a Sheriff's deputy.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$38,000.

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

**e. Lilliana Rojo, et al. v. Carrie Esmeralda Robles-Plascencia, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 18STCV04535
(Consolidated with BC 689849)**

This lawsuit arises from injuries plaintiff allegedly sustained in a multi-vehicle collision involving a Sheriff's deputy.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$45,000.

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

f. **Jaime Ortiz v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV20846

This lawsuit arises from injuries plaintiff allegedly sustained in an automobile accident involving a Sheriff's deputy.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$39,999.

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

g. **Margarita Berruenco, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV27613

This lawsuit involves allegations of civil rights violations and wrongful detention of plaintiff's children by the Department of Children and Family Services.

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

h. **Ascend Medical Staffing LLC v. County of Los Angeles**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV42735

This lawsuit against the Department of Mental Health alleges breach of contract and unjust enrichment for non-payment of services provided.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$48,191.35.

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

i. **Rowene Fabian v. County of Los Angeles**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 709853

This lawsuit concerns allegations that a Department of Mental Health employee was subjected to harassment, disparate treatment, and retaliation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$23,500.

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

5. Approval of the Minutes of the May 17, 2021, 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 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.

7. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD

By 

Derek Stane