

STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD
HELD VIA ONLINE CONFERENCE CALL
ON MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 2022, 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. Jasiby Sanchez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV34522**

This lawsuit arises from injuries plaintiff allegedly sustained in a vehicle accident involving an employee of the Fire Department.

Action Taken:

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

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

**b. Angelita Rodriguez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. BC 700777**

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

Action Taken:

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

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

c. **Michelle Kim, et al. v. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, et al.**
Orange County Superior Court Case No. 30-2019-01064880

This lawsuit arises from injuries plaintiff allegedly sustained in a multi-vehicle accident involving a Sheriff's Department detective.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$41,000.

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

d. **Milvian Rodriguez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
United States District Court Case No. 2:21-cv-00455

This federal civil rights lawsuit alleges plaintiff was subjected to excessive force during an arrest and traffic stop by Sheriff's Department deputies.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$37,500.

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

e. **Alen Karaboghossian v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
United States District Court Case No. 2:20-cv-09336-DSF-MRW

This federal civil rights lawsuit alleges plaintiff was assaulted by other inmates while in custody of the Sheriff's Department.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$80,000.

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

f. **Estate of Christopher Nash v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
United States District Court Case No. 2:20-CV-05012

This federal civil rights lawsuit alleges wrongful death and deliberate indifference to medical needs by the Sheriff's Department.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$199,000.

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

**g. Maurice Cannon v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV11873**

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

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$30,000.

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

h. Claim of Courtney Zifkin

This claim concerns allegations that an employee of the District Attorney's office was subjected to sexual harassment and retaliation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$300,000.

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 December 20, 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	Jasiby Sanchez v. County of Los Angeles, et. al.
CASE NUMBER	20STCV34522
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	September 9, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Fire Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 45,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Darin T. Chavez, Esq. APPLS Law Group
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Yuan Chang Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This case arises from an automobile accident which occurred on September 10, 2018, when a vehicle operated by a Los Angeles County Fire Department employee rear-ended Plaintiff's vehicle. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is recommended.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 7,449
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 9,249

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Angelita Rodriguez, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	BC700777
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	April 4, 2018
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 45,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Jacoby & Meyers Attorneys LLP
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Richard Kudo Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This case involves a two car collision that occurred on May 18, 2017, when a Sheriff's Department radio car driven by a Deputy Sheriff exited a private driveway and collided with plaintiff Angelita Rodriguez's Toyota sport utility vehicle. Plaintiff Olga Hernandez was seated in the right front passenger seat. The collision occurred on Fullerton Road just south of Colima Road in Rowland Heights. Plaintiffs each claim 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	\$ 46,085
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 23,149

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Michelle Kim, et al. v. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, et al.
CASE NUMBER	30-2019-01064880
COURT	Orange County Superior Court
DATE FILED	April 18, 2019
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 41,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Edward W. Choi Law Offices of Choi & Associates, PC
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Richard K. Kudo Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This case involves a four vehicle, rear-end collision that occurred on May 29, 2018, on Imperial Boulevard in the city of Brea. The collision occurred when a Sheriff's Department sport utility vehicle driven by a department detective rear-ended a stopped pick-up truck that rear-ended the sedan in front of it driven by plaintiff Michelle Kim and in which nine year old daughter Robin Kim was seated in the front passenger seat. Ms. Kim's sedan was pushed into the rear end of the pick-up truck stopped in front of her. Plaintiffs claim to have suffered injuries and damages from the collision. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 23,157
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 3,560

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Milvian Rodriguez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	2:21-CV-00455
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	January 21, 2021
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 37,500
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Gregory Peacock, Esq.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Richard Hsueh Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a recommendation to settle for \$37,500, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, this federal lawsuit filed by Plaintiffs Milvian Rodriguez, Kevin Hernandez, A.B., and A.S.H. against the County and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department ("LASD") Deputies Aaron Abellano, Joana Palombi, Woodrow Kim, and Joana Macz Moran alleging federal civil rights violations arising from her arrest during a traffic stop.</p> <p>Given the 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 \$37,500 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 11,044
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 0

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Alen Karaboghiosian v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	2:20-cv-09336-DSF-MRW
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	September 25, 2019
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ \$80,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Morris S. Getzels, Esquire
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Timothy J. Kral, Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This is a recommendation to settle for \$80,000, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, a federal civil rights lawsuit filed by Alen Karaboghiosian alleging Sheriff's Department and Correctional Health Services staff failed to properly assess and classify him as developmentally disabled before assigning him to general population housing. Given the high risks and uncertainties of litigation, a reasonable settlement at this time will avoid further litigation costs. We recommend a full and final settlement of \$80,000 for this case.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 99,000
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 2,700

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Estate of Christopher Nash, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	2:20-CV-05012
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	March 20, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 199,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Yana Henriks, Esq.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Minas Samuelian Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a recommendation to settle for \$199,000 inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, a lawsuit filed by Anthony Nash ("Plaintiff") against the County alleging federal civil rights violations and wrongful death following the in-custody death of his brother, Christopher Nash.</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 \$199,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 72,656
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 22,358

Case Name: Estate of Christopher Nash 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: March 20, 2019	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Estate of Christopher Nash v. County of Los Angeles</u> Summary Corrective Action Plan 2021</p> <p>Upon arriving at CRDF, Deputies One and Two reviewed the Arrestee Medical Screening form with the decedent. The decedent verbally answered no to all the medical screening questions. Deputy One did not observe any signs that would be consistent with someone being under the influence of a controlled substance. The decedent was escorted into the CRDF booking area and was placed inside booking cell #6.</p> <p>While inside of the detox cell, the decedent was provided food in the detox cell. The decedent could be seen drinking the milk that was provided, but did not appear to eat the food. Title 15 "Safety Checks" were conducted by custody personnel. Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) showed the decedent sitting upright in his cell, and later laid back down on the floor.</p> <p>Throughout the shift, Title 15 "Safety Checks" were completed by custody personnel.</p> <p>CCTV later showed the decedent lying on the ground and intermittently moving his body. As the evening progressed and Title 15 "Safety Checks" were completed, CCTV footage showed the decedent lying on the floor, but not moving.</p> <p>Deputy Seven entered the decedent's holding cell and approached the decedent who was lying on the floor. Deputy Seven stated the decedent appeared to be asleep. Deputy Seven checked for a pulse on the decedent's neck, and was able to feel a slight pulse. He attempted to wake the decedent for a second time, but the decedent was unresponsive. A nurse and gurney were requested for the decedent.</p> <p>As Deputy Seven waited for a nurse, he checked again to see if he could find a pulse on the decedent and was unable to locate a pulse. Deputies Four and Seven observed the decedent had stopped breathing. CPR was initiated. Two nurses then arrived at the decedent's cell. The decedent was hooked up to an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). The physician assistant then arrived and oversaw the medical team. Naloxone Nasal Spray (Narcan) was administered to the decedent. No shockable rhythm was recognized by the AED, and CPR was continued.</p> <p>The Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACFD) arrived at the decedent's cell and took over CPR. The decedent was still unresponsive. The paramedics on the scene administered another dose of Narcan to the decedent. Emergency lifesaving efforts were performed, but the decedent was still unresponsive. The decedent was pronounced deceased at 8:51 p.m. by the LACFD captain.</p>
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1. Briefly describe the root cause(s) of the claim/lawsuit:

The complaint alleges the County and several of its employees were deliberately indifferent to the decedent's serious medical needs.

- 1) Department root cause in this incident was a deputy did not conduct a thorough inmate safety check.
- 2) Department root cause in this incident was the delay in recognizing the decedent was in distress.
- 3) Department root cause in this incident was deputies did not have Naloxone Nasal Spray (Narcan).
- 4) Non-Department root cause in this incident was, the decedent did not honestly answer the questions on the Arrestee Medical Screening form.

2. Briefly describe recommended corrective actions:

(Include each corrective action, due date, responsible party, and any disciplinary actions if appropriate)

Installed safety check barcodes in the Female and Male sobering and holding cells; completed 4/9/19; assigned to Century Regional Detention Facility by the captain.

Rebrief of CDM 4-11/030.00 Inmate Safety Checks; completed 5/13/19; assigned to Custody Support Services Bureau Sergeant.

Rebrief on the use and deployment of Narcan; completed 4/20/19; assigned to Century Regional Detention Facility by the captain.

Distribution of Narcan to Century Regional Detention Facility; completed 4/2/19; assigned to Century Regional Detention Facility by the captain.

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)

Jason P. Wolak, Commander
Custody Services Division

Signature:



Date:

12.13.21

Name: (Department Head)

Margarita Velazquez, Chief
Custody Services Division

Signature:



Date:

12/15/2021

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)

Destiny Castro

Signature:



Date:

12/16/2021

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

DECEMBER 20, 2021

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 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: Kelsey Nau, Rosa Linda Cruz, Nicole Rommero, Wendy Sha, and Pirjo Ranansinghe; Department of Public Works: Michael Hays, and Alicia Ramos; Department of Probation: Mark Garcia; Sheriff's Department: Jason Wolak, and Michael Abbot; Department of Social Services: Simone Agee, and Carlos Molina; Outside Counsel: Mark Worthge, and Rickey Ivie.

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 9:38 a.m., the Chair convened the meeting into closed session to discuss the items listed as 4(a) through 4(e).

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 11:33 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 Claims of Oqanes Tagaryan and Progressive Insurance

This claim involves property damage allegedly sustained in a vehicle accident involving an employee of the Department of Public Works.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$29,409.81.

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

b. **Cannon Corporation v. County of Los Angeles**
Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 20STCV33594

This lawsuit against the Department of Public Works alleges breach of contract involving consultant engineering services.

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

c. **Erica Salazar, as Guardian Ad Litem for M.S., a minor v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
United States District Court Case No. 2:20-CV-00567-DSF-AS

This lawsuit alleges that plaintiff's civil rights were violated while she was under the supervision of the Probation Department at the Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$220,000.

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

d. **Jerry San Martin v. County of Los Angeles**
Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. BC 956220

This lawsuit concerns a former employee of the Department of Public Social Services who alleges failure to engage in the interactive process and failure to provide a reasonable accommodation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$39,000.

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

e. **Claudia Ramirez v. County of Los Angeles**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV44301

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

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$65,000.

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

5. Approval of the Minutes of the December 6, 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.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

By  _____
Derek Stane