

## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

# CONTRACT CITIES LIABILITY TRUST FUND CLAIMS BOARD

500 WEST TEMPLE STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2713

#### MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

#### NOTICE OF MEETING

Lindsey Horvath City Council Member Mark R. Alexander City Manager James Bozajian City Council Member Bryan Cook City Manager Margaret Finlay City Council Member Mark Waronek City Council Member John Moreno City Manager Kenneth Striplin City Manager Jennifer Vasquez City Manager Marcel Rodarte California Contract Cities Association Patrick Kearney City Council Member

The County of Los Angeles Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board will hold its Regular Meeting on Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at 11:00 a.m., Via Teleconference.

Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 and AB 361 Re Coronavirus Covid-19 this meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the Governor's Executive Order and AB 361 which suspends certain requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act.

In compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Agency Clerk at (562) 467-8736. Notification 48 hours before meeting will enable the Authority to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility. (28 CFR 35.102.35.104 ADA Title II)

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

You may submit public comment by e-mail at <a href="wruiz@cjpia.org">wruiz@cjpia.org</a> or by mail to: Attention: Contract Cities Claims Board Agenda, Executive Office, County Counsel, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California, 90012.

Written public comment or documentation must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 12, 2022. 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.

Members of the public wishing to listen to open sessions of the meeting may call the California JPIA's teleconference number at 1(253) 215-8782, Enter Meeting ID: 817 4385 9213; Passcode 330695...

#### **Zoom Meeting Link**

https://cjpia.zoom.us/j/81743859213?pwd=MVE2M1QrMmZmSG05OE1hR1V3cU02QT09&from=addon

#### **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 ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
  Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision
  (a) of Section 54956.9: Claim of Maria Lopez
- 4. Closed Session Conference with Legal Counsel Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Government Code Section 54956.9)
  - a. <u>Alegria, Jesus v. County of Los Angeles, et al.</u>
    Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV0750

This lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations, false imprisonment, excessive force, denial of medical attention, and denial of substantive due process by Sheriff's Deputies.

See Supporting Document

b. Robert Kelly v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:19: cv-07629

This lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations, false imprisonment, excessive force, and failure to intervene by Sheriff's Deputies.

See Supporting Document

- 5. Closed Session Conference with Legal Counsel Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Government Code Section 54956.9)
  - a. <u>Gonsoulin, Trayveyon, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.</u> United States District Court Case No. 2:21-CV-06386

This lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations, excessive force and false arrest by Sheriff's Deputies.

b. <u>Lockett, Sheldon, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.</u> United States District Court Case No. 2:18-CV-05838

This lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations, excessive force, false arrest, false imprisonment, and unreasonable search and seizure by Sheriff's Deputies.

c. <u>Murillo, Ricardo, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.</u>
United States District Court Case No. 2:21-CV-06937
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20CMCV00223

This lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations, excessive force and false arrest by Sheriff's Deputies.

d. <u>Timothy Reeves Neal v. County of Los Angeles, et al.</u> United States District Court Case No. 2:20: CV-06315

This lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations, excessive force, and improper training or lack of training by Sheriff's Deputies.

e. <u>Ramirez, Claudia v. County of Los Angeles, et al.</u>
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV10949

This lawsuit concerns allegations of an automobile accident involving a Sheriff's Deputy.

f. Rodriguez, Antonio v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:21-CV-06574

This lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations, excessive force, negligence, arising from a non-fatal deputy involved shooting by Sheriff's Deputies.

- 6. Report of actions taken in Closed Session.
- 7. Approval of Minutes for the March, 2022, meeting of the Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board.

See Supporting Document

8. Continuance of the Existence of a Local State of Emergency in Response to COVID-19 and Findings Related to AB 361 Exempting the Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board from Brown Act Teleconferencing Rules.

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- 9. 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.
- 10. Other Business
- 11. Adjournment

#### CASE SUMMARY

# INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME

Jesus Alegria v. County of Los Angeles, et al.

CASE NUMBER 21STCV01750

COURT Los Angeles Superior Court

DATE FILED January 15, 2021

COUNTY DEPARTMENT Sheriff's Department

PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT \$ 450,000

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF Humberto M. Guizar, Esq.

COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY Jonathan McCaverty

Principal Deputy County Counsel

NATURE OF CASE

This is a recommendation to settle for \$450,000,

inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, a false arrest and excessive force civil rights lawsuit filed by Jesus Alegria arising out of an April 2020 detention in which Mr. Alegria was put in the back of a patrol car

which later crashed causing injuries.

Mr. Alegria 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 \$ 113,426

PAID COSTS, TO DATE \$ 1,274

#### CASE SUMMARY

# INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME Robert Kelly v. County of Los Angeles, et al.

CASE NUMBER 2:19-CV-07629

COURT United States District Court

DATE FILED September 3, 2019

COUNTY DEPARTMENT Sheriff's Department

PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT \$ 50,000

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF Elliott N. Tiomkin, Esq.

COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY Minas Samuelian

**Deputy County Counsel** 

NATURE OF CASE

This is a recommendation to settle for \$50,000

inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, a federal civil rights lawsuit filed by Robert Kelly ("Plaintiff"), against the County alleging excessive force arising out of the detention and arrest of the Plaintiff.

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 \$50,000 is recommended.

PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE \$ \$86,841

PAID COSTS, TO DATE \$ \$27,629

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CONTRACT CITIES LIABILITY TRUST FUND CLAIMS BOARD

#### MINUTES OF MEETING

March 9, 2022

#### 1. Call to Order

This meeting of the County of Los Angeles Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board was called to order by Lindsey Horvath at 11:01 a.m. The meeting was held via-teleconference.

Present at the meeting were Claims Board Members: Lindsey Horvath, Chair; John Moreno, South Division; Margaret Finlay, East Division; Mark Alexander, East Division; Patrick Kearney, Central Division; Ken Striplin, North Division; Jennifer Vasquez, Central Division; Marcel Rodarte, Executive Director; At-Large; James Bozajian, North Divisio; Mark Waronek, South Division; Alternate: Steve Hofbauer, North Division; Jennifer Perez, At-Large; Gustavo Camacho, South Division: Michael Davitt, East Division: Thaddeus McCormack, South Division; County of Los Angeles Staff: Elizabeth D. Miller, Assistant County Counsel; Adrian Gragas, Assistant County Counsel; Millicent Rolon, Principal County Counsel; Minas Samuelian, Deputy County Counsel; Steve Robles, County of Los Angeles; Edwin Alvarez, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Esmeralda Lopez, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Shawnee Hinchman, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Pilar Chavez, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Randy Tuinstra; Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Bruce Chase, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Sergio Escobedo, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Attendees: Karen Bartak, Bedford Falls Insurance; Kristen DesCombes, Alliant Insurance Services; Chris Gray, Alliant Insurance Services; Robert Lowe, Alliant Insurance Services; Tom Guterres & Kelsey Nau; Third Party Administrator for the County of Los Angeles: Sylvia Hernandez, Claims Manager, Carl Warren & Company; California JPIA: Alex Smith, Deputy Executive Officer; Paul Zeglovitch, Liability Program Manager; Veronica Ruiz, Agency Clerk.

#### 2. Public Comment

Members of the public were provided the opportunity to address the Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board on items of interest that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Claims Board. No members of the public addressed the Board.

At 11:05 a.m., the Chair adjourned the County of Los Angeles Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board into Closed Session.

# 3. Closed Session - Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Government Code Section 54956.9)

Closed Session - CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision
(a) of Section 54956.9: One case

# 4. Closed Session - Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Government Code Section 54956.9)

a. <u>Arnulfo Lara Corona v. County of Los Angeles, et al.</u>
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 18STCV04450

This lawsuit concerns allegations of an automobile accident involving a Sheriff's Deputy.

#### Action Taken:

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$70,000.00.

Vote: Ayes: 10 - Mark Alexander, James Bozajian, Margaret Finlay, Lindsey Horvath, Patrick Kearney, John Moreno, Ken Striplin, Jennifer Vasquez, Marcel Rodarte, Mark Waronek.

Absent: Bryan Cook

b. <u>Ruben Rodriguez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.</u>
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV11309

This lawsuit concerns allegations of an automobile accident involving Sheriff's Deputy.

a

#### Action Taken:

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$99,999.00.

Vote: Ayes: 10 - Mark Alexander, James Bozajian, Margaret Finlay, Lindsey Horvath, Patrick Kearney, John Moreno, Ken Striplin, Jennifer Vasquez, Marcel Rodarte, Mark Waronek.

Absent: Bryan Cook

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# 5. Closed Session - Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Government Code Section 54956.9)

a. <u>Butts, Leroy v. City of Lancaster, et al.</u>
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCP00389

This lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations, and illegal expenditure and waste of funds by Sheriff's Deputies.

### Action Taken:

No reportable action taken

b. <u>Lopez, Myesha, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.</u> United States District Court Case No. 5-21-CV-00290

This lawsuit concerns allegations of excessive force and wrongful death by Sheriff's Deputies.

Action Taken:

No reportable action taken

c. <u>McGraw, Timia Adams v. Castrellon, Zack, et al.</u>
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21AVCV00483

This lawsuit concerns allegations of sexual assault and battery, emotional distress, and negligent hiring/retention by Sheriff's Deputies.

### Action Taken:

No reportable action taken

d. <u>Timothy Reeves Neal v. County of Los Angeles, et al.</u> United States District Court Case No. 2:20: CV-06315

This lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations, excessive force, and improper training or lack of training by Sheriff's Deputies.

Action Taken:

No reportable action taken

### 6. Report of actions taken in Closed Session.

The meeting was reconvened into public session at 12:14 p.m. No action was taken in Closed Session which required a public report pursuant to Government Code section 54957.1.

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7. Approval of the Minutes for February 9, 2022, meeting of the Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board.

Action Taken:

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board approved the minutes.

Vote: Ayes: 10 - Mark Alexander, James Bozajian, Margaret Finlay, Lindsey Horvath, Patrick Kearney, John Moreno,

Ken Striplin, Jennifer Vasquez, Marcel Rodarte,

Mark Waronek.

Absent: Bryan Cook

8. Continuance of the Existence of a Local State of Emergency in Response to COVID-19 and Findings Related to AB 361 Exempting the Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board from Brown Act Teleconferencing Rules.

Vote: Ayes: 11 - Mark Alexander, James Bozajian, Margaret Finlay,

Lindsey Horvath, Patrick Kearney, John Moreno, Ken Striplin, Jennifer Vasquez, Marcel Rodarte,

Mark Waronek.

Absent: Bryan Cook

9. Items Not on the Posted Agenda, to be Referred to Staff or Placed on the Agenda for Action at a Further Meeting of the Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims 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.

None

10. Other Business

None

11. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:17 p.m.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CONTRACT CITIES LIABILITY TRUST FUND CLAIMS BOARD

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