



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 Los Angeles County Claims Board will hold a regular meeting on **Monday, April 18, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.**, via online conference call. Members of the public who would like to listen to the open sessions of the meeting may call (323) 776-6996, then enter ID 640 303 104#, at 9:30 a.m. on April 18, 2022.

Reports of actions taken in Closed Session. The Los Angeles County Claims Board will report actions taken on any Closed Session Items on Monday, April 18, 2022 at 11:10 a.m. Members of the public who would like to hear reportable actions taken on any Closed Session items may call (323) 776-6996, then enter ID 640 303 104#, at 11:05 a.m. on April 18, 2022. Please note that this time is an approximate start time and there may be a short delay before the Closed Session is concluded and the actions can be reported.

TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT:

You may submit written public comments by e-mail to claimsboard@counsel.lacounty.gov or by mail to: Attention: Los Angeles County Claims Board, Executive Office, County Counsel, 500 W. Temple St., Los Angeles, CA, 90012.

Written public comment or documentation must be submitted no later than 12 p.m. on Friday, April 15, 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.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION: Any supporting documents will be posted and can be provided upon request. Please submit requests for supporting documents to claimsboard@counsel.lacounty.gov.

If you would like more information, please contact Claims Board Secretary Derek Stane at dstane@counsel.lacounty.gov.

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 Rosanna H. Su

This claim concerns allegations that medical malpractice by Los Angeles County+USC Medical Center contributed to a delay in the diagnosis of plaintiff's medical condition; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$250,000.

b. Taniela Tuihalamaka v. Jim McDonnell, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 706455

This medical malpractice lawsuit against the Department of Health Services and the Sheriff's Department alleges that jail staff at Men's Central Jail failed to provide plaintiff's scheduled medication causing him to suffer a stroke; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$625,000.

c. Non-Litigated Claims of Juanita Decoudreaux, Donna J. Iliescu, and Gloria Ferrell

Claimants seek compensation from the Department of Public Works for property damage allegedly caused by a backflow of sewage due to a mainline blockage; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$45,949.99.

[See Supporting Document](#)

d. Non-Litigated Claim of Rafael Estrada

This claim arises from injuries plaintiff allegedly sustained in an automobile accident involving an employee of the Department of Children and Family Services; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$56,000.

[See Supporting Document](#)

e. Reggie DeAndre Mallard v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:20-CV-05231

This lawsuit alleges that plaintiff's civil rights were violated by the District Attorney's Office and the Sheriff's Department when they allegedly failed to disclose evidence; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$99,000.

[See Supporting Document](#)

- f. Brian Roger, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 20STCV43642

This lawsuit arises from injuries plaintiff allegedly sustained in a single vehicle accident involving an overturned Los Angeles County Fire Department truck; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$70,000.

[See Supporting Document](#)

- g. Jennifer Donnell v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV36479

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee of the Probation Department was subjected to harassment, retaliation, and discrimination; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$500,000.

4. Approval of the minutes of the April 4, 2022, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

[See Supporting Document](#)

5. 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.
6. Adjournment.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Non-Litigated Claims of Gloria Ferrell, Juanita Decoudreaux, and Donna J. Iliescu
CASE NUMBER	N/A
COURT	N/A
DATE FILED	N/A
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Public Works
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ \$45,949.99
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	N/A
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Edwin A. Lewis Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This is a recommendation to settle for \$45,949.99, claims brought by Gloria Ferrell, Juanita Decoudreaux, and Donna J. Iliescu for damages sustained to their property on February 2, 2020. 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	Non-Litigated Claim of Rafael A. Estrada
CASE NUMBER	None
COURT	N/A
DATE FILED	N/A
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Children and Family Services
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 56,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Lance Rosenberg, Esq.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Edwin A. Lewis Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This claim arises from a January 21, 2021 vehicle collision involving Rafael A, Estrada. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of this claim is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 0.00
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 0.00

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Reggie Deandre Mallard v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	2:20-cv-05231
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	June 17, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department and District Attorney
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 99,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Brian Dunn The Cochran Firm California
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Michael J. Gordon Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>Plaintiff Reggie Mallard alleges civil rights violations related to his incarceration. He contends that the County failed to disclose exculpatory evidence and fabricated evidence which resulted in overdetention of more than 6 years. He seeks compensatory damages and attorneys' fees and costs for these alleged violations.</p> <p>Given the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$99,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 91,803
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 7,998

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Brian Roger, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	20STCV43642
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	November 12, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Fire Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 70,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Ardy Pirnia, Esq.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Harold G. Becks, Esq. Harold G. Becks & Associates Kevin J. Engeliem Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This lawsuit arises from an accident involving a Los Angeles County Fire Department truck which overturned while transporting inmate fire crew truck members on January 24, 2019. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 0
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 0

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

APRIL 4, 2022

1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Los Angeles County Claims Board was called to order at 9:39 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 M. Byers.

All other persons also appeared telephonically. Those attending the meeting were: Office of the County Counsel: Kelsey Nau, Rosa Linda Cruz, LaTasha Corry, Adrian Gragas, David Lee, Jonathan McCaverty, Ed Morrissey, and Narbeh Bagdasarian; Department of Public Works: Ronald Castaneda, and Martin Moreno; Department of Health Services: Catherine Mathers, James Escandon, Karen Nunn, Jammy Au-Jeung; Sheriff's Department: Michael Abbott; Department of Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services: Paul Goldman, and Derrick Martin; Fire Department: Julia Kim, and Dennis Breshears; Public Defender's Office: Michael Suzuki; Outside Counsel: Tracy Egoscue, Laura Inlow, Kari Kadomatsu, 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 9:40 a.m., the Chair convened the meeting into closed session to discuss the items listed as 4(a) through 4(h).

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 11:19 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 Alberto and Anna Acosta

Claimants seek 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 recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$116,363.74.

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

b. Los Angeles County+USC Medical Center – Notice of Violation

This is a Notice of Violation from the South Coast Air Quality Management District against the County involving the Los Angeles County+USC Medical Center.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$20,500.

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

**c. Colette Hagggar v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV15262**

This dangerous condition lawsuit arises from injuries allegedly sustained in a trip and fall accident on a sidewalk maintained by the Department of Public Works.

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

**d. Denise Irwin v. Onyemaechi Chima, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV38345**

This lawsuit arises from injuries plaintiff allegedly sustained in an automobile accident involving an employee of the Department of Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$85,000.

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

**e. Sergio Rosales Heredia, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19AVCV00079**

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries plaintiff sustained in automobile accident involving a Fire Department employee.

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

f. **Mkrtich Mike Oktanyan v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 19STCV39596

This lawsuit arises from injuries plaintiff allegedly sustained in an automobile accident involving a Department of Health Services employee.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$40,000.

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

g. **Darryell Frazier v. Mark Ridley-Thomas, et al.**
United States District Court Case No. CV20-111676 CAS

This civil rights lawsuit against the Office of the Public Defender alleges that plaintiff's constitutional rights were violated as a result of his approximate 18-year pre-trial detention as a civil detainee.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$3,000,000.

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

h. **Helen Medina v. County of Los Angeles**
United States District Court Case No. 2:19-CV-03808

This wrongful death lawsuit against the Sheriff's Department involves an inmate who died while at Twin Towers Correctional Facility.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$1,250,000.

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

5. **Approval of the Minutes of the March 21, 2022, 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 11:22 a.m.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

By  _____
Derek Stane