

**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD**  
**HELD VIA ONLINE CONFERENCE CALL**  
**ON MONDAY, JUNE 6, 2022, AT 9:30 A.M.**

**Present: Chair Steve Robles, and Adrienne M. Byers**  
**Absent: Arlene Barrera**

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. **Lanthia Teon Douglas v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 18STCV08752**

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

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$536,999.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Steve Robles, and Adrienne M. Byers  
Absent: Arlene Barrera

[See Supporting Documents](#)

b. **Jeong J. Cha v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV01874**

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

Action Taken:

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

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Steve Robles, and Adrienne M. Byers  
Absent: Arlene Barrera

[See Supporting Documents](#)

c. **Sharon Kalfon, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC713175**

This lawsuit alleges wrongful death due to a dangerous condition resulting in an automobile accident on a County road in Malibu maintained by the Department of Public Works.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$100,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Steve Robles, and Adrienne M. Byers  
Absent: Arlene Barrera

[See Supporting Document](#)

d. **Siliana Gaspard, et al. v. State of California, et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV48614**

This lawsuit against the Fire Department involves the drowning of plaintiff's husband in the waters off of Venice Beach.

Action Taken:

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

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Steve Robles, and Adrienne Byers  
Absent: Arlene Barrera

[See Supporting Document](#)

e. **Manwoong Kang, et al. v. Joseph Lester Jones, Jr., et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV02545**

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

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$25,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Steve Robles, and Adrienne M. Byers  
Absent: Arlene Barrera

[See Supporting Document](#)

f. **Glenn Sabey v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV32277**

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

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$340,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Steve Robles, and Adrienne M. Byers  
Absent: Arlene Barrera

[See Supporting Documents](#)

**g. Larry J. Justason v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV05724**

This dangerous condition lawsuit against the Department of Parks and Recreation involves a motor scooter accident in a parking lot at Alondra Park in Lawndale.

Action Taken:

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

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Steve Robles, and Adrienne M. Byers  
Absent: Arlene Barrera

[See Supporting Document](#)

**h. Non-Litigated Auto Liability Claims of Phearin Pha and Sivlang Poeng**

Claimants seek compensation for alleged injuries caused by an automobile accident involving a Probation Department employee.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$29,013.16.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Steve Robles, and Adrienne M. Byers  
Absent: Arlene Barrera

[See Supporting Document](#)

**i. Augustin Beltran v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV01466**

This civil rights lawsuit alleges that plaintiff was assaulted while being evacuated from Nidorf Juvenile Hall and transported by the Probation Department during the Saddle Ridge Fire.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$99,900.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Steve Robles, and Adrienne M. Byers  
Absent: Arlene Barrera

[See Supporting Document](#)

**j. Eva Carrillo v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
United States District Court Case No. 2-21-CV-00058-SVW**

This lawsuit alleges federal civil rights violations and breach of mandatory duty by Sheriff's Department jail staff for the death of an inmate at Men's Central Jail.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$400,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Steve Robles, and Adrienne M. Byers  
Absent: Arlene Barrera

**k. Jessy Duenas Hernandez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
United States District Court Case No. 2-21-CV-3937-MWF**

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

Action Taken:

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

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Steve Robles, and Adrienne M. Byers  
Absent: Arlene Barrera

[See Supporting Document](#)

**l. Vincent Clark v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
United States District Court Case No. 2-20-CV-00304-DMG**

This federal civil rights lawsuit alleges plaintiff was subjected to excessive force by Sheriff's Department deputies at his residence.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$450,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Steve Robles, and Adrienne M. Byers  
Absent: Arlene Barrera

[See Supporting Document](#)

**m. Dolores Acevedo v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 685142**

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries plaintiff sustained in an automobile accident involving a Sheriff's Department employee.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$97,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Steve Robles, and Adrienne M. Byers  
Absent: Arlene Barrera

[See Supporting Document](#)

**n. Cesar Hernandez, et al. v. Tonya Octave, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 715330**

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries plaintiff sustained in an automobile accident involving a Department of Children and Family Services employee.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$70,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Steve Robles, and Adrienne M. Byers  
Absent: Arlene Barrera

[See Supporting Document](#)

**o. Vincent Ellis v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV27277**

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries plaintiff sustained in an automobile accident involving a Department of Children and Family Services employee.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$60,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Steve Robles, and Adrienne M. Byers  
Absent: Arlene Barrera

[See Supporting Document](#)

**p. Darshell Williams Brown v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 19STCV27701**

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee of the Department of Children and Family Services was subjected to disability discrimination and failure to accommodate.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$60,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Steve Robles, and Adrienne M. Byers  
Absent: Arlene Barrera

**q. Cristina Morris v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 20STCV04961**

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee of the Department of Health Services was subjected to disability discrimination.

Action Taken:

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

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Steve Robles, and Adrienne M. Byers  
Absent: Arlene Barrera

**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 May 6, 2022, regular meeting of the Claims Board.**

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes.

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

[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                   | Lanthia Teon Douglas v. County of Los Angeles, et. al.  |
| CASE NUMBER                 | 18STCV08752   |
| COURT                       | Los Angeles Superior Court  |
| DATE FILED                  | January 17, 2018  |
| COUNTY DEPARTMENT           | Department of Public Works  |
| PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT  | \$ 536,999  |
| ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF      | Laura Sedrish and Jack Denove, Esq.   |
| COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY     | Kevin J. Engelen<br>Deputy County Counsel   |
| NATURE OF CASE              | This lawsuit arises from a vehicle versus vehicle collision that occurred on January 17, 2018, when an employee of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works rear-ended the vehicle driven by Plaintiff Lanthia Teon Douglas. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted. |
| PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE | \$ 195,211  |
| PAID COSTS, TO DATE         | \$ 122,897  |

Douglas, Lanthia



## 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:                              | August 30, 2016   |
| Briefly provide a description of the incident/event: | On January 17, 2018, at 4:22 p.m., Lanthia Douglas was traveling southbound on La Cienega Boulevard at Knowlton Street when she was rear-ended by a County vehicle driven by a Public Works Laborer, Road Maintenance Division. |

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

The collision occurred due to the inattentiveness of the Public Works driver when he was distracted by the noise at the rear of his vehicle. When the driver looked ahead he realized he was too close to the rear of Ms. Douglas' vehicle in front of him. The driver applied his brakes, but was unable to avoid rear-ending Ms. Douglas' vehicle.

The driver appeared before the Department's Automotive Safety Committee on May 10, 2018, to review this matter, and the findings were deemed preventable, with the following cause code: "R"- lack of control due to inattention to driving.

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

The employee received appropriate discipline including driver training for his inattentiveness and failure to drive safely.



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.

|  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| Name: (Risk Management Coordinator)<br>Michael J. Hays |                         |
| Signature:<br><i>M. J. Hays</i>                        | Date:<br>March 24, 2022 |

|  |                              |                         |
|--|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Name: (Department Head)<br>Director Mark Pestrella | Deputy Concurrence <i>Mh</i> | Date:<br>April 19, 2022 |
| Signature:<br><i>M. Pestrella</i>                  |                              | Date:<br>April 27, 2022 |

|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| <b>Chief Executive Office Risk Management Inspector General USE ONLY</b>   |                     |
| Are the corrective actions applicable to other departments within the County?  |                     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, the corrective actions potentially have County-wide applicability.<br><input type="checkbox"/> No, the corrective actions are applicable only to this department. |                     |
| Name: (Risk Management Inspector General)<br>Destiny Castro  |                     |
| Signature:<br><i>Destiny Castro</i>  | Date:<br>03/24/2022 |

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## **CASE SUMMARY**

### **INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION**

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| CASE NAME                   | Jeong J. Cha v. County of Los Angeles, et al  |
| CASE NUMBER                 | 20STCV01874   |
| COURT                       | Los Angeles Superior Court  |
| DATE FILED                  | January 15, 2020  |
| COUNTY DEPARTMENT           | Department of Public Works  |
| PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT  | \$ 1,000,000  |
| ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF      | John C. Carpenter<br>Carpenter, Zuckerman & Rowley  |
| COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY     | Yuan Chang<br>Deputy County Counsel   |
| NATURE OF CASE              | This lawsuit arises from an automobile collision that occurred on January 18, 2018, at the intersection of Hacienda Blvd and Glenmark Drive, in an unincorporated area of Hacienda Heights. Plaintiff Jeong Cha contends the collision caused injuries for which he seeks damages. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, settlement is recommended. |
| PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE | \$ 84,321   |
| PAID COSTS, TO DATE         | \$ 61,815   |



## 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 18, 2018  |
| Briefly provide a description of the incident/event: | On January 18, 2018, at approximately 8:00 a.m., Plaintiff, Jeong Jin Cha, claims he sustained a TBI and soft tissue injuries as a result of a collision that occurred at the intersection of Hacienda Boulevard and Glenmark Avenue in Hacienda Heights. While traveling southbound on Hacienda Boulevard, Plaintiff alleges that a street sweeper operated by County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works employee who made an unsafe U-Turn from southbound onto the northbound side of Hacienda Boulevard. While the employee was attempting to make the U-Turn and as he was completing the turn, his street sweeper vehicle was "T-Boned" by Mr. Cha's vehicle on his left-hand driver's side. |

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

The collision occurred due to the Public Works employee's negligence in the operation of his vehicle by making an unsafe turning movement in front of Mr. Cha.

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

The County driver's collision was reviewed by the Departmental Automotive Safety Committee, which concluded the vehicle incident was preventable. Corrective measures were taken in the form of appropriate discipline.

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.

Name: (Risk Management Coordinator)  
Michael J. Hays

County of Los Angeles  
Summary Corrective Action Plan

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|                              |                |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| Signature: <i>M. J. Hays</i> | Date: 3/3/2022 |
|------------------------------|----------------|

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| Name: (Department Head)<br>Mark Pestrella |                |
| Signature: <i>Mark Pestrella</i>          | Date: 3/8/2022 |

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| <b>Chief Executive Office Risk Management Inspector General USE ONLY</b>                         |       |
| Are the corrective actions applicable to other departments within the County?                    |       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the corrective actions potentially have County-wide applicability. |       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No, the corrective actions are applicable only to this department.      |       |
| Name: (Risk Management Inspector General)  |       |
| Signature:   | Date: |

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## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| CASE NAME                   | Sharon Kalfon, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.   |
| CASE NUMBER                 | BC713175   |
| COURT                       | Los Angeles Superior Court   |
| DATE FILED                  | July 10, 2018  |
| COUNTY DEPARTMENT           | Department of Public Works   |
| PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT  | \$ 100,000   |
| ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF      | Daniel Azizi, Esq.<br>Downtown L.A. Law Group  |
| COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY     | Richard K. Kudo<br>Principal Deputy County Counsel   |
| NATURE OF CASE              | This is a wrongful death lawsuit in which plaintiffs Sharon Kalfon, Yosef Kalfon, Arey Kalfon, and Sarah Kalfon, the adult children of Tzemach Kalfon ("Decedent"), allege that Decedent drove off Malibu Canyon Road, just south of Piuma Road, due to a dangerous condition of public property. The County maintains Malibu Canyon Road at the incident location. Plaintiffs seek damages for the loss of their father. The County contends Decedent's death was a suicide. Due the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted. |
| PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE | \$ 208,532   |
| PAID COSTS, TO DATE         | \$ 48,647  |

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| CASE NAME                   | Siliana Gaspard, et al. v. State of California, et al.  |
| CASE NUMBER                 | 20STCV48614   |
| COURT                       | Los Angeles Superior Court  |
| DATE FILED                  | December 21, 2020   |
| COUNTY DEPARTMENT           | Fire Department   |
| PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT  | \$ 50,000   |
| ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF      | Jonathan C. Teller, Esq.<br>Wilshire Law Firm   |
| COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY     | Richard K. Kudo<br>Principal Deputy County Counsel  |
| NATURE OF CASE              | This is a this tragic drowning case where Shad Gaspard ("Decedent") drowned when he and his minor son A. G. were caught in a rip tide off Venice Beach. Fire Department lifeguards saved A. G.. A. G. and Siliana Gaspard, A. G.'s mother and Decedent's widow, each claim damages as a result of Decedent's death. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted. The settlement will be split between plaintiffs A. G. and Siliana Gaspard, A. G.'s mother and Decedent's widow in amounts they determine. |
| PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE | \$ 25,758   |
| PAID COSTS, TO DATE         | \$ 883  |

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| CASE NAME                   | Manwoong Kang, et al. v. Joseph Lester Jones Jr., et al.  |
| CASE NUMBER                 | 21STCV02545   |
| COURT                       | Los Angeles Superior Court  |
| DATE FILED                  | January 21, 2021  |
| COUNTY DEPARTMENT           | Fire Department   |
| PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT  | \$ 25,000   |
| ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF      | Brian S. Weinberger, Esq.<br>Law Offices of Brian S. Weinberger   |
| COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY     | David D. Lee, Esq.<br>Deputy County Counsel   |
| NATURE OF CASE              | This is a motor vehicle accident lawsuit that occurred on October 25, 2019, when a Fire Department engine truck rear-ended a van at Olympiad Drive and Victoria Avenue. Plaintiffs Manwoong Kang and Jessie Kang claim to have suffered injuries as a result. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted. |
| PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE | \$ 11,623.50  |
| PAID COSTS, TO DATE         | \$ 1,683.64   |

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| CASE NAME                   | Glenn Sabey v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  |
| CASE NUMBER                 | 20STCV32277   |
| COURT                       | Los Angeles Superior Court  |
| DATE FILED                  | August 24, 2020   |
| COUNTY DEPARTMENT           | Fire Department   |
| PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT  | \$ 340,000  |
| ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF      | Melissa Thom<br>Mastagni Holstedt, APC  |
| COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY     | Michael J. Gordon<br>Deputy County Counsel  |
| NATURE OF CASE              | <p>On December 5, 2018, Plaintiff Glenn Sabey and a Fire Department sedan were involved in a pedestrian versus motor vehicle incident in the intersection of Park Avenue and 6<sup>th</sup> Street in the City of Pomona. Plaintiff contends the collision caused injuries for which he seeks damages.</p> <p>Given the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$340,000 is recommended.</p> |
| PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE | \$ 29,564   |
| PAID COSTS, TO DATE         | \$ 8,863  |



Case Name: Glenn Sabey v. Robert Lee Harris, et al.  
20STCV32277



## 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:                              | December 5, 2018  |
| Briefly provide a description of the incident/event: | <p>On December 5, 2018 at approximately 6:00 a.m., a Pomona Police Department officer (hereinafter "Plaintiff") had exited his personal vehicle in the parking lot on the southwest corner of Park Avenue and 6<sup>th</sup> Street. The weather conditions at this time were cold, cloudy, and rainy. The roadway was wet, and it was still dark outside.</p> <p>Plaintiff approached the crosswalk on the south side of the intersection and activated the pedestrian walk signal. Once the pedestrian signal phase switched to "walk," Plaintiff began to walk eastbound across Park Avenue (south of 6<sup>th</sup> Street) within the crosswalk. Plaintiff was struck in the crosswalk by a County vehicle being operated by a then-Battalion Chief (BC). In an attempt to avoid the collision, Plaintiff tried to jump out of the way and turned his body to the left. The County vehicle made contact with Plaintiff, Plaintiff rolled off the hood of the County vehicle and fell to the ground.</p> <p>The BC stated he was adjusting his eyeglasses and looked down at the radio before he heard a yell and felt an impact to the front of the County vehicle. The BC stated that he was traveling 15-20 mph, the ambulance reports indicate he was traveling 20-30 mph, and the videos provided by Pomona Police Department indicate a higher rate of speed. The County vehicle AVL indicates the BC was traveling from 64 mph, 62 mph, to 20 mph right before impact.</p> <p>Plaintiff was transported to the Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center where he sustained an injury to his nose, three broken ribs, abrasions, facial lacerations and facial fractures, broken teeth, bruising, pain and swelling, shoulder and back pain. Plaintiff missed 11 months of work.</p> |

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


The Department root cause in this incident is the BC's failure to stop at a red light.



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

|  |
|--|
| <p>1. The Department Safety Officer recommended the following training action plan, which were all completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (4 hours);</li><li>• Search and Scan (2 hours);</li><li>• Hazard Recognition (3 hours);</li><li>• Backing (2 hours);</li><li>• Attention and Distraction (2 hours);</li><li>• Judging Safe Distance (3 hours); and</li><li>• Sight Speed and Space Management (2 hours).</li></ul> <p>2. An administrative internal investigation was initiated. The BC was ultimately issued a Notice of Suspension for three (3) days, which was served.</p> |
|  |

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.

|  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| Name: (Risk Management Coordinator) Julia Kim  |                      |
| Signature:  | Date: March 29, 2022 |

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| Name: (Department Head)  |                |
| Signature:               | Date: 03/30/22 |

**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:

*Destiny Castro*

Date:

04/01/2022

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| CASE NAME                   | Larry Justason v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  |
| CASE NUMBER                 | 21STCV05724  |
| COURT                       | Los Angeles Superior Court   |
| DATE FILED                  | February 11, 2021  |
| COUNTY DEPARTMENT           | Department of Parks and Recreation   |
| PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT  | \$ 30,000  |
| ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF      | Michael R. Rhames<br>Michael R. Rhames & Associates, APC   |
| COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY     | Michael J. Gordon<br>Deputy County Counsel   |
| NATURE OF CASE              | <p>On October 6, 2020, Plaintiff Larry Justason was driving his motor scooter in the parking lot at Alondra Park when he lost control of the scooter and it tipped over after he drove into a pothole. Plaintiff contends the parking lot was in dangerous condition that caused him to sustain injuries for which he seeks damages.</p> <p>Given the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$30,000 is recommended.</p> |
| PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE | \$ 11,786  |
| PAID COSTS, TO DATE         | \$ 2,672   |

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| CASE NAME                   | Non-Litigated Auto Liability Claims of Phearin Pha and Sivlang Poeng   |
| CASE NUMBER                 | N/A  |
| COURT                       | N/A  |
| DATE FILED                  | N/A  |
| COUNTY DEPARTMENT           | Department of Probation  |
| PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT  | \$ 29,013.16   |
| ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF      | N/A  |
| COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY     | Mark W. Lomax,<br>Deputy County Counsel  |
| NATURE OF CASE              | These claims seeks damages for bodily injuries allegedly sustained when a County vehicle driven by a Probation Department employee collided with Claimants' vehicle. |
| PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE | \$ -0-   |
| PAID COSTS, TO DATE         | \$ -0-   |

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| CASE NAME                   | Augustin Beltran v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  |
| CASE NUMBER                 | 21STCV01466  |
| COURT                       | Superior Court of California   |
| DATE FILED                  | January 13, 2021   |
| COUNTY DEPARTMENT           | Sheriff's Department   |
| PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT  | \$ 99,900  |
| ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF      | Janet E. Hong, Esquire   |
| COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY     | Tyson B. Nelson, Deputy County Counsel   |
| NATURE OF CASE              | This is a recommendation to settle for \$99,900, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, a civil rights lawsuit with both federal and State-law claims brought by Plaintiff Augustin Beltran ("Plaintiff"), a minor, alleging negligent supervision during the emergency evacuation of Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall ("Nidorf"). Plaintiff claims that on October 10, 2019, during the bus ride from Nidorf in Sylmar to Los Padornos Juvenile Hall in Downey he was assaulted by other youth on the bus while handcuffed and Probation failed to intervene. |
| PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE | \$ 6,015   |
| PAID COSTS, TO DATE         | \$ 7   |

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| CASE NAME                   | Jessy Duenas Hernandez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.   |
| CASE NUMBER                 | 2:21-cv-3937-MWF-AFM  |
| COURT                       | United States District Court  |
| DATE FILED                  | April 9, 2021   |
| COUNTY DEPARTMENT           | Sheriff's Department  |
| PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT  | \$ 90,000   |
| ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF      | Daniel C. Sharpe, Esquire   |
| COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY     | Timothy J. Kral, Principal Deputy County Counsel  |
| NATURE OF CASE              | This is a recommendation to settle for \$90,000, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, a civil rights lawsuit with both federal and State-law claims brought by Plaintiff Jessy Duenas Hernandez ("Plaintiff") alleging an unlawful detention and search by detectives while he was at work on March 10, 2020. Plaintiff also alleges excessive force by deputies during a traffic stop on March 13-14, 2020. |
| PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE | \$ 44,974   |
| PAID COSTS, TO DATE         | \$ 15   |

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| CASE NAME                   | Vincent Clark v. County of Los Angeles, et al.   |
| CASE NUMBER                 | 2:20-cv-00304-DMG-MRWx   |
| COURT                       | United States District Court   |
| DATE FILED                  | November 14, 2019  |
| COUNTY DEPARTMENT           | Sheriff's Department   |
| PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT  | \$ 450,000   |
| ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF      | James R. Tedford, II, Esquire  |
| COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY     | Timothy J. Kral, Principal Deputy County Counsel   |
| NATURE OF CASE              | This is a recommendation to settle for \$450,000, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, a civil rights lawsuit with both federal and State-law claims brought by Plaintiff Vincent Clark ("Plaintiff") alleging excessive force. Plaintiff claims that on October 27, 2018, Deputy Jose Villanueva and Deputy Marlene Lima used excessive force upon him while encountering him in front of his home in the unincorporated area of Pasadena. |
| PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE | \$ 71,337  |
| PAID COSTS, TO DATE         | \$ 15,977  |



## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| CASE NAME                   | Dolores Acevedo v. County of Los Angeles, et al.   |
| CASE NUMBER                 | BC685142   |
| COURT                       | Los Angeles Superior Court   |
| DATE FILED                  | December 1, 2022   |
| COUNTY DEPARTMENT           | Sheriff's Department   |
| PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT  | \$ 97,000  |
| ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF      | Minas Nordanyan<br>Nordanyan Law   |
| COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY     | Richard K. Kudo<br>Principal Deputy County Counsel   |
| NATURE OF CASE              | This case involves the settlement of a vehicle versus pedestrian accident when an on-duty Deputy Sheriff backed a Sheriff's Department sport utility vehicle into plaintiff Dolores Acevedo and knocked her down to the ground while she was walking in a parking lot at Olive View-UCLA Medical Center. Plaintiff 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 | \$ 50,567  |
| PAID COSTS, TO DATE         | \$ 21,859  |

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| CASE NAME                   | Cesar Hernandez, et al. v. Tonya Octave, et al.  |
| CASE NUMBER                 | BC715330   |
| COURT                       | Los Angeles Superior Court   |
| DATE FILED                  | July 24, 2018  |
| COUNTY DEPARTMENT           | Department of Children and Family Services   |
| PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT  | \$ 70,000  |
| ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF      | P. Paul Aghabala, Esq.   |
| COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY     | Richard K. Kudo<br>Principal Deputy County Counsel   |
| NATURE OF CASE              | This case involves a multi-car accident that occurred on Carson Street in the City of Long Beach when a Department of Children and Family Services employee rear-ended the Dodge minivan transporting plaintiffs Cesar Hernandez and Marco Aguayo, which rear-ended a third car. Plaintiffs 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. Under the two separate settlements totaling \$70,000, Mr. Hernandez will receive \$52,000 and Mr. Aguayo will receive \$18,000. |
| PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE | \$ 40,413  |
| PAID COSTS, TO DATE         | \$ 24,932  |

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| CASE NAME                   | Vincent Ellis v. County of Los Angeles   |
| CASE NUMBER                 | 20STCV27277  |
| COURT                       | Los Angeles Superior Court   |
| DATE FILED                  | July 7, 2020   |
| COUNTY DEPARTMENT           | Department of Children & Family Services   |
| PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT  | \$ 60,000  |
| ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF      | Donald Hartunian, Esq.<br>THE HARTUNIAN LAW FIRM   |
| COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY     | Adrian G. Gragas, Esq.<br>Assistant County Counsel   |
| NATURE OF CASE              | This is a motor vehicle accident lawsuit that occurred on June 7, 2019, when a car operated by an employee of the Department of Children & Family Services collided head-on with Plaintiff's vehicle. Plaintiff claims to have suffered personal injuries as a result. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted. |
| PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE | \$ 40,311  |
| PAID COSTS, TO DATE         | \$ 1,051   |

# LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

MAY 16, 2022

### 1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Los Angeles County Claims Board was called to order at 9:43 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: Katie Bowser, Jennifer Lehman, Caroline Craddock, Ed Morrissey, Shawn Luna, LaTasha Corry, Kevin Engelen, Brian Chu, Richard Hsueh, Pirjo Ranansinghe, Anthony Morrone, and Eduardo Montelongo; Department of Children and Family Services: Armand Montiel, and Christina Lee; Department of Health Services: Sean Henderson, Arun Patel, Dawn Abarca, and Karen Nunn; Public Library: Jacklin Injijian, and Michelle Charles; Department of Mental Health: Damien Parker; Department of Medical-Examiner-Coroner: Jonathan Lucas, and Akiko Tagawa; Sheriff's Department: Edward Ramirez, Jennifer Seetoo, Alise Norman, Melynne Rivers, Irma Chavez, Holly Francisco, April Tardy, Edwin Alvarez, Rodney Moore, Jason Wolak, Luis Pena, Tania Plunkett, and Shawnee Hinchman; Probation Department: Mark Garcia, Valerie Van Kirk, and Nicole Irvin; Outside Counsel: Jill Williams, Jon Monroy, Christie Swiss, Thomas Hurrell, Jennifer Gysler, Margaret Ikeda, and Mira Hashmall.

### 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 9:41 a.m., the Chair convened the meeting into closed session to discuss the items listed as 4(a) through 4(j).

### 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 12:37 p.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. J. H., a minor, et al. v. County of Los Angeles Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV22043

This lawsuit against the Department of Children and Family Services alleges wrongful death and failure to provide mental health services to Plaintiff's mother during the Dependency court process.

#### Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$97,500.

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

**b. Karibbea Young v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
United States District Court Case No. 20-CV-09503**

This lawsuit alleges that the Department of Children and Family Services wrongfully detained plaintiff's son without a warrant and violated his civil rights.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$550,000.

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

**c. Ellen Lubic v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV19352**

This dangerous condition lawsuit arises from injuries allegedly sustained in a trip and fall accident in a parking lot maintained by Public Library.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$72,500.

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

**d. Clyde Seals v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV42577**

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

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 M. Byers

**e. Maria Elvira Quintanilla Cebreros v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
United States District Court Case No. 2:20-CV-09267 RGK**

This lawsuit arises from the premature cremation of plaintiff's deceased son's remains by the Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner employees.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$445,000.

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

f. **Wesley Alarcio v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**  
**United States District Court Case No. 2:20-CV-00514**

This federal civil rights lawsuit alleges failure to protect and failure to summon medical aid against the Sheriff's Department and custody staff.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$7,000,000.

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

g. **Xenethon Sanders v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 18STCV06003**

This lawsuit alleges federal civil rights violations against the Sheriff's Department arising out of plaintiff's arrest in 2017.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$54,125.

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

h. **Eliezer Vera v. County of Los Angeles**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 680971**

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

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$99,950.

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

i. **Patricia Koz v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 715037**

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee of the Probation Department was subjected to discrimination based on gender and race.

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 M. Byers

j. **Julia Huang v. County of Los Angeles**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV10530**

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee with the Department of Health Services was subjected to harassment, discrimination, and retaliation.

Action Taken:

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

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Steve Robles, and Arlene Barrera

Noes: 1 – Adrienne M. Byers

5. **Approval of the Minutes of the May 2, 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 12:42 p.m.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

By  \_\_\_\_\_  
Derek Stane