



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 special meeting on **Monday, June 27, 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 367 615 429#, at 9:30 a.m. on June 27, 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, June 27, 2022 at 11:45 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 367 615 429#, at 11:40 a.m. on June 27, 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, June 24, 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. Dareh D. Haghvirdi, et al. v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 720058

This medical malpractice lawsuit against the Department of Health Services alleges that Olive View Medical Center staff was negligent in performing prenatal tests and informing plaintiffs about their son's congenital condition; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$4,500,000.

- b. Joaquin Barajas v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV12970

This dangerous condition lawsuit against the Department of Parks and Recreation alleges plaintiff suffered injuries when a metal post leaning against a wall fell and struck his arm; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$42,500.

[See Supporting Document](#)

- c. Tracy Lee v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV29641

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries plaintiff sustained in an automobile accident involving a Sheriff's Department employee; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$45,000.

[See Supporting Document](#)

- d. Victoria Contreras v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC722497

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries plaintiff sustained in an automobile accident involving a Sheriff's Department employee; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$550,000.

[See Supporting Documents](#)

- e. Steven Moore v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:20-CV-07751

This federal civil rights lawsuit alleges plaintiff suffered injuries and deliberate indifference by Sheriff's Department staff while he was detained at Men's Central Jail; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$200,000.

[See Supporting Documents](#)

- f. Ivan Field v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC684848

This lawsuit alleges excessive force and federal civil rights violations by Sheriff's Department deputies; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$150,000.

[See Supporting Document](#)

- g. Alex Zamora, et al. v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV34043

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries plaintiff sustained in an automobile accident involving a Sheriff's Department employee; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$57,500.

[See Supporting Document](#)

- h. Mika Marvin Lamar O'Neal v. Los Angeles County
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV03767

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries plaintiff sustained while being transported to court by a Sheriff's Department bus; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$210,000.

[See Supporting Documents](#)

- i. Bess Stiffelman v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV33474

This lawsuit concerns allegations that a former employee of the Public Defender's Office was subjected to retaliation; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$54,250.

4. Approval of the minutes of the June 6, 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, 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	Joaquin Barajas v. County of Los Angeles
CASE NUMBER	20STCV12970
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	April 2, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Parks & Recreation
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 42,500
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Michelle Balady, Esq. Bedford Law Group, APC
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	David D. Lee, Esq. Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This is a dangerous condition of public property lawsuit that occurred on April 24, 2019, when a metal soccer goal post that was leaning against the wall in a gym fell onto Plaintiff Joaquin Barajas during a basketball game. Plaintiff claims 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	\$ 31,507
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 70

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Tracy Lee v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	20STCV29641
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	August 5, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 45,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Alex Cha Law Offices of Alex Cha & Associates
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Michael J. Gordon Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>On August 29, 2019, plaintiff Tracy Lee's sedan and a Sheriff's Department patrol car were involved in a motor vehicle versus motor vehicle incident on State Route 134 near the City of Los Angeles. Plaintiff contends the collision caused injuries for which she seeks damages.</p> <p>Given the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$45,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 4,503
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 32

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Victoria Contreras v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	BC722497
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	September 14, 2018
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 550,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Jennifer Smith Offices of C. Ray Carlson
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Michael J. Gordon Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>On October 31, 2017, Plaintiff Victoria Contreras and a Sheriff's Department patrol vehicle collided in the intersection of Rye Canyon Road and Newhall Ranch Road in Santa Clarita. Plaintiff contends the collision caused injuries for which she seeks damages.</p> <p>Given the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$550,000 is recommended</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 52,215
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 42,728



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:	Tuesday, October 31, 2017, at approximately 6:40 a.m.
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	<p><u>Victoria Contreras v. County of Los Angeles</u> Summary Corrective Action Plan 2022-17</p> <p>On Tuesday, October 31, 2017, at approximately 6:40 a.m., an on-duty Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department deputy, assigned to Community Partnerships Bureau, was driving a marked black and white Sheriff's Department Ford Crown Victoria patrol vehicle northbound on Rye Canyon Road when he stopped at a red light at the intersection of Newhall Ranch Road in the city of Santa Clarita.</p> <p>While at the red light, the deputy observed a white Honda hatchback traveling at a high rate of speed (approximately 60-70 miles per hour) eastbound on Newhall Ranch Road. The white Honda then made a left turn northbound onto Copperhill Road, skid, and struck an adjacent curb.</p> <p>Note: The city of Santa Clarita posted speed limit for Newhall Ranch Road is 50 miles per hour.</p> <p>After observing the violation of 22350 California Vehicle – "Basic Speed Law" and believing the driver of the Honda was impaired or under the influence, the deputy drove the patrol vehicle into the intersection, on a red light to initiate a traffic stop. Prior to entering the intersection, the deputy activated the overhead emergency lights, however, did not recall if he activated the siren. The deputy cleared the intersection, lane-by-lane, at approximately 10 miles per hour. While clearing the intersection, the plaintiff's vehicle collided into the left rear of the patrol vehicle.</p> <p>The plaintiff was driving a 2015 Dodge Charger, traveling eastbound on Newhall Ranch Road at 55 miles per hour when entering the intersection of Rye Canyon Road on a green light. The plaintiff did not see the black and white Sheriff's vehicle, nor the vehicle's overhead emergency lights.</p> <p>The plaintiff saw the patrol vehicle just before the impact, and she attempted to apply the brakes, however, the vehicle did not stop prior to the collision.</p> <p>The plaintiff's vehicle came to rest, facing southeast in the northeast lanes of the intersection. The plaintiff's vehicle sustained damage to the front end.</p> <p>The deputy's vehicle came to rest, facing east in the number one east lane of Newhall Ranch Road just east of Rye Canyon Road. The deputy's vehicle sustained damage to the left rear quarter panel and trunk area.</p>

	<p>The deputy advised he was involved in a traffic collision and asked for fire department paramedics and a supervisor via the vehicle radio. The deputy checked on the welfare of the plaintiff prior to the arrival of the fire department paramedics and Santa Clarita Sheriff's Station deputies and supervisor.</p> <p>The plaintiff complained of general body soreness and pain to her left knee as a result of the collision. The plaintiff was evaluated by paramedics at the scene and declined transportation to a hospital. The plaintiff was later driven by a friend to the emergency room for medical treatment. The plaintiff was released approximately an hour later, the same day.</p> <p>The deputy complained of pain to his neck and left shoulder as a result of the collision. The deputy was transported via ambulance to the hospital for medical treatment.</p>
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1. Briefly describe the **root cause(s)** of the claim/lawsuit:

A **Department** root cause in this incident was the deputy failed to activate the siren when he activated the emergency overhead lights prior to entering the intersection on a red light.

A **Department** root cause in this incident was the deputy failed to yield to oncoming traffic in the intersection.

A **non-Department** root cause was the plaintiff failed to see the patrol vehicle with its overhead emergency lights activated prior to the plaintiff entering the intersection.

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

Traffic Collision Investigation

The incident was thoroughly investigated by the Santa Clarita Sheriff's Station. The collision investigation concluded, the deputy caused the collision by failing to yield – 21804 (a) California Vehicle Code to oncoming traffic prior to entering the intersection on a red light.

Supervisor's Report of Incident or Damage to County Vehicle

The incident was investigated by representatives of the Community Partnerships Bureau to determine if any administrative misconduct occurred as a result of the traffic collision. The results of the investigation were presented for Department executive adjudication. Appropriately administrative actions were taken.

Traffic Collision Assessment and Review

Community Partnerships Bureau conducted a review and assessment of all traffic collisions for calendar year 2017 through the end of 2021. The audit revealed there were 110 total collisions for this four-year period, 58 of which were classified as preventable, and 52 classified as non-preventable.

During the audit, it was discovered there was a spike in 2017, with a progressive reduction in the following years.

Personnel who have been involved in more than one traffic collision are directed to attend Department training, such as the Sheriff's Traffic Accident Reduction (S.T.A.R.) driving program, Emergency Vehicle Operations training, and/or the Alternatives to Discipline Driving Course.

Calendar Year	Preventable Collisions	Non-Preventable Collisions
2017	22	13
2018	3	12
2019	14	7
2020	9	13
2021	10	7
TOTALS	58	52

County of Los Angeles
Summary Corrective Action Plan

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

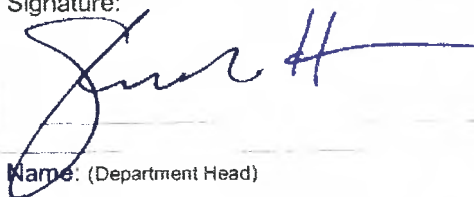
- ☐ Yes – The corrective actions address Department-wide system issues.
☒ No – The corrective actions are only applicable to the affected parties.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Name: (Risk Management Coordinator)

Shawnee N. Hinchman (Valdivia), A/Captain
Risk Management Bureau

Signature:



Date:

4/06/2022

Name: (Department Head)

Edwin E. Alvarez, A/Chief
Professional Standards Division

Signature:



Date:

4/18/22

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:



Date:

04/18/2022

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Steven Moore v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	2:20-CV-07751
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	August 28, 2018
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 200,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Jovan Blacknell, Esq. LAW OFFICE OF J. BLACKNELL
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Richard Hsueh Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a recommendation to settle for \$200,000, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, a lawsuit filed by Steven Moore against the County and Deputies Dustin Row, Steven Cervantes, Gabriel Juarez, Steve Medina, and Cameron Gorman, alleging federal civil rights violations and related State-law claims. The lawsuit arises from a 2018 fight between Mr. Moore and another inmate at Men's Central Jail that he alleges the individual defendants orchestrated.</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 \$200,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 112,178
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 5,244

Case Name:

Steven Moore V. County of Los Angeles

County of Los Angeles

Summary Corrective Action Plan

**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 28, 2018
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	Plaintiff Steven Moore claims that on August 28, 2018, while housed at Men's Central Jail custody staff orchestrated a fight between himself and a second inmate. Plaintiff alleges he suffered injuries as a result of the fight.

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

The primary **Department** root cause in this incident was the possible criminal misconduct committed by members of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

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

Criminal and Administrative Action

Once Department executives became aware of the allegations, a criminal investigation was opened into the incident. Several Department members were named as suspects and relieved of duty pending the outcome of the criminal investigation.

Workplace Monitoring

As a result of this incident, Department executives have recognized the importance of supervisors engaging their staff on a shift by shift basis. Supervisors have been briefed and encouraged to make several unannounced visits to inmate housing areas under their supervision in an effort to ensure staff are following all policies and procedures.

Case Name:

Steven Moore V. County of Los Angeles

County of Los Angeles

Summary Corrective Action Plan

Name: (Risk Management Coordinator)

Commander Jason P. Wolak

Signature:

Jason P. Wolak

Name: (Department Head)

Chief Sergio A. Aloma

Signature:

Sergio A. Aloma

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

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Ivan Field v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	BC684848
COURT	Los Angeles County Superior Court
DATE FILED	November 29, 2017
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 150,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Gary S. Casselman, Esquire
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Lana Choi Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a request to settle for \$150,000, inclusive of attorney's fees and costs, the lawsuit brought against the County and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Deputies Anthony Meyers and Llandel Garcia by Ivan Field. Plaintiff seeks damages arising from an October 29, 2016 detention during which he was handcuffed and fell to the ground.</p> <p>However, due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation and trial, a full and final settlement in the amount of \$150,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 173,537
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 28,560

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Alex Zamora, et al. vs. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	20STCV34043
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	September 4, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 57,500
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Tomas A. Guterres, Esq Collins + Collins, LLP
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Yuan Chang Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This lawsuit arises from an automobile accident which occurred on January 16, 2020, at the intersection of Astoria and Borden Avenue, in the City of Sylmar. Plaintiff Alex Zamora alleges that he was injured and incurred property damage. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is recommended.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 28,644
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 35

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Mika Marvin Lamar O'Neal vs. Los Angeles County, et al.
CASE NUMBER	20STCV03767
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	January 30, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 210,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Kari C. Kadomatsu, Esq. Seki, Nishimura, and Watase, LLP
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	LaTasha Corry Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This incident occurred on February 1, 2019. Deputy Guillermo Rodriguez was driving a Sheriff's transportation bus on Interstate 5 freeway when the traffic in front of him came to an abrupt stop. He applied his brakes, but struck the car in front of him. Plaintiff claims he sustained severe injuries from the impact while seated in the bus.</p> <p>However, due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation and trial, a full and final settlement in the amount of \$210,000 is recommended</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 23,588
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 16,037

Case Name: Mika Marvin Lamar O'Neal v. County of Los Angeles, et al.



Summary Corrective Action Plan

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Date of incident/event:	February 01, 2019, at approximately 8:00 a.m.
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	<p><u>Mika Marvin Lamar O'Neal v. County of Los Angeles, et al.</u> Summary Corrective Action Plan 2021-44</p> <p>On February 1, 2019, at approximately 8:00 a.m., an on duty Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department deputy sheriff (driver), assigned to Court Services Transportation Bureau, was driving a marked black and white Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department bus (Braun) passenger transportation vehicle. The deputy sheriff as required inspected the vehicle which included a brake check prior to departing the transportation compound. The deputy sheriff was traveling southbound in the number one lane, on the 5 freeway north of Carmenita Road. The deputy sheriff was traveling at approximately 25 miles per hour when he was involved in a traffic collision.</p> <p>Note: On January 31, 2019, a vehicle maintenance check was conducted by a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department fleet mechanic. The brakes were inspected and found to be within compliance during the vehicle maintenance process.</p> <p>The deputy sheriff (driver) and the second deputy sheriff (security deputy) transported sixteen inmates, including the plaintiff. The plaintiff was chained at the wrists to another inmate and seated in the middle sitting section of the Braun. The plaintiff was being transported from Court Services Transportation Bureau to Orange County.</p> <p>The deputy sheriff was traveling on the 5 freeway into the morning sun and reached up to adjust the sun visor down to block the sun glare. While the deputy sheriff was adjusting the sun visor, the freeway traffic came to a stop. The deputy sheriff applied the brakes but could not stop in time to avoid a collision. The front of the vehicle (vehicle one) collided into the rear of vehicle two (black, 2020 4-door, Audi), which pushed into the rear of vehicle three (white, 2015, 4-door, Honda). Afterward, all the deputy sheriffs and the parties involved moved their respective cars out of the traffic lanes onto the center median.</p> <p>Vehicle one sustained minor damage to the front bumper and grills. Vehicles two and three sustained minor damage to the trunk of their vehicles.</p> <p>The driver in vehicle two complained of pain to his shoulder and neck and was transported to the hospital for medical treatment and released. The driver and passenger in vehicle three did not complain of any injuries on scene.</p>

	<p>The plaintiff and the fifteen other inmates remained on vehicle one and received medical evaluations by Los Angeles County Fire Department Squad 841. The plaintiff and inmates were cleared for transport by medical rescue. The plaintiff and inmates were transferred to another transportation vehicle and returned to Court Services Transportation Bureau.</p> <p>The plaintiff was interviewed by a Court Services Transportation sergeant, and complained of pain to his head, back, and right elbow. The plaintiff was escorted to a custody medical clinic for further evaluation and treatment. A Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department medical professional evaluated the plaintiff and medically cleared him to return to his assigned housing (Men Central Jail).</p> <p>On February 2, 2019, the plaintiff was released from Men Central Jail custody facility. Upon release the plaintiff alleged he went to St. Francis Medical Center Emergency where he received further medical evaluation.</p> <p>The deputy sheriff and the second deputy sheriff did not complain of pain and was not injured.</p>
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1. Briefly describe the **root cause(s)** of the claim/lawsuit:

A **Department** root cause of this incident is the deputy sheriff failed to stop before colliding with vehicle two, which led to a chain reaction collision.

A **Department** root cause in this incident was the deputy sheriff was inattentive while driving by looking up to put down his sun visor, which caused him to collide with vehicle two.

A **Department** root cause in this incident was the deputy sheriff was traveling at an unsafe speed, causing him to be unable to stop prior to colliding with vehicle two.

Another **Department** root cause in this incident was the Braun was not equipped with seatbelts to secure the inmates during transport.

2. Briefly describe recommended corrective actions:

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

Traffic Collision Investigation

This incident was investigated by representatives from the Court Services Transportation Bureau and California Highway Patrol, at the Santa Fe Springs area office. The collision investigation concluded that the deputy sheriff caused the collision. The deputy sheriff was distracted while driving and failed to slow down or stop prior to colliding into the vehicle in front of him.

Training

The supervisor re-briefed the deputy sheriff and personnel regarding inattention and driving speed.

Traffic Collision and Assessment and Review

As a result of this collision, Court Services Transportation Bureau conducted a review an assessment of employees involved traffic collisions from January 1, 2017, to December 31, 2021. The audit revealed the following:

Calendar Year	Preventable Collision	Non-Preventable Collisions
2017	38	9
2018	24	10
2019	26	16
2020	17	13
2021	18	12

Based on the audit, a traffic reduction-risk management plan was developed.

- 123 preventable collisions occurred during the past five years.
- 79% of preventable collisions involved fixed objects or parked vehicles during low speed, parking, or starting maneuvers.
- The most common causal factor was misjudgment of measurement.

In an attempt to improve employee safety and reduce the Department's liability exposure, Court Services Transportation Bureau Training Office continually schedules on-going unit training.

Vehicle Inspection

The vehicle driven by the deputy was retrofitted to transport multiple inmates. This special customization allowed inmate to be transported while sitting on seats, as well as wheelchairs. The seating area is not equipped with seatbelts.

The Court Services Transportation Bureau is currently in discussions with the Department's Fleet Coordinator regarding seatbelts as an available option when transporting inmates in the back seat.

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

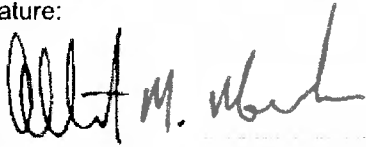
- ☐ Yes – The corrective actions address Department-wide system issues.
☒ No – The corrective actions are only applicable to the affected parties.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Name: (Risk Management Coordinator)

Albert M. Maldonado, Captain
Risk Management Bureau

Signature:



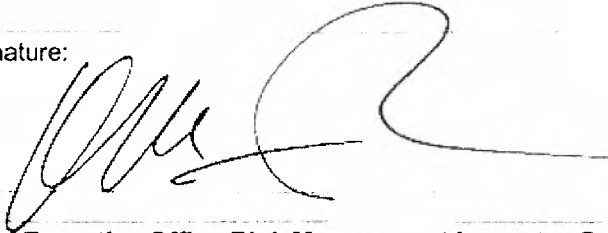
Date:

3/2/22

Name: (Department Head)

Kelly M. Porowski, Chief
Professional Standards Division

Signature:



Date:

3/7/22

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:



Date:

03/08/2022

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

JUNE 6, 2022

1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Los Angeles County Claims Board was called to order at 9:41 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 and Adrienne M. Byers. Arlene Barrera was absent from the meeting.

All other persons also appeared telephonically. Those attending the meeting were: Office of the County Counsel summer interns: Aliza Gray, Bradley Ojala, Kelsey Johnson, Neeka Dabiri, David Mgeryan; County Counsel: Kevin Engelen, Yuan Chang, Richard Kudo, Adrian Gragas, Michael Gordon, Joseph Langton, Tyson Nelson, Caroline Craddock, Ed Morrissey, Timothy Kral, and Pouya Bavafa; Department of Public Works: Michael Hays, and Ronald Castaneda; Department of Children and Family Services: Christina Lee; Department of Health Services: Karen Nunn; Department of Parks and Recreation: Donald Limbrick, and Anush Gambaryan; Probation Department: Chereise Martin, Mark Garcia, and Michael Montes; Sheriff's Department: Melynne Rivers, Irma Chavez, Tania Plunkett, Edmundo Torres, Alise Norman, John Haynes, Kerry Carter, Mark Reyes, Elier Morejon, Laura Lecrivain, and Angela Gonzalez; Fire Department: Julia Kim, and Dennis Breshears; Outside Counsel: Jill Williams, Tom Guterres, Erin Dunkerly, Sherry Gregorio, and Tina Javaherian.

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 9:43 a.m., the Chair convened the meeting into closed session to discuss the items listed as 4(a) through 4(q).

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 12:42 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. 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

**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

**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

**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

**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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

5. Approval of the Minutes of the May 16, 2022, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes.

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

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 12:46 p.m.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

By Derek Stane
Derek Stane