



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, August 1, 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 287 424 334#, at 9:30 a.m. on August 1, 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, August 1, 2022 at 11:15 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 287 424 334#, at 11:20 a.m. on August 1, 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, July 29, 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 Juan Jose Quijivix

This claim against the Department of Health Services arises from injuries suffered in an alleged delay in diagnosis at LAC+USC; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$300,000.

[See Supporting Documents](#)

b. Donte Livingston, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV23910

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries plaintiff sustained in an automobile accident involving a Department of Health Services employee; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$40,000.

[See Supporting Document](#)

c. Maria Sanchez, et al. v. Delia Galindo, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV44309

This dangerous condition and wrongful death lawsuit against the Department of Public Works arises out of a fatal automobile accident in an unincorporated area of the County; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$40,000.

[See Supporting Document](#)

d. Charles A. Daniels v. A. Villanueva, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:20-cv-01169-RGK (SK)

This federal civil rights lawsuit arises from alleged injuries plaintiff sustained in an altercation with Sheriff's Department deputies; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$47,000.

[See Supporting Document](#)

e. 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.

- f. Reyna Gutierrez v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Number BC719471

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee from the Probation Department was subjected to harassment, gender discrimination, and retaliation; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$80,000.

- g. Jennifer Jackson Warren v. Los Angeles Department of Children and Family Services, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV12526

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee from the Department of Children and Family Services was subjected to racial discrimination; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$340,000.

4. Approval of the minutes of the July 18, 2022, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

[See Supporting Document](#)

5. Adjournment.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Non-Litigated Claim of Juan Jose Quijivix
CASE NUMBER	None
COURT	None
DATE FILED	None
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Health Services
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ \$300,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	None
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Narbeh Bagdasarian County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>In October 2019, Juan Jose Quijivix ("Mr. Quijivix") underwent a surgical procedure at LAC+USC Medical Center ("LAC+USC") to remove a mass from his toe, which was later determined to contain cancerous cells.</p> <p>In late 2019, Mr. Quijivix did not appear for a follow-up visit and did not respond to a letter notifying him of his missed appointment.</p> <p>In August 2020, Mr. Quijivix returned to LAC+USC and was informed of his skin cancer diagnosis in late 2019. He subsequently began medical treatment. LAC+USC staff helped him to complete a claim form. A full and final settlement of \$300,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 0
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 209.69



Summary Corrective Action Plan

The intent of this form is to assist departments in writing a corrective action plan summary for 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:	October 21, 2019
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	<p>In October 2019, Juan Jose Quijivix ("Mr. Quijivix") underwent a surgical procedure at LAC+USC Medical Center ("LAC+USC") whereby a mass was removed from his toe. The mass was sent to pathology; it was determined that the mass contained cancerous cells. LAC+USC staff sent a letter to Mr. Quijivix requesting that he return to LAC+USC for further work up and treatment. Mr. Quijivix did not appear for a follow up visit, and LAC+USC staff could not reach him.</p> <p>In August 2020, Mr. Quijivix began his cancer treatment. The County disclosed the matter to Mr. Quijivix, helped him to complete a claim form, and agreed to recommend the proposed settlement.</p>

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

Delay in treating cancer.

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

- All appropriate personnel actions were taken
- The Department established a system-wide Cancer Navigation Program to systematically prioritize and address patient coordination barriers to effective cancer care treatment, with the aim of reducing treatment delays.

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)
Arun Patel MD, JD

Signature:



Date:

7/12/2022

Name: (Department Head)
Christina Ghaly, MD

Signature:



Date:

7/22/2022

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:

07/22/2022

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Donte Livingston, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	19STCV23910
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	July 10, 2019
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Health Services
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 40,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	David Azizi, Esq. Law Offices of David Azizi
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Yuan Chang Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	On February 5, 2019, a van operated by a Department of Health Services employee rear-ended Plaintiffs' car at the intersection of First Street and Hope Street in the City of Los Angeles. Plaintiffs contend the collision caused injuries for which they seek damages. Given the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$40,000 is recommended.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 20,498
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 5,641

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Maria Sanchez, et al. v. Delia Galindo, et al.
CASE NUMBER	20STCV44309
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	November 18, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Public Works
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 40,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Giancarlo J. Mendez, Esq. Mendez & Sanchez, A.P.C.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Richard K. Kudo Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This wrongful death lawsuit arose when Maria Sanchez ("Decedent") was struck by a car driven by defendant Delia Galindo (not a County employee) while Decedent was "jay" walking across Nadeau Street, just east of the Morton Street intersection, in the unincorporated portion of the County. Decedent later succumbed to her injuries. Plaintiffs allege that the accident location represents a dangerous condition of public property and claim to have suffered damages from Decedent's death. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 33,984
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 896

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Charles A. Daniels v. A. Villanueva, et al.
CASE NUMBER	2:20-cv-01169-RGK (SK)
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	May 26, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 47,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Krista R. Hemming, Esquire
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Timothy J. Kral, Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This is a recommendation to settle for \$47,000, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, a federal civil rights lawsuit brought by Charles A. Daniels ("Mr. Daniels") arising from the force deputies used on him during an altercation in the 4000 floor hallway at Men's Central Jail on January 30, 2019. Specifically, Mr. Daniels claims the deputies used excessive force when they applied Tasers multiple times while trying to search him for contraband.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 38,245
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 6,655

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

JULY 18, 2022

1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Los Angeles County Claims Board was called to order at 9:40 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, Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers.

All other persons also appeared telephonically. Those attending the meeting were: Office of the County Counsel summer interns: Aliza Gray, Bradley Ojala, Neeka Dabiri, David Mgeryan; Office of the County Counsel: Richard Kudo, Adrian Gragas, Kevin Engelen, Michael Gordon, Richard Hsueh, Caroline Craddock, Kent Sommer, Ed Morrissey, and Wendy Sha; Department of Health Services: Sean Henderson, Dawn Abarca, and Arun Patel; Internal Services Department: Bryce Tyler, Marian Bellard, and Gladys Alcaraz; Sheriff's Department: Melynne Rivers, Irma Chavez, Rodney Moore, Kerry Carter, Shawnee Hinchman, Tania Plunkett, Edward Ramirez, Michael Abbot, Edmundo Torres, Justin Diez, Alise Norman, Ernest Billie, and Chris Kovac; Department of Children and Family Services: Armand Montiel; Department of Public Health: Nichole Alcaraz; Office of the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk: Jeramy Gray, and Albert Navas; Outside Counsel: Ami Barsamian, and Janet Keuper.

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.

Three unidentified members of the public were on the public teleconference phone line to hear the reportable actions of the Claims Board. One member asked to hear the reportable actions and the actions were reported.

At 12:53 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. Charles Watson, et al. v. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, et al. Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 18STCV06589

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 \$60,000.

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

**b. Demetrius Lykes v. Los Angeles County, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV07551**

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 \$27,000.

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

**c. Sayra Rubio v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV33993**

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 \$75,000.

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

**d. Jessie Castillo v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV15055**

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

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$160,000.

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

**e. Nasser Baker v. County of Los Angeles
United States District Court Case No. 2:21-CV-03742**

This federal civil rights lawsuit alleges plaintiff was assaulted by Sheriff's Department deputies.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$57,500.

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

f. **Ryan Vintch v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
United States District Court Case 2:20-CV-07932

This lawsuit alleges federal civil rights violations and deliberate indifference to safety needs by Sheriff's Department jail staff at Men's Central Jail.

Action Taken:

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

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

g. **Martin Serrano v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV17687

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

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$77,500.

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

h. **Ana Jimenez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV23356

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

Action Taken:

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

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Steve Robles, and Arlene Barrera
Noes: 1 – Adrienne M. Byers

i. **Tina Urbina, et al. v. County of Los Angeles**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV09069

This lawsuit concerns allegations that four employees from the Department of Children and Family Services Department were subjected to harassment, discrimination, and retaliation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$235,000.

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

j. **Timothy McNamara v. Los Angeles County**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV33477

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee of the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office was subjected to age, disability and whistleblower retaliation.

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 Arlene Barrera
Noes: 1 – Adrienne M. Byers

5. **Approval of the Minutes of the June 27, 2022, special meeting of the Claims Board.**

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes.

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

6. **Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:57 p.m.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

By  _____
Derek Stane
Claims Board Secretary