



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

CLAIMS BOARD

500 WEST TEMPLE STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2713

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Oscar Valdez
Office of the 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, October 3, 2022, at 9:30 a.m.**, via online conference call. Members of the public who would like to listen to the open session of the meeting may call (323) 776-6996, then enter ID 834 482 561#, at 9:30 a.m. on October 3, 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, October 3, 2022 at 10:40 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 834 482 561#, at 10:35 a.m. on October 3, 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, September 30, 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 LaDrena Dansby.

Claimants seek compensation from the Department of Public Works for property damage allegedly caused by a backflow of sewage due to a mainline blockage; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$49,385.18.

[See Supporting Document](#)

b. Non-Litigated Claim of Maria and Teresa Rodriguez

Claimants seek compensation from the Sheriff's Department for property damage allegedly caused by a Sheriff's deputy-involved shooting; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$50,000.

[See Supporting Document](#)

c. Alexis Olea v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV03834

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries plaintiff sustained while being transported to court in a Sheriff's Department bus; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$50,000.

[See Supporting Document](#)

d. Rita Williams v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV30376

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 \$150,000.

[See Supporting Document](#)

- e. Stacy Boyce v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV2187

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries plaintiff sustained in an automobile accident involving an Internal Services Department employee; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$500,000.

[See Supporting Documents](#)

- f. Ardath Broderick v. Los Angeles County Probation Department
Los Angeles Superior Court Case. No. BC708080

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee of the Probation Department was subjected to disability discrimination, harassment, and retaliation; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$100,000.

4. Approval of the minutes of the August 15, 2022, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

[See Supporting Document](#)

5. Approval of the minutes of the September 19, 2022, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

[See Supporting Document](#)

6. Adjournment.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Non-litigated Claim of LaDrena Dansby
CASE NUMBER	21-1164826*002
COURT	N/A
DATE FILED	N/A
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Public Works
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 49,385.18
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Timothy M. Howett, Esq.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Joseph A. Langton Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This claim arises from a sewer mainline rupture that flowed onto the Claimant's property and damaged her real and personal property. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full settlement of the claim is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 0
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 0

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Non-Litigated Claim of Maria and Teresa Rodriguez
CASE NUMBER	N/A
COURT	N/A
DATE FILED	December 17, 2021
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 50,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	N/A
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Lindsay Yoshiyama, Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This claim is for damages to Claimants' real properties sustained during a Deputy-involved shooting. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full settlement of the claim is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 0
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 0

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Alexis Olea v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	20STCV03834
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	January 30, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sherriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 50,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Daniel Azizi, Esq., Downtown LA Law Group
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	LaTasha N. Corry Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	On February 1, 2019, Deputy Guillermo Rodriguez was driving a Sheriff's transportation bus on the Interstate 5 freeway when he struck the car in front of him. Plaintiff claims he sustained injuries from the impact while seated in the bus.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 22,972
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 12,935

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Rita Williams v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	20STCV30376
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	August 11, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 150,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Marley McClean, Esq., Law Offices of Wayne McClean
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	LaTasha N. Corry Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This incident occurred on November 20, 2018, when Plaintiff's car was rear-ended by an LASD employee's vehicle. Plaintiff claims she sustained severe injuries as a result of the accident.</p> <p>Given the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$150,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 11,502
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 10,007

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Stacy Boyce v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	20STCV21871
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	June 10, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Internal Services Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 500,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	STEVEN L. MAZZA Carpenter, Zuckerman & Rowley BENJAMIN G. BERKLEY Law Offices of Stuart Berkley
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	DAVID LEE Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This is a motor vehicle accident lawsuit that occurred on December 18, 2018, when an Internal Services Department car rear-ended Plaintiff's car at an intersection. 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	\$ 65,118
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 4,517

Case Name: Stacy Boyce v. County of Los Angeles, et al.



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 18, 2018
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	<p>The plaintiff was rear-ended in a vehicle accident with an ISD employee/defendant at traffic light in Norwalk, CA. Both parties contacted law enforcement/911 and a Sheriff Deputy from the Norwalk Station arrived on the scene. The Deputy did not complete a police report as no medical attention was needed.</p> <p>There were no witnesses to the accident. Both parties took pictures and exchanged contact/insurance information and left the scene.</p> <p>Subsequently, on June 10, 2020, the plaintiff filed suit against the County and the employee (defendants) claiming negligence on two (2) causes of action. The plaintiff claimed that they sustained injuries to their neck and back, which are still present today.</p>

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

- 1) Based on accident/incident statements, the Department's Vehicle Accident Review Committee determined that this accident was "Preventable," as the employee/defendant was following the plaintiff's vehicle too closely not leaving enough time to stop.

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

- 1) The employee was scheduled and completed a Defensive Driving Training (June 19, 2019). This training contained in class and behind the wheel courses.
- 2) On February 15, 2022, the employee was issued an administrative (corrective) action.

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)	
Signature: <i>Bryce M. Tyler</i>	Date: 6.15.2022

Name: (Department Head)	
Signature: <i>Delroy Hill</i>	Date: 6-28-22

Chief Executive Office Risk Management Inspector General USE ONLY	
Are the corrective actions applicable to other departments within the County?	
<input checked="" 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)	
Destiny Castro	
Signature: <i>Destiny Castro</i>	Date: 06/28/2022

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

AUGUST 15, 2022

1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Los Angeles County Claims Board was called to order at 9:39 a.m. The meeting was held via teleconference with all Claims Board Members participating telephonically. Claims Board Members online for the teleconference meeting were: Chair Steve Robles, Arlene Barrera, and Adrienne M. Byers.

All other persons also appeared telephonically. Those attending the meeting were: Office of the County Counsel: Rosa Linda Cruz, David Lee, Timothy Kral, Pirjo Ranasinghe, Christopher Keosian, and Donna Koch; Department of Public Works: Russ Bryden; Public Defender's Office: Monnica Thelen, and Haydeh Takasugi; Sheriff's Department: Tania Plunkett, Jason Skeen, Jesus Carrasco, Shawnee Hinchman, Christopher Minott, Adam Kennedy, Matthew Webster, Alise Norman, Stacy Morgan, Frankie Lopez, Melynie Rivers, Shanese Winfrey, and Irma Chavez; Office of the Auditor-Controller: Oscar Valdez.

2. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Claims Board on items of interest within the subject-matter jurisdiction of the Claims Board.

No members of the public were on the public teleconference phone line to address the Claims Board.

3. Closed Session – Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Subdivision [a] of Government Code section 54956.9).

At 9:40 a.m., the Chair convened the meeting into closed session to discuss the items listed as 4(a) through 4(g).

4. Report of actions taken in Closed Session.

No members of the public were on the public teleconference phone line to hear the reportable actions of the Claims Board.

At 11:38 a.m., the Claims Board reconvened in open session via the public teleconference phone line and reported the actions taken in closed session as follows:

a. Claim of Jeff Mohr and Linda Mohr

Claimants seek compensation from the Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 29 for property damage allegedly caused by a leaking storm drain pipe.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$94,000.

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

b. **Nakia Rousie v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV27609

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries plaintiff sustained while being transported in a Sheriff's Department transport van.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$65,000.

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

c. **Dewey Orion Pepin v. Austin Wade Jordan, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV06090

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries plaintiff sustained while being transported in a Sheriff's Department transport van.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$35,000.

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

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.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$47,000.

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

e. **Walter Ringer v. County of Los Angeles**
Los Angeles Superior Court – Case No: 20STCV11278

This lawsuit concerns allegations that a former employee of the Sheriff's Department was subjected to discrimination, harassment, and retaliation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$55,000.

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

f. Claim of Jennifer Hunt

This claim concerns allegations that a former employee of the Sheriff's Department was subjected to gender discrimination and retaliation.

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. 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.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$54,250.

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

5. Approval of the Minutes of the August 1, 2022, regular 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 11:40 a.m.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

By *Derek Stane*
Derek Stane
Claims Board Secretary

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

SEPTEMBER 19, 2022

1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Los Angeles County Claims Board was called to order at 9:39 a.m. The meeting was held via teleconference with all Claims Board Members participating telephonically. Claims Board Members online for the teleconference meeting were: Acting Chair Adrienne M. Byers and Oscar Valdez. Steve Robles was absent from the meeting

All other persons also appeared telephonically. Those attending the meeting were: Office of the County Counsel: Rosanne Wong, Jennifer Lehman, Ed Morrissey, Narbeh Bagdasarian, David Lee, Richard Kudo, Minas Samuelian, Lana Choi, Millicent Rolon, Jonathan McCaverty, Thomas Fagan, Anthony Morrone, and Stacey Lee; Department of Health Services: Arun Patel, Anish Mahajan, Lan Soeur, Haya Nemtzov, and Roberto Avitia; Probation Department: Deana Carlisle, and Roberty Smythe; Department of Children and Family Services: Christina Lee; Assessor's Office: Brian Zepeda, and Ivan Masayon; Internal Services Department: Gladys Alcaez, and Marian Bellard; Sheriff's Department: Edward Ramirez, Jennifer Seetoo, Jason Bryant, Pilar Chavez, Eric Odenthal, David Vangorder, Richard Mejia, Shawnee Hinchman, Monica Botello, Rick Rector, Craig Walker, Alise Norman, Shanese Winfrey, and Irma Chavez; Outside Counsel: Kelly Kiseskey, Lenore Kelly, Amnon Siegel, David Weiss, George Chuang, William Balderrama, and Avi Burkwitz.

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(k).

4. Report of actions taken in Closed Session.

There was an unidentified member of the public with an recognizable number on the public teleconference line but there was no response after the three announcements requesting public comment.

At 1:18 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. **Jullian Cassianis v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case Number 18STCV04340

This medical malpractice lawsuit against the Department of Health Services alleges that Harbor-UCLA Medical Center delayed providing care to plaintiff.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$4,000,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Adrienne M. Byers and Oscar Valdez
Absent: Steve Robles

b. **Stacy Boyce v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV2187

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

Action Taken:

The Claims Board continued this item to a future meeting.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Adrienne M. Byers and Oscar Valdez
Absent: Steve Robles

c. **Rebecca Monges v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV43282

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 \$100,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Adrienne M. Byers and Oscar Valdez
Absent: Steve Robles

d. **Richard Escarcega v. Steven Martinez, et al.**
United States District Court Case No. 2:21-CV-06155

This federal civil rights lawsuit alleges plaintiff was unlawfully detained and subjected to excessive force while being detained by Sheriff's Department deputies.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$135,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Adrienne M. Byers and Oscar Valdez
Absent: Steve Robles

e. **Yolanda Sanchez, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
United States District Court Case No. 2:20-CV-01146

This wrongful death lawsuit arises from the death of plaintiff's son, who died while in the custody of the Sheriff's Department.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$850,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Adrienne M. Byers and Oscar Valdez
Absent: Steve Robles

f. **Pablo Unzueta v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
United States District Court Case No. 21-CV-8378

This federal civil rights lawsuit alleges plaintiff was wrongfully searched, arrested, and had his property seized by Sheriff's Department deputies.

Action Taken:

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

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Adrienne M. Byers and Oscar Valdez
Absent: Steve Robles

g. **Rufino Paredes v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
United States District Court Case No. 21-CV-02644

This wrongful death lawsuit alleges federal civil rights violations, denial of medical care, and negligence arising from the death of plaintiff's son while in the custody of the Sheriff's Department.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$1,900,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Adrienne M. Byers and Oscar Valdez
Absent: Steve Robles

h. **Elisa Guardado, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STV33203

This wrongful death lawsuit arises from the death of plaintiff's son, who was fatally shot by a Sheriff's deputy in an unincorporated area near the City of Gardena.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$8,000,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Adrienne M. Byers and Oscar Valdez
Absent: Steve Robles

i. **Victor Avalos, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV27032

This wrongful death lawsuit alleges civil rights violations, fraud, and negligence against the Department of Children and Family Services arising out of the death of a minor.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$32,000,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Adrienne M. Byers and Oscar Valdez
Absent: Steve Robles

j. **Ardath Broderick v. Los Angeles County Probation Department**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case. No. BC708080

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee of the Probation Department was subjected to disability discrimination, harassment, and retaliation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board continued this item to a future meeting.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Adrienne M. Byers and Oscar Valdez
Absent: Steve Robles

k. **Vince Latkins v. County of Los Angeles**
Los Angeles Superior Court No. 19STCV41486

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee of the Assessor's Office was subjected to disability discrimination, harassment, and retaliation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of this matter in the amount of \$150,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Adrienne M. Byers and Oscar Valdez
Absent: Steve Robles

5. **Approval of the Minutes of the August 15, 2022, regular meeting of the Claims Board.**

Action Taken:

The Claims Board continued this item to the next meeting.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Adrienne M. Byers and Oscar Valdez
Absent: Steve Robles

6. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:21 p.m.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

By *Derek Stane*
Derek Stane
Claims Board Secretary