

**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD**  
**HELD VIA ONLINE CONFERENCE CALL**  
**ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2023, AT 9:30 A.M.**

**Present: Chair Steve Robles, Adrienne M. Byers, and Oscar Valdez**

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 phone line to address 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 Peggy Walters and Peggy P. Walters Trust**

This claim seeks compensation from the Department of Public Works for property damage allegedly caused by a backflow of sewage due to a mainline blockage.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.a. in the amount of \$350,873.69.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers

[See Supporting Document](#)

**b. People of the State of California, Acting By and Through the Department of Transportation v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV45723**

This lawsuit arises from an eminent domain dispute between Caltrans and the County of Los Angeles.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.b. in the amount of \$152,000 to be received by the County.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers

[See Supporting Document](#)

c. **Richard Martinez v. City of Whittier, et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case Number 20STCV20921**

This lawsuit arises from injuries allegedly sustained in a trip and fall accident at a park maintained by the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.c. in the amount of \$285,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers

[See Supporting Documents](#)

d. **Jose G. Hernandez, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV36347**

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries plaintiff sustained in automobile accident involving an Agricultural Commissioner/Weights & Measures employee.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.d. in the amount of \$29,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers

[See Supporting Document](#)

e. **C. F. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV23066**

This lawsuit against the Department of Children and Family Services arises from alleged sexual abuse of the plaintiff that took place during the 1980's.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.e. in the amount of \$99,999.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers

[See Supporting Document](#)

f. **Gabriel Felix, et al. v. County of Los Angeles**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court, Case No. 21STCV06285**

This lawsuit against the Internal Services Department alleges breach of contract.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.f. in the amount of \$66,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers

[See Supporting Document](#)

**g. Celine Nunez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case Number 20STCV35066**

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

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.g. in the amount of \$1,700,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Steve Robles, and Oscar Valdez  
Noes: 1 – Adrienne M. Byers

[See Supporting Document](#)

**h. Victor Mora, et al. v. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV21011**

This lawsuit arises from injuries plaintiff allegedly sustained in an automobile accident involving a bus driven by a Sheriff's Department employee.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.h. in the amount of \$1,500,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers

[See Supporting Document](#)

**i. Antwan Bridges v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case Number 21STCV26387**

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

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.i. in the amount of \$50,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers

[See Supporting Document](#)

**j. Ruby Luna Xique v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court, Case No.: 21STCV06198**

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

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.j. in the amount of \$150,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers

[See Supporting Documents](#)

**k. Davin Ramos v. Antonio Canal; County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case Number 21STCV35356**

This lawsuit arises from injuries plaintiff allegedly sustained in an automobile accident involving a Probation Department employee; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$30,000.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.k. in the amount of \$30,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers

[See Supporting Document](#)

**l. Rosa Carrillo Lomeli for J.M., a minor v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
United States District Court Case No.: 2:20-CV-05865-DSF**

This federal and state civil rights lawsuit against the Probation Department alleges negligent supervision during an emergency evacuation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.l. in the amount of \$590,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers

[See Supporting Document](#)

**m. Bertha Mendez v. County of Los Angeles, et al  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV16925**

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee of the Probation Department was subjected to sexual harassment and intentional infliction of emotional distress.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.m. in the amount of \$85,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers

**n. Brandee Sheree Cain McMurray, et al. v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No.: 21STCV38065**

This class-action lawsuit against the Auditor-Controller concerns allegations that an employee had her wages garnished using the wrong statutory calculation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.n. in the amount of \$407,500.

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

Recusal: 1 – Oscar Valdez

**4. Approval of the Minutes of the December 19, 2022, regular meeting of the Claims Board.**

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes of the regular meeting.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers

[See Supporting Document](#)

**5. Items not on the posted agenda, to be referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a further meeting of the Board, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take immediate action came to the attention of the Board subsequent to the posting of the agenda.**

No such matters were discussed.

**6. Adjournment.**

## **CASE SUMMARY**

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

CASE NAME	Non-Litigated Claim of Peggy Walters and Peggy P. Walters Trust
CASE NUMBER	N/A
COURT	N/A
DATE FILED	N/A
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Public Works
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 350,873.69 (inclusive of \$128,765.02 previously paid)
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	N/A
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Edwin A. Lewis Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This is a recommendation to settle this sewer backup claim for \$350,873.69, with a net payout of \$222,108.67 to the claimant, Peggy P. Walters and the Peggy P. Walters Trust. 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	\$ 6,130 (Norcross)

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	People (Caltrans) v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	19STCV45723
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	12/19/2019
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Beaches and Harbors
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 152,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Nena T. Vuong, Esq. Deputy Attorney   California Department of Transportation
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Talin Halabi Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>Caltrans filed this eminent domain action to acquire permanent and temporary easements over the Subject Property in order to replace and improve the 90-year-old Trancas Creek Bridge on Pacific Coast Highway (SR-1) in Los Angeles County. Caltrans has obtained prejudgment possession of the easements. The only issue remaining in the case is the valuation of the easements and the just compensation Caltrans must pay the County. There is a significant disparity between the parties' assessment of the fair market value of the easements, with Caltrans' valuation at \$30,000 and County's valuation at \$220,095.</p> <p>Given the risks and uncertainties of proceeding to trial, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$152,000 is recommended. This settlement sum compensates the County for Caltrans' take and County's litigation expenses pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section 1268.610(b).</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 77,317.57
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 4,103.50

## **CASE SUMMARY**

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

CASE NAME	Richard Martinez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	20STCV20921
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	June 3, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Parks and Recreation
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 285,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Mauro Fiore, Jr., Esq. Law Offices of Mauro Fiore, Jr.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	LaTasha N. Corry Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>On June 24, 2019, Plaintiff tripped and fell on a crack in the pavement at Sorensen Park. Plaintiff claims he sustained severe injuries and damages from this incident.</p> <p>Given the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement for \$285,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 76,685
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 10,332





## 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:	June 24, 2019
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	Richard Martinez is a 71-year-old male who alleges a trip and fall incident occurred while visiting Sorensen Park in Whittier on June 24, 2019. He filed a complaint alleging a dangerous condition of public property contributed to him sustaining injuries while walking along a cracked and uneven driveway near the maintenance yard.

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

- 1) Sorensen Park had an uneven driveway possibly due to natural wear and tear of the concrete, tree roots uplifting the pavement, and water deterioration due to flooding and drainage issues in the surrounding area.
- 2) The Department of Parks and Recreation's (referred to as DPR) landscape contractor, LandCare USA LLC (referred to as LandCare), is responsible for maintenance inspections and reporting maintenance needs for Sorensen Park. The service agreement did not specify the procedure for documenting park inspections at the time of the incident for the Department to hold its landscape contractors accountable.
- 3) The Department of Parks and Recreation's (referred to as DPR) landscape contractor, LandCare USA LLC (referred to as LandCare), is responsible for notifying the Department of any cracks and hazards identified in the park so that a maintenance work order can be create and addressed in a timely manner. The service agreement did not specify the procedure for its landscape contractors to notify the Department in writing when maintenance repairs were needed so that the notification was trackable for accountability purposes.

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

- 1) DPR resurfaced the driveway in 2020 to repair uneven concrete and cracks as well as addressed drainage issues.

Due date: Completed in 2020

Responsible Party: Chris Elliot

- 2) DPR implemented a new inspection checklist in 2020 for LandCare employees to use as part of their requirements to routinely inspect the park and report deficiencies and hazards to the contract monitor. The new inspection checklist established clear expectations and guidelines that will allow the Department to have records on the state of the park and any reportable hazards. Contract monitors review the inspection checklist on a weekly basis and report any maintenance requests received through the checklist to Maximo. This has created better communication between both parties to ensure accountability and compliance measures.

Due date: Completed in 2020

Responsible Party: Miguel Vazquez

- 3) DPR will explore amendments to its current agreement with all of its landscape contractors assigned to LA County Parks to notify the Maximo Call Center via email so that a work order request can be generated and streamlined without having to notify the contract monitor.

Due date: TBD

Responsible Party: Ruben Lopez

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)  
Devyne Dawson

Signature: 

Date:  
11/16/2022

Name: (Department Head or Designee)  
Alina Bokde (Chief-Deputy Director)

Signature: 

Date: 11/16/22

**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:

11/28/2022

## **CASE SUMMARY**

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

CASE NAME	Jose G. Hernandez, et al. vs. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	20STCV36347
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	September 23, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Agricultural Commisioner/Weights & Measures
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 29,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Wayne Joyner, Esq. Law Offices of Wayne Joyner
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	LaTasha N. Corry, Esq. Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	On October 16, 2018, employee Huaxin Quan attempted to change lanes and collided with Plaintiff Jose G. Hernandez's car. Both Mr. Hernandez and his passenger Rosalba G. Padilla claim to have suffered injuries and damages as a result.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 31,697
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 5,551

## **CASE SUMMARY**

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

CASE NAME	C. F. v County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	21STCV23066
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court, Central District
DATE FILED	June 22, 2021
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Children and Family Services
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 99,999
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Plaintiff in Pro Per
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Armita Radjabian Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a recommendation to settle for \$99,999, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, a lawsuit filed by C.F., against the County of Los Angeles. Plaintiff alleges the County breached its mandatory duties.</p> <p>Due to the high risk of 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 \$99,999 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 11,125
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 7,233

## **CASE SUMMARY**

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

CASE NAME	Gabriel Felix, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	21STCV06285
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	February 16, 2021
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Internal Services Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 66,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Anne Singer, Esq. A. Singer & Associates Inc.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Michael D. Owens, Esq. Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	Plaintiffs allege the County breached its Assessment Contract with them, that was used to finance home improvement work on their house through the County Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Program, where the home improvement contractor failed to complete the project.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 89,304.05
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 6,233.55

## **CASE SUMMARY**

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

CASE NAME	Celina Nunez vs. County of Los Angeles, Et Al.
CASE NUMBER	20STCV35066
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	September 14, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Internal Services Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 1,700,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Michael A. Sanchez, Esq., Mendenz & Sanchez, APC
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Adrian G. Gragas Assistant County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This incident occurred on January 30, 2020, when Plaintiff's car was rear-ended by a truck operated by an Internal Services Department employee. The impact caused Plaintiff's car to veer into the center divider. 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 \$1,700,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 5,126
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 21,082

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Victor Mora, et al. vs. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, et al.
CASE NUMBER	20STCV21011
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	June 3, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 1,500,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	David Koppelman, Esq. Koppelman Law
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Adrian G. Gragas, Esq. Assistant County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This is a motor vehicle accident lawsuit that occurred on April 12, 2019, when a Sheriff's transportation bus rear-ended a truck on eastbound SR-60. Plaintiff Victor Mora claims to have suffered injuries as a result of the accident. His wife, plaintiff Diana Del Pozo Mora, claims loss of consortium. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 79,828
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 25,883



## **CASE SUMMARY**

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

CASE NAME	Antwan Bridges v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	21STCV26387
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	August 24, 2021
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 50,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Allan Vaysberg, Esq. Law Offices of Steers and Associates
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Kevin Engelen Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This case involves an accident that occurred in the City of El Monte when a Sheriff's Department patrol car driven by a Deputy Sheriff entered the cross-walk without stopping for a stop sign and struck the plaintiff who was a pedestrian within the cross-walk. Plaintiff alleges he was injured and filed suit. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 14,926
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 2,730

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Ruby Luna Xique v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	21STCV06198
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	February 16, 2021
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Probation Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 150,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Stefano G. Formica Esq. Formica Law Group
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Kevin Engelen Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This incident occurred on March 3, 2020, when plaintiff's car was struck on the rear left side by an LASD employee's vehicle. Plaintiff claims she sustained severe injuries as a result of the accident. Given the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$150,000 is recommended.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 6,732
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 5,200

Case Name:



## 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:	March 30, 2020
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	A county employee, driving a County of Los Angeles (COLA) fleet vehicle, was involved in an auto accident on March 3, 2020 at approximately 1:45 p.m. While traveling on the northbound I-710 freeway north of Washington Boulevard in the number five lane, driving at a speed of approximately 20 to 25 m.p.h., the employee was changing lanes from the number 4 lane to the number 5 lane when they struck the left rear of Plaintiff's vehicle.

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

The employee did not clear lane 5 before changing lanes from lane 4 to lane 5. This caused the COLA vehicle to strike the Plaintiff's vehicle on the left rear.

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

The employee was required to complete a Motor Vehicle Safety and Defensive Driver Training course. The employee completed the required training on July 11, 2022. Additionally, Motor Vehicle Safety and Defensive Driver Training classes have been scheduled annually for all employee drivers.

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)  
Crystal Hurtado

Signature:

*Crystal Hurtado*

Date:

11/3/2022

Name: (Department Head)  
Robert Smythe

Signature:

Date:

**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:

11/03/2022

## **CASE SUMMARY**

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

CASE NAME	Davin Ramos v. Antonio Canal; County of Los Angeles
CASE NUMBER	21STCV35356
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	September 24, 2021
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Probation Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 30,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	ADAM H. LEWIS, ESQ. Lewis & Farar, LLP
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	RICHARD K. KUDO Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This case involves a vehicle collision that occurred on December 18, 2020, on the Interstate 105 freeway in the City of Los Angeles, when a Probation Department vehicle driven by a Deputy Probation Officer rear-ended the vehicle driven by Plaintiff Davin Ramos. 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	\$ 10,742
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 4,248

## **CASE SUMMARY**

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

CASE NAME	Rosa Carrillo Lomeli v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	2:20-CV-05865
COURT	U.S. District Court, Central District of California
DATE FILED	06/30/2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's & Probation
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 590,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Erin Darling
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Tyson Nelson Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a recommendation to settle for \$590,000 inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, a lawsuit filed by Rosa Carrillo Lomeli ("Plaintiff") against the County of Los Angeles alleging federal crimes related State-law claims. This lawsuit arises from alleged negligent supervision during the emergency evacuation of Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall.</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 \$590,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 62,522
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 14,597

## LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

### MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

DECEMBER 19, 2022

#### 1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Los Angeles County Claims Board was called to order at 9:37 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, Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers.

All other persons also appeared telephonically. Those attending the meeting were: Office of the County Counsel: Yuan Chang, Kevin Engelen, Adrian Gragas, Caroline Craddock, Edward Morrissey, LaTasha Corry, Roderick Sasis, Minas Samuelian, Armita Radjabian, Katherine Bowser, Jonathan McCaverty, Kent Sommer, and Stacey Lee; Department of Health Services: Arun Patel, Dawn Abarca, Luis Pena, and Joan Hubbell ; Sheriff's Department: Shanese Winfrey, Irma Chavez, Valerie Silgero, Alise Norman, Julia Valdes, Thomas Kim, Carl Ekstrom, Thomas Giandominico, Shawnee Hinchman, Floryence Diggs, Jose Aguirre, John Haynes, Richard Mejia, Socorro Merchain, Angela Ingham, Edmundo Torres, and Sherif Morsi; Department of Children and Family Services: Armand Montiel, and Christina Lee; Department of the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk: Albert Navas, Esteban Camara, and Terina Keresoma; Department of Public Social Services: Carlos Molina; District Attorney's Office: Julie Dixon-Silva, and Joseph Iniguez; Outside Counsel: Rob Lee, Nick Weiss, Tom Guterres, Thomas Hurrell, Linda Savitt, Lisa Grigg, Jin Choi, and Allen Thomas.

#### 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 9:39 a.m., the Chair convened the meeting into closed session to discuss the items listed as 4(a) through 4(l).

#### 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 12:48 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. Non-Litigated Claim of Geico Insurance ASO Rana Shahrukh Khan

This claim arises from alleged property damage sustained in an automobile accident involving a Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk employee.

##### Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.a. in the amount of \$25,916.49.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers

**b. Jovany Macias v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV29396**

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries plaintiff sustained in a motorcycle accident involving a Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk employee.

**Action Taken:**

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.b. in the amount of \$175,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers

**c. Sarah Hile vs. Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19AVCV00756**

This lawsuit arises from injuries allegedly sustained in a slip and fall accident in a Department of Public Social Services building.

**Action Taken:**

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.c. in the amount of \$25,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers

**d. Marlene Orozco, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
United States District Court Case No. 2:21-cv-5481**

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

**Action Taken:**

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.d. in the amount of \$2,500,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers

**e. Idelfonso Perez vs. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case BC706040**

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries plaintiff sustained in automobile accident involving a Sheriff's Department employee; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$750,000.

**Action Taken:**

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.e. in the amount of \$750,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers



f. **Los Angeles Times Communications, LLC v. County of Los Angeles**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BS162607**

This lawsuit involves a dispute regarding the production of records by the Sheriff's Department under the California Public Records Act.

**Action Taken:**

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.f. in the amount of \$426,836.79.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers

g. **Estate of Zelalem Eshetu Ewnetu v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**  
**Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. BC702015**

This wrongful death lawsuit against the Sheriff's Department arises from the fatal shooting of plaintiff's son.

**Action Taken:**

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.g. in the amount of \$750,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Steve Robles, and Adrienne M. Byers  
Noes: 1 – Oscar Valdez

h. **Natia Sampson vs. County of Los Angeles, et al.**  
**United States District Court Case No. 5:17-CV-00599**

This lawsuit alleges civil rights violations and negligence against the Department of Children and Family Services.

**Action Taken:**

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.h. in the amount of \$300,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers

i. **Leah Garcia v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV02488**

This lawsuit alleges negligence and wrongful death against the Department of Children and Family Services; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$75,000.

**Action Taken:**

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.i. in the amount of \$75,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers

**j. Arturo Aceves Jimenez v. City of Los Angeles, et al.  
United States District Court Case No. CV 21-07117 JPR**

This lawsuit against the District Attorney's office alleges that plaintiff's wrongful conviction resulted in his imprisonment for 25 years.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.j. in the amount of \$1,200,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers

**k. Tracey Stevens v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV38664**

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee of the District Attorney's office was subjected to retaliation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.k. in the amount of \$170,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Steve Robles, Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers

**l. Zahra Karimy v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court No. BC644373**

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

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.l. in the amount of \$75,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Steve Robles, and Oscar Valdez  
Noes: 1 – Adrienne M. Byers

**5. Approval of the Minutes of the November 21, 2022, regular meeting of the Claims Board.**

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes of the November 21, 2022, regular meeting.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Steve Robles, and Adrienne M. Byers  
Absent: 1 – Oscar Valdez

**6. Approval of the Minutes of the December 5, 2022, regular meeting of the Claims Board.**

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes of the December 5, 2022, regular meeting.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Steve Robles, and Oscar Valdez  
Absent: 1 – Adrienne M. Byers

**7. Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:54 p.m.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

By *Derek Stane*  
Derek Stane  
Claims Board Secretary