

**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD**  
**HELD IN PERSON AND VIA ONLINE CONFERENCE CALL**  
**ON MONDAY, APRIL 3, 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. **Hermelinda Escobedo v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case Number 19STCV37304**

This medical malpractice lawsuit against the Department of Health Services alleges plaintiff suffered injuries while receiving care at Los Angeles County+USC Medical Center.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.a. in the amount of \$135,000.

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

[See Supporting Documents](#)

- b. **Meshealle Sheffield v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case Number 21STCV38118**

This medical malpractice lawsuit against the Department of Health Services alleges plaintiff suffered injuries while receiving care at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.b. in the amount of \$245,000.

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

[See Supporting Documents](#)

c. **Robert Griendling, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case Number 21STCV25378**

This dangerous condition lawsuit arises from injuries allegedly sustained in a bicycle accident at a Recreational Vehicle lot maintained by the Department of Beaches and Harbors.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.c. in the amount of \$287,500.

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

[See Supporting Documents](#)

d. **Victor Anderson, et al. v. Rafael Rufino, et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC665088**

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

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.d. in the amount of \$125,000.

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

e. **Demetra Johnson, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No: 19STCP04664**

This lawsuit involves 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.e. in the amount of \$592,000.

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

f. **Arcadio Marin v. County of Los Angeles**  
**Tax Claim**

This claim alleges breach of contract by the Internal Services Department related to disputed home improvements undertaken pursuant to the PACE program.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board deferred Item 4.f. for further discussion.

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

**g. Juan Carlos Garcia v. County of Los Angeles  
Tax Claim**

This claim alleges breach of contract by the Internal Services Department related to disputed home improvements undertaken pursuant to the PACE program.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board deferred Item 4.g. for further discussion.

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

**h. Teresa Saldana Rodriguez v. County of Los Angeles  
Tax Claim**

This claim alleges breach of contract by the Internal Services Department related to disputed home improvements undertaken pursuant to the PACE program.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board deferred Item 4.h. for further discussion.

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

**i. Ernie Solano v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV24180**

This lawsuit concerns allegations that a Probation Department employee was subjected to race and disability discrimination, and retaliation.

Action Taken:

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

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

**j. Ebonie Solin v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV35448**

This lawsuit concerns allegations that a Department of Public Social Services employee was subjected to disability discrimination.

Action Taken:

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

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

**k. Claim of Carl Kemp**

This claim concerns allegations that a Department of Public Health employee was subjected to race discrimination and retaliation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board continued Item 4.k. to a future meeting.

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

I. **Tigre Meeks v. County of Los Angeles**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC689181**

This lawsuit concerns allegations that a Department of Health Services employee was subjected to disability discrimination, failure to accommodate, and failure to engage in the interactive process.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board conditionally approved settlement of Item 4.I. in the amount of \$61,500.

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

4. **Approval of the Minutes of the March 20, 2023, regular meeting of the Claims Board.**

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes of the March 20, 2023, 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	Hermelinda Escobedo v. County of Los Angeles
CASE NUMBER	19STCV37304
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	10/16/2019
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Health Services
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 135,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Peter Ashot Hosharian Hosharian Law Firm, APLC
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Narbeh Bagdasarian Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>On August 22, 2018, Hermelinda A. Escobedo, a 47-year-old female, underwent an imaging study at Los Angeles County+USC Medical Center. She informed staff that in 2012, Essure devices were placed in her fallopian tubes as contraceptive measures. Typically two Essure devices are implanted in each of the fallopian tubes.</p> <p>On October 17, 2018, Ms. Escobedo underwent a surgical procedure where Essure devices were removed from her fallopian tubes. Ms. Escobedo continued to have abdominal pain. Later imaging studies revealed that she had another Essure device in her pelvis, next to her uterus. This was an unusual place for such a device. Ms. Escobedo underwent another procedure where the last Essure device was removed from her body. Ms. Escobedo filed a medical malpractice action against the County claiming the October 17, 2018, procedure was performed negligently causing her pain and discomfort.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 40,782
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 15,685



## 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 17, 2018
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	On August 22, 2018, Hermelinda A. Escobedo, a 47-year-old female, underwent imaging at Los Angeles County+USC Medical Center related to complaints of abdominal pain. The imaging showed presence of three Essure contraceptive devices in her fallopian tubes, which Ms. Escobedo indicated had been placed 3 years prior at a non-County facility. (Typically only two Essure devices used.). On October 17, 2018, Ms. Escobedo underwent a surgical procedure to remove the Essure devices from her fallopian tubes. After the procedure Ms. Escobedo continued to report abdominal pain. Further imaging studies revealed one Essure device in her pelvis, next to her uterus. This was an unusual place for such a device. Ms. Escobedo underwent another procedure where the last, and third, Essure device was removed from her body. Ms. Escobedo filed a medical malpractice action against the County claiming the October 17, 2018, procedure was performed negligently causing her additional pain and discomfort.

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

Failure by the operating team to identify and remove the third retained Essure device.

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

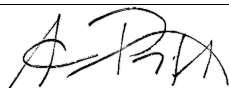
- The physicians involved in this case participated in a thorough review of the event and were counseled regarding the evaluation of pre-operative imaging.

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:

3/21/2023

Name: (Department Head)  
Christina Ghaly, MD

Signature:



Date:

3/22/2023

**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)

Daniela Prowizor

Signature:

Date:

3/22/2023

## **CASE SUMMARY**

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

CASE NAME	Meshealle Sheffield v. County of Los Angeles
CASE NUMBER	21STCV38118
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	October 15, 2021
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Health Services
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 245,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Gary M. Schneider Law Offices of Gary M. Schneider
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Narbeh Bagdasarian
NATURE OF CASE	<p>On October 23, 2020, Meshealle Sheffield, a 27-year-old female, underwent a procedure at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center ("HUMC") to remove fibroids.</p> <p>Due to presence of several adhesions in the area of the surgery, the procedure became complicated. The fibroids were removed, but there was injury to the surrounding organs. As a result, Ms. Sheffield suffered significant injuries.</p> <p>Ms. Sheffield filed the civil action against the County contending that HUMC staff were negligent in performing the procedure.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 25,267
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 10,580





## 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 23, 2020
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	<p>On October 23, 2020, Meshealle Sheffield, a 27-year-old female, underwent a procedure at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center ("HUMC") to remove fibroids. Due to presence of several adhesions in the area of the surgery, the procedure became complicated. The fibroids were removed, but there was injury to the surrounding organs. As a result, Ms. Sheffield suffered significant injuries.</p> <p>Ms. Sheffield filed the civil action against the County of Los Angeles contending that HUMC staff were negligent in performing the procedure.</p>

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

- Inadvertent failure to recognize and continuing to operate outside of the uterine cavity to remove unknown masses (Human Error).
- Inadvertent failure to recognize the uterine perforation (Human Error).

2. Briefly describe recommended corrective actions:

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

- Consistent with the Just Culture model, staff was counseled.

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.

County of Los Angeles  
Summary Corrective Action Plan

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Name: (Risk Management Coordinator)  
Arun Patel, MD, JD

Signature:



Date:

3/14/2023

Name: (Department Head)  
Christina Ghaly, MD

Signature:



Date:

3/21/2023

**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)

Daniela Prowizor

Signature:

Daniela  
Prowizor

Digitally signed by  
Daniela Prowizor  
Date: 2023.03.16  
12:00:43 -07'00'

Date:

3/16/2023

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Robert Griendling, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	21STCV25378
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	July 9, 2021
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Beaches & Harbors
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 287,500
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	GERALD E. AGNEW, JR., ESQ. AgnewBrusavich
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	RICHARD K. KUDO Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This bicycle accident occurred on July 16, 2020, at the County operated Dockweiler RV Park ("RV Park") in Playa del Rey where plaintiff Robert Griendling's bicycle slid out from underneath him when he rode through hydraulic fluid that was puddled in the RV Park lot. Plaintiff alleges that the hydraulic fluid puddle in the RV Park lot represented a dangerous condition of public property. Plaintiff Karla Leavelle is Mr. Griendling's wife and sues for a 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	\$ 16,750
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 4,704



## 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:	July 16, 2020
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	On July 16, 2020, at approximately 11:00 a.m., the plaintiff alleges that he was riding his bicycle through the Dockweiler Beach RV Park when the wheels slipped on oily fluid that was present on the roadway and he fell to the ground sustaining fractures to his hip. As a result of the subsequent investigation, it was found that the fluid had leaked from the street sweeper that had been operated earlier by park staff.

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

<p>A. The sweeper brush became briefly entangled in strands of long grass that were flowing from the grassy area over the curb into the driveway.</p> <p>B. Oily fluid leaked in large quantity out of the sweeper onto the roadway.</p> <p>C. A lot of bicycle traffic occurred from the street (Vista del Mar at Imperial Hwy.) through the RV Park to connect to the beach bike path because that was the only paved way to connect at that location.</p>
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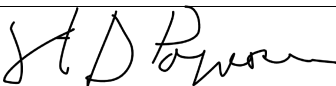
2. Briefly describe recommended corrective actions:


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

<p>A.1. The Operational Services Division (OSD) is responsible for the landscaping at the Dockweiler RV Park. OSD will inspect and remove any grass present in the roadway on a weekly basis. This is an ongoing activity. The person responsible for this corrective action is John Skinner, Central District Manager.</p> <p>B.1. The operators will stop the equipment and inspect any fluid leak other than water that was purposely released to keep the dust down during sweeping. This is an ongoing activity. The person responsible for this corrective action is John Skinner, Central District Manager.</p> <p>B.2. The equipment was re-assigned to the Operational Services Division from the Community and Marketing Services Division. Though recreation office staff was trained to operate the equipment, operations staff is more suited to operate this type of equipment and is trained to identify potential mechanical issues. This action was completed in September 2020. The person taking charge of the equipment was John Skinner, Central District Manager.</p> <p>C.1. In 2021, Department of Public Works (DPW) built a connector from the beach road to the beach bike path before the entrance/exit to the RV Park to alleviate bicycle traffic through the Park. DPW was responsible for this corrective action.</p>
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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) Stefan Popescu, Special Assistant, BH	
Signature: 	Date: 02/06/2023

Name: (Department Head) Gary Jones, Director	
Signature: 	Date: 02/06/2023

**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) Daniela Prowizor	
Signature:	Date: 2/6/2023

## **CASE SUMMARY**

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

CASE NAME	Victor Anderson, et al. v. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, et al.
CASE NUMBER	BC665088
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	June 20, 2017
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 125,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Law Offices of D. Hess Panah
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Adrian G. Gragas, Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This lawsuit arises from a vehicle collision that occurred on January 8, 2017, when a patrol vehicle, operated by a detective of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, collided with Plaintiff's vehicle in the intersection of Colorado Boulevard and Pasadena Avenue in the City of Pasadena.</p> <p>Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 52,190
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 29,111

## **CASE SUMMARY**

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

CASE NAME	Demetra Johnson, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	19STCP04664
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	October 29, 2019
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 592,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Peter Bibring, ACLU Foundation of Southern California
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Roderick Sasis, Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This is a recommendation to settle the attorneys' fees and costs in a California Public Records Act ("CPRA") lawsuit filed by the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Southern California ("ACLU"), on behalf of itself and three individuals, Demetra Johnson, Zachary Wade, and Vinly Eng (Petitioners/Plaintiffs, hereinafter collectively, "Plaintiffs"), against the County of Los Angeles ("County") for \$592,000.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 240,754
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 32,251

## **CASE SUMMARY**

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

CASE NAME	PACE Tax Claim of Arcadio Marin
CASE NUMBER	N/A
COURT	N/A
DATE FILED	September 29, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Internal Services Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 34,968.35
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Michael D. Owens Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	Mr. Marin financed home improvements for an accessory dwelling unit utilizing the County's PACE financing. Known problematic contractor A&Jb abandoned the property before completing the financed work.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 0
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 0



## **CASE SUMMARY**

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

CASE NAME	PACE Tax Claim of Juan Carlos Garcia
CASE NUMBER	N/A
COURT	N/A
DATE FILED	November 5, 2021
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Internal Services Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 37,196.67
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Michael D. Owens Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	Mr. Garcia financed home improvements for his accessory dwelling unit utilizing the County's PACE financing. Known problematic contractor A&Jb abandoned the property before completing all of the financed work.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 0
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 0

## **CASE SUMMARY**

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

CASE NAME	PACE Tax Claim of Teresa Saldana Rodriguez
CASE NUMBER	N/A
COURT	N/A
DATE FILED	September 28, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Internal Services Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 51,464.54
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Michael D. Owens Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	Ms. Rodriguez financed home improvements for an accessory dwelling unit utilizing the County's PACE financing. Known problematic contractor A&Jb abandoned the property before completing the financed work.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 0
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 0

## LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

### MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

MARCH 20, 2023

#### 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 appearing in person and 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: Joseph Langton, Michael Gordon, Kevin Engelen, Minas Samuelian, Anthony Morrone, Tyson Nelson, Lynette Wilson, Eduardo Montelongo, Richard Brouwer, Rosanne Wong, and Lauren Lyman; Department of Public Works: Bill Winter, and David Gonzalez; Sheriff's Department: Shanese Winfrey, Shawnee Hinchman, Thomas Kim, John Haynes, Rick Rector, Alfred Reyes, and Tania Plunkett; Department of Health Services: Arun Patel, Sean Henderson, Dawn Abarca, Joan Hubbell, Catherine Mathers, Roberto Avitia, Zsuzsan Bufanda, and Robert Myrtle; Department of Parks and Recreation: Donald Limbrick, and Brian Mejia; Assessor's Office: Ivan Masayon, and Brian Zepeda; Office of the Medical Examiner-Coroner: Akiko Tagawa, and Tiffany Booker; Office of the Library: Jacklin Injijian; Outside Counsel: David Weiss, Avi Burkwitz, Armineh Megrabyan, Sherry Gregorio, Skyla Gordon, Mark Rutter, Allan Thomas, Hrach Agazaryan, and Lenore Kelly.

#### 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.

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

At 12:51 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 William and Pamela Chen

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 approved settlement of Item 4.a. in the amount of \$257,830.40.

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

**b. Nancy Gomez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 18STCV09052**

This dangerous condition lawsuit arises from injuries allegedly sustained in a trip and fall accident on a sidewalk maintained by the Department of Public Works.

Action Taken:

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

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

**c. Brendolyn Grady, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV17457**

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

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.c. in the amount of \$60,000.

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

**d. Yvette Santiago, et al. vs. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case Number 19STCV14213**

This dangerous condition lawsuit arises from injuries allegedly sustained when a branch fell from a tree at a park maintained by the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.d. in the amount of \$55,000.

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

**e. Nicolas Villegas v. County of Los Angeles  
United States District Court Case No. 2:22-CV-01132**

This federal civil rights lawsuit alleges plaintiff was unlawfully arrested and subjected to excessive force by the Sheriff's Department.

Action Taken:

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

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

f. **Phillip Righter v. County of Los Angeles**  
**United States District Court Case No. 2:21-cv-05669**

This federal civil rights lawsuit alleges failure to protect by Sheriff's Department jail staff and misdiagnosis by the Department of Health Services.

**Action Taken:**

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.f. in the amount of \$65,000.

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

g. **Artise Martin v. County of Los Angeles**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC722205**

This lawsuit concerns allegations that a Department of Health Services employee was subjected to failure to reasonably accommodate and failure to engage in the interactive process.

**Action Taken:**

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

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

h. **Yaa Sefa-Boakye v. County of Los Angeles**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19PSCV00464**

This lawsuit concerns allegations that a Public Library employee was subjected to discrimination and harassment based on national origin, race, and age.

**Action Taken:**

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.h. in the amount of \$95,000.

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

i. **Robert Kalonian v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV10805**

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

**Action Taken:**

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.i. in the amount of \$270,000.

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

j. **Kim Elizabeth Pavek v. County of Los Angeles**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case No: BC696218**

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee of the Medical Examiner-Coroner's office was subjected to retaliation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.j. in the amount of \$1,250,000.

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

k. **Rita Boghos v. Olive View-UCLA Medical Center, et al.**  
**Los Angeles Superior Court Case Number 21CHCV00047**

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

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.k. in the amount of \$42,500.

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

5. **Approval of the Minutes of the March 6, 2023, regular meeting of the Claims Board.**

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes of the March 6, 2023, regular meeting.

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

6. **Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

By Derek Stane  
Derek Stane  
Claims Board Secretary