

**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOS ANGELES**  
**CONTRACT CITIES LIABILITY TRUST FUND CLAIMS BOARD**  
**HELD IN LUMINARIAS RESTAURANT**  
**SUNSET ROOM**  
**3700 RAMONA BOULEVARD,**  
**MONTEREY PARK, CALIFORNIA 91754**  
**and VIA-TELECONFERENCE**  
**ON**  
**WEDNESDAY, April 19, 2023, AT 11:00 AM**

*Members Present:* Mark Alexander, James Bozajian, Margaret Finlay, Patrick Kearney, John Moreno, Ken Striplin, Jennifer Vasquez, Bryan Cook, and Gustavo Camacho, Jennifer Perez; Mark Waronek, Marcel Rodarte.

*Alternates Present:* *Ernie Hernandez, Edgar Cisneros, Gustavo Camacho, Michael Davitt, Jose Gonzalez, Thaddeus McCormack, Kelly Honing.*

1. **Call to Order.**
2. **Opportunity for members of the public to address the Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board on items of interest within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Claims Board.**

No members of the public addressed the Claims Board.

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

- a. Chavez, Raquel v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV37164

This lawsuit concerns allegations of an automobile accident involving a Sheriff's Deputy.

Action Taken:

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$50,000.00.

Vote: Ayes: 11-0 Mark Alexander, Margaret Finlay, Patrick Kearney, John Moreno, Jennifer Perez, Bryan Cook, Ken Striplin, James Bozajian, Jennifer Vasquez, Mark Waronek, Marcel Rodarte.

[See Supporting Document](#)

- b. Esquivel, Abraham v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
United States District Court Case No. 2:22-CV-01911

This lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations, excessive force, non-fatal shooting by Sheriff's Deputies.

Action Taken

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$75,000.00.

Vote: Ayes: 11-0 Mark Alexander, Margaret Finlay, Patrick Kearney, John Moreno, Jennifer Perez, Bryan Cook, Ken Striplin, James Bozajian, Jennifer Vasquez, Mark Waronek, Marcel Rodarte.

[See Supporting Document](#)

- c. Hernandez, Jason v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV18227

This lawsuit concerns allegations of an automobile accident involving a Sheriff's Deputy.

Action Taken

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$70,000.00.

Vote: Ayes: 11-0 Mark Alexander, Margaret Finlay, Patrick Kearney, John Moreno, Jennifer Perez, Bryan Cook, Ken Striplin, James Bozajian, Jennifer Vasquez, Mark Waronek, Marcel Rodarte.

[See Supporting Document](#)

- d. Lopez, Secret v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
United States District Court Case No. 2:21-CV-08794

This lawsuit concerns allegations of excessive force by Sheriff's Deputies.

Action Taken

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$30,000.00.

Vote: Ayes: 11-0 Mark Alexander, Margaret Finlay, Patrick Kearney, John Moreno, Jennifer Perez, Bryan Cook, Ken Striplin, James Bozajian, Jennifer Vasquez, Mark Waronek, Marcel Rodarte.

[See Supporting Document](#)

- e. Ramirez, Claudia v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20 STCV10949

This lawsuit concerns allegations of an automobile accident involving a Sheriff's Deputy.

Action Taken

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisor the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$750,000.00.

Vote: Ayes: 11-0 Mark Alexander, Margaret Finlay, Patrick Kearney, John Moreno, Jennifer Perez, Bryan Cook, Ken Striplin, James Bozajian, Jennifer Vasquez, Mark Waronek, Marcel Rodarte.

[See Supporting Document](#)

**4. Closed Session – Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Government Code Section 54956.9).**

- a. Jones, Adonis v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV41715

This lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations, false arrest, and false imprisonment by Sheriff's Deputies.

Action Taken:

No reportable action taken

- b. Lopez, Myesha, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
United States District Court Case No. 5:21-CV-00290

This lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations, excessive force shooting, wrongful death by Sheriff's Deputies.

Action Taken:

No reportable action taken

**5 Report of actions taken in Closed Session.**

The meeting was reconvened into public session at 12:24 p.m. No action was taken in Closed Session which required a public report pursuant to Government Code section 54957.1.

**6. Approval of the minutes of the March 8 2023, meeting of the Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board.**

Action Taken:

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board approved the minutes.

Vote: Ayes: 11-0 Mark Alexander, Margaret Finlay, Patrick Kearney, John Moreno, Jennifer Perez, Bryan Cook, Ken Striplin, James Bozajian, Jennifer Vasquez, Mark Waronek, Marcel Rodarte.

[See Supporting Document](#)

**7. 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 emergency situation or where the need to take immediate action came to the attention of the Board**

None

**8. Other Business.**

None

**9. Adjournment.**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:26 p.m.

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Raquel Chavez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	20STCV37164
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	September 29, 2019
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$50,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	BRENTON L. HORNER, ESQ. Horner & Associates
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	ADRIAN G. GRAGAS Assistant County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This case arises out of a multi-automobile collision between a car driven by plaintiff Raquel Chavez, a car driven by Gerardo Garcia, and a Sheriff's Department Contract Cities patrol unit driven by a Deputy Sheriff that occurred on east Valley Boulevard approaching the intersection of Somerset Drive, in the unincorporated area of West Covina. Plaintiff alleges she was injured from the collision. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 7,020
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 75

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Abraham Esquivel v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	2:22-CV-01911
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	March 24, 2022
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 75,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Law Offices of Joseph B. McGinley
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Millicent L. Rolon Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a recommendation to settle for \$75,000, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, a federal civil rights lawsuit filed by Abraham Esquivel, against the County of Los Angeles, former Sheriff Alex Villanueva and Los Angeles Sheriff's Deputy Juan Bendezu arising out of a non-fatal shooting on February 12, 2021.</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 \$75,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 22,589
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 19,790

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Jason Hernandez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	21STCV18227
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	05/14/2021
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 70,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Kim H. Pearman, Esq. Pearman Law Corporation
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Melissa A. McCaverty Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>On May 14, 2020, plaintiff Jason Hernandez' vehicle and a Sheriff's Department patrol car collided on Lyons Ave in the City of Santa Clarita. Mr. Hernandez alleges the collision caused severre injuries for which he seeks compensation.</p> <p>Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$70,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 8,644.00
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 2,828.10



## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Lopez Secret v. County c of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	2:21-CV-08794
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	September 10, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 30,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Raymond Fuentes, Esq. of Fuentes & McNally, LLP
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Roderick Sasis , Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a recommendation to settle for \$30,000, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, the State and federal civil rights lawsuit filed by Secret Lopez ("Plaintiff") against the County and Sheriff's Deputy Elizabeth Tarin ("Defendants"), alleging excessive force.</p> <p>Due to the high 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 \$30,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 47,294
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 6,470

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Claudia Ramirez, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	20STCV10949
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	03/18/2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 750,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Robert Simon, Esq. Simon Law Group
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Kevin Engeliem Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	On April 3, 2018, Deputy Lynn was traveling westbound on the Pacific Coast Highway approaching the intersection with Sea Vista Drive in response to a radio call for service. Plaintiffs brought their car to a stop in the number one lane. Deputy Lynn was unable to stop and rear-ended the plaintiffs' vehicle. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 76,480
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 28,678

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
CONTRACT CITIES LIABILITY TRUST FUND  
CLAIMS BOARD**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

March 8, 2023

**1. Call to Order**

This meeting of the County of Los Angeles Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board was called to order by Patrick Kearney at 11:35 a.m. The meeting was held at **Luminarias Restaurant, Sunset Room, 3700 Ramona Boulevard, Monterey Park, California 91754 and via-teleconference.**

**Present at the meeting were Claims Board Members:** Patrick Kearney, Chair; Margaret Finlay, East Division; Mark Alexander, East Division; Jennifer Vasquez, Central Division; Ken Striplin, North Division; John Moreno, South Division; Brian Cook, At-Large; James Bozajian, North Division; **Alternate:** Ernie Hernandez, At-Large; Edgar Cisneros, Central Division; Gustavo Camacho, South Division; Michael Davitt, East Division; **County of Los Angeles Staff:** Elizabeth D. Miller, Assistant County Counsel; Adrian Gragas, Assistant County Counsel; Richard Hsueh, Senior Deputy County Counsel; Minas Samuelian, Deputy County Counsel; Millicent L. Rolon, Principal Deputy County Counsel; Steve Robles, ACEO; County of Los Angeles, Shawnee Hinchman, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Sergio Escobedo, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Randy Tuinstra, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Bruce Chase, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Department; Thomas Kim, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Melynie Rivers, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Brian Jones, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Dennis Kneer, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; **Attendees:** Karen Bartak, Bedford Falls Insurance; Chris Gray, Alliant Insurance Services; Kelly Honig, City of West Lake Village; Jill Williams, Carpenter, Rothans & Dumont, LLP; John Erickson, City of West Hollywood; Raymond Sakai, Lawrence Beach Allen & Choi, APC; Fred Groehler, Protelligent, Inc.; Tom Hurrell, Hurrell & Cantrall, LLP; Diane Martinez, Hurrell & Cantrall, LLP; Rickey Ivie, Ivie, McNeill & Wyatt; Marina Sampson, Ivie, McNeill & Wyatt; **Third Party Administrator for the County of Los Angeles:** Sylvia Hernandez, Claims Manager; **California JPIA:** Jonathan Shull, CEO; Nikki Salas, Administrative Service Director; Paul Zeglovitch, Liability Program Manager; Jennifer Torres, Administrative Assistant; Alex Smith, Deputy Executive Officer; Veronica Ruiz, Agency Clerk; Jim Thyden, Insurance Programs Manager.

**2. Public Comment**

Members of the public were provided the opportunity to address the Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board on items of interest that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Claims Board. No members of the public addressed the Board.

At 11:38 a.m., the Chair adjourned the County of Los Angeles Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board into Closed Session.

**3. Closed Session - Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Government Code Section 54956.9)**

- a. Chavez, Raquel v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV37164

This lawsuit concerns allegations of an automobile accident involving a Sheriff's Deputy.

Action Taken:

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board continued this case until April 19, 2023.

Vote: Ayes: 9 - Mark Alexander, James Bozajian, Margaret Finlay, Patrick Kearney, John Moreno, Ken Striplin, Jennifer Vasquez, Brian Cook, Alternate Gustavo Camacho.

Vote: Absent: Jennifer Perez, Marcel Rodarte

**4. Closed Session - Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Government Code Section 54956.9)**

- a. Carcamo, Lashun, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. TC028076

This lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations, excessive force, false arrest and assault by Sheriff's Deputies.

Action Taken:

No reportable action taken.

- b. Garcia, Salvador v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No.: 20STCV00967

This lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations, excessive force shooting, wrongful death by Sheriff's Deputies.

Action Taken:

No reportable action taken.

Huff, Donna v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
United States District Court Case No. 2:16-CV-01733

This lawsuit concerns allegations of false arrest and excessive force by Sheriff's Deputies.

Action Taken:

No reportable action taken.

- d. Lopez, Myesha, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
United States District Court Case No. 5:21-CV-00290

This lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations, excessive force shooting, wrongful death by Sheriff's Deputies.

Action Taken:  
No reportable action taken.

- e. Romero, Randy v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
United States District Court Case No. 2:22-CV-00282

The lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations, and unlawful search and seizure by Sheriff's Deputies.

Action Taken:  
No reportable action taken.

- f. Rodriguez, Antonio v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
United States District Court Case No. 2:21-CV-06574

This lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations, excessive force, false arrest and assault by Sheriff's Deputies.

Action Taken:  
No reportable action taken.

**5. Report of actions taken in Closed Session.**

The meeting was reconvened into public session at 1:15 p.m. No action was taken in Closed Session which required a public report pursuant to Government Code section 54957.1.

**6. Approval of the Amended Minutes for February 1, 2023, meeting of the Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board.**

Action Taken:

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board approved the minutes.

Vote: Ayes: 10 - Mark Alexander, James Bozajian, Margaret Finlay, Patrick Kearney, John Moreno, Ken Striplin, Jennifer Vasquez, Mark Waronek, and Alternate Ernie Hernandez, Brian Cook.

Vote: Absent: Jennifer Perez, and Marcel Rodarte.

7. **Items Not on the Posted Agenda, to be Referred to Staff or Placed on the Agenda for Action at a Further Meeting of the Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board, or Matters Requiring Immediate Action Because of Emergency Situation or Where the Need to Take Immediate Action Came to the Attention of the Board Subsequent to the Posting of the Agenda.**

None

8. **Other Business**

None

9. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:18 p.m.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
CONTRACT CITIES LIABILITY  
TRUST FUND CLAIMS BOARD

*Cheryl Natividad*

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CHERYL NATIVIDAD