

**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**FOR THE REGULAR MEETING**  
**OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD**  
**HELD IN ROOM 648 OF THE KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION,**  
**500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012**

**ON**

**MONDAY, MARCH 5, 2007, AT 8:00 AM**

Present: Chairperson Maria M. Oms, Rocky Armfield, and John Krattli

**The following items were presented to the Claims Board for consideration and the Claims Board took actions as indicated in bold.**

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 addressed the Claims Board.**

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

- a. Destiny A. & Julieanna H. v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. VC 045 556

This lawsuit concerns allegations of negligence by social workers of the Department of Children and Family Services.

**Action Taken:**

**The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$100,000 as set forth in the Claims Board memorandum.**

See Supporting Document

Absent: None

Vote: Unanimously carried

- b. Carmen Irigoyen v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 337 577

This lawsuit concerns allegations of retaliation by a former employee of the Department of Public Works.

**Action Taken:**

**This matter was continued to the next Claims Board meeting.**

Absent: None

Vote: Unanimously carried

- c. Ronald Green v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. TC 019 218

This wrongful death lawsuit arises from injuries sustained by a patient while hospitalized at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center.

**Action Taken:**

**The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$215,000 and that the Auditor-Controller be instructed to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the Department of Health Services' budget.**

See Supporting Document

Absent: None

Vote: Unanimously carried

- d. Katie Carr, et al. v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. TC 018 013

This wrongful death lawsuit arises from injuries sustained by a patient while hospitalized at King/Drew Medical Center.

**Action Taken:**

**The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$200,000 and that the Auditor-Controller be instructed to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the Department of Health Services' budget.**

See Supporting Document

Absent: None

Vote: Unanimously carried

- e. Philomene Long v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 311 762  
United States District Court Case No. CV 03-0531 DDP

This lawsuit seeks compensation for a death which occurred while in the custody of the Sheriff's Department.

**Action Taken:**

**The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$475,000 and that the Auditor-Controller be instructed to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the Sheriff's Department budget.**

See Supporting Document

Absent: None

Vote: Unanimously carried

- f. Bridget Hernandez, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. KC 047 658

This dangerous condition lawsuit arises from injuries sustained in a vehicle accident in an unincorporated area of Los Angeles County.

**Action Taken:**

**The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter. The substance of the above settlement will be disclosed upon inquiry by any person as soon as the settlement becomes final following approval by all parties.**

Absent: None

Vote: Unanimously carried

- g. Luis Fernando Montes, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. PC 036 627  
(consolidated with PC 036 881 and PC 037 534)

This lawsuit seeks damages for personal injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident involving an employee of the Fire Department.

**Action Taken:**

**The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$450,000 and that the Auditor-Controller be instructed to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the Fire Department's budget.**

Absent: None

Vote: Unanimously carried

- h. Luis Fernando Montes, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. PC 036 627  
(consolidated with PC 036 881 and PC 037 534)

This lawsuit seeks damages for personal injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident involving an employee of the Fire Department.

**Action Taken:**

**The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$737,000 and that the Auditor-Controller be instructed to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the Fire Department's budget.**

Absent: None

Vote: Unanimously carried

- i. Luis Fernando Montes, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. PC 036 627  
(consolidated with PC 036 881 and PC 037 534)

This lawsuit seeks damages for personal injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident involving an employee of the Fire Department.

**Action Taken:**

**The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$1.15 million and that the Auditor-Controller be instructed to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the Fire Department's budget.**

Absent: None

Vote: Unanimously carried

- j. Jesse Pace v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. SC 088 051

This lawsuit seeks compensation for injuries received from a vehicle accident involving an employee of the Fire Department.

See Supporting Document

**Action Taken:**

**This matter was continued to the next Claims Board meeting.**

Absent: None

Vote: Unanimously carried

- k. AIDS Healthcare Foundation v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 356 378

This breach of contract lawsuit concerns a residential services contract.

**Action Taken:**

**The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$755,000 and that the Auditor-Controller be instructed to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the Office of AIDS Programs and Policies' budget.**

Absent: None

Vote: Unanimously carried

4. Report of actions taken in Closed Session.

**The Claims Board reconvened in open session and reported the actions taken in closed session as indicated under Agenda Item No. 3 above.**

5. Approval of minutes for the December 18, 2006, December 27, 2006, January 16, 2007, February 1, 2007, February 15, 2007, and February 22, 2007, meetings of the Claims Board.

**Action Taken:**

**The Minutes of December 18, 2006, December 27, 2006, January 16, 2007, February 1, 2007, February 15, 2007, and February 22, 2007, were approved.**

**See Supporting Documents**

Absent:       None

Vote:         Unanimously carried

6. 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 subsequent to the posting of the agenda.

**No such matters were discussed.**

7. Adjournment.

# MEMORANDUM

February 5, 2007

TO: THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

FROM: MONROY, AVERBUCK & GYSLER  
CLAY AVERBUCK

VICKI KOZIKOUJEKIAN  
Principal Deputy County Counsel  
Social Services Division

RE: Destiny A. & Julieanna H. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No.: VC 045556

DATE OF  
INCIDENT: December 2004

AUTHORITY  
REQUESTED: \$100,000

COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT: Children and Family Services

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## CLAIMS BOARD ACTION:



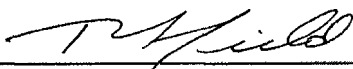
Approve



Disapprove



Recommend to Board of  
Supervisors for Approval



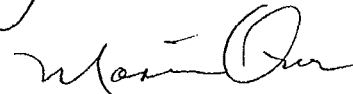
ROCKY A. ARMFIELD

, Chief Administrative Office



JOHN F. KRATTLI

, County Counsel



MARIA M. OMS

, Auditor-Controller

on March 5, 2007



## SUMMARY

This is a recommendation to settle the claims of two minors for the total sum of \$100,000. The lawsuit was brought by Destiny A. and Julieanna H. against the Department of Children & Family Services ("DCFS") for the alleged negligence of its social workers arising out of having been improperly placed with a non-relative. As a result of this placement, their biological mother re-gained custody of them, took them back to the same apartment that they had been detained from and each suffered injuries in a fire which occurred while they were in that apartment. Additionally, there are allegations of negligence as they relate to the social workers' supervision and monitoring of these children during placement with a non-relative.

The settlement provides for a division between the plaintiffs as follows: Destiny A., \$95,000 and Julieanna H., \$5,000. The settlement for Destiny A. is subject to approval by the Court through a Petition for Minor's Compromise, which will be brought following Claims Board approval. Pursuant to Probate Code section 3401, there is no need to prepare a Minor's Compromise for Julieanna H., because her settlement does not exceed \$5,000. The settlement also provides that the plaintiffs will assume responsibility for their medical liens.

DCFS was fully briefed on this case and concurs with the proposed settlement.

## LEGAL PRINCIPLES

A public entity is responsible for the negligent and intentional acts of its employees when the acts are done in the course and scope of employment.

## SUMMARY OF FACTS

On December 21, 2004, the date of the event which injured plaintiffs, Julienna H. was less than two years old, and Destiny A. was less than one month old. A third sibling, Samantha, was approximately five years old. On November 25, 2004, the mother gave birth to Destiny A., who was placed on a hospital hold at St. Francis Medical Center, because the mother tested positive for methamphetamine. Based on the Children's Social Worker's ("CSW's") assessment of the overall situation, she suggested Voluntary Family Maintenance and a drug rehabilitation program for the mother. Those decisions resulted in Destiny being discharged to the mother and the other two children remaining in her care.

After numerous attempts to locate the mother, DCFS located her at a new address: 7853 State Street, #B, Huntington Park, California. The CSW made face-to-face contact with the mother and all three children. He also met the maternal aunt, Rebecca, who was living with the mother temporarily. The CSW assessed the new apartment to be acceptable.

On December 12, 2004, another referral came to the DCFS Hotline, through the Los Angeles Police Department. The referral alleged severe neglect by the mother and the maternal aunt, Rebecca. The Emergency Response Children's Social Worker ("ERCP CSW") substantiated this allegation and detained the mother's children as well as those of the maternal aunt.

The ERCP CSW took the children to the Huntington Park Police Station and ultimately released the two plaintiffs and their sister, Samantha, to the boyfriend of their other maternal aunt, Veronica. However, it was represented to the ERCP CSW that he was a relative, their uncle.

The ERCP CSW did conduct a criminal background check on the alleged uncle, George Valdivia, but his identity was not corroborated. The results were returned on December 14, 2004, and indicated that he was George Sanchez, a non-relative, who had a criminal record, including injury to spouse or co-habitant.

Also, this CSW did not know about this family's (i.e., the mother and the maternal aunt's) prior history with DCFS. The Petition and/or Detention Report inaccurately reported *no* prior history. Their significant history, however, was available through the DCFS database.

On December 22, 2004, another referral was generated. It was reported that the three children were residing with their mother at the 7853 State Street apartment from which they had been detained. The apartment had caught fire in the late evening of December 21, 2004. As a result of the fire, Samantha died, and Destiny and Julieanna were injured. Destiny had suffered smoke inhalation and internal burns to her respiratory system, which required that she be placed on a ventilator. Julieanna required breathing treatments, but was apparently doing well. The mother tested positive for opiates and methamphetamine.

After the incident, Veronica and George Valdivia (aka Sanchez) informed DCFS that when the children were detained on December 12, 2004, at the Huntington Park Police Station, the CSW told them that the mother could live with them and the children. Additionally, they were not told about restricted visitation for the mother or any other relative. Moreover, the maternal aunt,

Rebecca, reported to DCFS that, since their detention, the children and the mother lived with the grandparents. On December 21, 2004, the mother took the children from the grandparent's home and went back to her apartment to gather her belongings. Later that evening, they received a call from another relative that the apartment was on fire.

Julieanna was discharged from the hospital on December 23, 2004, and placed in foster care. Destiny A. was not released until January 5, 2005, over two weeks after being admitted, and placed in a Medical Placement foster home. Her case was accepted by the Medical Placement Unit on April 13, 2005.

## DAMAGES

Plaintiffs claim non-economic and economic damages against the County, which include psychological counseling, now and in the future, loss of earnings capacity, and compensatory damages for pain and suffering.

## STATUS OF CASE

Expenses incurred by the County in defense of this action are attorneys' fees of \$55,919 and \$533 in costs (Note: These numbers are not final).

## EVALUATION

We believe a jury would find the County, DCFS, and it's employees liable for negligent failure to comply with the relative placement protocols and the supervision/monitoring of these minor children, with significant damages potential due to the type of injuries involved.

We join with our private counsel, Monroy, Averbuck & Gysler, and our third party administrator, Carl Warren and Company, in recommending this settlement. The Department of Children and Family Services concurs with the recommendation.

APPROVED:



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ANDREW W. OWENS  
Assistant County Counsel  
Social Services Division

AWO:VK:al

# MEMORANDUM

February 6, 2007

TO: THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

FROM: KENNETH MARANGA, ESQ.  
Maranga & Morgenstein

NARBEH BAGDASARIAN  
Deputy County Counsel  
Health Services Division

RE: Ronald Green v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. TC019218

DATE OF  
INCIDENT: January 3, 2005

AUTHORITY \$215,000.00, plus waiver of the County's medical bill in the amount of  
REQUESTED: \$6,835.00.

COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

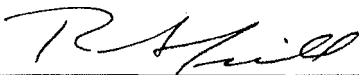
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## CLAIMS BOARD ACTION:

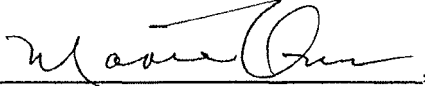
☐ Approve

☐ Disapprove

☒ Recommend to Board of  
Supervisors for Approval

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Chief Administrative Office  
**ROCKY ARMFIELD**

  
\_\_\_\_\_, County Counsel  
**JOHN F. KRATTLI**

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Auditor-Controller  
**MARIA M. OMS**

on March 5, 2007

## **SUMMARY**

This is a recommendation to settle for \$215,000.00 the medical negligence/wrongful death lawsuit brought by the survivor of Charlotte Green, who died after receiving care and treatment at Harbor/UCLA Medical Center ("HUMC") and Martin Luther King/Drew Medical Center ("MLK"). As a part of the settlement, the County will waive its medical bill in the amount of \$6,835.00.

## **LEGAL PRINCIPLES**

The County is liable for the failure of its hospital and medical staff to provide services consistent with the appropriate standard of care for the circumstances encountered.

## **SUMMARY OF FACTS**

On December 30, 2004, Charlotte Green, a 49-year-old female, underwent an operation at HUMC. The plan was to perform a laparoscopic procedure on her uterus (where the abdomen is not fully opened and surgical instruments are introduced into the abdomen through small openings on the abdominal wall). The purpose of the procedure was to suspend the patient's uterus (to correct the malposition of the uterus). After the procedure began, the staff noticed two fibroids (benign tumors) on the uterus which precluded the suspension procedure. Unable to follow the original plan, the staff proceeded to remove one of the fibroids.

During the procedure, three openings were made on the patient's abdominal wall, one of 10 millimeters and two of 5 millimeters. These openings were made so that the personnel could introduce surgical instruments into the patient's abdomen for the purpose of the suspension procedure. After the procedure was terminated, only the 10 millimeters opening was sutured in this patient. This was in compliance with the instructions of the company that manufactured the device used to create the openings, it being expected that the smaller openings would heal on their own. The patient was discharged home on December 30, 2004.

Two days later, on January 1, 2005, at around 10:40 a.m., Ms. Green was taken to the Emergency Department at MLK with complaints of abdominal pain, nausea and vomiting. At about 5:55 p.m., on January 1, 2005, a CT scan of the abdomen was performed, which revealed a bowel herniation (where a part of the small intestine entered a hole created by the device used to make the openings on the patient's abdominal wall). This is a serious complication which requires immediate surgical intervention.

Ms. Green was not taken to surgery until 10:00 p.m., on January 2, 2005. During the surgery, a portion of the patient's small intestine was removed. Because of the delay in operating, Ms. Green's medical condition deteriorated and she developed severe problems with her cardiopulmonary system. Ms. Green expired on January 3, 2005, at about 8:35 a.m.

#### **DAMAGES**

If this matter proceeds to trial, the claimant will likely seek the following:

Pain and Suffering (MICRA Limit)	\$250,000.00
Past medical expenses	\$ 6,835.00
Funeral expenses	\$ <u>15,000.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$271,835.00</b>

The proposed settlement includes:

Pain and Suffering	\$144,583.33
Attorney's Fees (MICRA limitation)	\$ 65,416.67
Costs of Litigation (estimate)	\$ <u>5,000.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$215,000.00</b>

#### **STATUS OF CASE**

Ronald Green filed this medical malpractice lawsuit against the County of Los Angeles. The current trial date has been vacated pending approval of this settlement.

This matter involves medical issues surrounding the care and treatment rendered to Charlotte Green at HUMC and MLK. In addition to the normal discovery in such matters, it was necessary to retain medical experts to review and evaluate the extent of the plaintiff's injuries. Expenses incurred by the County of Los Angeles in the defense of this case through February 6, 2007, are attorney's fees of \$51,085.27 and \$7,310.17 in costs.

The total cost to the County of Los Angeles as a result of this settlement is as follows:

Indemnity (Settlement Amount)	\$215,000.00
County Attorney's Fees and Costs	\$ <u>58,395.44</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$273,395.44</b>

## EVALUATION

Medical experts will be critical primarily of the personnel's delay in performing the surgery at MLK. This delay fell below the standard of care and contributed to the death of Ms. Green. Two roundtables were held in this case. On May 25, 2006, a roundtable was held at HUMC and on May 30, 2006, a roundtable at MLK. It was the consensus of the participants that this is a liability case and that the case should be settled, if possible. The proposed settlement is within the parameters discussed and agreed to at the roundtable.

We join with our private counsel, Kenneth Maranga, Esq., and our claims administrator, Octagon Risk Services, Inc., in recommending settlement in the amount of \$215,000.00 plus waiver of the County's medical bill in the amount of \$6,835.00.

The Department of Health Services concurs in this settlement.

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick K. Mason", is written over the printed name.

RICHARD K. MASON  
Assistant County Counsel

NB:bdv

Attachment

# MEMORANDUM

February 5, 2007

TO: THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

FROM: SCOTT McFALL, ESQ.  
Agajanian, McFall, Weiss, Tetreault & Crist

NARBEH BAGDASARIAN  
Deputy County Counsel  
Health Services Division

RE: Katie Carr, et al. v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. TC018013

DATE OF  
INCIDENT: January 27, 2004

AUTHORITY  
REQUESTED: \$200,000.00

COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

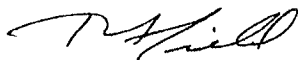
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## CLAIMS BOARD ACTION:

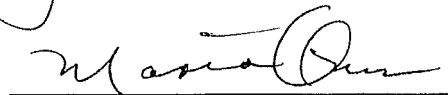
☐ Approve

☐ Disapprove

☒ Recommend to Board of  
Supervisors for Approval

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Chief Administrative Office  
**ROCKY ARMFIELD**

  
\_\_\_\_\_, County Counsel  
**JOHN F. KRATTLI**

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Auditor-Controller  
**MARIA M. OMS**

on March 5, 2007



## **SUMMARY**

This is a recommendation to settle for \$200,000.00 the medical negligence/wrongful death lawsuit brought by the survivors of William Carr, Jr., who died after receiving care and treatment at Martin Luther King/Drew Medical Center ("MLK").

## **LEGAL PRINCIPLES**

The County is liable for the failure of its hospital and medical staff to provide services consistent with the appropriate standard of care for the circumstances encountered.

## **SUMMARY OF FACTS**

On January 24, 2004 at about 10:00 p.m., William Carr, Jr., a 42-year-old male, had an accident wherein he fell from a second story window. The paramedics arrived at the scene and found Mr. Carr lying prone on the sidewalk with lacerations and bleeding on the back of his head. Mr. Carr was transported to MLK, arriving at about 10:27 p.m. At this time, the patient's Glasgow Coma Scale ("GCS") was 14. The GCS is a method for evaluating a patient's level of consciousness. The scale ranges from a maximum of 15, for an alert and conscious individual with head injury, to a minimum of 3, for a patient with no verbal response, no movement and no ability to open the eyes.

At about 10:30 p.m., the personnel ordered STAT X-rays and CT scan. At about 11:10 p.m., the personnel noted that the patient's GCS was down to 9. The records reflect that the personnel considered a neurosurgery consultation, but no such consultation was ordered. From 11:10 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. on the next day, the records do not show that a complete neurological examination was performed on Mr. Carr. At around 2:30 a.m. on January 25, 2004, the personnel found the patient to be unresponsive; his GCS score was down to 3.

At 3:00 a.m., the patient underwent the CT scan. The scan revealed a large epidural hematoma (bleeding inside the skull pressing on the brain). Mr. Carr remained in the CT scanner until 4:50 a.m. (to complete additional diagnostic tests and to undergo intubation), after which he was taken to surgery. The surgery began at 5:40 a.m. The surgeons evacuated the bleeding.

After the surgery, there was no improvement in the patient's condition. On January 27, 2004, medical evaluation revealed that the patient was brain dead. The family decided to discontinue life support, and the patient died a few hours later.

## **DAMAGES**

If this matter proceeds to trial, the claimant will likely seek the following:

Pain and Suffering (MICRA Limit)	\$250,000.00
Lost Earnings (past and future)	\$115,100.00
Loss of Services	\$ 43,974.00
Funeral expenses	\$ <u>6,000.00</u>
 TOTAL	 \$415,074.00

The proposed settlement includes:

Pain and Suffering	\$132,725.00
Attorney's Fees (MICRA Limitation)	\$ 59,775.00
Costs of Litigation (estimate)	\$ <u>7,500.00</u>
 TOTAL	 \$200,000.00

## **STATUS OF CASE**

The survivors of Mr. Carr filed this medical malpractice lawsuit against the County of Los Angeles. The current trial date has been vacated pending approval of this settlement.

This matter involves medical issues surrounding the care and treatment rendered to William Carr, Jr. In addition to the normal discovery in such matters, it was necessary to retain medical experts to review and evaluate the extent of the plaintiff's injuries. Expenses incurred by the County of Los Angeles in the defense of this case through February 5, 2007, are attorney's fees of \$54,847.50 and \$16,563.78 in costs.

The total cost to the County of Los Angeles as a result of this settlement is as follows:

Indemnity (Settlement Amount)	\$200,000.00
County Attorney's Fees and Costs	\$ <u>71,411.28</u>
 TOTAL	 \$271,411.28


## EVALUATION

Experts will be critical primarily of the medical personnel's delay in performing the necessary diagnostic evaluation. This failure fell below the standard of care and contributed to the death of Mr. Carr. On November 2, 2005, a roundtable was held at MLK. After a comprehensive review of the case, it was the consensus that settlement negotiations should be pursued. The proposed settlement is within the parameters discussed and agreed to at the roundtable.

We join with our private counsel, Scott McFall, Esq., and our claims administrator, Octagon Risk Services, Inc., in recommending settlement in the amount of \$200,000.00.

The Department of Health Services concurs in this settlement.

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard K. Mason", is written over a horizontal line.

RICHARD K. MASON  
Assistant County Counsel

NB:bdv

Attachment

# MEMORANDUM

February 26, 2007

TO: THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

FROM: MILDRED K. O'LINN, ESQ.  
Manning & Marder

NARBEH BAGDASARIAN  
Deputy County Counsel  
Health Services Division

RE: Philomene Long v. County of Los Angeles  
U.S. District Court, Case No. CV 03-0531 DDP  
Los Angeles Superior Court, Case No. BC311762

DATE OF  
INCIDENT: March 29, 2002

AUTHORITY  
REQUESTED: \$475,000.00

COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT: LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

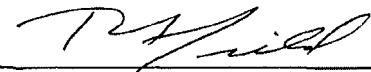
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## CLAIMS BOARD ACTION:

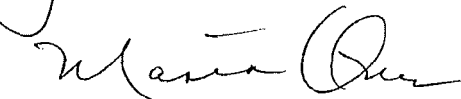
☐ Approve

☐ Disapprove

☒ Recommend to Board of  
Supervisors for Approval

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Chief Administrative Office  
**ROCKY ARMFIELD**

  
\_\_\_\_\_, County Counsel  
**JOHN F. KRATTLI**

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Auditor-Controller  
**MARIA M. OMS**

on March 5, 2007

## SUMMARY

This is a recommendation to settle for \$475,000 the wrongful death and violation of civil rights lawsuit brought by Philomene Long, the surviving wife of John Thomas Idlet, who died while in the custody of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department ("LASD").

## LEGAL PRINCIPLES

The County is liable for the failure of its staff to provide services consistent with the appropriate standard of care for the circumstances encountered.

## SUMMARY OF FACTS

After pleading guilty to charges against him, John Thomas Idlet came under the custody of LASD on March 11, 2002. At the time, Mr. Idlet was 71 years old. He arrived at the LASD facility in a wheelchair. The inmate had a long history of heart disease and had brought several of his medications with him to the LASD jail.

On March 28, 2002, at about 8:20 a.m., the inmate was found on the floor of his cell. When the personnel attended him, the inmate informed them that he was suffering from shortness of breath. Later on that day, the personnel noted that Mr. Idlet was having a crackling sound in his lungs and that his urine had become dark. The personnel evaluated Mr. Long but no decision was made to transfer the inmate to LAC+USC.

At about 10:10 p.m., on March 28, 2002, Mr. Idlet was again found on the floor of his cell. By 11:52 p.m., the inmate was suffering from shortness of breath and low blood pressure. Medical treatment was administered and an order was placed to transfer the inmate to LAC+USC. The ambulance arrived at about 12:25 a.m. on March 29, 2002, and the inmate was transported at 12:40 a.m.

Mr. Idlet arrived at LAC+USC at about 1:00 a.m. on March 29, 2002. He was pronounced dead at 2:56 p.m.

## DAMAGES

If this matter proceeds to trial, the claimant will likely seek the following:

Pain and Suffering	\$250,000.00
Loss of Services	\$100,000.00
Funeral Expenses	\$ 13,798.00
Attorney's Fees and Costs	<u>\$175,000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$538,798.00

The proposed settlement includes:

Pain and Suffering (for both plaintiffs)	\$250,000.00
Attorney's Fees	\$100,000.00
Costs of Litigation	<u>\$125,000.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$475,000.00</b>

#### **STATUS OF CASE**

In her lawsuit, plaintiff has asserted causes of action for deliberate indifference and negligence. The current trial date has been vacated pending approval of this settlement.

This matter involved several legal and medical issues surrounding the medical condition and the care and treatment rendered to Mr. Idlet. In addition to the normal discovery in such matters, it was necessary to retain medical experts to review the care rendered by the County personnel.

In the course of litigating this case, the County filed a Motion for Summary Adjudication arguing that the facts in this case do not support a claim for violation of civil rights or deliberate indifference. The trial Court granted the County's motion, and the plaintiff appealed. However, the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, in a published opinion, reversed the trial Court's ruling, holding that the case does present facts to create issues for a cause of action for violation of civil rights.

Expenses incurred by the County of Los Angeles in the defense of this case through February 26, 2007, are attorney's fees of \$260,771.31 and \$69,456.18 in costs.

The total cost to the County of Los Angeles as a result of this settlement is as follows:

Indemnity (Settlement Amount)	\$475,000.00
County Attorney's Fees and Costs	<u>\$330,227.49</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$805,227.49</b>

#### **EVALUATION**

Experts will be critical of the jail personnel's failure to timely transfer Mr. Idlet to LAC+USC in light of his medical condition. On February 23, 2004 and March 8, 2005, roundtable conferences were held, and this case was fully discussed and analyzed. The proposed settlement was reached in a mediation and is within the parameters discussed with the Sheriff's Department.

We join with our private counsel, Mildred K. O'Linn, Esq., and our claims administrator, Sedgwick Coronia (former Octagon Risk Services, Inc.), in recommending settlement in the amount of \$475,000.

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick K. Mason", written over a horizontal line.

RICHARD K. MASON  
Assistant County Counsel

NB:bdv

Attachment

# MEMORANDUM

January 18, 2007

TO: THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

FROM: SYNA N. DENNIS  
Principal Deputy County Counsel  
General Litigation Division

RE: Jesse Pace v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. SC088051

DATE OF  
INCIDENT: June 28, 2005

AUTHORITY  
REQUESTED: \$600,000

COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT: Fire Department

---

## CLAIMS BOARD ACTION:

☐ Approve

☐ Disapprove

☐ Recommend to Board of  
Supervisors for Approval

\_\_\_\_\_, Chief Administrative Office  
**ROCKY A. ARMFIELD**

\_\_\_\_\_, County Counsel  
**JOHN F. KRATTLI**

\_\_\_\_\_, Auditor-Controller  
**MARIA M. OMS**

on \_\_\_\_\_, 2007



## SUMMARY

This is a recommendation to settle for \$600,000 the lawsuit of Jesse Pace. The litigation arises out of an accident which occurred on June 28, 2005, in Santa Monica. Mr. Pace was struck by a Ford F-150 lifeguard truck while sunbathing at the beach.

## LEGAL PRINCIPLE

A public entity is liable for the negligent acts of its employees when the acts are done in the course and scope of employment.

## SUMMARY OF FACTS

On June 28, 2005, Jesse Pace, age 19, was sunbathing alone on the beach, near Tower 25, during the mid-afternoon hours. Mr. Pace was in his junior year at Lee University in Tennessee, majoring in pre-medicine with a 3.7 grade point average. Mr. Pace was in California staying with relatives for the summer and working at the UCLA Medical Center assisting nurses to reposition patients in the intensive care unit.

A lifeguard was driving north on the sand, when she stopped behind Tower 25 to drop off a lost child. The lifeguard's vehicle was stopped facing north behind the tower for about 15 seconds, as a camp counselor approached the truck to escort the child from the vehicle. After the child and counselor walked away, the lifeguard began to turn left around the front of Tower 25 to return to her area.

The lifeguard testified that she did not see Mr. Pace lying on the sand before she began her left turn. While proceeding slowly, the right side of the lifeguard truck ran over Mr. Pace's left shoulder, across his chest and abdomen and toward his right hip. The lifeguard drove 20 to 30 feet before she felt a bump and stopped the vehicle.

Mr. Pace was treated at the scene, and transported to the UCLA Medical Center in West Los Angeles. A thorough examination of Mr. Pace disclosed that he sustained a ruptured spleen and blunt trauma injuries to his left shoulder, chest and abdomen.

## DAMAGES

Mr. Pace's spleen was removed, and he remained in the hospital for seven days. Postoperatively, Mr. Pace developed hypoxia (a reduction of oxygen entering the blood) that initially required ventilation and, subsequently, intubation and mechanical ventilation on June 29, 2005. He was extubated but developed pulmonary edema that required reintubation for 36 hours.

Mr. Pace experienced a temporary feeling of suffocation, but he did not lose consciousness. He complained of difficulty breathing. Given the nature of the injury to his chest, his treating physician, based on the medical records, is expected to testify that Mr. Pace suffered a cardiac contusion. The doctor prescribed a regimen of exercises for Mr. Pace to mitigate the effects of his injuries and speed rehabilitation.

The injury to Mr. Pace's left shoulder caused restricted use of his left arm and shoulder for an extended period of time. Mr. Pace was partially disabled and was unable to fully participate in extracurricular activities, as he had prior to the incident, for several months after the incident.

Mr. Pace continues to complain of abdominal pain and has had several examinations and received treatment for intermittent abdominal pain and a dislocated rib. Additional treatment is expected to be necessary to reduce the scarring left as a result of the surgery.

Mr. Pace testified that his increased risk of infections due to the loss of his spleen has caused him anxiety about his planned future in the medical profession. He also experiences anxiety at the beach and no longer enjoys going to the beach.

The potential damages, should this matter proceed to trial, could be as follows:

Medical expenses	\$ 120,634
Future medical expenses	12,000
Loss of earnings	2,000
Future loss of earnings	500,000
Pain and suffering	<u>450,000</u>
Total	\$1,084,634

#### STATUS OF CASE

A court ordered mediation was held before Michael Moorehead, Esq., at Judicate West in Long Beach on November 13, 2006. No settlement was reached. Mr. Pace's initial demand of \$3.2 million was reduced to \$800,000. The County's last offer at the mediation was \$355,000.

Based on the liability exposure, Mr. Pace's confirmed damages for medical care, and the potential impact on his career plans resulting from his increased risk of infection due to the removal of his spleen, the mediator proposed that this case settle for \$600,000. Mr. Pace has accepted the mediator's proposal.

Expenses incurred by the County in defense of this matter to date are attorneys' fees of \$62,974 and \$3,054 in costs.

## EVALUATION

The liability of the County arises from an apparent violation of the Fire Department policy relating to driving vehicles on the beach. That policy requires that before leaving a parked position, the driver must visually check in front of, back of, and beneath the vehicle before driving off. In light of the policy, it will be difficult to justify the lifeguard's conduct. Since the County has no reasonable defense on the issue of liability, the significant issue presented to the jury will be to determine the nature and extent of Mr. Pace's pain and suffering as a result of the sudden and traumatic nature of this incident, the blunt trauma he suffered and the surgical removal of his spleen. The jury also will be focused on whether Mr. Pace's increased risk of infections will limit his medical career choices and significantly decrease income-earning potential and his quality of life.

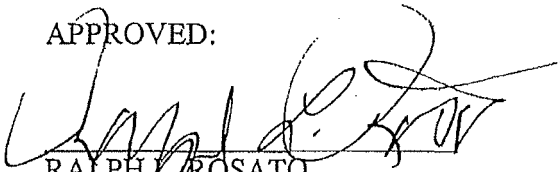
This case has had two roundtables, one on June 28, 2006, and the second on October 31, 2006, prior to the mediation. The consensus of the roundtable participants was to request Mr. Pace's settlement demand and reach a reasonable settlement, not to exceed \$600,000, without protracted litigation. The Fire Department participated in both roundtables.

## RECOMMENDATION

There is a potential for a verdict in excess of the proposed settlement, because Mr. Pace's physicians and the County's infectious disease specialist agree that he is more susceptible to disease because of the loss of his spleen.

We believe that settlement of this litigation for \$600,000 is in the best interest of the County. The Fire Department concurs in our recommendation.

APPROVED:



RALPH L. ROSATO  
Assistant County Counsel  
General Litigation Division

RLR:SND:mm

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

December 18, 2006

This regular meeting of the County of Los Angeles Claims Board was called to order at 8:01 a.m. The meeting was held in the Executive Conference Room, 648 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Los Angeles, California.

Present at the meeting were Claims Board Members: Maria M. Oms, Rocky Armfield, and John F. Krattli; Outside Counsel: None; The Office of the County Counsel: Narbeh Bagdasarian, Brian Chu, Karen Lichtenberg, and Casey Yourn; Department of Public Works: Dennis Hunter; Harbor-UCLA Medical Center: Gail Anderson

No members of the public addressed the Claims Board.

At 8:02 a.m., the Chairperson adjourned the meeting into closed session. At 10:20 a.m., the public meeting was reconvened.

The Claims Board took the following actions:

- a. Mureau Estates, LLC v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BS 100 957

This lawsuit seeks the refund of a development fee deposited for the realignment of a County road.

**The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter by payment of a partial refund of the \$519,378 development fee as set forth in the Claims Board memorandum.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was unanimous with all members present.**

- b. Richard Kado v. County of Los Angeles  
Yolo Superior Court Case No. 02AS07969

This lawsuit arises from injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident involving an employee of the District Attorney's Office.

**The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter in the amount of \$75,000 as set forth in the Claims Board memorandum.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was unanimous with all members present.**

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

- c. Jeremy Tang, et al. v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. TC 018 583

This wrongful death lawsuit arises from injuries sustained by a patient while hospitalized at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center.

**The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$167,000 as set forth in the Claims Board memorandum.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was unanimous with all members present.**

- d. Rosa Maria Ortega, et al. v. County of Los Angeles  
U.S. District Court Case No. CV 05-2246 JFW


This wrongful death lawsuit arises from the death of a patient at the LAC+USC Medical Center following the patient's release from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department jail.

**The Claims Board continued this item to the next meeting.**

Minutes for the December 4, 2006, meeting was approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:26 a.m. A special Claims Board meeting was tentatively scheduled for December 27, 2006.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD

By   
GEORGENE SALISBURY

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

December 27, 2005

This special meeting of the County of Los Angeles Claims Board was called to order at 8:05 a.m. The meeting was held in the Executive Conference Room, 648 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Los Angeles, California.

Present at the meeting were Claims Board Members: Maria M. Oms, Rocky Armfield, and John F. Krattli; Outside Counsel: None; The Office of the County Counsel: Narbeh Bagdasarian, Brian Chu, Roger Granbo; Department of Public Works: Keith Lehto; Sheriff's Department: Dawn Abarca, Kathleen Braman, Mark Glatt, and Charla Harris

No members of the public addressed the Claims Board.

At 8:06 a.m., the Chairperson adjourned the meeting into closed session. At 10:30 a.m., the public meeting was reconvened.

a. Claim of David Lebental

This claim seeks compensation for damage caused by a sewer back-up.

**The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$27,245.64 as set forth in the Claims Board memorandum.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was unanimous.**

b. Scott Ehret and Sandra Ehret v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. KC 047510

This claim seeks compensation for damage caused by a sewer back-up.

**The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$30,000 as set forth in the Claims Board memorandum.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was unanimous.**

c. Michael Nielsen v. County of Los Angeles  
United States District Court Case No. CV 05-08429

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

**The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$25,000 as set forth in the Claims Board memorandum.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was unanimous.**

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD  
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

- d. Jamal Johnson v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 331948

This lawsuit concerns allegations of violation of civil rights, false arrest, and assault and battery by Sheriff's Deputies.

**The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$150,000 as set forth in the Claims Board memorandum.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was unanimous.**

- e. Skyla Moreno, et al. v. County of Los Angeles  
United States District Court Case No. CV 05-07941

This lawsuit seeks compensation for a death which occurred while in the custody of the Sheriff's Department.

**The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$80,000 as set forth in the Claims Board memorandum.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was unanimous.**

- f. Carol Ann Wilson v. County of Los Angeles  
United States District Court Case No. CV 04-08309 JWJx

This lawsuit seeks compensation for a death which occurred while in the custody of the Sheriff's Department.

**The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$700,000 as set forth in the Claims Board memorandum.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was unanimous.**

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD  
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

- g. Rosa Maria Ortega, et al. v. County of Los Angeles  
U.S. District Court Case No. CV 05-2246 JFW

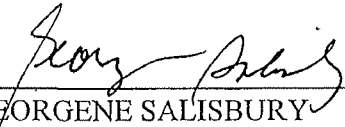
This wrongful death lawsuit arises from the death of a patient at the LAC+USC Medical Center following the patient's release from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department jail.

**The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$700,000 as set forth in the Claims Board memorandum.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was unanimous.**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD

By   
GEORGENE SALISBURY



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

January 16, 2007

This special meeting of the County of Los Angeles Claims Board was called to order at 8:04 a.m. The meeting was held in the Executive Conference Room, 648 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Los Angeles, California.

Present at the meeting were Claims Board Members: Maria M. Oms, Rocky Armfield, and John F. Krattli; Outside Counsel: Christy O'Donnell, Jeffrey Hausman; The Office of the County Counsel: Joyce Aiello, Narbeh Bagdasarian, Richard Brouwer, Brian Chu, Sheilah Curtis, Richard Girgado, Roger Granbo, Millicent Rolon, Lester Tolnai, Thomas Tyrrell; Chief Administrative Office: Delta Uyenoyama; Office of Affirmative Action: Hayward Harris, Jr.; Office of Public Safety: Margo Morales; Department of Health Services: Bonnie Bilitch, Roger Peeks; Department of Parks and Recreation: Ross Diaz, John Wicker, Jesse Yee; Department of Public Works: Keith Lehto; Sheriff's Department: Shaun Mathers

No members of the public addressed the Claims Board.

At 8:04 a.m., the Chairperson adjourned the meeting into closed session. At 10:35 a.m., the public meeting was reconvened.

- a. People of the State of New York by Eliot Sptizer, Attorney General of New York, et al. v. American International Group, Inc., et al.

This class action lawsuit concerns the improper payment of contingent commissions to insurance carriers.

**The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter whereby the County will accept payments totalling \$100,789.75 as follows: \$84,685.89 for Policy No. 2041904 and \$16,103.86 for Policy No. 7031181 as set forth in the Claims Board memorandum.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was as follows: Maria M. Oms and John F. Krattli approved; Rocky Armfield absent.**

- b. Claim of Dominique Daniel

This claim concerns allegations of sexual assault by a Sheriff's Deputy.

**The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$55,000 as set forth in the Claims Board memorandum.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was as follows: Maria M. Oms and John F. Krattli approved; Rocky Armfield absent.**

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD  
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

- c. North American Security, Inc. v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 348 761

This lawsuit concerns a breach of contract action against the County of Los Angeles.

**This matter was continued to the next Claims Board meeting.**

- d. Christian Murguia v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 345 652

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee of the Department of Parks and Recreation was subjected to employment discrimination.

**The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter. The substance of the above settlement will be disclosed upon inquiry by any person as soon as the settlement becomes final following approval by all parties.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was as follows: Maria M. Oms and John F. Krattli approved; Rocky Armfield absent.**

- e. Alexandro Villanueva v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 342 416

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee of the Sheriff's Department was subjected to employment discrimination.

**The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter. The substance of the above settlement will be disclosed upon inquiry by any person as soon as the settlement becomes final following approval by all parties.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was as follows: Maria M. Oms and John F. Krattli approved; Rocky Armfield absent.**

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD  
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

- f. Exxon Mobil Corporation v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 350 240

This lawsuit concerns the calculation of the amount of interest paid on property tax refunds.

**The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$267,591.37, plus interest until the date of payment as set forth in the Claims Board memorandum.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was as follows: Maria M. Oms and John F. Krattli approved; Rocky Armfield absent.**

- g. Denise Guzman, et al. v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. YC 050 845

This claim seeks compensation for damage caused by a sewage back-up.

**This matter was continued to the next Claims Board meeting.**

- h. William and Tina Schlock v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 328 862

This medical negligence lawsuit arises from injuries sustained by a patient while hospitalized at LAC+USC Medical Center.

**The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$1,500,000 as set forth in the Claims Board memorandum.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was as follows: Maria M. Oms and John F. Krattli approved; Rocky Armfield absent.**

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD  
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

- i. Nicole Davis v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 329 584

This medical negligence lawsuit arises from injuries sustained by a patient after receiving care and treatment at Hubert H. Humphrey Comprehensive Medical Center.

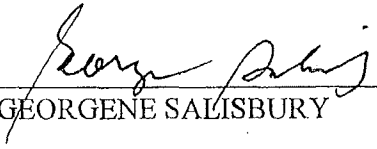
**The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$1,800,000, plus waiver of the County's medical bill in the amount of \$250 as set forth in the Claims Board memorandum.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was as follows: Maria M. Oms and John F. Krattli approved; Rocky Armfield absent.**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD

By

  
GEORGENE SALISBURY

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

February 1, 2007

This special meeting of the County of Los Angeles Claims Board was called to order at 8:02 a.m. The meeting was held in the Executive Conference Room, 648 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Los Angeles, California.

Present at the meeting were Claims Board Members: Maria M. Oms, Rocky Armfield, and John F. Krattli; Outside Counsel: Gregory Houle and Richard Houle; Office of the County Counsel: Narbeh Bagdasarian, Brian Chu, and Roger Granbo; Department of Public Works: Keith Lehto; Fire Department: Michael Kranther

No members of the public addressed the Claims Board.

At 8:02 a.m., the Chairperson adjourned the meeting into closed session. At 9:37 a.m., the public meeting was reconvened.

- a. Luis Fernando Montes, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. PC 036 627  
(consolidated with PC 036 881 and PC 037 534)

This lawsuit seeks damages for personal injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident involving an employee of the Fire Department.

**The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter. The substance of the above settlement will be disclosed upon inquiry by any person as soon as the settlement becomes final following approval by all parties.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was unanimous with all members present.**

- b. Dewitt Woodworth v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
United States District Court Case No. CV 06-02557

This lawsuit seeks compensation for injuries received by an inmate while in the custody of the Sheriff's Department.

**The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter. The substance of the above settlement will be disclosed upon inquiry by any person as soon as the settlement becomes final following approval by all parties.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was unanimous with all members present.**

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD  
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

- c. Denise Guzman, et al. v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. YC 050 845

This lawsuit seeks compensation for damage caused by a sewage back-up.

**The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$270,000 as set forth in the Claims Board memorandum.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was unanimous with all members present.**

- d. County of Los Angeles v. Sandra Shewry and State Department of Health Services  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BS 101 442

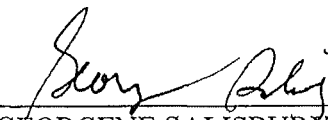
This lawsuit concerns payments under the State Medi-Cal Program.

**The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter whereby the County will receive \$48,478 as set forth in the Claims Board memorandum.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was unanimous with all members present.**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD

By   
GEORGENE SALISBURY

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

February 15, 2007

This special meeting of the County of Los Angeles Claims Board was called to order at 8:06 a.m. The meeting was held in the Executive Conference Room, 648 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Los Angeles, California.

Present at the meeting were Claims Board Members: Maria M. Oms, Rocky Armfield, and John F. Krattli; Outside Counsel: Calvin House; Office of the County Counsel: Ann Aguilar, Brian Chu, Roger Granbo, Karen Lichtenberg, Millicent Rolon, Julie Silva, Lester Tolnai, Warren Wellen, Casey Yourn; Office of Public Safety: Margo Morales; Department of Public Works: Mark Caddick, David Howard, and Jeff Wingate; Sheriff's Department: Shaun Mathers

No members of the public addressed the Claims Board.

At 8:06 a.m., the Chairperson adjourned the meeting into closed session. At 11:14 a.m., the public meeting was reconvened.

- a. Castaic Boat & Marine, LLC, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 312 566

This lawsuit seeks compensation for damage caused by water from a storm drain.

**This matter was continued to the next Claims Board meeting.**

- b. Stiefler v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. SC 087 897

This lawsuit seeks compensation for damage due to a landslide.

**This matter was continued to the next Claims Board meeting.**

- c. Tracy Tiznor v. County of Los Angeles  
United States District Court Case No. CV 06-03345

This lawsuit seeks compensation for a death which occurred while in the custody of the Sheriff's Department.

**The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter. The substance of the above settlement will be disclosed upon inquiry by any person as soon as the settlement becomes final following approval by all parties.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was unanimous with all members present.**

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD  
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

- d. Tony Shane Wilson v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 346 184

This lawsuit seeks compensation for injuries received by an inmate while in the custody of the Sheriff's Department.

**The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$80,000 as set forth in the Claims Board memorandum.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was unanimous with all members present.**

- e. North American Security, Inc. v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 348 761

This lawsuit concerns a breach of contract action against the County of Los Angeles.

**The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$335,000 as set forth in the Claims Board memorandum.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was unanimous with all members present.**

- f. Corry Hong v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 339 971

This lawsuit seeks compensation for property damaged during a construction project.

**The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$39,950 as set forth in the Claims Board memorandum.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was unanimous with all members present.**

- g. Shingara Singh, et al. v. Edward P. Mariani, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. PC 037 754

This lawsuit seeks compensation for injuries received from a motor vehicle accident involving an employee of the Department of Public Works.

**The Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$40,000 as set forth in the Claims Board memorandum.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was unanimous with all members present.**



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD  
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

- h. Jessica Sorto v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. YC 050 966

This lawsuit arises from injuries sustained in a vehicle accident involving an employee of the Sheriff's Department.

**This matter was continued to the next Claims Board meeting.**

- i. David Sherr v. County of Los Angeles  
United States District Court Case No. CV 05-2749 AG (Ctx)

This lawsuit seeks compensation for injuries sustained by an employee of the Sheriff's Department.

**The Claims Board approved settlement of this matter. The substance of the above settlement will be disclosed upon inquiry by any person as soon as the settlement becomes final following approval by all parties.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was unanimous with all members present.**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD

By   
GEORGENE SALISBURY

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

February 22, 2007

This special meeting of the County of Los Angeles Claims Board was called to order at 8:03 a.m. The meeting was held in the Executive Conference Room, 648 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Los Angeles, California.

Present at the meeting were Claims Board Members: Maria M. Oms, Rocky Armfield, and John F. Krattli; Outside Counsel: None; Office of the County Counsel: Brian Chu, Rosa Linda Cruz, Karen Lichtenberg, Michael Moore, Warren Wellen, Casey Yourn; Department of Public Works: Manuel del Real

No members of the public addressed the Claims Board.

At 8:04 a.m., the Chairperson adjourned the meeting into closed session. At 9:22 a.m., the public meeting was reconvened.

- a. Castaic Boat & Marine, LLC, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 312 566

This lawsuit seeks compensation for damage caused by water from a storm drain.

**The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$220,000.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was unanimous with all members present.**

- b. Stiefler v. County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. SC 087 897

This lawsuit seeks compensation for damage due to a landslide.

**The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$400,000 as set forth in the Claims Board memorandum.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was unanimous with all members present.**

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD  
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

- c. Jessica Sorto v. County of Los Angeles, et al.  
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. YC 050 966

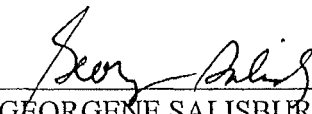
This lawsuit arises from injuries sustained in a vehicle accident involving an employee of the Sheriff's Department.

**The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$250,000 as set forth in the Claims Board memorandum.**

**The vote of the Claims Board was unanimous with all members present.**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CLAIMS BOARD

By   
GEORGENE SALISBURY