

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

# CONTRACT CITIES LIABILITY TRUST FUND CLAIMS BOARD

500 WEST TEMPLE STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2713

#### MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

#### NOTICE OF MEETING

Chris Constantin City Manager James Bozajian City Council Member Bryan Cook City Manager Margaret Finlay City Council Member Mark Waronek City Council Member Jennifer Perez City Council Member John Moreno City Manager Kenneth Striplin City Manager Jennifer Vasquez City Manager Marcel Rodarte California Contract Cities Association Patrick Kearney

City Council Member

The County of Los Angeles Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board will hold its Regular Meeting on Wednesday,

January 17, 2024, at 11:00 a.m., in the City of Monterey Park, Posada Ballroom at Luminarias Restaurant, 3500 Ramona Boulevard, Monterey Park, California 91754 and Via Teleconference.

# **TELECONFERENCE LOCATIONS**

2221 Rim Road, Duarte, CA 91008 | (626) 818-9821

<u>City of Calabasas, 100 Civic Center Way Calabasas, CA 91302 |</u> (818) 224-1600

<u>City of La Cañada Flintridge, One Civic Center Drive, La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91011 | (818) 790-8880</u>

City of Norwalk, 12700 Norwalk Blvd, Norwalk, CA 90650 | (562) 929-5700

<u>City of Santa Clarita, 23920 Valencia Blvd, Santa Clarita, CA 91355 | (661) 259-2489</u>

In compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Agency Clerk at (562) 467-8736. Notification 48 hours before meeting will enable the Authority to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility. (28 CFR 35.102.35.104 ADA Title II)

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

You may submit public comment by e-mail at <a href="wruiz@cjpia.org">wruiz@cjpia.org</a> or by mail to: Attention: Contract Cities Claims Board Agenda, Executive Office, County Counsel, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California, 90012. Written public comment or documentation must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 16, 2024. Please include the Agenda item and meeting date in your correspondence. Comments and any other written submissions will become part of the official record of the meeting.

Members of the public wishing to listen to open sessions of the meeting may call the California JPIA's teleconference number at 1(253) 215-8782,

Enter Meeting ID: 846 3516 2538; Passcode 250873.

## **Zoom Meeting Link**

https://cjpia.zoom.us/j/84635162538?pwd=fhGdlAcNpPG8esryGSpOzaEYj6YTy H.1&from=addon

Meeting ID: 846 3516 2538

Passcode: **250873** One tap mobile +12532158782

#### **AGENDA**

- 1. Call to Order.
- 2. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Claims Board on items of interest that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Claims Board.
- 3. Closed Session Conference with Legal Counsel Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Government Code Section 54956.
  - a. <u>Barraza, Johanna v. County of Los Angeles, et al.</u>
    Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV07377

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

See Supporting Document

b. Non-Litigated Claim of United Financial Casualty ASO Imelda Ledesma CRM No. 22-4403971\*003

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

**See Supporting Document** 

c. Olivas, Andre v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:21-CV-09509

This lawsuit concerns allegations of excessive force arising out of Plaintiff's detention and arrest.

**See Supporting Document** 

d. Rodriguez, Emma v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV21846

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

See Supporting Document

- 4. Closed Session Conference with Legal Counsel Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Government Code Section 54956.9).
  - a. <u>Bradley, James Jr. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.</u>
    United States District Court Case No. 2:22-CV-05623

This lawsuit concerns allegations of detention and excessive force during a stolen vehicle investigation by Sheriff's Deputies.

b. <u>Castro, Regina v. County of Los Angeles, et al.</u>
United States District Court Case No. 2:23-CV-02810

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

c. <u>Curiel, Antonio v. County of Los Angeles, et al.</u>
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV39326

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

d. <u>Gaines, Raymond v. County of Los Angeles, et al.</u>
United States District Court Case No. 2:22-CV-02801

This lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations, excessive force when he was unreasonably and unlawfully pulled over.

e. <u>Numaan, Ajmal v. County of Los Angeles, et al.</u>
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV21331

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

- 5. Report of actions taken in Closed Session.
- 6. Approval of Minutes for the December 13, 2023, meeting of the Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board.

See Supporting Document

- 7. Other Business
- 8. Adjournment

# INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME

Johanna Villaney Barraza, et al. vs County of Los

Angeles, et al.

CASE NUMBER 22STCV07377

COURT Los Angeles Superior Court

DATE FILED 05/10/2021

COUNTY DEPARTMENT Sheriff's Department

PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT \$ 50,000

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF Narbeh Shirvanian, Esq.

The Shirvanian Law Firm

COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY Michael J. Gordon

Senior Deputy County Counsel

NATURE OF CASE On March 11, 2020, a vehicle driven by Plaintiff

Johanna Villaney Barraza and a Sheriff's

Department patrol car collided in the intersection of 6<sup>th</sup> Street East and Palmdale Boulevard in the City of Palmdale. Plaintiffs Ms. Barraza and Josh Andrew Barraza allege the collision caused injuries

for which they seek compensation.

Given the risked and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of

\$50,000 is warranted.

PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE \$ 18,413

PAID COSTS, TO DATE \$ 3,992

# INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME Non-Litigated Claim of United Financial Casualty

ASO Ismelda Ledesma

CASE NUMBER N/A

COURT N/A

DATE FILED N/A

COUNTY DEPARTMENT Sheriff-South Patrol Division-Pico Rivera-Station

PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT \$ 30,307.24

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF N/A

COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY Edwin A. Lewis

**Principal Deputy County Counsel** 

NATURE OF CASE Claimant alleges that the Sheriff's Department car

ran a red light and hit her car which had the right of

way.

PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE \$ 0

PAID COSTS, TO DATE \$ 0

# INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME Olivas, Andre v. County of Los Angeles, et al.

CASE NUMBER 2:21-CV-09509

COURT United States District Court

DATE FILED December 8, 2021

COUNTY DEPARTMENT Sheriff's Department

PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT \$ 750,000

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF V. James DeSimone

COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY Minas Samuelian

Senior Deputy County Counsel

NATURE OF CASE This is a recommendation to settle for \$750,000

inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, a federal and State civil rights lawsuit filed by Andrew Olivas ("Plaintiff"), alleging excessive force arising out of

Plaintiff's detention and arrest.

Given 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 \$750,000 is recommended.

PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE \$ 106,414

PAID COSTS, TO DATE \$ 5,128

# INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME Emma Rodriguez vs. County of Los Angeles, et. al.

CASE NUMBER 21STCV21846

COURT Los Angeles Superior Court

DATE FILED September 7, 2021

COUNTY DEPARTMENT Sheriff's Department

PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT \$ 185,000

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF Marc J. Katzman, Esq.

Marc Katzman Law

COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY Kelly Ward, Esq.

Kjar, McKenna & Stockalper

Melissa McCaverty Deputy County Counsel

NATURE OF CASE This incident occurred on December 16, 2019, when

LASD Deputy Solis's County 2016 Ford Explorer rear ended Ms. Rodriguez' 2008 Ford Escape on the

Interstate 105 freeway. Plaintiff alleges she

sustained injuries and damages.

Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of

\$185,000 is recommended.

PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE \$ 18,543.50

PAID COSTS, TO DATE \$ 2,084.05

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

#### MINUTES OF MEETING

December 13, 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 11:10 a.m. The meeting was held at Luminarias Restaurant, Posada 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; Chris Constantin, East Division; Jennifer Vasquez, Central Division; Ken Striplin, North Division; Mark Waronek, South Division; Bryan Cook, At-Large; James Bozajian, North Division; Jennifer Perez, At Large; Alternate: Thaddeus McCormick, South Division; Michael Davitt, Central Division; Daniel Jordan, East Division; County of Los Angeles Staff: Elizabeth D. Miller, Assistant County Counsel; Melissa McCaverty, Deputy County Counsel; Millicent L. Rolon, Principal Deputy County Counsel; Joseph Langton, Principal Deputy County Counsel; Richard Hsueh, Senior Deputy County Counsel; Destiny Castro, ACEO County of Los Angeles; John Haynes, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Shawnee Hinchman, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Andrew Cruz, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Donald Moore, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Thomas Kim, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Erick Martinez, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Attendees: Karen Bartak, Bedford Falls Insurance; Fred Groehler, Protelligent, Inc.; Chris Gray, Alliant Insurance; Angela Powell, Ivie, McNeill & Wyatt; Third Party Administrator for the County of Los Angeles: California JPIA: Alex Smith, Chief Executive Office; Paul Zeglovitch, Claims and Insurance Director; Jennifer Torres, Administrative Assistant; Veronica Ruiz, Agency Clerk.

## 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 11:11 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. <u>Jones, Adonis v. County of Los Angeles, et al.</u>
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV41715

This lawsuit concerns allegations from the detention of Mr. Jones during a burglary investigation in Carson.

#### Action Taken:

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$65,000.00.

Vote: Ayes: 10 – James Bozajian, Margaret Finlay, Patrick Kearney, Ken Striplin, Jennifer Perez, Bryan Cook, Jennifer Vasquez, Mark Waronek, Chris Constantin, and Alternate Thaddeus McCormack.

b. Medina, Jesus v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:22-CV-05285

This lawsuit concerns allegations of unlawful arrest and excessive force during a traffic stop.

#### Action Taken:

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$300,000.00.

Vote: Ayes: 8-2 – James Bozajian, Bryan Cook, Margaret Finlay, Ken Striplin, Jennifer Perez, Jennifer Vasquez, Mark Waronek, and Alternate Thaddeus Mccormack.

Nays: Chris Constantin, Patrick Kearney.

c. <u>Montes, Mesalina v. County of Los Angeles, et al.</u>
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV30333

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 \$800,000.00.

Vote: Ayes: 10-0 – James Bozajian, Margaret Finlay, Patrick Kearney, Ken Striplin, Jennifer Perez, Bryan Cook, Jennifer Vasquez, Mark Waronek, Chris Constantin, and Alternate Thaddeus McCormack.

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# d. Non-Litigated Claim of Cedric Paul Urbiztondo CRM No. 22-4393441\*001-002

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 \$25,000.00 (Cedric Paul Urbiztondo - \$15,000.00 and Angelica Rowena Urbiztondo - \$10,000)

Vote: Ayes: 10-0 – James Bozajian, Margaret Finlay, Patrick Kearney, Ken Striplin, Jennifer Perez, Bryan Cook, Jennifer Vasquez, Mark Waronek, Chris Constantin, and Alternate Thaddeus McCormack.

e. <u>Non-Litigated Claim of Celia Marquez and Jose Luis Gonzales Terreros</u> CRM #22-4393541\*001 to 002

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 \$80,000.00 (Celia Marquez - \$40,000.00 and Jose Luis Gonzales Terreros - \$40,000)

Vote: Ayes: 10-0 – James Bozajian, Margaret Finlay, Patrick Kearney, Ken Striplin, Jennifer Perez, Bryan Cook, Jennifer Vasquez, Mark Waronek, Chris Constantin, and Alternate Thaddeus McCormack.

f. Ramirez, Jason v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22AVC00346

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: 9-0 – James Bozajian, Margaret Finlay, Patrick Kearney, Ken Striplin, Jennifer Perez, Bryan Cook, Jennifer Vasquez, Mark Waronek and Chris Constantin.

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

a. <u>Castro, Regina v. County of Los Angeles, et al.</u>
United States District Court Case No. 2:23-CV-02810

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

## Action Taken:

No reportable action taken.

b. <u>Martinez, Cynthia v. Target Corporation, et al.</u>
United States District Court Case No. 2:22-CV-1237

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

#### Action Taken:

No reportable action taken.

c. <u>Moreno, Austin Richard v. County of Los Angeles, et al.</u>
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV40269

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

# Action Taken:

No reportable action taken.

d. R., H., a minor, by Johnson, Raylene v. County of Los Angeles, et al. United States District Court Case No. 2-22-CV-05706

This lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations, excessive force, and wrongful death shooting 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 1:10 p.m. No action was taken in Closed Session which required a public report pursuant to Government Code section 54957.1.

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6. Approval of the Minutes for November 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: 10-0 – James Bozajian, Margaret Finlay, Patrick Kearney, Ken Striplin, Jennifer Perez, Bryan Cook, Jennifer Vasquez, Mark Waronek, Chris Constantin, and Alternate Thaddeus McCormack.

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 1:12 p.m.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CONTRACT CITIES LIABILITY
TRUST FUND CLAIMS BOARD

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