



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

CLAIMS BOARD

500 WEST TEMPLE STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2713

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Oscar Valdez
Office of the Auditor-Controller
Destiny Castro
Chief Executive Office
Adrienne M. Byers
Office of the County Counsel

NOTICE OF MEETING AND AGENDA

The Los Angeles County Claims Board will hold a regular meeting on **Monday, May 6, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.**, at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Sixth Floor, Conference Room C, Los Angeles, California 90012. Members of the public who would like to listen to the open session of the meeting or would like to provide public comment may call (323) 776-6996, then enter ID 447 394 315# at 9:30 a.m. on May 6, 2024.

Reports of actions taken in Closed Session. The Los Angeles County Claims Board will report actions taken on any Closed Session Items on Monday, May 6, 2024, at approximately 12:25 p.m. Members of the public who would like to hear reportable actions taken on any Closed Session items may call (323) 776-6996, then enter ID 447 394 315# at 12:25 p.m. on May 6, 2024. Please note that these are approximate start times and there may be a short delay before the Closed Session is concluded and the actions can be reported.

TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT:

You may submit written public comments by e-mail to claimsboard@counsel.lacounty.gov or by mail to: Attention: Los Angeles County Claims Board, Executive Office, County Counsel, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California, 90012.

Written public comment or documentation must be submitted no later than 12:00 p.m. on Friday, May 3, 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.

If you wish to address the Los Angeles County Claims Board in person, you may come to the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California, 90012, and enter on the Second Floor. Please advise the security guard station personnel that you would like to attend the public portion of the Claims Board meeting and a security guard will escort you to the Sixth Floor where you will be assisted.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Public comment is limited to the specific items on the agenda and general public comment is limited to subject matters within the jurisdiction of the Claims Board.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION: The Agenda and any supporting documents will be posted at <https://lacounty.gov/newsroom/public-information/los-angeles-county-claims-board/> and can be provided upon request. Please submit requests for supporting documents to claimsboard@counsel.lacounty.gov.

If you would like more information, please contact Claims Board Secretary Laura Z. Salazar at lzsalar@counsel.lacounty.gov or Raina Mey RMey@counsel.lacounty.gov.

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 (Government Code section 54956.9, subdivision (a)).
 - a. Ruth Campbell v. City of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV27418

This dangerous condition of public property lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained from a slip and fall incident on a ramp to a portable restroom facility supplied by the County of Los Angeles; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$50,000.

[See Supporting Document](#)
 - b. Non-litigated Claims of American Family Connect ASO Ismael Carbajal and Tesla Insurance Company ASO Earl Anthony Hibbert

These claims arise from property damage allegedly sustained in an automobile accident involving a Fire Department employee; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$46,655.88.

[See Supporting Document](#)
 - c. Jairo Diaz v. Jaime Le Clercq, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV10920

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained by a pedestrian struck by a fire truck while crossing an intersection; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$225,000.

[See Supporting Documents](#)
 - d. Shahrokh Lavasani v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV06262

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained when a vehicle driven by Plaintiff collided with a dump truck driven by a Department of Public Works employee; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$35,000.

[See Supporting Document](#)
 - e. Kimberly Arnold, et al. v. Ford Motor Company, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV45317

This wrongful death lawsuit alleges that the decedent suffered fatal injuries in a single vehicle accident because of dangerous condition of public property; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$40,000.

[See Supporting Document](#)

- f. Bern J. Galvin v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV37153

This dangerous condition of public property lawsuit arises from injuries allegedly sustained in a rollerblading accident on the Los Angeles River Bikeway; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$50,000.

[See Supporting Document](#)

- g. Carlos Puga v. City of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV34436

This dangerous condition of public property lawsuit arises from injuries allegedly sustained when Plaintiff fell off his bicycle riding down La Tuna Canyon Road; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$99,000.

[See Supporting Document](#)

- h. Joshua Henry v. Anitria Michelle Tomlin, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22NWCV01773

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained in a vehicle accident when a Sheriff's lieutenant rear-ended Plaintiff; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$40,000.

[See Supporting Document](#)

- i. Non-Litigated Claims of Yue Jin & Jing Meng

These claims arise from personal injury and property damage allegedly sustained in an automobile accident with a Sheriff's deputy's patrol vehicle; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$97,360.80.

[See Supporting Document](#)

- j. Mari Drake v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:21-CV-05532

This federal civil rights lawsuit arises from Plaintiff's participation in and arrest during a protest in downtown Los Angeles; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$99,000.

[See Supporting Document](#)

- k. Alliance of Los Angeles County Parents v. County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCP02772

This appeal against the Department of Public Health concerns a waiver of costs awarded to the County relating to a lawsuit challenging mask mandates during COVID-19; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$24,667.74.

[See Supporting Document](#)

I. Non-Litigated Claim of Mamie Ware

This medical malpractice claim contends that Los Angeles General Medical Center was negligent, resulting in the death of a patient; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$700,000.

[See Supporting Documents](#)

m. Sandy Correa v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV18956

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee of the Department of Health Services was subjected to discrimination and retaliation; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$45,000.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the April 15, 2024, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

[See Supporting Document](#)

5. Adjournment.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Ruth Campbell vs. City of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	21STCV27418
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	July 26, 2021
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Beaches and Harbor
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 50,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	David Lederer, Esq. LEDERER & NOJIMA, LLP
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Melissa A. McCaverty Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>On September 23, 2020, Plaintiff slipped and fall while walking on a portable restroom ramp at White Point/Royal Palms Beach at San Pedro State Park. Plaintiff claims to have suffered injuries and damages from the incident.</p> <p>Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 24,653
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 13,755

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Non-litigated Claims of American Family Connect ASO Ismael Carbajal and Tesla Insurance Company ASO Earl Anthony Hibbert
CASE NUMBER	N/A
COURT	N/A
DATE FILED	N/A
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Fire Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 46,655.88 - American Family Connect ASO Ismael Carbajal-\$10,498.45; Tesla Insurance Company ASO Earl Anthony Hibbert-\$36,157.43
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	None
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Edwin A. Lewis Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This is a subrogation claim on behalf of American Family Connect ASO Ismael Carbajal and Tesla Insurance Company ASO Earl Anthony Hibbert for moneys paid to their insureds for damage resulting from a tire coming off of a County vehicle and striking their insureds' car. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a settlement of the claim is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 0.00
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 0.00

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Jairo Diaz v. Jaime Le Clercq, et al.
CASE NUMBER	21STCV10920
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	March 22, 2021
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Fire Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 225,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	JUDE A. AKUBUILO, ESQ. Law Offices of Jude A. Akubuilu, Ph.D.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	RICHARD K. KUDO Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This case involves a collision that occurred on March 5, 2020, when a Fire Department Dodge Ram fire truck was turning left from westbound Imperial Highway to southbound Stockwell Drive and struck Jairo Diaz ("Plaintiff") who was crossing Stockwell Drive. Plaintiff claims to have suffered injuries and damages from the accident. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 40,202
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 6,798



Summary Corrective Action Plan

The intent of this form is to assist departments in writing a corrective action plan summary for attachment to the settlement documents developed for the Board of Supervisors and/or the County of Los Angeles Claims Board. The summary should be a specific overview of the claims/lawsuits' identified root causes and corrective actions (status, time frame, and responsible party). This summary does not replace the Corrective Action Plan form. If there is a question related to confidentiality, please consult County Counsel.

Date of incident/event:	March 5, 2020
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	<p>On March 5, 2020 at approximately 1:15 a.m., Los Angeles County Fire Department (Department) squad operated by a Fire Fighter (FF) was headed to the hospital on a hospital follow-up behind the ambulance with emergency lights activated (no siren) traveling westbound on Imperial Highway and turning left onto Stockwell Drive when he came into contact with Plaintiff.</p> <p>Plaintiff, a pedestrian, was crossing Stockwell Drive from west to east and was in the middle of the crosswalk. FF applied brakes to decelerate and contact was made with Plaintiff's left shoulder before Plaintiff fell over onto his right side. FF exited the squad and made contact with Plaintiff, and conducted a verbal assessment. FF did not immediately notify Dispatch or his chain of command Although Plaintiff initially refused to go to the hospital, FF was able to convince Plaintiff to get into the squad so that FF could drive Plaintiff 0.2 miles to the hospital. Upon arrival to the hospital, FF notified his captain. Plaintiff was taken to the hospital and subsequently discharged himself from the hospital. Plaintiff now alleges that he injured his shoulder, hip, ankles, and knees.</p>

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

The Department employee did not drive with due regard for public safety when he made a left-turn.

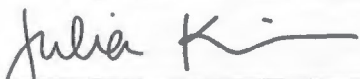
A non-associated root cause which did not contribute to the incident nor was it a factor in settlement was that the Department employee failed to make immediate notifications to the chain of command and/or Dispatch.

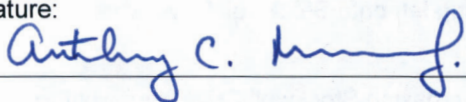
2. Briefly describe recommended corrective actions:
(Include each corrective action, due date, responsible party, and any disciplinary actions if appropriate)


1. The involved FF received a 4 hour in-person drivers enrichment training.
2. The Department initiated an internal investigation into collision. As a result, the Department issued the involved FF a 3-day suspension effective March 16, 2023.

3. Are the corrective actions addressing department-wide system issues?

- Yes – The corrective actions address department-wide system issues.
- No – The corrective actions are only applicable to the affected parties.

Name: (Risk Management Coordinator)	
Julia Kim	
Signature: 	Date: March 6, 2024

Name: (Department Head)	
ANTHONY C. MARRONE	
Signature: 	Date: MARCH 6, 2024

Chief Executive Office Risk Management Inspector General USE ONLY	
Are the corrective actions applicable to other departments within the County?	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, the corrective actions potentially have County-wide applicability.	
<input type="checkbox"/> No, the corrective actions are applicable only to this department.	
Name: (Risk Management Inspector General)	
Daniela Prowizor	
Signature:  Daniela Prowizor	Date: 3/7/2024
<small>Digitally signed by Daniela Prowizor Date: 2024.03.07 10:07:40 -08'00'</small>	

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Lavasani, Shahrokh vs. Amparan, Ricardo Francesco, et al.
CASE NUMBER	20STCV06262
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	January 5, 2022
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Public Works
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 35,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Michael H. Moghtader, Esq. MHM LAW GROUP, APLC
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Michael Gordon, Esq. Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>On December 2, 2019, a vehicle driven by Plaintiff Shahrokh Lavasani and a Department of Public Works dump truck collided on Rinaldi Street in the City of Granada Hills. Plaintiff alleges the collision caused injuries for which he seeks compensation.</p> <p>Given the risk and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$35,000 is warranted.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 19,787
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 6,485

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Kimberly Arnold, et al. v. Ford Motor Company, et al.
CASE NUMBER	20STCV45317
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	November 25, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Public Works
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 40,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Minh T. Nguyen, Esq. Nguyen Lawyers ALC Perona Langer Beck Serbin & Harrison
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Tomas Guterres, Esq. Collins & Collins LLP LaTasha N. Corry, Esq. Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a wrongful death lawsuit in which Kevin Arnold ("Decedent") died when he lost control of his Ford truck while driving on northbound Angeles Forest Highway, south of Grizzly Flats Road, in the unincorporated area of the County. Plaintiffs Kimberly Arnold, Decedent's surviving spouse, and Reyna Arnold, Decedent's minor daughter, allege that Decedent's accident and death were due to a dangerous condition of public property and seek damages for Decedent's loss. The County disputes any liability for the accident. The County contends Decedent's death was because of his unsafe driving.</p> <p>Due the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 49,493
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 2,875

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Galvin, Bern J. vs. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	21STCV37153
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	October 7, 2021
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Public Works
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 50,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Victor L. George, Esq.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	SANJAY A. ATHALYE Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	On September 29, 2020, plaintiff Bern Galvin was injured when he fell while rollerblading on the Los Angeles River Bikeway ("Bike Path") located on the eastside of the Los Angeles riverbed just south of the Pacific Coast Highway underpass in the City of Long Beach. Plaintiff alleges that a County truck parked just south of the underpass, partially on the Bike Path and the Bike Path shoulder, represented a dangerous condition of public property. Plaintiff claims to have suffered injuries and damages from the accident. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 124,791
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 12,266

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Puga, Carlos vs. City of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	20STCV34436
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	09/09/2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Public Works
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 99,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Robert L. Booker II, Esq. Joana Fang, Esq. Century Park Law Group, LLP
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Kevin J. Engeliem, Esq. Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This lawsuit arises from a dangerous condition of an uneven roadway and/or a pothole involving public property owned and maintained by the Department of Public Works. Plaintiff was riding his bicycle without a helmet on October 22, 2019, when his tire struck a pothole causing him to fall and sustain injuries, including traumatic brain injury. Plaintiff filed a lawsuit.</p> <p>Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 72,106
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 88,214

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Henry, Joshua vs. Tomlin, Anitria Michelle, et al.
CASE NUMBER	22NWCV01773
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	December 30, 2022
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 40,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Habbas Samer, Esq.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Kevin J. Engelen Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This lawsuit arises from an automobile collision that occurred on October 21, 2021, when a Sheriff's Department vehicle operated by a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department employee collided with the Plaintiff's vehicle on the I-91 Freeway.</p> <p>Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 32,710
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 11,293

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Non-litigated Claims of Yue Jin & Jing Meng
CASE NUMBER	N/A
COURT	N/A
DATE FILED	N/A
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff – East Patrol Division – Temple Station
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 97,360.80
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	David T. Sun, A.P.C
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Joseph A. Langton Principal Deputy County Counsel Litigation Monitoring Team
NATURE OF CASE	These claims arise from a vehicle accident that resulted in bodily injury and property damage. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full settlement of the claim is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 0
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 0

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Drake, Mari v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	2:21-CV-05532
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	July 8, 2021
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 99,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Lauren McRae PLC Law Group, APC
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Richard Hsueh Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a recommendation to settle the federal civil rights lawsuit filed by Mari Drake ("Plaintiff") arising out of her participation and arrest during a protest on June 3, 2020, for a sum of \$99,000, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs.</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 \$99,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 121,193
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 6,498

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Alliance of Los Angeles County Parents v. County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health; Muntu Davis; Barbara Ferrer
CASE NUMBER	22STCP02772
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	July 26, 2022
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	DPH
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ Waiver of \$ 24,667.74 in costs awarded to the County
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Julie Hamil Hamil Law & Consulting
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Blaine D. McPhillips Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>Plaintiff alleged that its members' speech rights under Article I of the California Constitution were violated when the Department of Public Health turned off the public comment functions on the Department's social media accounts. The Court previously had dismissed all of Plaintiff's masking-related claims. Plaintiff has appealed all of these rulings.</p> <p>At trial, the Court ruled in favor of the County, found no free speech violations, and awarded costs to the County. Due to the potential risks inherent in any appeal and the additional costs that will be incurred through the appellate process, settlement by way of a dismissal of the appeal in exchange for a costs waiver now is warranted.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 745,050
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 27,540

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Non-Litigated Claim of Mamie Ware
CASE NUMBER	None
COURT	None
DATE FILED	None
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Health Services
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 700,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	None
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Narbeh Bagdasarian Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>On October 6, 2020, Richard Dabbs, Jr., a 51-year-old male, had a skin graft procedure at Los Angeles General Medical Center ("LA General"). Mr. Dabbs experienced respiratory distress after the procedure, and as a result, suffered brain injury.</p> <p>Mr. Dabbs filed a medical malpractice action against the County of Los Angeles contending LA General staff were negligent in his care and treatment. His mother, Mamie Ware, also filed a claim related to the treatment. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of this matter is warranted.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 0
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 0



Summary Corrective Action Plan

The intent of this form is to assist departments in writing a corrective action plan summary for the settlement documents developed for the Board of Supervisors and/or the County of Los Angeles Claims Board. The summary should be a specific overview of the claims/lawsuits' identified root causes and corrective actions (status, time frame, and responsible party). This summary does not replace the Corrective Action Plan form. If there is a question related to confidentiality, please consult County Counsel.

Date of incident/event:	October 6, 2020
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	<p>On September 29, 2020, R.D. a 51-year-old male, presented to the St. Mary Medical Center (a non-County facility) with severe burns to his face, arms, chest, and legs. He was then transferred to Los Angeles General Medical Center (LAGEN) to undergo a skin graft procedure to treat his burn injuries. The procedure was performed on October 6, 2020. R.D. experienced respiratory distress after the procedure, and as a result, suffered brain injury.</p> <p>R.D. filed a medical malpractice action against the County of Los Angeles contending that the LAGEN staff were negligent in his care and treatment. As the case was being litigated, on February 13, 2023, R.D. died because of the complications of his severe condition. Since there was no plaintiff, the case was dismissed on May 3, 2023.</p> <p>The County's Communication and Optimal Resolution ("CANDOR") program evaluated the case and determined that the principles of fairness required the County to compensate R.D.'s surviving family. After several meetings, the County offered M.W., R.D.'s surviving mother, \$700,000, under the CANDOR program.</p>

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


Brain injury resulting from respiratory arrest during transport from the operating room.

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


- The Department of Health Services is implementing a process to perform additional electronic monitoring of patients being transferred from the operating room to the post-anesthesia care unit.

3. Are the corrective actions addressing department-wide system issues?

- Yes – The corrective actions address department-wide system issues.
- No – The corrective actions are only applicable to the affected parties.

Name: (Risk Management Coordinator) Arun Patel MD, JD	
Signature: 	Date: 1/24/24

Name: (Department Head) Christina Ghaly MD	
Signature: 	Date: 1/24/2024

Chief Executive Office Risk Management Inspector General USE ONLY	
Are the corrective actions applicable to other departments within the County?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the corrective actions potentially have County-wide applicability.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No, the corrective actions are applicable only to this department.	
Name: (Risk Management Inspector General) Daniela Prowizor	
Signature: 	Date: 1/24/2024

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

April 15, 2024

1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Los Angeles County Claims Board was called to order at 9:31 a.m. The meeting was held virtually with Claims Board Members Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Chair Destiny Castro participating in person at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Sixth Floor, Conference Room C, Los Angeles, California 90012.

All other persons present at the virtual Claims Board meeting: Sanjay Athalye, Warren Wellen, Jonathan Brazile, Narbeh Bagdasarian, Edward Morrissey, Michael Owens, Edwin Lewis, Michael Gordon, Melissa McCaverty, Mark Lomax, Kevin Engeliem, Pirjo Ranasinghe, and Kent Sommer appeared for the Office of the County Counsel. Jacklin Injjian, Jolene Guerrero, and Michele Chimienti appeared for Public Works. Arun Patel and Roberto Avitia appeared for Health Services. Konita Wilks and Karen Nunn appeared for Olive View Medical Center. Griselda Gutierrez, Andrea Turner, and Lan Soeur appeared for Harbor Medical Center. Jerome Jordan and Aman Bhullar appeared for the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk. Julia Kim, Dennis Breshears, Brian Martin, and Tito Rodriguez appeared for the Fire Department. Christina Lee appeared for the Department of Children and Family Services. Priscilla Musso appeared for the District Attorney's Office. Commander Tania Plunkett, Sergeant Shanese Winfrey, Deputy Renata Phillip, Chief Jorge Valdez, Commander Michael Hannemann, and Captain Glenn Walsh appeared for the Sheriff's Department. Tomas Guterres appeared for Collins + Collins, LLP. Richard Fond appeared for BDG Law Group.

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 member of the public appeared in person or on the public teleconference phone line to address the Claims Board.

3. Closed Session – Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Government Code section 54956.9, subdivision (a)).

At 9:31 a.m., Chair Destiny Castro convened the meeting in closed session to discuss the items listed below as 4(a) through 4(m).

4. Report on Actions Taken in Closed Session.

No members of the public were present to hear the reportable actions of the Claims Board.

At 12:39 p.m., the Claims Board reconvened in open session and reported the actions taken in closed session as follows:

a. Bern J. Galvin v. County of Los Angeles, et al. Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV37153

This dangerous condition lawsuit arises from injuries allegedly sustained in a rollerblading accident on the Los Angeles River Bikeway.

Action Taken:

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

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

**b. Vicki Dyson v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV09027**

This lawsuit contends that the Department of Public Works failed to adequately design or maintain County roads surrounding Plaintiff's hillside property resulting in excess water overflow and property damage.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.b. in the amount of \$98,500.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro
Noes: 1 – Oscar Valdez

**c. Edith R. Perez, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV44371**

This lawsuit involves allegations that medical malpractice by Olive View-UCLA Medical Center contributed to the death of Mr. Perez.

Action Taken:

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

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

**d. Alfredo Hinojosa v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV07718**

This medical malpractice lawsuit against Harbor-UCLA Medical Center involves allegations that negligence resulted in injury to Plaintiff.

Action Taken:

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

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

e. Non-Litigated Claim of PCC Technologies Inc. d/b/a Civix

This claim against the County of Los Angeles alleges breach of contract and failure to pay for software and related costs.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.e. in the amount of \$64,500.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Oscar Valdez, and Destiny Castro
Noes: 1 – Adrienne M. Byers

f. **Non-litigated Claims of American Family Connect ASO Ismael Carbajal and Tesla Insurance Company ASO Earl Anthony Hibbert**

These claims arise from property damage allegedly sustained in an automobile accident involving a Fire Department employee.

Action Taken:

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

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

g. **Elyse Salend v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22SMCV02459**

This lawsuit arises from injuries allegedly sustained in an automobile accident involving a Fire Department ambulance.

Action Taken:

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

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

h. **Latrice McGhee, et al. v. Robin Younger Holms, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20AVCV00753**

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained by Plaintiffs in a multiple-automobile collision involving an employee of the Department of Children and Family Services.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.h. in the amount of \$45,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

i. **Juan Roman Alcantara Diaz, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV38695**

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained by Plaintiffs in an automobile accident involving a Sheriff's patrol vehicle driven by a deputy sheriff.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.i. in the amount of \$36,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

j. Non-Litigated Claims of Thy Um, Dara Mao, & Farmers Ins. Exchange ASO Thy Um

These claims relate to allegations of personal injuries and property damage sustained in an automobile accident involving an on-duty Sheriff's Commander.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.j. in the amount of \$68,544.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

**k. Albino Villegas-Ayala v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV41723**

This lawsuit arises from injuries allegedly sustained in a vehicle accident involving a Sheriff's Department detective.

Action Taken:

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

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

**l. Larry Waldie v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV24195**

This matter concerns a waiver of costs in exchange for the dismissal of an appeal relating to a trial involving the Sheriff's Department.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.l. in the amount of \$37,677.72.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro

**m. Candace Cooper v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV32534**

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee of the District Attorney's Office was subjected to discrimination, hostile work environment, and retaliation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.m. in the amount of \$40,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Oscar Valdez, and Destiny Castro
Noes: 1 – Adrienne M. Byers

5. Approval of the Minutes for the March 18, 2024, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes of the March 18, 2024, meeting.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers
Abstention: 1 – Destiny Castro

6. Approval of the Minutes for the April 1, 2024, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes of the April 1, 2024, meeting.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Oscar Valdez, and Destiny Castro
Abstention: 1 – Adrienne M. Byers

7. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

By



Laura Z. Salazar
Claims Board Secretary