

STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD
HELD IN PERSON AND ONLINE VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE
ON MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2024, AT 9:30 A.M.

Present: Chair Destiny Castro, Oscar Valdez, and Adrienne M. Byers

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.**

Hilary Gibson was 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)).**

- a. **Favian Villalpando v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV27632**

This dangerous condition of public property lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained from a slip and fall incident that occurred at City Terrace Park.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 3.a. in the amount of \$80,000.

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

- b. **Lydia Cardenas v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC688501**

This dangerous condition of public property lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained from a trip and fall incident in unincorporated East Los Angeles.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 3.b. in the amount of \$92,500.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Oscar Valdez, and Destiny Castro

Noes: 1 – Adrienne M. Byers

[See Supporting Document](#)

**c. California Apartment Association v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23STCP01114**

This writ action against the County of Los Angeles arises from provisions of the COVID-19 Tenant Protections Resolution whereby the Court granted the writ and Petitioner is entitled to attorneys' fees.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 3.c. in the amount of \$50,000.

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

**d. Craig D. Milligan v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22AVCV00956**

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained in a traffic collision that occurred when an employee of the Department of Children and Family Services rear-ended Plaintiff's vehicle.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 3.d. in the amount of \$51,500.

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

**e. Deborah D. Allen v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV25913**

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee of the Department of Public Social Services was subjected to sexual harassment.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 3.e. in the amount of \$40,000.

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

4. Approval of the Minutes for the June 3, 2024, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes of the June 3, 2024, meeting.

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

5. Items not on the posted agenda, to be referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a further meeting of the Board, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take immediate action came to the attention of the Board subsequent to the posting of the agenda.

No such matters were discussed.

6. Adjournment.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Favian Villalpando v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	20STCV27632
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	July 22, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Parks & Recreation
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 80,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Andrew Ellis Ellis Law Corporation
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Michael Gordon Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>On August 19, 2019, Plaintiff Favian Villalpando slipped and fell in a paved corridor at City Terrace Park in Los Angeles. Mr. Villalpando alleges the incident 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 \$80,000 is warranted.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 80,477
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 38,524

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Lydia Cardenas v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	BC688501
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	December 27, 2017
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Public Works
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 92,500
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Raymond Ghermezian Law Offices of Raymond Ghermezian
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Michael Gordon Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>On July 5, 2017, Plaintiff Lydia Cardenas tripped and fell over a parkway tree root on Union Pacific Avenue near its intersection with Atlantic Boulevard in East Los Angeles. Ms. Cardenas alleges the incident caused injuries for which she seeks compensation.</p> <p>Given the risk and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$92,500 is warranted.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 138,556
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 62,257

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	California Apartment Association v. County of Los Angeles
CASE NUMBER	23STCP01114
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	April 11, 2023
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Consumer and Business Affairs & Chief Executive Office
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 50,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Christopher E. Skinnell Nielsen, Merksamer, Parrinello, Gross & Leoni, LLP
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Behnaz Tashakorian Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This is a recommendation to settle for \$50,000, a claim for prevailing party attorneys' fees incurred in a Petition for Writ of Mandate brought by Plaintiffs. Plaintiffs invalidating provisions of the County's COVID-19 Tenant Protections Resolution which required a landlord to first serve a 30-day notice to cure or quit prior to initiating an unlawful detainer action.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 102,642.50
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 843.25

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Craig D. Milligan v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	22AVCV00956
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	November 18, 2022
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Children and Family Services
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 51,500
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Darlene Trevino Law Offices of Darlene Trevino
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Kevin Engeliem Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This lawsuit arises from a vehicle collision that occurred on April 20, 2022, when an employee of the Department of Children and Family Services collided with Plaintiff's vehicle on Avenue K in the City of Lancaster.</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	\$ 18,042
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 13,121

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

June 3, 2024

1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Los Angeles County Claims Board was called to order at 9:30 a.m. The meeting was held virtually with Claims Board Chair Destiny Castro, Claims Board Member Oscar Valdez, and Claims Board Secretary Laura Z. Salazar participating in person at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Sixth Floor, Conference Room C, Los Angeles, California 90012. Claims Board Member Adrienne M. Byers was absent.

All other participants at the Claims Board meeting appeared virtually: Latasha Corry, Mark Lomax, Ann Aguilar, Narbeh Bagdasarian, Edward Morrissey, Michael Gordon, Richard Kudo, Edwin Lewis, Joseph Langton, Hayden Campbell, Mikayla Grande, Maryanne Koussa, Alison Ryan, Hayden Campbell, Lenneal McKudo, Erin Chang, and Benjamin Familuyi appeared for the Office of the County Counsel. Brian Mejia appeared for the Department of Parks and Recreation. Alex Villarama, Jacklin Injjian, Andrew Ngumba appeared for the Department of Public Works. Julia Kim, William Mayfield, Dr. Clayton Kazan appeared for the Fire Department. Sergeant Shanese Winfrey, Deputy Renata Phillip, Captain Michael G. Shaw, Commander Crystal M. Miranda, Lieutenant Thomas V. Kim, Acting Captain/Lieutenant Julia Valdes, and Acting Captain/Lieutenant Lucas W. Darland appeared for the Sheriff's Department. Christina Marie Sprenger appeared for Lawrence Beach Allen & Choi, PC. Gary A. Bacio appeared for Bacio & Associates.

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 9:30 a.m., Claims Board Chair Destiny Castro convened the meeting in closed session to discuss the items listed below as 4(a) through 4(i).

4. Report on Actions Taken in Closed Session.

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

At 11:40 a.m., the Claims Board reconvened in open session to report the actions taken in closed session as follows:

a. Natalie Reusch v. County of Los Angeles Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV05287

This dangerous condition of public property lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained from a slip accident that occurred at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Park.

Action Taken:

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

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

b. Non-Litigated Claim of Natalie Beck

This inverse condemnation claim alleged property damage caused by a backflow of sewage from a sewer mainline blockage.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.b. in the amount of \$22,786.

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

c. Non-Litigated Claim of Ryan Dougherty

This inverse condemnation claim alleged property damage due to a backflow of sewage from a sewer mainline blockage.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.c. in the amount of \$24,368.14.

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

**d. Jordan Primo v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV43596**

This medical malpractice lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained by a firefighter while being treated by County paramedics at a Los Angeles County Fire Station.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.d. in the amount of \$1,600,000.

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

**e. Judicial Council of California v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV20493**

Plaintiff seeks compensation for the cost to repair a gate that was allegedly damaged by a Sheriff's Department bus.

Action Taken:

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

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

**f. Juan Ponce, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV16028**

This lawsuit arises from alleged injuries sustained when a pedestrian walking within a marked crosswalk was struck by a Sheriff's Department vehicle.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4.f. in the amount of \$1,400,000.

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

g. Non-Litigated Claim of San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department

This claim by the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department seeks reimbursement of expenses associated with the search and rescue operation of a missing Los Angeles County resident.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.g. in the amount of \$29,501.34.

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

h. Non-Litigated Claim for Insook Park

This claim for alleged personal injuries arises from a traffic collision that occurred when a Department of Children and Family Services employee rear-ended Claimant's vehicle.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.h. in the amount of \$35,000.

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

i. Non-Litigated Claim of Efrain S. Marca

This claim arises from alleged injuries sustained in a vehicle accident involving a Department of Public Social Services employee who rear-ended Claimant's vehicle.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4.i. in the amount of \$25,000.

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

5. Approval of the Minutes for the May 20, 2024, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes of the May 20, 2024, meeting.

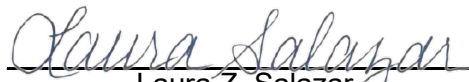
Vote: Ayes: 2 – Oscar Valdez, and Destiny Castro
Absent: Adrienne M. Byers

6. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:41 a.m.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

By



Laura Z. Salazar
Claims Board Secretary