



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

CONTRACT CITIES LIABILITY TRUST FUND CLAIMS BOARD

500 WEST TEMPLE STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2713

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

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

NOTICE OF MEETING

The County of Los Angeles Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board will hold its Regular Meeting on Wednesday, **November 13, 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

2432 Kirsten Lee Drive, Westlake Village, CA 91361

Calabasas City Hall, 100 Civic Center Way Calabasas, CA 91302 | (818) 224-1600

Lakewood City Hall, 5050 Clark Ave, Lakewood, CA 90712 | (562) 866-9771

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

Pico Rivera City Hall, 6615 Passons Blvd, Pico Rivera, CA 90660 | (562) 942-2000

Santa Clarita City Hall, 23920 Valencia Blvd, Santa Clarita, CA 91355 | (661) 259-2489

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 the 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 vrui@cjpia.org 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 November 12, 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=fhGdIAcNpPG8esryGSpOzaEYj6YTyH.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. Alcaarez, Mark Anthony v. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, et al.

Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV3545

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

- b. Estrada, Efren Esparza v. County of Los Angeles, et al.

Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 24STCV06622

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

- c. Gaines, Raymond v. County of Los Angeles, et al.

United States District Court Case No. 2:22-CV-02801

This lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations and excessive force involving Sheriff's Deputies.

- d. Gonzalez, Fernando v. County of Los Angeles, et al.

Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV20966

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

- e. Washington, Dominique v. Deputy D. Lopez, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:23-CV-08319

This lawsuit concerns allegations of unlawful search and seizure and fabrication and suppression of evidence involving a Sheriff's Deputy.

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

- a. Byram, Ursula v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:23-CV-09285

This lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations, false imprisonment, and excessive force involving Sheriff's Deputies.

- b. Torres, Heaven v. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV30710

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 October 2, 2024, meeting of the Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board.
- 7. Other Business
- 8. Adjournment

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Mark Anthony Alcares vs. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, et al.
CASE NUMBER	20STCV35456
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	September 18, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 850,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	JAMES R. TRAUT, ESQ. TRAUT FIRM
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	MELISSA A. McCAVERTY Deputy County Counsel BRIAN STEWART, ESQ. Collins + Collins, LLP
NATURE OF CASE	This case involves a vehicle collision between a Sheriff's Department 2011 Crown Victoria and a 2004 Ford F-150 driven by the Plaintiff that occurred on May 10, 2020, at the intersection of Imperial Highway and Woods Avenue in the City of Irwindale. Plaintiff claims to have suffered injuries and damages from the collision. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 38,238
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 20,538

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Raymond Gaines v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	2:22-CV-02801
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	April 27, 2022
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 250,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Carl Douglas Douglas Hicks Law
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Jamie Lopez Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a recommendation to settle for \$250,000, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, the federal civil rights lawsuit filed by Plaintiff Jesus Raymond Gaines ("Raymond Gaines") against the County and four Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department ("LASD") deputies alleging unlawful arrest and excessive force during a traffic stop.</p> <p>Given the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a reasonable settlement at this time will avoid further litigation costs. The full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$250,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 130,712
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 3,341

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Fernando Gonzalez vs. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	22STCV20966
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	August 30, 2022
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 95,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Anthony T. Nehme, Esq. Nehme Law Group
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Kevin J. Engelen, Esq. Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This lawsuit arises from an automobile accident on August 13, 2021, where Plaintiff's vehicle was struck by Deputy Oscar Gomez' patrol vehicle.</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	\$ 44,252
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 13,759

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	<u>Dominique Washington v. Deputy D. Lopez, et al.</u>
CASE NUMBER	2:23-CV-08319
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	October 3, 2023
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 90,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Greg L. Kirakosian, Esq.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Irene Lee Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a recommendation to settle for \$90,000, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, a federal civil rights lawsuit filed by Dominique Washington arising from a traffic stop by Los Angeles Sheriff's Department deputies.</p> <p>Given the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a reasonable settlement at this time will avoid further litigation costs.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 19,811
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 1,038

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

MINUTES OF MEETING

October 2, 2024

1. Call to Order

This meeting of the County of Los Angeles Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board was called to order by Margaret Finlay at 11:19 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: Margaret Finlay, Chair; Patrick Kearney, Central Division; Ken Striplin, North Division; Bryan Cook, At-Large; James Bozajian, North Division; Chris Constantin, East Division; John Moreno, South Division; Mark Waronek, Central Division; Jennifer Perez, At-Large; Jennifer Vasquez, Central Division; Marcel Rodarte, Executive Director; **Alternate:** Thaddeus McCormack, South Division; Alfonso Noyola, Central Division; Michael Davitt, East Division; Daniel Jordan, East Division; **County of Los Angeles Staff:** Elizabeth D. Miller, Assistant County Counsel; Richard Hsueh, Senior Deputy County Counsel; Millicent Rolon, Principal Deputy County Counsel; Kevin Engelien, Senior Deputy County Counsel; Minas Samuelian, Deputy County Counsel; Richard Kudo, Senior Deputy County Counsel; Destiny Castro, ACEO County of Los Angeles; Robert Chavez, ACEO County of Los Angeles; Andrew Cruz, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Thomas Kim, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Erick Martinez, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Donald Moore, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Julia Valdes, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Mel Joseph, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; **Attendees:** Fred Groehler, Protelligent, Inc.; Karen Bartak, Bedford Falls Insurance; Chris Gray, Alliant Insurance; Raymond Sakai, Outside Counsel; Jill Williams, Outside Counsel; Christina Gasparian, Outside Counsel; Thomas Hurrell, Outside Counsel; Aamir Raza, Outside Counsel; **Third Party Administrator for the County of Los Angeles:** **California JPIA:** Alex Smith, Chief Executive Officer; Jennifer Torres, Administrative Assistant; Veronica Ruiz, Agency Clerk; Edith Avina, Administrative Analyst; Jim Thyden, Insurance Programs Manager.

2. Public Comment

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

At 11:20 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. Assiff, Joshua v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:22-CV-05367

This lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations and excessive force involving Sheriff's Deputies.

Action Taken:

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$400,000.00.

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

- b. Flores, Joshua A., et al. v. Molina, Deputy Adonay, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23STCV19167

This lawsuit concerns allegations of wrongful death shooting by Sheriff's Deputies and Bane Act violations.

Action Taken:

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$100,000.00.

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

- c. Gamboa, Abraham, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:23-CV-2654

This lawsuit concerns allegations of false arrest, wrongful death, unlawful detention, and denial of medical care and due process involving Sheriff's Deputies.

Action Taken:

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$500,000.00.

Vote: Ayes: 8-3 – Margaret Finlay, Ken Striplin, Jennifer Perez, Jennifer Vasquez, Bryan Cook, John Moreno, Mark Waronek, and Marcel Rodarte.
Nays: James Bozajian, Chris Constantin, and Patrick Kearney.

- d. Hayes, Tiffany, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:22-CV-03671

This lawsuit concerns allegations of wrongful death, excessive force and due process involving Sheriff's Deputies.

Action Taken:

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$975,000.00.

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

- e. McCoy, Kristopher v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:21-CV-09705

This lawsuit concerns allegations of Bane Civil Rights Act violations, excessive force, unreasonable search and seizure, and failure to summon immediate medical care involving Sheriff's Deputies.

Action Taken:

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$87,500.00.

Vote: Ayes: 7-4 – Ken Striplin, Jennifer Perez, Jennifer Vasquez, Bryan Cook, John Moreno, Mark Waronek, and Marcel Rodarte. Nays: James Bozajian, Chris Constantin, Margaret Finlay, and Patrick Kearney.

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

- a. Barello, Brea v. County of Los Angeles et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:21-CV-01909

This lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations and excessive force involving Sheriff's Deputies.

Action Taken:

No reportable action taken.

- b. Dalton, Brandon, et al. v. Reta, Ricardo, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court, Case No. 22STCV18686

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

Action Taken:
No reportable action taken.

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

This lawsuit concerns allegations of civil rights violations and wrongful death shooting involving Sheriff's Deputies.

Action Taken:
No reportable action taken.

- d. Gonzalez, Alejandra v. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court, Case no. 21STCV01995

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

Action Taken:
No reportable action taken.

- e. Martinez, Adrian v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court, Case no. 23SMCV04047

This lawsuit concerns allegations of negligence and excessive force involving 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 1:01 p.m. No action was taken in Closed Session which required a public report pursuant to Government Code section 54957.1.

6. Approval of the Minutes for September 11, 2024, meeting of the Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board.

Action Taken:

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

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

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

None

8. Other Business

None

9. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CONTRACT CITIES LIABILITY
TRUST FUND CLAIMS BOARD

Stephanie Rodriguez
STEPHANIE RODRIGUEZ