

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 16, 2025, AT 9:30 A.M.

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

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 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)).**

- a. **Daisy Milagro Velasquez v. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 24CHCV02947**

This lawsuit arises from injuries Plaintiff allegedly sustained in a traffic collision involving a Sheriff's Department deputy.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 3(a) in the amount of \$37,500.

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

- b. **Jovani Flores, et al. v. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 24NWCV00219**

This lawsuit arises from injuries Plaintiffs allegedly sustained in a traffic collision involving a Sheriff's Department deputy.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 3(b) in the amount of \$41,000.

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

**c. Cinthia Carballo v. Nicole Englund, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV34081**

This lawsuit arises from injuries Plaintiff allegedly sustained in a traffic collision involving a Board of Supervisors' employee.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 3(c) in the amount of \$750,000.

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

[See Supporting Documents](#)

**d. Classic Parking Inc. v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV24834**

This breach of contract lawsuit seeks damages against the County of Los Angeles for alleged lost revenue and failure to pay for services.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 3(d) in the amount of \$875,000.

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

**e. Estela Garduno v. City of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV47358**

This dangerous condition of public property lawsuit arises from injuries Plaintiff allegedly sustained when she tripped and fell over an uplifted portion of the sidewalk.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 3(e) in the amount of \$99,999.

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

f. **Angelina Bawaan, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23CHCV03851

This lawsuit arises from injuries Plaintiffs allegedly sustained in a traffic collision involving a Department of Children and Family Services' employee.

Action Taken:

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

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

g. **Deborah Tolbert v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC698440

This lawsuit alleges that an employee from the Department of Children and Family Services was subjected to disability and age discrimination, harassment, and retaliation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 3(g) in the amount of \$175,000.

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

h. **Valerie Kincaid v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV27139

This lawsuit alleges that an employee from the Department of Public Social Services was subjected to discrimination, harassment, and retaliation based on race.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 3(h) in the amount of \$250,000.

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

i. **Sharon L. Anderson v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV34038

This lawsuit concerns allegations of sexual assault and battery by a Department of Mental Health employee.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board continued Item 3(i) to a future meeting.

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

4. Approval of the Minutes of the June 2, 2025, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes of the June 2, 2025, meeting.

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

[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	Daisy Milagro Velasquez v. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, et al.
CASE NUMBER	24CHCV02947
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	August 16, 2024
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 37,500
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	MANWEL JINGOZIAN, ESQ. Ace Law Firm
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	ERIN CHANG, ESQ. Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This lawsuit arises from a motor vehicle collision that occurred on December 20, 2023, on Hubbard Street in the City of Sylmar, when a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department vehicle collided into Plaintiff's vehicle causing injuries and damages. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 24,320
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 0

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Jovani Flores, et al. vs. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, et al.
CASE NUMBER	24NWCV00219
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	January 22, 2024
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 41,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	ERNEST A. VARGAS, ESQ. Law Offices of Vargas & Vargas
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	SANJAY ATHALYE Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	On July 23, 2022, Plaintiff Jovani Flores was traveling southbound on Carmenita Road in the city of Whittier when he came to a stop and his vehicle was rear-ended by a LASD patrol. Plaintiffs Tunstall, Salvador, and Flores were back-seat passengers in Plaintiff Jovani Flores' car. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 12,057
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 135

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Cinthia Carballo v. Nicole Englund, et al.
CASE NUMBER	20STCV34081
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	September 8, 2020
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Board of Supervisors
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 750,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	PAVEL STERIN, ESQ. The Law Offices of Pavel Sterin, P.C.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	LATASHA CORRY, ESQ. Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This is an auto-liability lawsuit which allegedly arises from a traffic collision that occurred on January 23, 2020, when the Department employee made a left-hand turn and collided with the Plaintiff's vehicle in the intersection of Orange Grove Boulevard and Madeline Drive, in the City of Pasadena. Given the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 36,749
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 43,023



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:	January 23, 2020
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	- On January 23, 2020, at approximately 9:25 AM, the plaintiff was traveling northbound on Orange Grove Boulevard in a 2014 Nissan Sentra and was struck by a 2018 Toyota Prius operated by the employee. The employee, traveling southbound on Orange Grove Boulevard, entered the intersection of Orange Grove Boulevard and Madeline Drive on a green light. The plaintiff also had a green light. While making a left turn onto Madeline Drive, the employee struck the plaintiff's vehicle. - The vehicle operated by the plaintiff sustained damage to the front driver's side. The vehicle operated by the employee sustained front-end damage. - The employee explained that the plaintiff approached at a high rate of speed and the employee was unable to see the plaintiff in time to stop. - According to the vehicle incident report there was no traffic collision report from a law enforcement agency.

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

The root cause of this lawsuit was due to the County driver (employee) failing to yield to incoming traffic before making a left turn.

This is a liability case because left-turning drivers are required to yield the right of way to approaching vehicles before turning.

A non-associated root cause is that the Department did not investigate the incident.

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

The employee completed Defensive Driving Training as follows:

August 5, 2020 – Defensive Driver Training, v1

September 17, 2020 – Motor Vehicle Safety and Defensive Driving Training.

The Department's performance management team currently investigates vehicle-related incidents and takes appropriate corrective actions if warranted. It is unclear if there was a review process in place at the time this incident occurred.

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)

Sonia Alfaro

Signature:



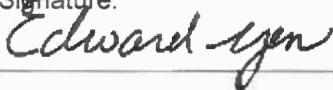
Date:

02/19/2025

Name: (Department Head)

Edward Yen

Signature:



Date:

02/19/2025

Chief Executive Office Risk Management Inspector General USE ONLY

Are the corrective actions applicable to other departments within the County?

☒ Yes, the corrective actions potentially have County-wide applicability.

☐ No, the corrective actions are applicable only to this department.

Name: (Risk Management Inspector General)

Betty Karmirlian, Acting Risk Management Inspector General

Signature:



Date:

2/20/2025

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Classic Parking Inc. v. County of Los Angles, et. al.
CASE NUMBER	19STCV24834
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	07/17/2019
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Internal Services
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 875,000.00
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Dykema Gossett, LLP
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Jason C. Carnevale
NATURE OF CASE	Breach of Contract
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 440,139.50
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 250,057.52

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Estela Garduno v. City of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	21STCV47358
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	December 29, 2021
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Public Works
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 99,999
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	CHRISTIAN CARDONA, ESQ. Cardona Law Firm, APC
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	KEVIN ENGELIEN, ESQ. Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This is a dangerous condition lawsuit which arises from a trip and fall accident that occurred on May 6, 2021, on an uplifted section of the sidewalk at or near 12221 Breezewood Drive. Plaintiff claims she suffered injuries and damages as a result of her fall. Given the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 39,586
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 33,953

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

June 2, 2025

1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Los Angeles County Claims Board was called to order at 9:39 a.m. The meeting was held virtually with Claims Board Chair Destiny Castro, Claims Board Member Adrienne M. Byers, 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 Oscar Valdez was absent.

All other participants at the Claims Board meeting appeared virtually: Narbeh Bagdasarian, Edward Morrissey, Caroline Craddock, Kevin Engelen, Melissa McCaverty, Erin Chang, Edwin Lewis, Sanjay Athalye, Minas Samuelian, Kent Sommer, Victoria Jalili, Garrett Green, Cedric Foster, Reese Rosental Saporito, and Benjamin Pritikin appeared for the Office of the County Counsel. Vanessa Dinsay, and Ly Ngo appeared for the Department of Mental Health. Sean Henderson, Dawn Monique Abarca, Claudia Aguirre, Timothy Belavich, Roberto Avitia, Brad Spellberg, and Arun Patel appeared for the Department of Health Services. Ronald Castaneda, Michele Chimienti, and Alex Villarama appeared for the Department of Public Works. Deputy Nancy K. Madarasz, Commander Terrance Bell, Captain Chris Kusayanagi, Captain Shawnee Hinchman, Acting Captain Arturo Spencer, Lieutenant Michael Gomez, and Lieutenant Jennifer Roth appeared for the Sheriff's Department. Margo Baxter, Julie Dixon Silva, and Tim Pescatello appeared for the District Attorney's Office. Diane Iglesias appeared for the Department of Children and Family Services. Sylvia Schweizer appeared for George Hills. Gil Burkwitz appeared for Peterson Bradford Burkwitz. Marina Samson appeared for Ivie McNeill Wyatt Purcell & Diggs. Laurie DeYoung appeared for Jackson Lewis P.C. Michael Atkins 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 9:40 a.m., Claims Board Chair Destiny Castro, convened the meeting in closed session to discuss the items listed below as 4(a) through 4(k).

4. Report on Actions Taken in Closed Session.

No member of the public appeared in person or on the public teleconference phone line to address the Claims Board.

At 12:23 p.m., the Claims Board reconvened in open session to report the actions taken in closed session as follows:

a. Sharon L. Anderson v. County of Los Angeles, et al. Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV34038

This lawsuit concerns allegations of sexual assault and battery by a Department of Mental Health employee.

Action Taken:

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

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

**b. Gariel Brownlee v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court No. 2:21-cv-01118**

This federal civil rights lawsuit concerns allegations of delay in treatment while in custody and negligent surgery by the Los Angeles General Medical Center resulting in Plaintiff's partial paralysis.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4(b) in the amount of \$7,000,000.

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

**c. Vindi Figueroa v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23CMCV01817**

This dangerous condition of public property lawsuit arises from injuries Plaintiff allegedly sustained from a fall that occurred in an unincorporated area of Los Angeles.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(c) in the amount of \$25,000 for economic reasons only.

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

**d. Dawn Roberts v. City of Santa Clarita, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23CHCV03841**

This dangerous condition of public property lawsuit arises from injuries Plaintiff allegedly sustained when she tripped and fell over a piece of metal protruding from the sidewalk.

Action Taken:

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

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

**e. Yoni Muzan v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23VECV01188**

This lawsuit arises from injuries Plaintiff allegedly sustained in a traffic collision involving a Department of Public Work's employee.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(e) in the amount of \$52,500.

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

f. Non-Litigated Claims of Lynn and Michael Tigar

These inverse condemnation claims against the Department of Public Works contend that a residential property was damaged due to backflow of sewage from a sewer mainline blockage.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4(f) in the amount of \$278,526.34.

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

**g. Fiona Pescoran v. Veronica Yvonne Rivas, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23STCV25764**

This lawsuit arises from injuries Plaintiff allegedly sustained in a traffic collision involving a Sheriff's Department deputy.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(g) in the amount of \$95,000.

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

**h. Alexander Torres v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:22-cv-07450**

This federal civil rights lawsuit against the Sheriff's Department and District Attorney's Office arises from the alleged wrongful conviction that resulted in Plaintiff's imprisonment for 20 years.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4(h) in the amount of \$14,000,000.

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

**i. Deborah Tolbert v. County of Los Angeles Dept. of Children and Family Services, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC698440**

This lawsuit alleges that an employee from the Department of Children and Family Services was subjected to disability and age discrimination, harassment, and retaliation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board continued Item 4(i) to a future meeting.

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

j. **Jessica Gonzalez v. Los Angeles County Dept. of Children and Family Services, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 24STCV20401

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee from the Department of Children and Family Services was subjected to sexual harassment.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(j) in the amount of \$85,000.

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

k. **Valerie Busch v. County of Los Angeles**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV27869

This lawsuit alleges that an employee from the Department of Children and Family Services was subjected to disability discrimination and retaliation.

Action Taken:

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

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

5. **Approval of the Minutes of the May 5, 2025, regular meeting of the Claims Board.**

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes of the May 5, 2025, meeting.

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

6. **Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:24 p.m.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

By


Laura Z. Salazar
Claims Board Secretary