STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS

FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

HELD IN PERSON AND ONLINE VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE

ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 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. Leslie Gilbert, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court No. 2:19-cv-08599

This federal civil rights lawsuit alleges deliberate indifference to an inmate's medical needs resulting in death by suicide.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 3(a) in the amount of $3,100,000.

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

See Supporting Document

b. Judy Regan v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23AHCV00340

This lawsuit alleges that Plaintiff was injured due to a dangerous condition when she fell into a drainage ditch.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 3(b) in the amount of $85,000 for economic reasons only.

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

See Supporting Document

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c. **Jimmy Avalos v. Los Angeles Unified School District, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV00379

This dangerous condition of public property lawsuit alleges that Plaintiff suffered injuries when he hit a displaced sidewalk panel and fell.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 3(c) in the amount of $150,000.

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

See Supporting Documents

d. **Maria Villalvazo v. City of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23CHCV00356

This lawsuit alleges that Plaintiff was injured due to a dangerous condition when she tripped and fell on an uneven sidewalk.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 3(d) in the amount of $75,000.

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

See Supporting Document

e. **Dairyn Alabal Alvarez, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 24NWCV01764

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(e) in the amount of $27,500.

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

See Supporting Document

f. **Santiago Sosa v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 24CMCV01491

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

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 3(f) in the amount of $25,000.

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

See Supporting Document

g. **Rafael Pensamiento v. Chantelle Telles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22AVCV00194

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(g) in the amount of $75,000.

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

See Supporting Document

h. **Raul Gutierrez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV14486

This lawsuit arises from injuries Plaintiff allegedly sustained when he was struck by a Sheriff's Department vehicle driven by a deputy.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 3(h) in the amount of $80,000.

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

See Supporting Document

i. **Angel Rafael Cardenas v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23NWCV01521

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

Action Taken:

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

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

See Supporting Document

j. **Enzo Escalante v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
United States District Court Case No. 2:22-cv-02590

This federal civil rights lawsuit against the Sheriff's Department alleges excessive force arising from an incident that occurred during Plaintiff's detention.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 3(j) in the amount of $295,000.

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

See Supporting Documents

k. **Juan Marquez, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
United States District Court Case No. 2:22-cv-07246

This federal civil rights lawsuit arises from a non-fatal deputy-involved shooting of Plaintiff during an arrest/search warrant at Plaintiff's residence.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 3(k) in the amount of $4,500,000.

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

See Supporting Documents

l. **Otto Perdomo v. County of Los Angeles**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23STCV11038

This lawsuit alleges that an employee of the Aging & Disabilities Department was subjected to discrimination based on disability and age.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 3(l) in the amount of $40,000.

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

4. Approval of the Minutes of the August 18, 2025, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes of the August 18, 2025, meeting.

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

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		Leslie Gilbert, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER		2:19-CV-08599
COURT		United States District Court
DATE FILED		October 18, 2019
COUNTY DEPARTMENT		Department of Health Services
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	$	3,100,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF		John Burton The Law Offices of John Burton University of California at Irvine Legal Clinic
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY		Caroline S. Craddock Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE		Plaintiffs allege that on September 20, 2018, Scott Gilbert died one day after release from Twin Towers Correctional Facility. His parents allege deliberate indifference by a jail nurse. Due to the risks and uncertainties of trial, a full and final settlement is recommended.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	$	503,545
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	$	83,077

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME		Judy Regan v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER		23AHCV00340
COURT		Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED		February 15, 2023
COUNTY DEPARTMENT		Department of Public Works
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	$	85,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF		MICHAEL P. O'CONNOR, ESQ. Law Offices of of Thom Beck Vanni Callahan & Powell
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY		MELISSA A. MCCAVERTY, ESQ. Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE		On July 24, 2022, Plaintiff was walking in the street at the southeast corner of Porter Avenue and East Altadena Drive in the City of Altadena. Plaintiff stopped to rest and leaned against a flexible reflective marker, which gave way, causing her to fall backwards into a drainage ditch. Plaintiff claims to have suffered injuries and damages from the incident. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	$	43,694
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	$	21,258

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME		Jimmy Avalos v. Los Angeles Unified School District, et al.
CASE NUMBER		22STCV00379
COURT		Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED		September 15, 2021
COUNTY DEPARTMENT		Department of Public Works
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	$	150,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF		Anthony Werbin, Esq. DOWNTOWN LA LAW GROUP
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY		Melissa A. McCaverty, Esq. Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE		On September 15, 2021, Plaintiff was riding his electric skateboard on the sidewalk at 1600 S. Central Avenue, in Los Angeles, California, an unincorporated area of the County, when he hit a displaced sidewalk panel and fell. Plaintiff claims to have suffered injuries and damages from the incident. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	$	65,442
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	$	10,123

Case Name: AVALOS, JIMMY v. LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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:	On September 16, 2021
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	On September 16, 2021, Plaintiff was riding an electric skateboard on the sidewalk at or near 6100 South Central Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90001 when he fell due to an uneven portion of the sidewalk resulting in his physical injuries.

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

Root Causes:

A. The tree roots at the location in question displaced the sidewalk, creating an uneven surface.

B. The uneven portion of the sidewalk was left in disrepair after the August 11, 2021, biennial sidewalk inspection.

C. Our road maintenance crew performing the biennial sidewalk inspection was operating under the understanding that the incident location was outside the jurisdiction of the County and within the City of Los Angeles.

D. The inspection maps of the City of Los Angeles border appeared to indicate that Central Avenue was outside of the County jurisdiction.

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

Corrective Actions:

- The tree that displaced the sidewalk was evaluated in July 2020 and again in May 2023 during the Department's regular tree trimming cycle. The tree was evaluated by a certified arborist who determined it to be a healthy tree that did not require removal.
- The sidewalk was repaired and made safe on December 8, 2021, after the Department received notice of a claim.
- On August 19, 2024, an email was sent to Road Maintenance District Engineers about reviewing the Biennial Sidewalk Inspection and Repair Guidelines. A meeting was held on August 21, 2024, to discuss and update these guidelines.
- In December 2021, Road Maintenance Supervisors in Road Division 241 were reminded of the jurisdictional boundary on South Central Avenue between the City of Los Angeles and the County of Los Angeles. This boundary runs along the easterly curb face, and the easterly sidewalk has been included in the biennial sidewalk inspection program.

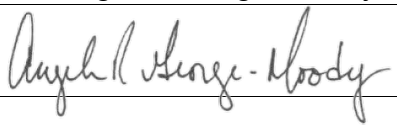
- On December 7, 2021, sidewalk inspection maps were updated to clarify the boundary line between County and City jurisdictions, confirming that the area in question falls under the County's jurisdiction.

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

X Yes – The corrective actions address department-wide system issues.

☐ No – The corrective actions are only applicable to the affected parties.

Name: (Risk Management Coordinator) Jacklin E. Injijian	
Signature: 	Date: 08/19/2025

Name: (Department Head) Angela George-Moody, Chief Deputy Director	
Signature: 	Date: 08/28/2025

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	
Signature: Betty Karmirlian	Date: 9/2/2025

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME		Maria Villalvazo v. City of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER		23CHCV00356
COURT		Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED		February 7, 2023
COUNTY DEPARTMENT		Internal Services Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	$	75,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF		STEVEN IBARRA, ESQ. Law Offices of Steven Ibarra
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY		MELISSA A. MCCAVERTY, ESQ. Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE		On May 22, 2022, Plaintiff was walking on a sidewalk in front of an Internal Services Division Building located at 13188 Del Sur Street in the City of San Fernando, when she tripped on a vertical displacement on the sidewalk. Plaintiff claims to have suffered injuries and damages from the incident. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	$	58,800
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	$	15,228

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME		Dairyn Alabal Alvarez, et al. vs. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER		24NWCV01764
COURT		Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED		June 5, 2024
COUNTY DEPARTMENT		Sheriff
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	$	27,500
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF		MICHAEL SANCHEZ, ESQ. Mendez & Sanchez, A.P.C.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY		MELISSA A. MCCAVERTY, ESQ. Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE		This lawsuit arises from a vehicle collision that occurred on May 10, 2023, when a Deputy Sheriff reversed a vehicle into Plaintiff's vehicle on Juniper Street in an unincorporated area of Los Angeles. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	$	4,130
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	$	334

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME		Santiago Sosa vs. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER		24CMCV01491
COURT		Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED		September 30, 2024
COUNTY DEPARTMENT		Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	$	25,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF		ROBERT HERRERA, ESQ. Aders & Herrera, APC.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY		NENA VOUNG, ESQ. Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE		On April 17, 2024, Plaintiff alleges injuries after his vehicle was struck by a county vehicle driven by Rosalind Michelle Whitfield. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	$	32,689
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	$	1,247

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME		Rafael Pensamiento v. Chantelle Telles, et al.
CASE NUMBER		22AVCV00194
COURT		Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED		March 23, 2022
COUNTY DEPARTMENT		Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	$	75,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF		VADIM F. FRISH, ESQ. and STANISLAV PEKLER, ESQ. Frish Law Group, APLC
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY		LATASHA N. CORRY, ESQ. Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE		On April 1, 2021, Deputy Telles rear-ended Plaintiff's vehicle allegedly 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	$	42,312
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	$	25,778

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME		Raul Gutierrez vs. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER		22STCV14486
COURT		Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED		April 29, 2022
COUNTY DEPARTMENT		Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	$	80,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF		DAVID AZIZI, ESQ. JASON SMITH, ESQ. CHRISTINE V. REYES, ESQ. Law Offices of David Azizi
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY		SANJAY ATHALYE, ESQ. Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE		This lawsuit arose after an on-duty Deputy Garcia driving a Department patrol car collided with Plaintiff who was attempting to cross Wilmington Avenue near East 109th Street in the City of Los Angeles, in the middle of the block outside of a marked crosswalk. Plaintiff claims to have sustained injuries and damages from the incident. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	$	155,010
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	$	98,786

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME		Angel Rafael Cardenas vs. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER		23NWCV01521
COURT		Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED		May 16, 2023
COUNTY DEPARTMENT		Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	$	99,999
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF		ROY AVARIM, ESQ. Avarim Law, APLC
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY		KEVIN ENGELIEN Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE		This is an auto-liability lawsuit which arises from a traffic collision that occurred on November 17, 2022. Plaintiff claims he suffered injuries and damages as a result of the collision. Given the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	$	13,295
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	$	21,687

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME		Enzo Escalante v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER		2:22-CV-02590
COURT		United States District Court
DATE FILED		April 19, 2022
COUNTY DEPARTMENT		Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	$	295,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF		Justin Sterling, Law Offices of Justin Sterling and Erin Darling, Law Offices of Erin Darling
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY		Minas Samuelian Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE		This is a recommendation to settle for $295,000 inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, a federal civil rights lawsuit filed by Enzo Escalante ("Plaintiff"), alleging excessive force. 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 $295,000 is recommended.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	$	153,155
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	$	3,565

Case Name: Enzo Escalante v. County of Los Angeles, et al.

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 10, 2021 approximately at 8:30 a.m.
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	Summary Corrective Action Plan 2024-195 **Details in this document summarize the incident. The information provided is a culmination of various sources to provide an abstract of the incident.** Multiple investigative reports indicate on March 10, 2021, Deputy One and Deputy Two were assigned to a Los Angeles County Courthouse. At approximately 0820 hours, Deputies One and Two along with Department personnel searched approximately 15 inmates in the lockup area in preparation for their court appearances. The inmates being searched were not handcuffed and lined up along the walls of the lockup area. During the search, the Plaintiff and another man spoke to each other, against verbal orders to stop by Deputies. Deputy One intended to verbally counsel him the Plaintiff. He ordered The Plaintiff to stand and face the wall, where he intended to wait until other inmates had passed where he would speak to the Plaintiff. The Plaintiff turned around, swung his fist, and punched Deputy One in the face. Deputy One stated he was shocked, dizzy, and disoriented from the strike; he suffered a cut lip. Deputy One punched the Plaintiff in the face, grabbed his shirt, and used his right bent knee to strike the Plaintiff in the upper torso. An inmate approached Deputy One and the Plaintiff as they were engaged in a fight. Deputy One and other Deputies on scene formed the opinion the inmate attempted to assist the Plaintiff in the fight and possibly assault Deputy One. Deputies used control techniques and placed the other man against an adjacent wall as the Plaintiff punched Deputy One again on the left side of his head. Deputy Two wrapped his arms around the Plaintiff's chest. The Plaintiff was taken to the ground by Deputy One and Deputy Two. The Plaintiff fell first to his knees, and then fell chest-down on the floor. The Plaintiff pushed his body upward. Deputy One believed the Plaintiff was attempting to get up and assault him. Deputy Three arrived and placed his knee on the Plaintiff's left shoulder and back area. Deputy One used his shins and knees to pin down the Plaintiff's head and neck in order to keep his hands free to handcuff the Plaintiff, and he did not want to risk being bitten by the Plaintiff. Deputy

	One and other Deputies feared a large-scale attack on deputies was underway by the unsecured inmates. The Plaintiff moved around as Deputies attempted to control and handcuff him. Deputies Two and Three placed the Plaintiff's hands behind his back and handcuffed him. The Plaintiff did not resist any further. Deputy Two injured his groin during the handcuffing and disengaged from the incident to seek medical care. Deputy One maintained control of the Plaintiff on the ground. Deputy Four used her hands to hold the Plaintiff's legs while Deputy Five applied the hobble restraint, unresisted. Deputy One stated that once the Plaintiff was handcuffed, he shifted his weight off The Plaintiff's head and body. Deputy One remained crouched over the Plaintiff and monitored him. Deputy One left his right leg in contact with the Plaintiff's head and neck, but no longer applied pressure or weight onto the leg. Deputy One did not observe any labored breathing, sign of distress nor complaint of pain. The Plaintiff stated the deputy's knee was on his head. The Plaintiff stated that he told deputies he had difficulty breathing, and they released the pressure on him. A sergeant arrived, and the Plaintiff was placed onto a safety chair without resistance.

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

A **Department** root cause in this incident was a Deputy Sheriff-involved use of force incident.

A **Department** root cause in this incident was a Deputy Sheriff physically engaged an uncooperative and/or argumentative inmate.

A **Department** root cause in this incident was the supervising deputy sheriffs who were present did not intervene in the use of force.

A **Department** root cause in this incident was a Deputy Sheriff failed to reassess the force used once the Plaintiff was handcuffed and no longer combative or resistive.

A **Department** root cause in this incident was a Deputy Sheriff failed to place the Plaintiff in a recovery position once he was subdued and/or handcuffed.

A **Department** root cause in this incident was the initial decision by Department Executive(s) to not present the criminal complaint against the Plaintiff to the District Attorney's Office for filing consideration.

A **non-Department** root cause in this incident was the Plaintiff refused to comply with the lawful orders given by a Deputy Sheriff.

A **non-Department** root cause in this incident was the Plaintiff's assault on a Deputy Sheriff.

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

This use-of-force was investigated by the Sheriff's Department's Internal Criminal Investigations Bureau to determine if any Department policy violations occurred during the use or reporting of force used against the Plaintiff. The results of the investigation were presented to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office for evaluation and filing consideration.

On November 15, 2022, the District Attorney's Office concluded there was insufficient evidence to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Deputy One committed the crime of assault under the color of authority and declined to initiate criminal proceedings against him.

On March 3, 2023, the Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) investigation into this matter was concluded. This case was subsequently reviewed by the Executive Force Review Committee (EFRC), who determined the following:

The EFRC Committee determined the force used in this incident was out of policy and appropriate administrative action was taken.

Deputies involved in this incident received additional training pertaining to the circumstances surrounding this incident.

Court Services West Bureau Debriefing (Tactical and Mental Health)

In the days following the incident, Courthouse supervisors briefed on the events known at the time. Court Services personnel were briefed on Managing Uncooperative, Argumentative, or Highly Emotional Persons with a special emphasis on the responsibilities of requesting a sergeant.

Additional focus was placed on officer safety, tactical preparedness, and lessons learned to assist employees if they ever find themselves in a similar situation.

Briefings have continued on a quarterly basis by Court Services West Bureau supervisors to reiterate the Department's expectations and policies.

Filing Criminal Complaints

The Department has instituted training at various levels of supervision to enhance transparency and emphasize the adherence to policy and standardized procedures in all instances, including high profile cases that have or may garner media attention.

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.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Name: (Risk Management Coordinator) Julia M. Valdes, Acting Captain Risk Management Bureau	
Signature:	Date: 08/19/25

Name: (Department Head) Jason A. Skeen, Assistant Sheriff Countywide Operations	
Signature:	Date: 8/20/25

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: Betty Karmirlian (Risk Management Inspector General)	
Signature: Betty Karmirlian	Date: 8/21/2025

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME		Juan Marquez, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER		2:22-CV-07246
COURT		United States District Court
DATE FILED		October 4, 2022
COUNTY DEPARTMENT		Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	$	4,500,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF		GREG L. KIRAKOSIAN Kirakosian Law, APC DALE K. GALIPO Law Offices of Dale K. Galipo
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY		RICHARD HSUEH Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE		This is a recommendation to settle the federal lawsuit for disputed liability, filed by Juan Marquez arising out of the service of an arrest warrant on October 30, 2021, for a sum of $4,500,000, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs. 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 $4,500,000 is recommended.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	$	183,505
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	$	222,755

Case Name: Juan Marquez et. al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.

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:	December 15, 2021, approximately 4:37 a.m.
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	Summary Corrective Action Plan 2023-160 Multiple investigative reports indicate on December 9, 2021, a detective at Norwalk Sheriff's Station sought and obtained a search and arrest warrant for the Plaintiff and his residence located in the city of Whittier. The arrest warrant was for the commission of an assault with a deadly weapon with a firearm. The search warrant was for the confiscation of all handguns located in the residence and associated with the Plaintiff. The warrant was classified as "high-risk" due to the number of automatic firearms and handguns anticipated to be in the residence, coupled with the nature of the crime the Plaintiff was suspected of having committed. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) Special Enforcement Bureau's (SEB) Special Weapons Team was assigned to serve the arrest warrant and search warrant. On Monday, December 13, 2021, members of the SEB, were briefed by the detective about the Plaintiff's crime. They were provided basic information about the Plaintiff, shown his DMV photograph, and informed approximately 10 firearms, two of which were assault rifles, were registered to him. The SEB deputies were informed that Plaintiff's family members also lived in the residence. Deputies prepared an operations plan and briefing plan for the warrant service. On Wednesday, December 15, 2021, at approximately 3:00 a.m., the day the warrant was to be served, Deputies were briefed on the tactical plan, case information, and last-minute logistical needs and assignments. Three SEB paramedics were also assigned to the operation. Following the briefing, Deputies One and Two drove past the residence. They observed that lights were on inside the

	house and believed that someone was awake. The SEB team proceeded to the residence. At approximately 4:30 a.m., the team began to position themselves and surround the residence. Streetlights were on, which illuminated the front of the house, and a dim light illuminated the porch area. Deputy Four, who was positioned next to the large front window, signaled to the entry team that he saw multiple individuals asleep in the living room. The Sergeant verified that every team member was in position and signaled to Deputy Two to begin the "knock and notice" announcements, which were audio recorded. Several commands were heard demanding entry. Through the glass oval window on the door, Deputies saw a woman in the living room. Deputy Seven removed the front security screen door. The doorknob of the interior wooden door was locked. Deputy Four saw that the two male occupants, whom he had seen asleep on the couch, were up and covered in blankets. He announced in English and Spanish, "Police! It's the police! Show me your hands!" They looked at him through the window, but they did not raise their hands. Deputy One saw a female inside the living room had seen them, and he watched her talk to someone behind her while seemingly holding the door closed with her hands. She then returned to the door, acted like she was going to open it, and then backed up. Deputy Four saw the two male occupants briefly look around and then take off running within the residence. The Sergeant felt the team had been compromised and needed to make a forced entry. Deputy Five breached the door with the ram. A third male emerged from the hallway and into the living room area, followed by the Plaintiff. Deputy Five saw the Plaintiff standing approximately ten to fifteen feet in front of him, holding a black firearm with both hands above his waistline, pointed in his direction. Deputy Five took a step back to allow Deputies One and Two access to the house, and said, "gun."

	Deputy One could see one of the male occupants holding his hands up and the female on the ground, also displaying her hands. Deputy Two could see three to four males moving around in the living room. Deputies One and Two yelled, "Let me see your hands!" twice. Deputy One saw the Plaintiff's face and half of his body, standing in a shooting stance, and saw that he was "coming up with a black handgun." Deputy One saw the Plaintiff point the gun at Deputy Two. Deputy Two had also seen the Plaintiff raise a black handgun from his waistband and point it at his face. Deputy Two believed that he and Deputy One were going to be shot. After the first gunshot, Deputy Two saw the Plaintiff duck down behind the couch, poking his head up and down, while maintaining the gun pointing in his direction. The Plaintiff manipulated the gun as though it was jammed, "fidgeting with it" and appeared to be attempting to fire it. Deputy Two fired two rounds at the Plaintiff; one of the rounds struck the Plaintiff. Deputy Two advised the team that the Plaintiff was "down" and behind the couch. The deputies began to command the occupants to vacate the house. They walked out of the house and were escorted off the premises. The SEB entry team entered the residence with two paramedics; Deputies Eight and Nine. The team found the Plaintiff lying on his back on the kitchen floor, bleeding. A Smith and Wesson 9mm semi-automatic pistol, loaded with an 8-round magazine, was near the Plaintiff's feet. Deputy Ten saw the paramedic deputies, Deputies Eight and Nine, rendering aid and called the Fire Department for assistance. The Fire Department responded and transported the Plaintiff to a local hospital. As a result of his injury, the Plaintiff will require future medical care.

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

A **Department** root cause in this incident was the Deputies were involved in a deputy-involved shooting as they attempted to take the Plaintiff into custody.

A **non-Department** root cause in this incident was the Plaintiff's decision to point a firearm at the Deputy Sheriffs.

A **non-Department** root cause in this incident was the Plaintiff's and his family's failure to comply with the Deputies' lawful orders.

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

Criminal and Administrative Investigation
This incident was thoroughly investigated by the Sheriff's Department Homicide Bureau. The results of the investigation were submitted to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, Justice System Integrity Division. The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office concluded the investigation and found Deputies One and Two acted in lawful self-defense and defense of others when they used deadly force against the Plaintiff; they closed the file and would be taking no further action in this matter.

An administrative review was conducted and it was determined that the force and tactics used by the deputies were within department policy.

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.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Name: (Risk Management Coordinator) Julia M. Valdes, Acting Captain Risk Management Bureau	
Signature: JM Valdes	Date: 05/27/25

Name: (Department Head) Jason A. Skeen, Assistant Sheriff Countywide Operations	
Signature:	Date: 6/3/25

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: Betty Karmirlian (Risk Management Inspector General)	
Signature: Betty Karmirlian	Date: 6/6/2025

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

August 18, 2025

1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Los Angeles County Claims Board was called to order at 9:38 a.m. The meeting was held virtually with Claims Board Chair Destiny Castro, Claims Board Member Oscar Valdez, Claims Board Member Adrienne M. Byers, and Claims Board Administrator 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.

All other participants at the Claims Board meeting appeared virtually: Talin Halabi, Kevin Engelien, Steven Rich, LaTasha Corry, Joseph Langton, Jamie D. Lopez, Jenny Park, Thomas Fagan, and Katherine Bowser appeared for the Office of the County Counsel. Damien Parker and Taneisha Franklin appeared for the Department of Mental Health. Amir Alam and Susana Graether appeared for the Chief Executive Office. Vincent Yu, Gillian Tiede, Jacklin Injijian, Ronald Castaneda, Alex Villarama, and Michele Chimienti appeared for the Department of Public Works. Sergeant Shanese Winfrey, Deputy Nancy K. Madarasz, Commander Ronald W. Kopperud, Captain Chris J. Mouat, Sergeant Sterling G. Haley, Lieutenant Julia M. Valdes, Captain Patricia Thomas, and Commander Richard Ruiz appeared for the Sheriff's Department. Stefan Popescu appeared for the Department of Beaches and Harbors. Marian Bellard appeared for the Internal Services Department. Julia Kim appeared for the Fire Department. Diane Iglesias appeared for the Department of Children and Family Services. Mark Worthge appeared for Kaufman Dolowich, LLP. Robert S. Kahn appeared for Collins + Collins, LLP. Patrick Stockalper appeared for Kjar, McKenna & Stockalper, LLP. John Z. LaCrosse appeared for Liebert Cassidy Whitmore. David Weiss appeared for David Weiss Law.

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 9:43 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 1:04 p.m., the Claims Board reconvened in open session to report the actions taken in closed session as follows:

a. <u>Baker Electric & Renewables LLC v. CannonDesign Builders, Inc., et al.</u>
Los Angeles Superior Court Case Nos. 22STCV22691 and 24STCV07116

These breach of contract lawsuits seek compensation for delay-related damages resulting in additional costs.

<u>Action Taken</u>:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4(a) in the amount of $3,200,000.

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

b. **Hector Gonzalez Casado v. City of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22CMCV00705

This personal injury lawsuit alleges that Plaintiff was injured due to a dangerous condition when he stepped into a utility hole missing its cover and fell.

Action Taken:

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

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

c. **Jennifer Alderete, et al. v. Jim Alberto Vives, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23PSCV01512

This lawsuit arises from injuries Plaintiffs allegedly sustained in a traffic collision involving a Department of Public Works employee.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(c) in the amount of $30,000.

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

d. **Nancy Marie Hernandez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22CMCV00461

This lawsuit arises from injuries Plaintiff allegedly sustained when she was struck by a vehicle driven by a Department of Mental Health employee.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4(d) in the amount of $237,500.

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

e. **Non-Litigated Claim of Rickie Lee Leos, Jr.**

This claim alleges that Claimant was injured in a traffic collision involving a Sheriff's Department sergeant.

Action Taken:

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

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

f. **Jose Luis Ponce v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
United States District Court Case No. 2:24-cv-01336

This lawsuit alleges that the Sheriff's Department failed to protect an inmate from harm and failed to provide medical care resulting in Plaintiff's injuries.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(f) in the amount of $75,000.

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

g. **Arturo Antonio Pineda Cobian v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV35856

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

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4(g) in the amount of $495,000.

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

h. **Juan Jimenez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV20197

This lawsuit arises from injuries Plaintiff allegedly sustained in a traffic collision involving an employee of the Department of Beaches and Harbors.

Action Taken:

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

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

i. **Catherine Marie Cordova v. Jose Louis Macias, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV26528

This lawsuit arises from injuries Plaintiff allegedly sustained in a traffic collision involving an employee of the Internal Services Department.

Action Taken:

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

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

j. **Francisco Hernandez v. County of Los Angeles**
United States District Court Case No. 2:25-cv-01501

This lawsuit alleges that the Fire Department violated the Fair Labor Standards Act by not compensating for overtime.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(j) in the amount of $27,000.

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

k. **Evangelina Hernandez, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV24771

This lawsuit alleges that the Department of Children and Family Services and its employees are liable for the death of a child and the abuse of the child's surviving siblings.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4(k) in the amount of $20,000,000.

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

5. Approval of the Minutes of the August 4, 2025, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes of the August 4, 2025, meeting.

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

6. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

By Laura Salazar
Laura Z. Salazar
Senior Paralegal
Office of the County Counsel