



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

CLAIMS BOARD

500 WEST TEMPLE STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2713

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Oscar Valdez
Office of the Auditor-Controller
Destiny Castro
Chief Executive Office
Liliana Campos
Office of the County Counsel

NOTICE OF MEETING AND AGENDA

The Los Angeles County Claims Board will hold a regular meeting on **Monday, April 20, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.**, at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Sixth Floor, Conference Room C, Los Angeles, California 90012. **Members of the public who would like to listen to the open session of the meeting or would like to provide public comment may call (323) 776-6996, then enter ID 281 140 314# at 9:30 a.m. on April 20, 2026.**

Reports of actions taken in Closed Session. The Los Angeles County Claims Board will report actions taken on any Closed Session Items on Monday, April 20, 2026, at approximately 11:10 a.m. Members of the public who would like to hear the reportable actions taken on any Closed Session items may call (323) 776-6996, then enter ID 281 140 314# at 11:10 a.m. on April 20, 2026. Please note that this is an approximate start time and there may be a short delay before the Closed Session is concluded and the actions can be reported.

TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT:

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

Written public comments or documentation must be submitted no later than 12:00 p.m. on Friday, April 17, 2026. Please include the agenda item and meeting date in your correspondence. Comments and any other written submissions will become part of the official record of the meeting.

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

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

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

If you would like more information, please contact Claims Board Administrator Thomas Finley at tfinley@counsel.lacounty.gov or Management Specialist Raina Mey at rmey@counsel.lacounty.gov.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order.
2. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Claims Board on items of interest that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Claims Board.
3. Closed Session Item(s) – Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Government Code section 54956.9, subdivision (a)).

- a. Juan Felix v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 24STLC06342

This lawsuit arises from injuries Plaintiff allegedly sustained in a traffic collision involving an Internal Services Department employee; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$29,000.

[See Supporting Document](#)

- b. Non-Litigated Claims of Daniel Felix, et al.

This lawsuit arises from injuries Claimants allegedly sustained in a traffic collision involving a Sheriff's Department employee; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$31,000.

[See Supporting Document](#)

- c. David Michael Sabo, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 24AVCV01088

This lawsuit arises from injuries Plaintiffs allegedly sustained in a traffic collision involving a Sheriff's Department employee; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$100,000.

[See Supporting Document](#)

- d. Jane BM Doe v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 24NWCV01083

This lawsuit concerns allegations of sexual assault by a former Department of Children and Family Services employee; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$100,000.

[See Supporting Document](#)

- e. Sammy Newman, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:22-CV-03467
Edward Malloy v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:22-CV-04836

These federal civil rights lawsuits allege Plaintiffs were unconstitutionally group searched by Sheriff's Department jail staff at the Men's Central Jail; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$1,500,000.

[See Supporting Documents](#)

- f. Gracie Duenas v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23STCV16874

This lawsuit alleges that an employee of the Sheriff's Department was subjected to discrimination, harassment, and retaliation; settlement is recommended in the amount of \$190,000.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the April 6, 2026, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

[See Supporting Document](#)

5. Adjournment.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Juan Felix v. County of Los Angeles
CASE NUMBER	24STLC06342
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	September 3, 2024
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Internal Services Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 29,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	GARRET A. LUNGIN Law Office of Garret Lungin APC
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	SANJAY ATHALYE Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>On December 28, 2023, a Department employee was driving a County vehicle in the course and scope of employment on the 10 freeway between New Street and Garfield Street. The County vehicle struck Plaintiff's vehicle from behind, and this caused Plaintiff's vehicle to strike the vehicle in front of it.</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	\$ 3,456
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 38

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Non-Litigated Claims of Daniel Felix, Gabriella Soto, and Mia Felix
CASE NUMBER	None
COURT	None
DATE FILED	N/A
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 31,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	None
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Candace Wong Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This is a recommendation to settle for \$31,000 the claims filed by Daniel Felix, Gabriella Soto, and Mia Felix against the County and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department seeking damages for injuries sustained in a motor vehicle collision. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the claims are warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 0.00
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 0.00

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	David Michael Sabo, et al. vs. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	24AVCV01088
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	September 4, 2024
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 100,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	ALLEN VAYSBERG, ESQ. Law Offices of Steers & Associates
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	MELISSA A. MCCAVERY, ESQ. Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	This is an auto-liability lawsuit which arises from a traffic collision that occurred on October 5, 2023. Plaintiffs claim they suffered injuries and damages as a result of 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	\$ 33,005
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 8,596

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Jane BM Doe v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	24NWCV01083
COURT	Los Angeles County Superior Court
DATE FILED	April 5, 2024
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Children and Family Services
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 100,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	ANDREW L. TREGER, ESQ. WESLEY J. KRIEGER Baer, Treger, Rudin, LLP
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	THOMAS FAGAN Principal Deputy County Counsel Social Services Division TOMAS GUTERRES Collins, Collins, Muir + Stewart, LLP.
NATURE OF CASE	Plaintiff alleges she was sexually assaulted by an employee of the Department of Children and Family Services while he was working. Due to the high risks and uncertainties of litigation, a reasonable settlement at this time will avoid further litigation costs.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 36,513
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 160

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Sammy Newman, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al. and Edward Malloy v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	2:22-CV-03467 and 2:22-CV-04836
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	May 23, 2022 and July 14, 2022
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 1,500,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	BARRETT S. LITT McLane, Bednarski & Litt, LLP JOVAN BACKNELL Law Office of J. Blacknell
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	MINAS SAMUELIAN Senior Deputy County Counsel JUSTIN CLARK Lawrence Beach Allen & Choi, PC
NATURE OF CASE	This is a recommendation to settle for \$1,500,000, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, a proposed class action lawsuit brought by Sammy Newman and a related non-class action lawsuit brought by Edward Malloy (collectively Plaintiffs) against the County alleging federal and State civil rights violations. 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 cases in the amount of \$1,500,000 is recommended.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 276,427
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 40,804



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:	September 7, 2021
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	<p style="text-align: center;">Summary Corrective Action Plan</p> <p>On September 7, 2021, the Department received a credible threat that narcotics and a firearm had been smuggled into the jail by someone now housed at Men's Central Jail (MCJ). After an initial investigation led some credibility to the threat, all of the jail facilities were placed on a full lockdown and a systematic search of the affected housing units was implemented.</p> <p>The systematic search involved calling in the Special Enforcement Bureau (SEB) to oversee the removal of individuals housed in affected areas one by one. During the search process, individuals were removed from their cells in their boxer shorts, then told to remove their boxer shorts while they were escorted to a body scanner. After cleared on the body scanner, the individuals were moved and given boxers.</p> <p>While the body scanners were being used, canine units searched the unoccupied cells. The cell of one (1) of the individuals suspected of receiving the narcotics and/or firearm was alerted on by a canine. A more thorough search of the cell revealed hidden narcotics, but no firearm.</p> <p>The individual housed in the cell with narcotics agreed to voluntarily submit to a body scan, which revealed an foreign object was secreted inside him. He agreed to an x-ray, which confirmed the presence of narcotics inside him, but ruled out a firearm.</p> <p>As the search was going on, investigators continued to investigate the original threat. As the investigation progressed, the person who made the original allegation recanted the portion of the allegation involving a firearm, admitting that it was only narcotics that were smuggled in.</p>

	The entire search process lasted from September 7, 2021, at approximately 1:05 pm, to September 8, 2021, at approximately 2:55 am.
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1. Briefly describe the **root cause(s)** of the claim/lawsuit:


<p>The following departmental root causes were identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bifurcation of the command post• Failure to activate the custody Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to oversee the operation• Prolonged removal of the boxers of individuals being searched• Lack of high-quality body scan images

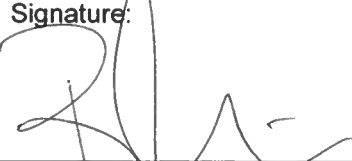
2. Briefly describe recommended corrective actions:
(Include each corrective action, due date, responsible party, and any disciplinary actions if appropriate)

<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Emergency Operations Center Activation – Rebriefing and education on the availability and appropriateness of activating the EOC during a large-scale operation or incident2) EOC Roster – An updated roster was created and maintained by Custody Support Services Bureau (CSSB), ensuring command staff know who can be contacted across the Department, regardless of the time of day, when large scale, multiunit responses are required3) Immediate Clothing of Individuals – In similar incidents in the future, SEB and custody staff will create an individualized plan, based on the unique circumstances of the incident, to ensure individuals do not have to be escorted and moved significant distances while unclothed4) EOC Training – A new training course was developed and made available to all custody units to ensure they understand how to activate the EOC, the role the EOC plays, and how to properly communicate during these type of large scale incidents.5) Body Scanner Improvements – One (1) body scanner at MCJ was set on a higher resolution6) New Body Scanners – New, significantly improved body scanners have been installed and placed into service at all of the facilities, including MCJ.


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) Christine M. Coles, Commander Custody Services Division – Specialized Programs	
Signature: 	Date: 3-31-26

Name: (Department Head) Tania E. Plunkett, Chief Custody Services Division – Specialized Programs	
Signature: 	Date: 4/1/26

Chief Executive Office Risk Management Inspector General USE ONLY	
Are the corrective actions applicable to other departments within the County?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the corrective actions potentially have County-wide applicability.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No, the corrective actions are applicable only to this Department.	

Name: (Risk Management Inspector General) Betty Karmirlian	
Signature: 	Date: 4/2/26

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

April 6, 2026

1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Los Angeles County Claims Board was called to order at 9:36 a.m. The meeting was held virtually with Claims Board Chair Destiny Castro, Claims Board Member Oscar Valdez, Claims Board Member Liliana Campos, and Claims Board Administrator Thomas Finley 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: Narbeh Bagdasarian, Mark Lomax, Nena Young, Jamie Lopez, Minas Samuelian, Joseph Langton, Kevin Engeliem, Richard Hsueh, Anna R. Reitano, Lauren Sible, Marissa Dagdagan, and Pirjo L. Ranasinghe appeared for the Office of the County Counsel. Arun Patel, Roberto Avitia, Laura E. Santana, Griselda Gutierrez, Jose Garcia, and Robb Myrtle appeared for the Department of Health Services. Alex Villarma and Ronald Castaneda appeared for the Department of Public Works. Stephanie N. Lara, Deputy Nancy Madarasz, Lieutenant Jennifer M. Roth, Sergeant Jennifer Romero, Lieutenant David M. Berry Jr, Captain Robert J. Dean, Commander Robert L. Jones II, Acting Captain Tania A. Giggles, Lieutenant Alan Y. Liu, Sergeant Francisco J. Quintero, Acting Commander Nicole N. Palomino, Chief Yolanda Figueroa, Commander Terrance Bell, Sergeant Robert Lloyd, Captain Sandra Lucio, Lieutenant Bryan T. Sirkel, Captain Jorge Meza, Lieutenant Benjamin C. Grubb, and Commander Damon A. Jones appeared for the Sheriff's Department. Jocelyn Roman and Nicole Ervin appeared for the Probation Department. George Chuang appeared for GC Law. Michele Goldsmith appeared for BDG Law Group, APLC. Robert Kahn and Robert Rosvall Collins + Collins, LLP. Thomas Hurrell and Kevin Rashidi appeared for Hurrell Cantrall, LLP. Thomas Barajas appeared for Glaser Weil Fink Howard Jordan and Shapiro LLP.

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 9:37 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.

On the public teleconference phone line, a caller who self-identified as "Noelle Arriola" was present to hear the reportable actions of the Claims Board.

At 1:00 p.m., the Claims Board reconvened in open session via video conference and reported the actions taken in closed session as follows:

[Remainder of page intentionally left blank.]

a. **Bobo, D., et al. v. Harbor-UCLA Medical Center**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 24TRCV01086

This medical malpractice lawsuit alleges physicians and staff at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center were negligent.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4(a) in the amount of \$1,500,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Liliana Campos, and Destiny Castro

b. **Non-Litigated Claim of MYK Properties, LLC**

This inverse condemnation claim against the Department of Public Works contends that Claimants' property was damaged by sewage backflow due to a mainline blockage.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(b) in the amount of \$55,520.13.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Liliana Campos, and Destiny Castro

c. **Bradley R. McKibben, et al. v. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 25PSCV00872

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

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(c) in the amount of \$99,500.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Liliana Campos, and Destiny Castro

d. **Micheaux Fortson v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
United States District Court, Case No.: 2:24-CV-04167

This federal lawsuit arises from the alleged unlawful detention, unreasonable search, and excessive force by Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Deputies.

Action Taken:

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

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Oscar Valdez and Liliana Campos
Noes: 1 – Destiny Castro

e. **Angel Navarette v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
United States District Court Case No.: 2:22-CV-06433

This federal lawsuit arises from the alleged excessive force by Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Deputies.

Action Taken:

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

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Liliana Campos, and Destiny Castro

f. **April Herrera v. Los Angeles County, et al.**
United States District Court, Case No.: 2:24-CV-01959

This federal lawsuit alleges Plaintiff sustained physical and emotional injuries by a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Deputy.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4(f) in the amount of \$375,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Liliana Campos, and Destiny Castro

g. **Pascuala Ureno De Perez v. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23PSCV02146

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

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4(g) in the amount of \$1,000,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Liliana Campos, and Destiny Castro

h. **Estate of Samuel Herrera, Jr., etc., et al. v. County of Los Angeles**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No.: 21STCV36013
Samuel Herrera, Jr., et al. v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No.: 21STCV38673

This is a dispute with Contract Cities regarding liability obligations.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4(h) in the amount of \$1,250,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Oscar Valdez and Liliana Campos
Recusal: 1 – Destiny Castro

**i. Marlen Medina v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:24-cv-05277**

This federal wrongful death lawsuit stems from the overdose death of Plaintiff's decedent while in custody at Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4(i) in the amount of \$2,500,000.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Oscar Valdez and Liliana Campos
Noes: 1 – Destiny Castro

**j. Jamilla Saint-Pierre v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court No. 22STCV26792**

This lawsuit alleges that an employee of Health Services was subjected to discrimination and harassment.

Action Taken:

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

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Liliana Campos, and Destiny Castro

**k. Cristina Carrillo v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV38146**

This lawsuit alleges that an employee of the Sheriff's Department was subjected to discrimination, harassment, and retaliation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 4(k) in the amount of \$375,000.

Vote: Ayes: 3 – Oscar Valdez, Liliana Campos, and Destiny Castro

5. Approval of the Minutes of the March 16, 2026, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

Action Taken:


The Claims Board approved the Minutes of the March 16, 2026, meeting.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Oscar Valdez and Destiny Castro
Abstention: 1 – Liliana Campos

6. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

By 

Thomas Finley
Claims Board Administrator
Office of the County Counsel