

STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD
HELD IN PERSON AND ONLINE VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE

ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2025, AT 9:30 A.M.

Present: Chair Destiny Castro, and Adrienne M. Byers

Absent: 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.**

Two unidentified members of the public appeared on the public teleconference phone line but none responded to the opportunity to address the Claims Board. No member of the public appeared in person.

- 3. Closed Session – Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Government Code section 54956.9, subdivision (a)).**

- a. C.G. v. DeLeon Country Home, et al.
San Bernardino Superior Court Case No. CIVSB2315003**

This lawsuit alleges breach of mandatory duty and negligence by the Department of Children and Family Services for failure to protect Plaintiff from sexual abuse.

Action Taken:

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

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

- b. Carlos Garcia Guerra v. Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22AVCV01028**

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

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 3(b) in the amount of \$100,000.

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

c. **Sina Mardani, et al. v. County of Los Angeles**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 18STCV05076

This inverse condemnation lawsuit seeks compensation from the Department of Public Works for personal injury and property damage allegedly caused by sewage backflows.

Action Taken:

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

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

d. **Ignacio Duran, et al. v. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23AHCV02331

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(d) in the amount of \$60,000.

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

e. **Joshua Shelton, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 24CMCV00816

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(e) in the amount of \$50,000.

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

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**f. Jane Doe 1 v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV14870**

This lawsuit alleges Plaintiff was unlawfully detained and assaulted by a Sheriff's Department deputy at Lancaster High School.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 3(f) in the amount of \$400,000.

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

[See Supporting Document](#)

**g. Janine Hanson v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23STCV22247**

This lawsuit concerns allegations of sexual harassment and retaliation by the Sheriff's Department.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 3(g) in the amount of \$590,000 for economic reasons only.

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

**h. John Lewin v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23STCV03395**

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee of the District Attorney's Office was subjected to retaliation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 3(h) in the amount of \$2,875,000 for economic reasons only.

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

**i. Elena Gonzalez v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23STCV23118**

This lawsuit alleges that an employee of the Department of Health Services was subjected to religious discrimination and retaliation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 3(i) in the amount of \$53,000.

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

**j. Edna Yarashevich v. Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23STCV11071**

This lawsuit concerns allegations of sexual harassment, gender discrimination, and retaliation.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 3(j) in the amount of \$400,000.

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

**k. Jane BP1-B Doe, et al. v. Doe 1 (County of Los Angeles), et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 22STCV25961 and approximately 414 AB
218 Matters Against the County of Los Angeles**

These matters concern allegations of childhood sexual abuse against the Probation Department and the Department of Children and Family Services.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors settlement of Item 3(k) in the amount of up to \$828,000,000.

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

4. Approval of the Minutes of the October 6, 2025, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes of the October 6, 2025, meeting.

Vote: Ayes: 2 – Adrienne M. Byers, and Destiny Castro
Absent: 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	C.G. v. DeLeon Country Home, et al.
CASE NUMBER	CIVSB2315003
COURT	San Bernardino Superior Court
DATE FILED	July 6, 2023
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Children and Family Services
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 50,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	JACK H. ANTHONY REBEKAH YABKO Law Offices of Jack H. Anthony
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	SHAWN LUNA Senior Deputy County Counsel Social Services Division AVI BURKWITZ, ESQ. Peterson Bradford Burkwitz Gregorio Burkwitz & Su, LLP
NATURE OF CASE	Plaintiffs allege breach of mandatory duty and negligence claims against the Department of Children and Family Services involving its alleged failure to protect a minor from sexual abuse. Due to high risks and uncertainties of litigation, a reasonable settlement at this time will avoid further litigation costs.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 49,317
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 10,822

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Carlos Garcia Guerra vs. Los Angeles County of Department of Public Works, et al.
CASE NUMBER	22AVCV01028
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	December 9, 2022
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Public Works
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 100,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	DARLENE TREVINO, ESQ. Trevino Law Firm
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	LATASHA N. CORRY, ESQ. Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	On May 29, 2022, Plaintiff was stopped at a red light on Palmdale Boulevard, when he was rear-ended by a Department employee. Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 36,963
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 61,822

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Sina Mardani, et al. vs County of Los Angeles
CASE NUMBER	18STCV05076
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	11/15/2018
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Public Works
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 4,500,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	SARVENAZ BAHAR, ESQ. Bahar Law Office
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	MICHAEL J. GORDON, ESQ. Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	On February 17, 2018, and October 18, 2022, the sewer mainline at 29844 Knoll View Drive in Rancho Palos Verdes backed up causing damage to Plaintiffs Sina, Azadeh, and Shorab Mardani's real property, personal property, and personal injuries for which they seek compensation. Given the risk and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$4,500,000 is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 393,629
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 227,724

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Ignacio Duran, et al. v. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, et al.
CASE NUMBER	23AHCV02331
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	October 9, 2023
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 60,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	ANDREW M. MORROW, ESQ. Downtown LA Law Group
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	MICHAEL J. GORDON, ESQ. Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	On February 20, 2023, a collision between Sheriff's Department patrol car and Plaintiffs' automobile occurred in the intersection of Sunset Boulevard and Huntington Drive in the City of Arcadia. Plaintiffs allege the collision caused injuries for which they seek compensation. Given the risk and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$60,000 is warranted.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 58,555
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 30,193

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Jane Doe 1, a Minor, by and through her Guardian Ad Litem, A.A. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	22STCV14870
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	August 30, 2021
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 400,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	SUSAN R. HUERTA The Bloom Firm
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	MILLICENT L. ROLON Principal Deputy County Counsel Justice and Safety Division THOMAS C. HURRELL Hurrell & Cantrall, LLP
NATURE OF CASE	This is a recommendation to settle for \$400,000, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, a federal civil rights lawsuit filed by Doe, Jane (Plaintiff), alleging she was unlawfully detained and assaulted by a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) Deputy at Lancaster High School in Antelope Valley Union High School District (AVUHSD). We join with our outside counsel in recommending a \$400,000 settlement of this matter. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department concurs with the recommendation.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 173,688
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 16,722

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

October 6, 2025

1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Los Angeles County Claims Board was called to order at 9:37 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: Ann M. Aguilar, Caroline S. Craddock, Edward Morrissey, Minas Samuelian, Millicent Rolon, Shawn Luna, Pouya Bavafa, Lauren Sible, and Christopher Keosian appeared for the Office of the County Counsel. Assistant Fire Chief Alvin Brewer appeared for the Fire Department. Sergeant Shanese Winfrey, Deputy Nancy K. Madarasz, Lieutenant Jennifer M. Roth, Commander Shawn R. Kehoe, Captain Michael G. Shaw, Lieutenant Robert Martinez, Captain Christina R. Baker, Lieutenant Mark Sunagawa, Deputy Maria C. Marin, Lieutenant Juan F. Sanchez, Commander Damon A. Jones, Commander Terrence L. Bell, and Captain Victor Puebla. Christina Lee appeared for the Department of Children and Family Services. Kevin Lee and Evon Coburn appeared for Department of Public Health. Robb Myrtle appeared for the Department of Health Services. Karen Stepanyan appeared for Pollak, Vida & Barer. Justin Clark appeared for Lawrence, Beach, Allen, and Choi, PC. Thomas Hurrell and Joseph Miller appeared for Hurrell Cantrall LLP. Avi Burkwitz appeared for Peterson Bradford Burkwitz Gregorio Burkwitz & Su, LLP. Irma L. Martinez appeared for Sanders Roberts LLP. Jeffrey Hausman appeared for Hausman & Sosa 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 9:38 a.m., Claims Board Chair Destiny Castro convened the meeting in closed session to discuss the items listed below as 4(a) through 4(i).

4. Report on Actions Taken in Closed Session.

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

At 11:59 a.m., the Claims Board reconvened in open session to report the actions taken in closed session as follows:

a. Non-Litigated Claim of Kemper Insurance ASO Alan Cory Hong

This claim against the Fire Department seeks compensation for property damage allegedly caused by a three-car collision.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(a) in the amount of \$22,564.04.

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

b. Non-Litigated Claim of the Judicial Council of California

This claim against the Sheriff's Department seeks compensation for property damage allegedly caused by the negligent operation of a gate at Downey Courthouse.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(b) in the amount of \$23,317.87.

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

**c. Estate of Erick Rubio v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 24STCP01690**

This writ of mandate lawsuit arises from a request for records under the California Public Records Act.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(c) in the amount of \$28,041.

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

**d. Lecia L. Shorter v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:21-cv-03347**

This federal civil rights lawsuit alleges jail staff at Century Regional Detention Facility subjected Plaintiff to unconstitutional group strip-searches between 2010 and 2015.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(d) in the amount of \$99,999.

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

**e. Emmett Brock v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 8:24-cv-00565**

This federal civil rights lawsuit alleges Plaintiff was illegally detained, beaten, and arrested by a Sheriff's Department deputy.

Action Taken:

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

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

**f. Frank Gutierrez, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:21-cv-08238**

This lawsuit alleges civil rights violations against the Department of Children and Family Services resulting in the death of a minor.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(f) in the amount of \$100,000 for economic reasons.

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

**g. Jessica Castillo v. County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 23STCV00176**

This lawsuit concerns allegations of race discrimination, disability discrimination, and retaliation by the Department of Public Health.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(g) in the amount of \$70,000.

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

**h. Heather Skopik v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV29045**

This lawsuit concerns allegations that an employee of the Department of Health Services was subjected to discrimination and retaliation based on gender.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved settlement of Item 4(h) in the amount of \$99,000.

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

**i. Latosha Walker v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 21STCV08300**

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(i) in the amount of \$300,000.

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

5. Approval of the Minutes of the September 15, 2025, regular meeting of the Claims Board.

Action Taken:

The Claims Board approved the Minutes of the September 15, 2025, meeting.

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

6. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CLAIMS BOARD

By



Laura Z. Salazar
Claims Board Administrator
Office of the County Counsel