



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

CONTRACT CITIES LIABILITY TRUST FUND CLAIMS BOARD

500 WEST TEMPLE STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2713

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Curtis Morris
City Council Member
Mark R. Alexander
City Manager
Margaret Finlay
City Council Member
Doug Prichard
City Manager
Mark Waronek
City Council Member
Michael J. Egan
City Administrator
Sam Olivito
California Contract
Cities Association

NOTICE OF MEETING

The County of Los Angeles Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board will hold its Regular Meeting on Wednesday, June 8, 2016, at 11:00 a.m. in the City of Norwalk, Community Meeting Center, Sproul Room at 13200 Clarkdale Avenue, Norwalk, California 90650.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order.
2. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Claims Board on items of interest that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Claims Board.
3. Closed Session - Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Government Code Section 54956.9)
 - a. Robert Fernandez v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. MC 024306
Estate of Gabriel Fernandez, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 552734

This lawsuit concerns allegations of wrongful death, civil rights violations, and failure to investigate by the Department of Children and Family Services, the Sheriff's Department, and the Department of Public Social Services.

See Supporting Document

- b. Evelyn E. Niquet, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. MC 025256

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

See Supporting Document

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

- a. Sonya Benton v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Compton Superior Court Case No. TC 027002

This lawsuit concerns allegations of a collision with a vehicle driven by a Sheriff's Deputy for failure to yield.

- b. Rebecca Braden v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 499223

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

- c. Bertha Gonzalez, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 540696

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

- 5. Report of actions taken in Closed Session.
- 6. Approval of Minutes for the May 11, 2016, meeting of the Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board.

See Supporting Document

- 7. Items not on the posted agenda, to be referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a further meeting of the Board, or matters requiring immediate action because of emergency situation or where the need to take immediate action came to the attention of the Board subsequent to the posting of the agenda.

- 8. Other Business

- 9. Adjournment

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Robert Fernandez v. County of Los Angeles, et al. and Estate of Gabriel Fernandez, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	MCO24306 and BC552734
COURT	Los Angeles County Superior Court, North District Los Angeles County Superior Court, Central District
DATE FILED	12/4/2013 and 7/25/2014
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Children and Family Services Department of Public Social Services Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$1,841,000 (70 percent of total settlement of \$2,630,000; Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund (LASD) has been apportioned 30 percent of the total settlement)
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Law Offices of John Noland and Carpenter, Zuckerman & Rowley, LAP
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Lauren Black
NATURE OF CASE	These two lawsuits arise from the death of eight- year-old Gabriel F., filed by: (1) his maternal grandfather and grandmother; and (2) his siblings, father, four paternal relatives, and the Estate of Gabriel Fernandez. The plaintiffs allege that the County's conduct was a substantial factor in Gabriel's death, which was the result of serial abuse by his mother and her boyfriend.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 124,767
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 4,961

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Evelyn E. Niquet, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	MC025256
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	February 24, 2015
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department - Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 41,500.00
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Robert Ryan, Esq.
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Brian T. Chu Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>An on-duty Sheriff's Deputy driving a marked patrol unit while in the course and scope of his duties assigned to the City of Palmdale, collided broad-side with a vehicle driven by Evelyn Niquet, at the intersection of Barrel Springs Road and 47th Street East. Ms. Niquet was traveling eastbound approaching the intersection and the Sheriff's Deputy entered the intersection after stopping at the stop sign. Ms. Niquet and her passenger contend that the Sheriff's Deputy failed to yield before entering the intersection.</p> <p>Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$41,500 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 3,224
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 0

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

MINUTES OF MEETING

May 11, 2016

1. Call to Order

This meeting of the County of Los Angeles Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board was called to order by Curtis Morris at 11:18 a.m. The meeting was held in the Community Meeting Center, Sproul Room, 13200 Clarkdale Avenue, Norwalk, CA 90650.

Present at the meeting were **Claims Board Members:** Curtis Morris, Chair, San Dimas, Region III; Mark Alexander, La Canada Flintridge, Region I; Michael Egan, Norwalk, Region III; Margaret Finlay, Duarte, Region I; Doug Prichard, Rolling Hills Estates, Region II; Mark Waronek, City of Lomita, Region II; **Alternates:** Darrell Grouge, Duarte, Region I; Cheri Kelley, Norwalk, Region III; **County of Los Angeles Staff:** Jennifer A.D. Lehman, Assistant County Counsel; Scott Johnson, Captain, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; Chris Deacon, Investigator, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Joseph Jakl, Sergeant, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; Greg McKnight, Sergeant, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; John La Salle, Sales Executive, Wells Fargo Insurance Services; Karen Bartak, President, Bedford Falls Insurance Services; **Third Party Administrator for the County of Los Angeles:** Sylvia Hernandez, Claims, Carl Warren & Company; **California JPIA:** Jonathan Shull, Chief Executive Officer; Paul Zeglovitch, Liability Program Manager; Jim Thyden, Insurance Programs Manager; Jennifer Fullerton, Administrative Analyst.

2. Public Comment

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

At 11:18 a.m., the Chair adjourned the County of Los Angeles Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board into Closed Session.

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

- a. Sarah DeLuca v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. CV 15-0344

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

Action Taken:

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$50,000.

Vote: Ayes: 6 -- Curtis Morris, Mark Alexander, Michael Egan,
Margaret Finlay, Doug Prichard, and
Mark Waronek

Absent: Sam Olivito

- b. Ann Stephens v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. MC025261

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

Action Taken:

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board approved the settlement of this matter in the amount of \$25,000.

Vote: Ayes: 6 -- Curtis Morris, Mark Alexander, Michael Egan,
Margaret Finlay, Doug Prichard, and
Mark Waronek

Absent: Sam Olivito

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

- a. Raymond Kovacic, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. CV 14-07765

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

Action Taken:

No reportable action taken.

5. Report of actions taken in Closed Session.

The meeting was reconvened into public session at 11:25 a.m. No action was taken in Closed Session which required a public report pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.1.

6. Approval of the Minutes for April 13, 2016, meeting of the Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board.

Action Taken:

The Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board approved the minutes with changes to reflect Doug Prichard was present for meeting.

Vote: Ayes: 6 -- Curtis Morris, Mark Alexander, Michael Egan, Margaret Finlay, Doug Prichard, and Mark Waronek

Absent: Sam Olivito

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

None

8. Other Business

None

9. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CONTRACT CITIES LIABILITY
TRUST FUND CLAIMS BOARD


SONYA ZAMUDIO