

CITY OF OAKLAND



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April 14, 2025

HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL
Oakland, California

Subject: Todd Ross, Cecilia Brook, Todd Kane-Ross, Jr., by and through his Guardian ad Litem Chyna Kane-Ross, Tania Sanchez-Martinez, by and through her Guardian ad Litem Rebecca Martinez, Karina Sanchez-Martinez, by and through her Guardian ad Litem Rebecca Martinez, Cameron Kane-Ross, by and through his Guardian ad Litem Chyna Kane-Ross, Skylar Kane-Ross, by and through her Guardian ad Litem Chyna Kane-Ross v. City of Oakland, Gordon Gullett, and Does 1 to 10
Alameda County Superior Court Case No. HG20053846
City Attorney File No. 33718
(Oakland Fire Department – Motor Vehicle Accident)

President Pro Tempore Gallo and Members of the City Council:

Pursuant to Section 401 of the Charter, the City Attorney has prepared and requests your approval of a resolution authorizing compromise and settlement of the above-entitled lawsuit for the sum of Five Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$550,000.00), payable to the “Law Offices of Brian L. Larsen in trust for Todd Ross, et al.”

This case arises out of an auto accident on April 21, 2019, at the intersection of Aileen Street and Lowell Street in Oakland, where on-duty Oakland Fire Department Engineer Gordon Gullett II was driving an OFD fire engine that collided with another vehicle. Plaintiffs cumulatively claim a variety of injuries including concussion, wrist, neck, shoulder, and back pain, ongoing post-concussion syndrome including post-traumatic headaches, cognitive impairment, posttraumatic anxiety, and depression, and emotional distress for which they incurred medical bills and face the possibility of future medical expenses because of the accident.

The Council has determined that settlement in the amount of \$550,000.00, without admitting liability and to avoid further litigation, is in the best interest of the City.

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The City Council authorized settlement of this case in Closed Session on Thursday, March 20, 2025 (moved by Councilmember Carroll Fife and seconded by Councilmember Rebecca Kaplan - 6 Ayes, 1 No, 1 Absent – Council President Kevin Jenkins (serving as Mayor pursuant to Charter Section 303)).

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ryan G. Richardson".

RYAN RICHARDSON
City Attorney

Assigned Attorney:
Michael Quirk