



Board Agenda Item 36

DATE: August 11, 2026

TO: Board of Supervisors

SUBMITTED BY: Hollis Magill, Director of Human Resources

SUBJECT: Request to Defend Public Officer or Employee

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

Approve and authorize the Chairman to execute “Agreement to Defend Public Officer or Employee, Reservation of Rights, and Non-Waiver” for the employee listed below:

<u>Name of Employee</u>	<u>Current Position</u>	<u>Title of Action</u>
Patrick Lopez	Former Senior Correctional Officer, Sheriff Department	Curtis Lee Henderson Sr. v Fresno County Jail, et al.

DESCRIPTION:

Plaintiff alleges, since the day he was placed into custody, he has been discriminated against in violation of Title II of the American Disabilities Act, section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and retaliation of his First Amendment Rights. He alleges he was sexually harassed by defendants. The employee was employed with Sheriff's Department at the times relevant to the allegations in the lawsuit.

Fresno County Claim No.:	GHC0094462
Eastern District Court:	1:24-CV-001569-JLT-SKO
Plaintiff:	Curtis Lee Henderson Sr.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION(S):

No alternative action is available because Article 4 (commencing with section 825), Chapter 1, Part 2, Division 3.6 of Title 1 of the Government Code requires the County to indemnify its public employees who timely request such defense.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no increase in Net County Cost associated with the recommended action. Funds to finance the cost of defense are contained in the Department's Org 8925, Risk Management Internal Services Fund. Defense costs are supported by annual budgetary contributions based on actuarial projections.

DISCUSSION:

The California Government Code requires the County to defend its officers and employees who are sued

because of their actions while in the course and scope of employment, if they timely request such defense. The County may require officers and employees to agree that the County's rights under the law are protected.

In the above-mentioned action, the employee who has been named in the suit has requested the County to provide legal defense. The necessary agreement to protect the County's rights has been signed by said employee and is on file with the Clerk of the Board.

ATTACHMENTS INCLUDED AND/OR ON FILE:

On file with Clerk - Agreement to Defend Public Officer or Employee, Patrick Lopez

On file with Clerk - Exhibit "A" Article 4. Indemnification of Public Employees

CAO ANALYST:

Sevag Tateosian