



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Susana Alcala Wood,
City Attorney

SUBJECT: SETTLEMENT OF LAWSUIT
FILED BY JANUARY
VILLARREAL

DATE: April 24, 2026

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the settlement of a lawsuit brought by Plaintiff January Villarreal in the total amount of \$85,000 and authorize the City Attorney to execute a settlement agreement.

OUTCOME

Settlement of the lawsuit brought by Plaintiff January Villarreal in the amount of \$85,000. Each side will bear its own costs and attorney fees.

BACKGROUND

This lawsuit arises from an allegation that a former San Jose police officer used excessive force and sexually assaulted plaintiff in the back seat of his patrol vehicle after an arrest. The settlement will resolve all of Plaintiff's claims for damages, including any future damages.

ANALYSIS

This is a negotiated settlement between the parties to avoid the risks inherent in litigation. The City will pay plaintiff the total sum of \$85,000 in full satisfaction and settlement of all claims, and plaintiff will dismiss her entire lawsuit with prejudice. The proposed agreement will conclude the litigation without further cost, expense, or risk of loss to the City and City employees. The parties will bear their own respective attorneys' fees and litigation costs.

PUBLIC OUTREACH/INTEREST

This memorandum and the Settlement Agreement have been posted on the City's website for the April 28, 2026, agenda.

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

April 24, 2026

Subject: Settlement of Lawsuit Filed by January Villarreal

Page 2

COST SUMMARY/IMPLICATIONS

The settlement will be paid from the City's claims reserve fund.

CEQA

Not applicable. Not a project File No. PP17-003 Agreements/Contracts (New or Amended) resulting in no physical changes to the environment.

By 
Susana Alcala Wood (Apr 24, 2026 13:50:45 PDT)

SUSANA ALCALA WOOD
City Attorney

cc: Jennifer Maguire, City Manager

For questions, please contact SUSANA ALCALA WOOD, City Attorney, at (408) 535-1900