



OFFICE OF THE  
**COUNTY  
COUNSEL**

# ANNUAL LITIGATION COST REPORT FY 2023-2024

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# Overview

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## INTRODUCTION

Annual litigation expenses for FY 23-24 for the County of Los Angeles ("County") totaled \$220.4 million, a 35 percent decrease from the \$340.2 million spent in FY 22-23. This decrease was primarily due to a 51% reduction, or \$132.4 million, in judgments and settlements.

The \$220.4 million paid in FY 23-24 consists of \$125 million in judgments and settlements, and \$95.4 million in attorneys' fees and costs.\*

Some litigation expenses incurred by County departments are reimbursed by the Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund or special districts. These reimbursements reduce the net County cost for the department receiving reimbursement.

While this report references such reimbursements, its focus is on total litigation expenses incurred in FY 23-24, and how they compare to prior years. FY 23-24 spans the period from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024.

## LITIGATION EXPENSES STATEMENT

	FY 23-24 Expenses	% Change from FY 22-23
Contract Law Firm Fees	\$64,212,464	20%
Contract Law Firm Costs	\$10,415,791	10%
<b>Total Contract Law Firm Fees &amp; Costs</b>	<b>\$74,628,255</b>	<b>18%</b>
County Counsel Fees	\$16,804,298	3%
County Counsel Costs	\$4,020,347	23%
<b>Total County Counsel Fees &amp; Costs</b>	<b>\$20,824,645</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>TOTAL FEES &amp; COSTS</b>	<b>\$95,452,900</b>	<b>15%</b>
Judgments	\$23,919,847	-66%
Settlements	\$101,054,992	-46%
<b>TOTAL JUDGMENTS &amp; SETTLEMENTS</b>	<b>\$124,974,839</b>	<b>-51%</b>
<b>TOTAL ANNUAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$220,427,739</b>	<b>-35%</b>

\*See also CEO-Risk Management Report: <https://riskmanagement.lacounty.gov/annual-reports/>

# HIGHLIGHTS

**Total Expenses** — Expenses, consisting of judgments, settlements, attorney's fees, and costs, decreased to \$220.4 million, from \$340.2 million in FY 22-23. The four-year average is \$211.8 million.

**Judgments and Settlements** — Judgments and settlements decreased to \$125 million in FY 23-24, from \$257.4 million in FY 22-23. The four-year average is \$136 million.

**Fees and Costs** — Fees and costs increased to \$95.5 million in FY 23-24, from \$82.8 million in FY 22-23. The four-year average is \$75.8 million.

**Recoveries** — County Counsel's Affirmative Litigation and Consumer Protection Division (ALCP) brought in over \$100 million dollars to the County.

**Most Expensive Case Types** — Law Enforcement, Employment, General Liability, and Auto Liability accounted for 95 percent of FY 23-24 total litigation expenses.

**Top Five Departments** — Sheriff's Department, District Attorney's Office, Health Services, Public Works, and Department of Children and Family Services accounted for 80 percent of FY 23-24 total litigation expenses.

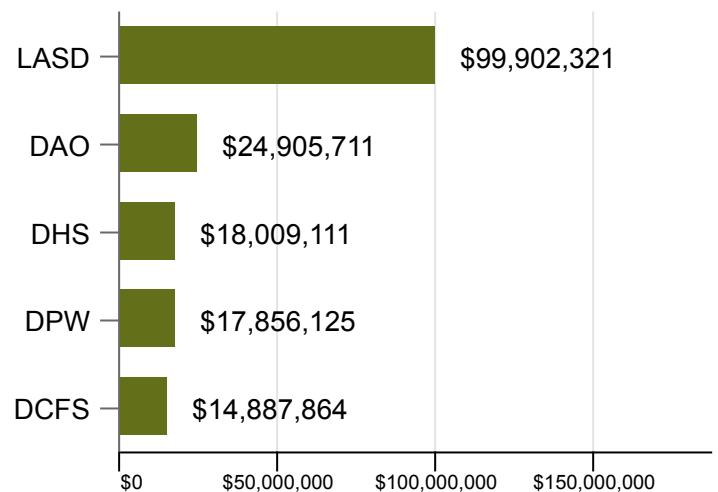
**Reductions of \$1 Million or More** — Sheriff's Department, Department of Children and Family Services, Chief Executive Office, Fire Department, Public Works, Public Social Services, Medical Examiner-Coroner, Internal Services, and Probation reduced their litigation expenses by \$1 million or more.

**Increases of \$1 Million or More** — District Attorney's Office, Mental Health, LA County Library, and Regional Planning had increases of \$1 million or more in total litigation expenses.

**Largest Judgment** — The largest judgment paid in FY 23-24 — \$17.7 million (third installment of \$53 million 2019 judgment) — was *Amador*, a strip search class action lawsuit against the Sheriff's Department.

**Largest Settlement** — The largest settlement paid in FY 23-24 — \$24 million — was *Klene*, a malicious prosecution lawsuit against the District Attorney's Office and the Sheriff's Department.

**Top Five Departments**





## COUNTY DEPARTMENT ACRONYMS

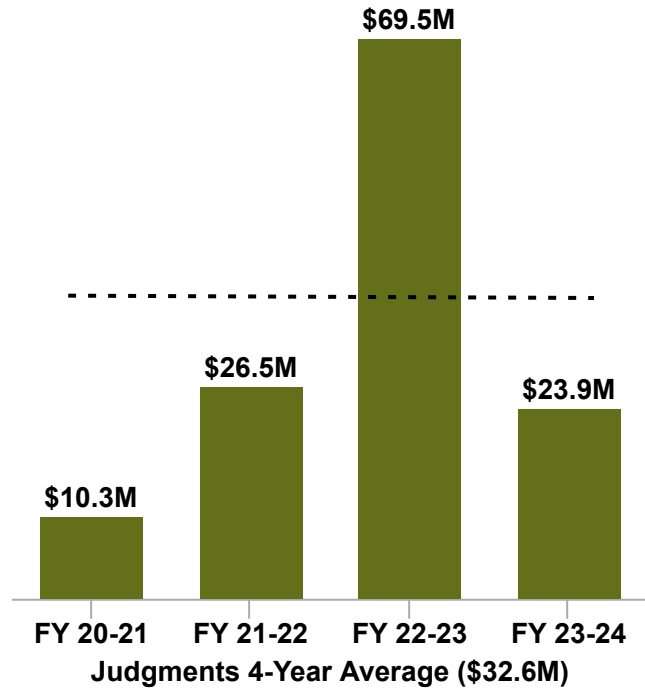
The acronyms for County departments are provided in the table below for reference.

Acronym	Department
ACWM	Agricultural Commissioner/ Weights & Measures
AD	Aging and Disabilities
APD	Alternate Public Defender
Arts	Arts and Culture
Assessor	Assessor
A/C	Auditor-Controller
BH	Beaches & Harbors
BOS	Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
CEO	Chief Executive Office
COCO	County Counsel
CSSD	Child Support Services
DACC	Animal Care & Control
DAO	District Attorney's Office
DCBA	Consumer & Business Affairs
DCFS	Children & Family Services
DEO	Economic Opportunity
DHR	Human Resources
DHS	Health Services
DME-C	Medical Examiner
DMH	Mental Health
DPH	Public Health
DPR	Parks & Recreation
DPSS	Public Social Services
DPW	Public Works
DYD	Youth Development
Fire	Fire Department
ISD	Internal Services
JCOD	Justice Care and Opportunities
LACMA	Museum of Art
LACDA	LA County Development Authority
LASD	Sheriff's Department
Library	Library
MVA	Military & Veterans Affairs
NHM	Natural History Museum
Probation	Probation
PDO	Public Defender
RR/CC	Registrar-Recorder/ County Clerk
TTC	Treasurer & Tax Collector

## JUDGMENTS

Of the \$220.4 million the County spent on litigation in FY 23-24, \$125 million was paid to satisfy 13 judgments and settle 270 lawsuits. This marks a 51 percent decrease from the \$257.4 million the County expended on judgments and settlements in FY 22-23.

The County paid \$23.9 million for judgments in FY 23-24, compared to \$69.5 million in FY 22-23. The \$23.9 million consisted of 13 judgments.



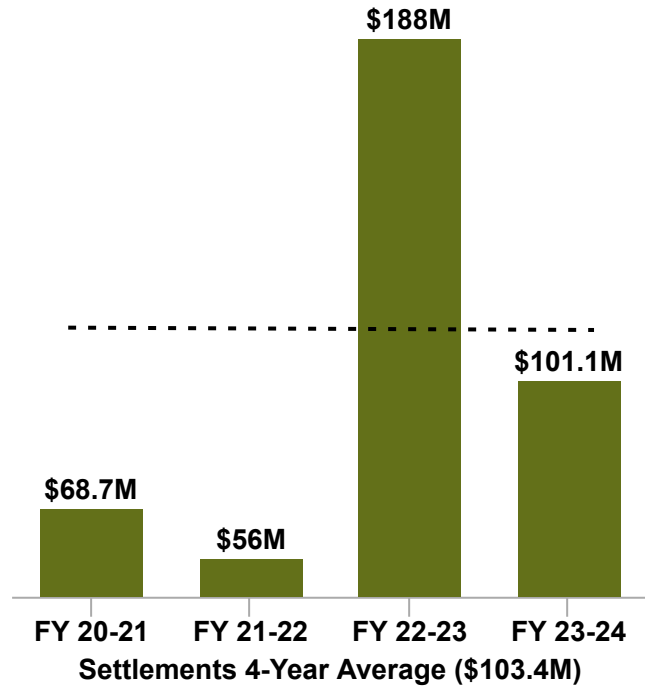
## JUDGMENTS BY DEPARTMENT

Department	Total
Sheriff	\$18,174,360
Health Services	\$4,687,696
Fire	\$612,030
Regional Planning	\$298,260
Public Works	\$126,782
Public Social Services	\$20,215
Consumer and Business Affairs	\$252
Chief Executive Office	\$252
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$23,919,847</b>

## SETTLEMENTS

Of the \$220.4 million the County spent on litigation in FY 23-24, \$125 million was paid to satisfy 13 judgments and settle 270 lawsuits. This marks a 51 percent decrease from the \$257.4 million the County expended on judgments and settlements in FY 22-23.

The County paid \$101.1 million for 270 settlements in FY 23-24, a decrease of 46 percent compared to the \$188 million spent in FY 22-23.



### SETTLEMENTS OVER \$2.5 MILLION

Department	Total
Sheriff	\$44,718,339
District Attorney	\$20,354,750
Public Works	\$10,222,981
Children and Family Services	\$7,057,168
Health Services	\$6,610,525
Fire	\$4,434,756
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$93,398,519</b>

## FEES AND COSTS

The County paid \$95.5 million for fees and costs in FY 23-24, an increase of \$12.6 million, or 15 percent, from the \$82.8 million the County paid in FY 22-23.

Of the \$95.5 million, \$74.6 million was paid to contract counsel firms, and \$20.8 million was billed by County Counsel attorneys to various County departments engaged in litigation.

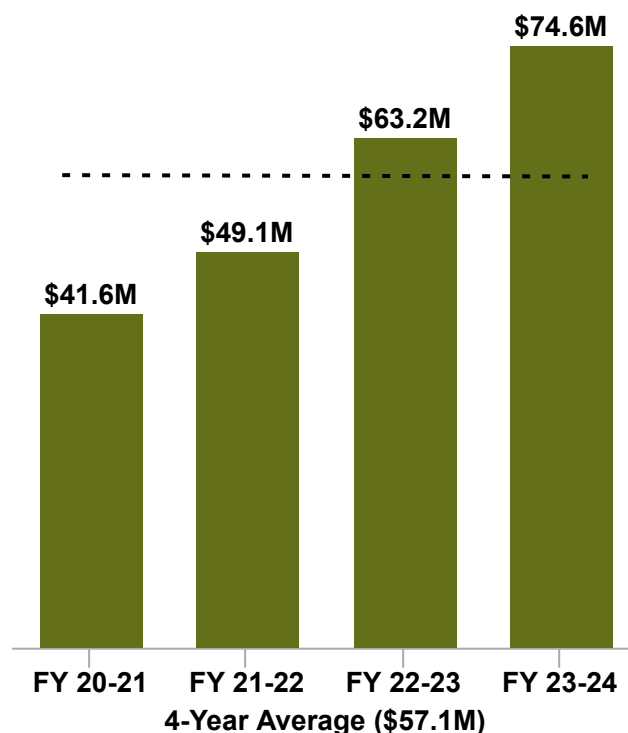
### CONTRACT COUNSEL

Contract counsel fees and costs totaled \$74.6 million in FY 23-24, an increase of \$11.5 million, or 18 percent, from \$63.2 million in FY 22-23. The four-year average is \$57.1 million. Of the \$74.6 million paid to contract counsel in FY 23-24, \$64.2 million was for fees and \$10.4 million was for costs.

Contract counsel fees increased to \$64.2 million from \$53.7 million in FY 22-23. The \$10.5 million rise was attributed to increased spending on fees for LASD, DAO, DPW, DHS, DRP, DCFS, and ISD.

Contract counsel costs increased to \$10.4 million from \$9.4 million in FY 22-23. The \$1 million increase was attributed to increased spending on costs for LASD.

### CONTRACT COUNSEL FEES & COSTS



# FEES AND COSTS

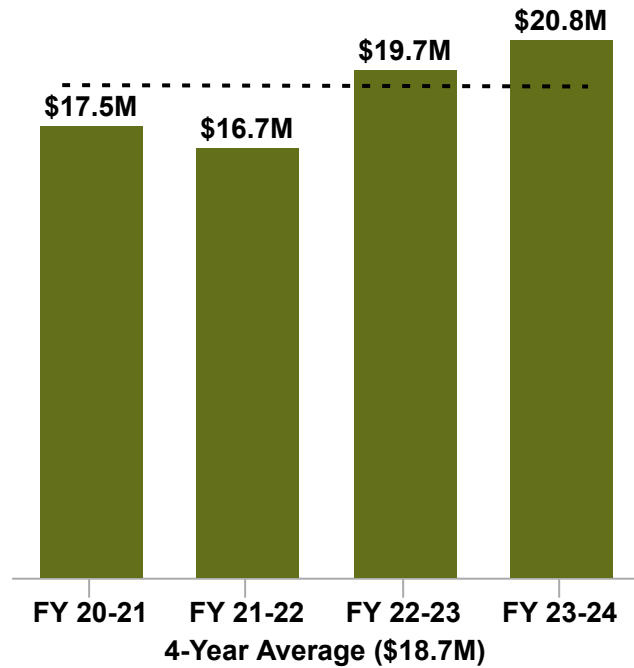
## COUNTY COUNSEL

In FY 23-24, the County spent \$20.8 million on fees and costs billed by the Office of County Counsel, compared to \$19.7 million in FY 22-23. The four-year average is \$18.7 million.

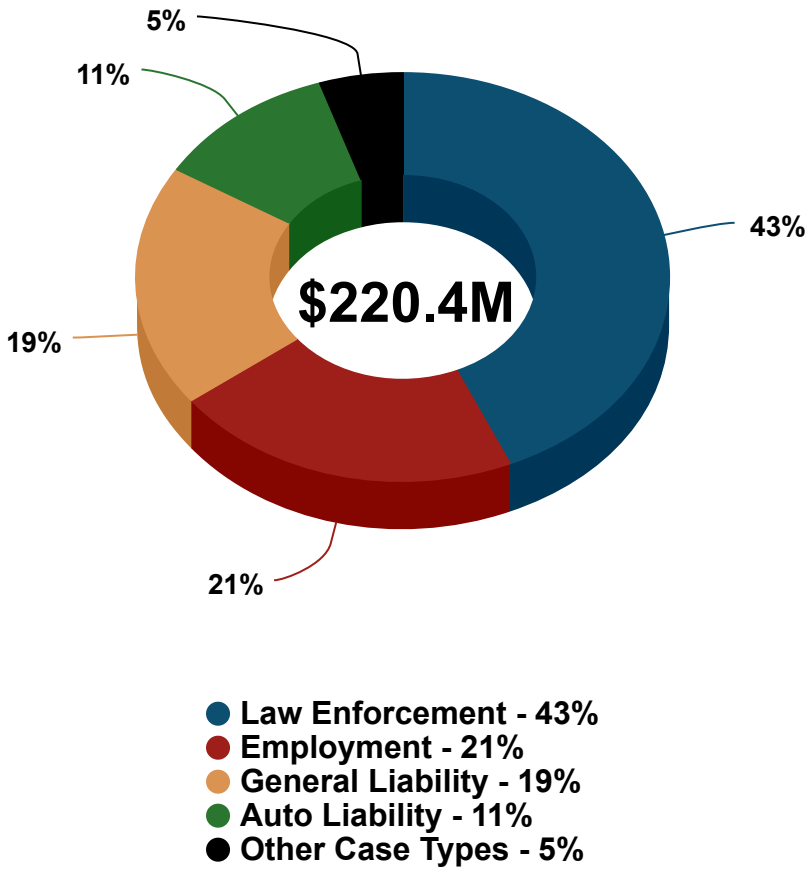
Of the \$20.8 million paid to County Counsel in FY 23-24, \$16.8 million was for fees and \$4 million was for costs.

County Counsel fees increased to \$16.8 million in FY 23-24, an increase of \$419,268, or three percent, from \$16.4 million in FY 22-23.

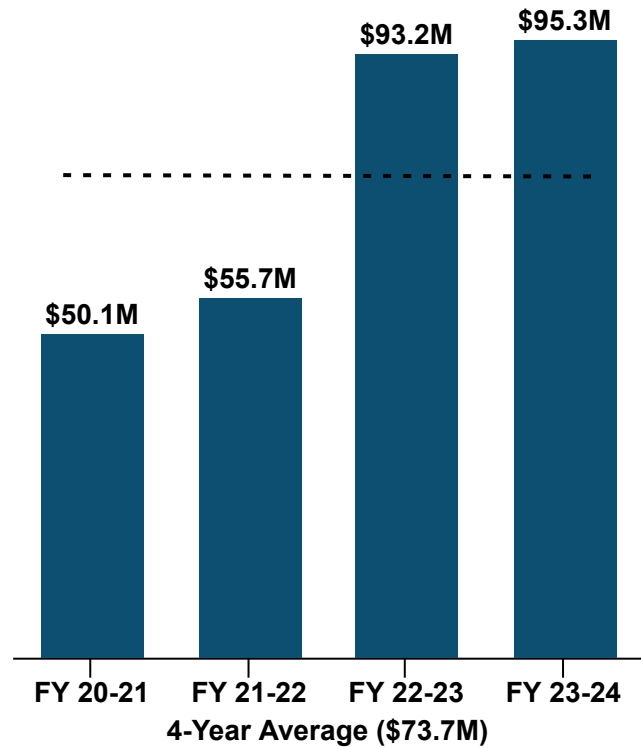
### COUNTY COUNSEL FEES & COSTS



## EXPENSES BY CASE TYPE



### LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPENSES



## LAW ENFORCEMENT

Law Enforcement was the costliest case type for the County, representing 43 percent of total expenses in FY 23-24. The County spent \$95.3 million on Law Enforcement, up from \$93.2 million in FY 22-23. The four-year average is \$73.7 million.

Of the \$95.3 million spent on Law Enforcement lawsuits, the majority of the expense was incurred by LASD. LASD spent \$72 million, accounting for 76 percent of Law Enforcement total expenses.

### DEPARTMENT WITH LARGEST INCREASE

DAO had the largest increase in Law Enforcement expenses in FY 23-24. The department spent \$21.8 million on Law Enforcement, compared to \$1.7 million in FY 22-23. The \$20 million surge is mostly attributed to increased settlements.

### DEPARTMENT WITH LARGEST DECREASE

LASD had the largest decrease in Law Enforcement expenses in FY 23-24. The department spent \$72 million on Law Enforcement, compared to \$90 million in FY 22-23. The \$18 million drop is attributed to decreased judgments and settlements.

## EMPLOYMENT

Employment was the second costliest case type for the County, accounting for 21 percent of total expenses. The County spent \$47.2 million on Employment, up from \$42.2 million in FY 22-23. The four-year average is \$33.6 million.

Of the \$47.2 million spent on Employment lawsuits, 66 percent was incurred by four departments:

1. DHS - \$10M
2. LASD – \$9.8M
3. Fire – \$6.6M
4. DCFS – \$4.9M

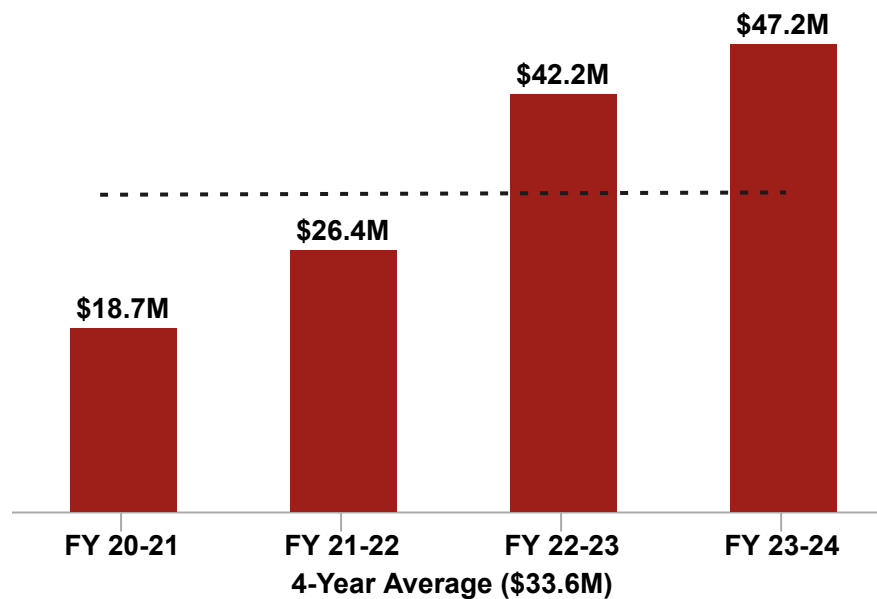
### DEPARTMENT WITH LARGEST INCREASE

DHS had the largest increase in Employment expenses in FY 23-24. The department spent \$10 million, compared to \$3.2 million in FY 22-23. The \$6.8 million rise is largely attributed to increased judgments.

### DEPARTMENT WITH LARGEST DECREASE

DPSS had the largest decrease in Employment expenses in FY 23-24. The department spent \$1.4 million in FY 23-24, compared to \$6.3 million in FY 22-23. This \$4.9 million reduction is attributed to decreased judgments.

## LITIGATION EXPENSES



## GENERAL LIABILITY

General Liability was the third costliest case type for the County, accounting for 19 percent of total expenses. The County spent \$42.9 million on General Liability, down from \$151.7 million spent in FY 22-23. The four-year average is \$67.9 million.

Of the \$42.9 million spent on General Liability lawsuits, 55 percent was incurred by two departments:

1. DPW – \$13.9M
2. DCFS – \$9.5M

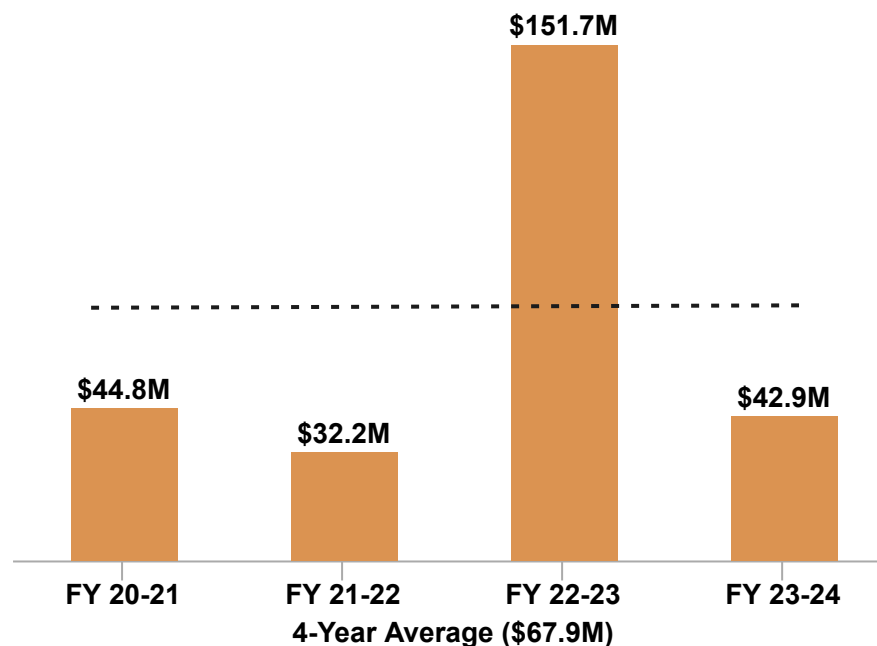
### DEPARTMENT WITH LARGEST INCREASE

ISD had the largest increase in General Liability expenses in FY 23-24. The department spent \$1.5 million on General Liability, compared to \$601,176 in FY 22-23. The \$878,901 increase is attributed to contract counsel fees and costs.

### DEPARTMENT WITH LARGEST DECREASE

DCFS had the largest decrease in General Liability expenses in FY 23-24. The department spent \$9.5 million on General Liability in FY 23-24, compared to \$39.8 million in FY 22-23. This \$30.3 million drop is attributed to a decrease in settlements.

## LITIGATION EXPENSES





## AUTO LIABILITY

Auto Liability was the fourth costliest case type for the County, accounting for 11 percent of total expenses in FY 23-24. The County spent \$24.1 million on Auto Liability in FY 23-24, up from \$19.2 million in FY 22-23. The four-year average is \$21.3 million.

Of the \$24.1 million spent on Auto Liability lawsuits in FY 23-24, 66 percent was incurred by LASD (\$15.8 million).

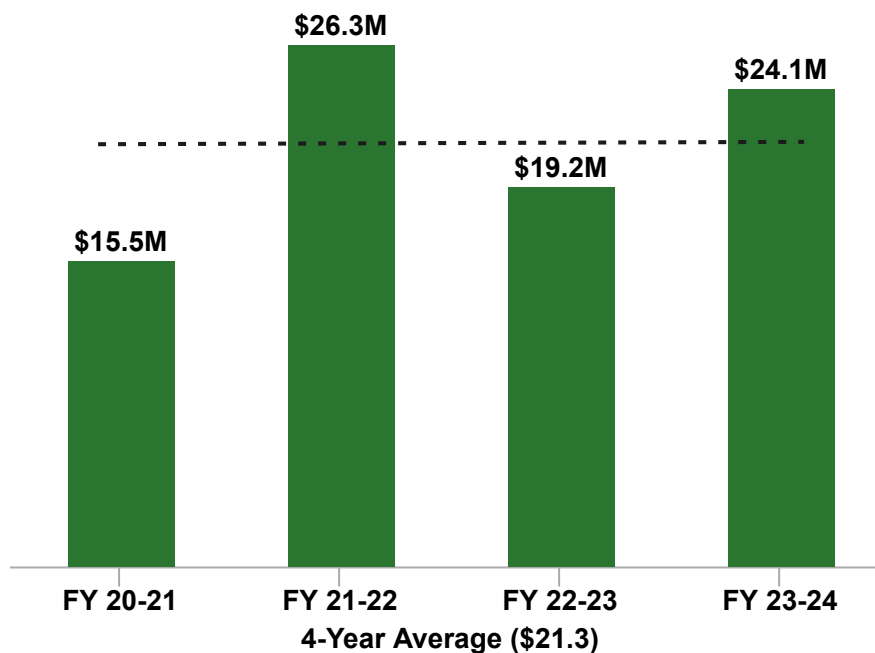
### DEPARTMENT WITH LARGEST INCREASE

LASD had the largest increase in Auto Liability expenses in FY 23-24. The department spent \$15.8 million on Auto Liability, compared to \$11.1 million in FY 22-23. This \$4.7 million increase is largely attributed to increased contract counsel fees and costs.

### DEPARTMENT WITH LARGEST DECREASE

ISD had the largest decrease in Auto Liability expenses in FY 23-24. The department spent \$79,068 in FY 23-24, compared to \$2.5 million in FY 22-23. This \$2.4 million reduction is mostly attributed to a decrease in settlements.

## LITIGATION EXPENSES



## MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

Medical Malpractice was the fifth costly case type for the County, accounting for five percent of total litigation expenses in FY 23-24.

The County spent \$10 million on Medical Malpractice in FY 23-24, down from \$24.2 million FY 22-23. The four-year average is \$12.2 million.

Of the \$10 million spent on Medical Malpractice lawsuits in FY 23-24, 73 percent was incurred by DHS (\$7.3 million).

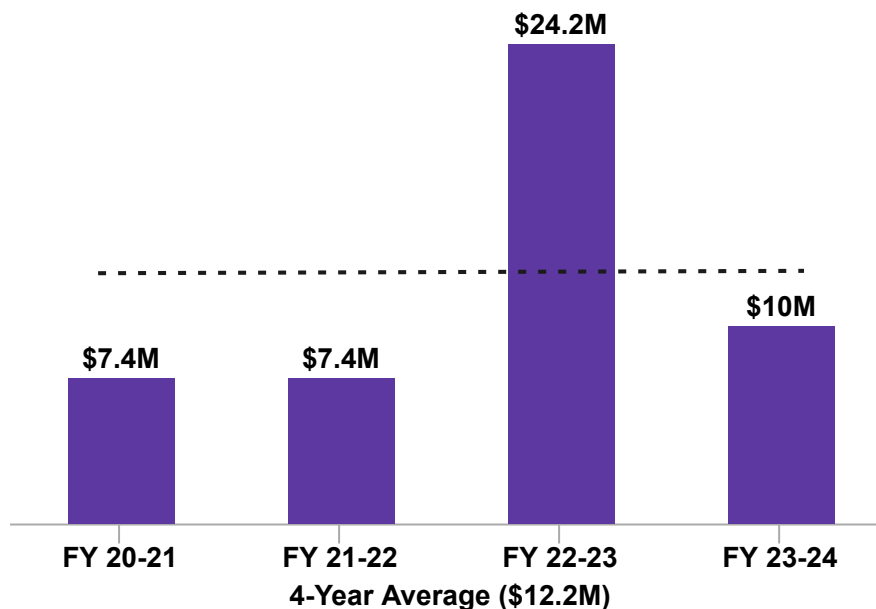
### DEPARTMENT WITH LARGEST INCREASE

DMH had the largest increase in Medical Malpractice expenses in FY 23-24. The department spent \$564,655, compared to \$159,113 in FY 22-23. This \$405,542 increase is attributed to settlements.

### DEPARTMENT WITH LARGEST DECREASE

LASD had the largest decrease in Medical Malpractice expenses in FY 23-24. The department spent \$533,969 compared to \$8 million in FY 22-23. This \$7.5 million drop is attributed to a decrease in judgments and settlements.

### LITIGATION EXPENSES



Overview | Litigation Cost Report FY 23-24

Department	Law Enforcement	Employment	General Liability	Auto Liability	Med Mal and Others	FY 23-24 Total Legal Expenses	% Change from FY 22-23
LASD	\$72,034,649	\$9,818,931	\$1,686,319	\$15,828,453	\$533,969	\$99,902,321	-34%
DAO	\$21,772,353	\$1,913,758	\$831,955	\$387,645		\$24,905,711	524%
DHS		\$9,979,091	\$739,454	\$40,131	\$7,250,435	\$18,009,111	-4%
DPW		\$367,772	\$13,854,826	\$3,246,898	\$386,629	\$17,856,125	-42%
DCFS		\$4,864,593	\$9,519,196	\$504,075		\$14,887,864	-65%
Fire	\$206,086	\$6,578,721	\$343,610	\$1,300,163	\$127,469	\$8,556,049	-68%
Probation	\$1,045,658	\$1,925,145	\$1,392,315	\$207,725	\$109	\$4,570,952	-23%
DMH	\$19,858	\$2,011,181	\$398,515	\$122,694	\$564,655	\$3,116,903	205%
DRP		\$553,033	\$1,066,109		\$526,347	\$2,145,489	140%
DPH		\$563,651	\$1,455,962	\$39,835	\$80,934	\$2,140,382	37%
Library		\$2,002,750	\$18,837	\$11,017		\$2,032,604	688%
Assessor	\$1,253	\$286,525	\$1,505,172			\$1,792,950	-16%
Non-Jurisdictional	\$7,732	\$48,407	\$1,359,666	\$225,075	\$34,538	\$1,675,418	41%
ISD		\$94,599	\$1,480,077	\$79,068		\$1,653,744	-48%
DPSS		\$1,387,639	\$194,246		\$17,364	\$1,599,249	-78%
RR/CC			\$1,276,875			\$1,276,875	-29%
DPR		\$144,640	\$691,902	\$263,980		\$1,100,522	-12%
BH		\$7,246	\$752,563	\$10,345		\$770,154	4%
PDO	\$193,694	\$425,769	\$67,147	\$65,158		\$751,768	73%
BOS	\$31,881	\$458,846	\$157,034	\$43,681		\$691,442	32%
TTC		\$90,762	\$487,648			\$578,410	-20%
DCBA			\$510,349			\$510,349	-13%
CEO			\$507,240			\$507,240	-98%
COCO		\$130,754	\$206,082			\$336,836	57%
A/C		\$179,971	\$136,289			\$316,260	123%
DACC		\$76,393	\$198,389	\$7,882		\$282,664	20%
DME-C	\$5,645	\$106,131	\$36,448	\$237	\$131,915	\$280,376	-94%
CSSD		\$92,996	\$179,741			\$272,737	-10%
DHR		\$201,234				\$201,234	16%
AD		\$43,392	\$86,587	\$27,967		\$157,946	-37%
ACWM				\$19,247		\$19,247	-49%
APD		\$431	\$17,941			\$18,372	305%
NHM			\$3,518			\$3,518	No Expenses
LACDA		\$40	\$170			\$210	No Expenses
DEO			\$128			\$128	-99%
Unallocated Exp		\$2,812,120	\$1,718,518	\$1,718,518	\$1,257,424	\$7,506,579	13%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$95,318,809</b>	<b>\$47,166,521</b>	<b>\$42,880,827</b>	<b>\$24,149,794</b>	<b>\$10,911,788</b>	<b>\$220,427,739</b>	<b>-35%</b>

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# Litigation Activities

New Lawsuits

Dismissals

Trials

Writs

Appeals

Recoveries

Contract Cities and  
Special Districts

Judgments and  
Settlements



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# LITIGATION ACTIVITIES

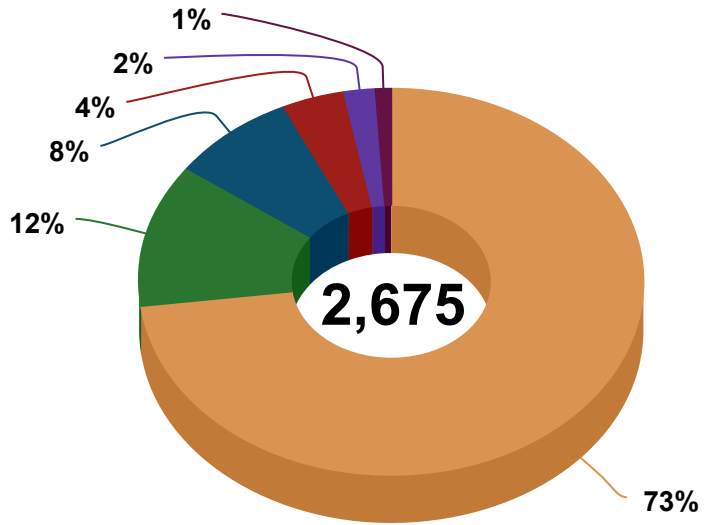
## NEW LAWSUITS

The number of new lawsuits served on the County increased to 2,675 in FY 23-24, from 2,246 in FY 22-23. Among all departments, DCFS was sued more often than any other County department in FY 23-24.

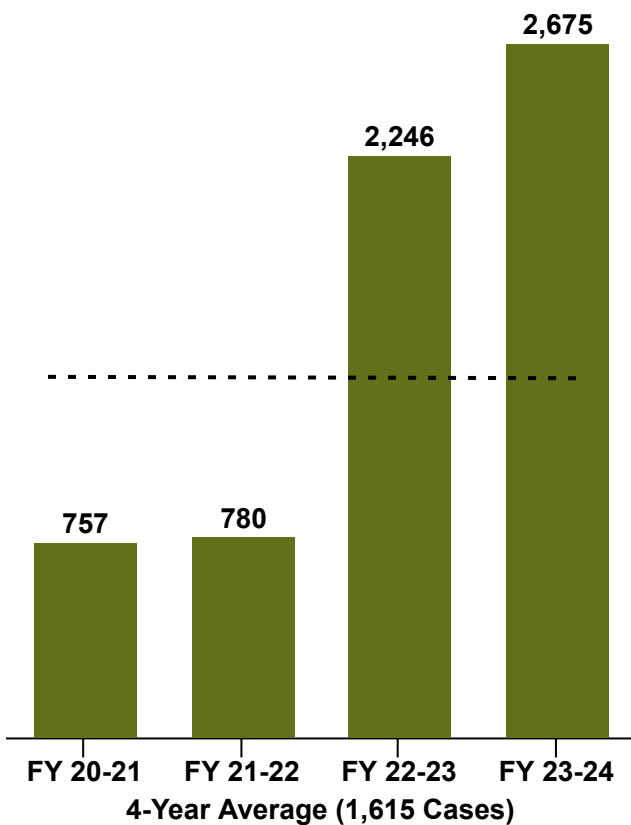
DCFS was served with 882 lawsuits in FY 23-24, an increase from 870 in FY 22-23. Probation was second with 304 new lawsuits in FY 23-24, compared to 326 in FY 22-23. LASD was third, with 304 new lawsuits, compared to 244 in FY 22-23. DPW was fourth, with 89 new lawsuits, compared to 67 in FY 22-23.

Fourteen (14) additional departments were named in 10 or more new lawsuits in FY 23-24.

### NEW LAWSUITS BY CASE TYPE



### NEW LAWSUITS



- General Liability - 73%
- Auto Liability - 12%
- Law Enforcement - 8%
- Employment - 4%
- Medical Malpractice - 2%
- Environmental - 1%

The County was also named in 741 non-jurisdictional lawsuits. These lawsuits consist of allegations that do not involve the County, County officers or employees acting in the scope of their employment, or County property.

The new lawsuits cover six case types:

- 1) General Liability (1,962);
- 2) Auto Liability (313);
- 3) Law Enforcement (213);
- 4) Employment (121);
- 5) Medical Malpractice (60); and
- 6) Environmental (6).

## DISMISSALS

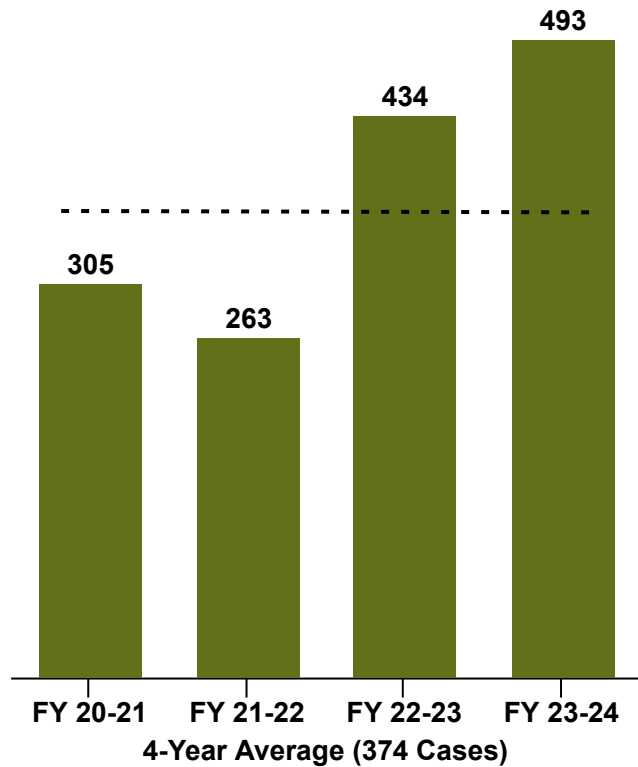
This section reports the number of lawsuits dismissed by a trial court without any County payment or other liability. These dismissals are usually the result of: (1) a voluntary dismissal initiated by the plaintiff, often resulting from a pretrial court ruling exposing defects in the lawsuit or insufficient evidence to win at trial; or (2) an involuntary dismissal ordered by the court after a demurrer is sustained or a pretrial motion to dismiss, motion to strike, or motion for summary judgment is granted.

Involuntary dismissals, which are subject to appeal by the plaintiff, are not reported until the appeal period has expired, which can range from 30 days for federal lawsuits to as long as 180 days for some state court lawsuits. Involuntary dismissals that have been appealed are not reported in this section. Instead, they are reported in the Appellate Decisions section of this report, after the appellate decision is final.

Finally, lawsuits that were settled in exchange for a waiver of costs by the County are not reported in the Dismissals section of this Report.

A total of 493 lawsuits against the County were dismissed in FY 23-24, compared to 434 in FY 22-23. Of the 493 dismissals, 431 were voluntary dismissals. Voluntary dismissals accounted for 87 percent of all FY 23-24 dismissals.

### NUMBER OF DISMISSED LAWSUITS

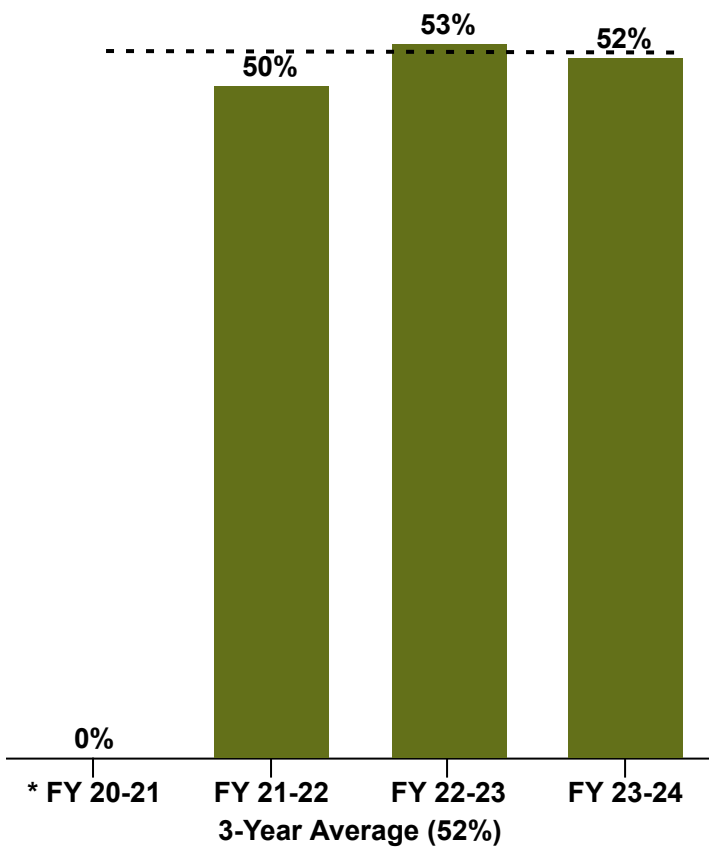




## TRIALS

In FY 23-24, the County had 23 trials, up from 19 in FY 22-23. The County prevailed in 12 trials in FY 23-24, a success rate of 52 percent.

### TRIALS SUCCESS RATE



\* Due to the impact of COVID-19 on the court system, which resulted in courtroom closures and delays of trials, FY 20-21 is zero.

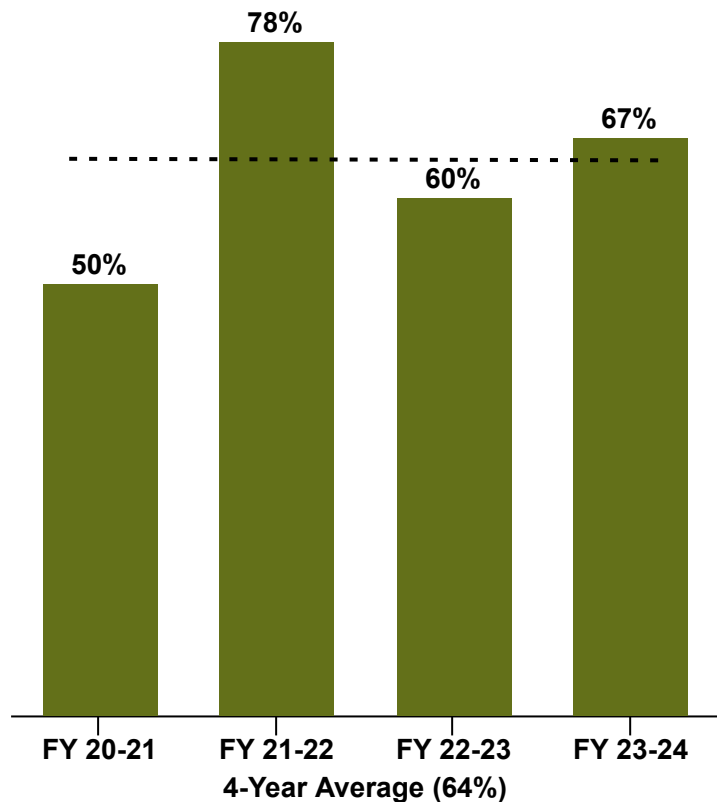
## WRITS

A petition for a writ of mandate can be filed to: (1) compel an officer or agency to perform a legal duty; or (2) obtain court review of an administrative decision made by an officer or agency. A petition for a writ of prohibition can be filed to prevent an officer or agency from acting in excess of the officer's or agency's jurisdiction.

The County was named as a party in 24 writ petitions in FY 23-24, up from 10 in FY 22-23. The 24 writ petitions involved the following departments: A/C, DCFS, DAO, Fire, ISD, LACMA, Probation, DPR, PDO, DPW, DRP, and LASD.

The County prevailed in 16 of the 24 writ actions, a success rate of 67 percent, compared to the 60 percent success rate in FY 22-23.

### WRITS SUCCESS RATE

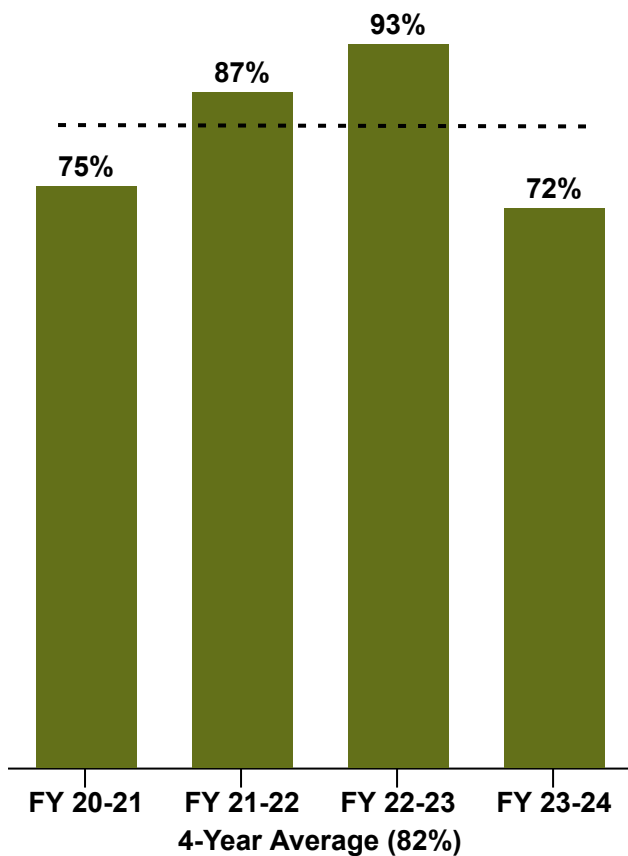


## APPEALS

### FINAL APPELLATE DECISIONS

The County was a party to 18 appeals in FY 23-24, winning 13 of them (with five dismissed by either the court or the appellant), resulting in a 72 percent success rate.

### APPELLATE SUCCESS RATE



## RECOVERIES

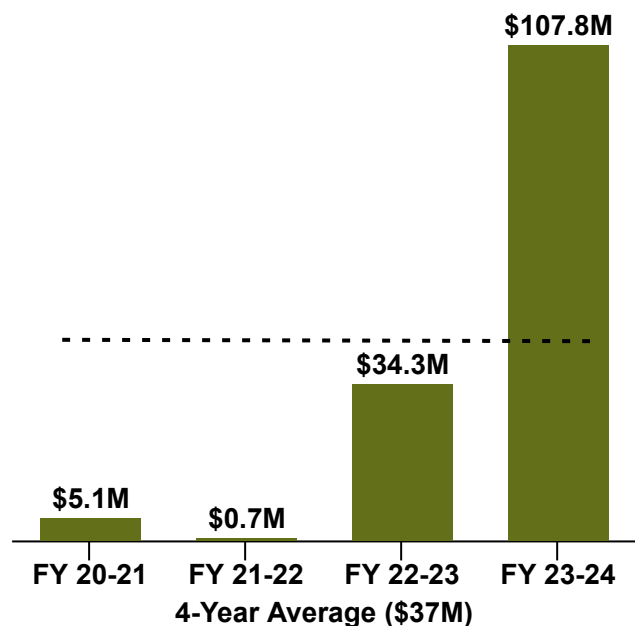
The County recovered \$107.8 million through litigation efforts in 279 lawsuits in FY 23-24.

County Counsel's Affirmative Litigation and Consumer Protection Division ("ALCP") works to bring high-impact lawsuits to protect the County's interests, stop unfair business practices, end code violations, and protect County residents from threats to the public health and environmental harms. In fiscal year 23-24, ALCP cases and settlements brought in over \$100 million dollars to the County.

Notable recoveries included \$81 million from ALCP's work on the Bobcat Fire investigation and various other litigation efforts: \$10.1 million from Juul Labs, \$4.1 million from Minco, \$3.1 million from DPSS Fire, \$1.6 million from Ordorica, \$1.3 million from national opioid settlements, and \$1.1 million from Monsanto.

Health Services also recovered \$3 million from Cassianis.

### RECOVERIES



## CONTRACT CITIES AND SPECIAL DISTRICTS

Of the \$220.4 million reported in annual litigation expenses in FY 23-24, the Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund ("Fund") and Special Districts reimbursed the County \$14.6 million.

### CONTRACT CITIES

The Fund is a trust account capitalized by contract cities that contract for County employees to perform services in their cities. Litigation expenses that arise from these operations are initially paid by the County. The County is then reimbursed by the Fund for those expenses.

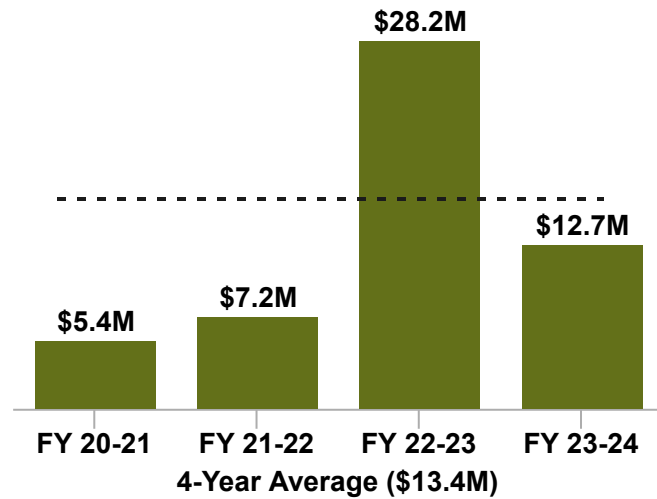
The Fund is self-insured for liabilities up to two or three million dollars, depending on the period of coverage, and the Fund maintains excess insurance policies to cover losses of up to \$50 million.

In FY 23-24, the Fund reimbursed \$12.8 million of the \$14.6 million. Of the \$12.8 million paid by the Fund, \$12.7 million was for judgments, settlements, fees, and costs arising from alleged misconduct of Sheriff's deputies contractually assigned to various cities throughout the County. The remaining \$147,740 was for judgments, settlements, fees, and costs associated with DPW.

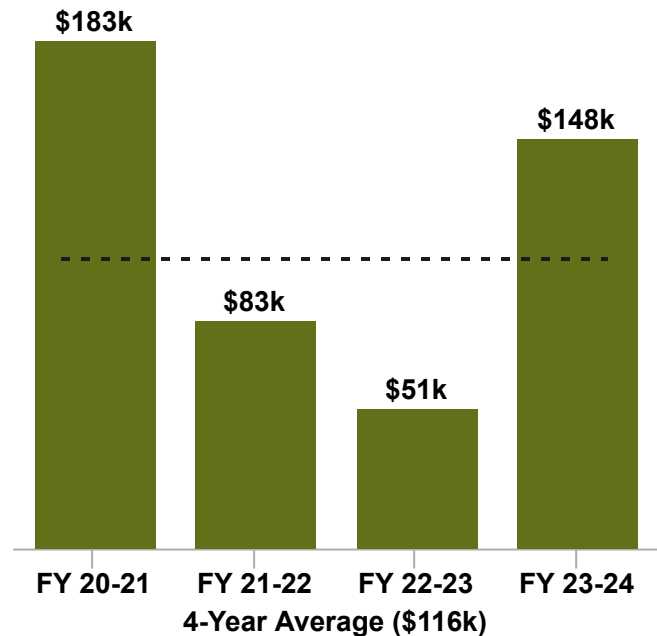
### SPECIAL DISTRICTS

In FY 23-24, the County was reimbursed \$1.7 million for litigation expenses incurred on behalf of its special districts, each supported by its own funding source, as follows: Flood Control District, \$1,264,697; Sewer and Drain District, \$239,025; Waterworks District, \$195,648; and Road District, \$29,742

#### LASD TRUST FUND



#### DPW TRUST FUND



# JUDGMENTS AND SETTLEMENTS

## JUDGMENTS OVER \$2.5M

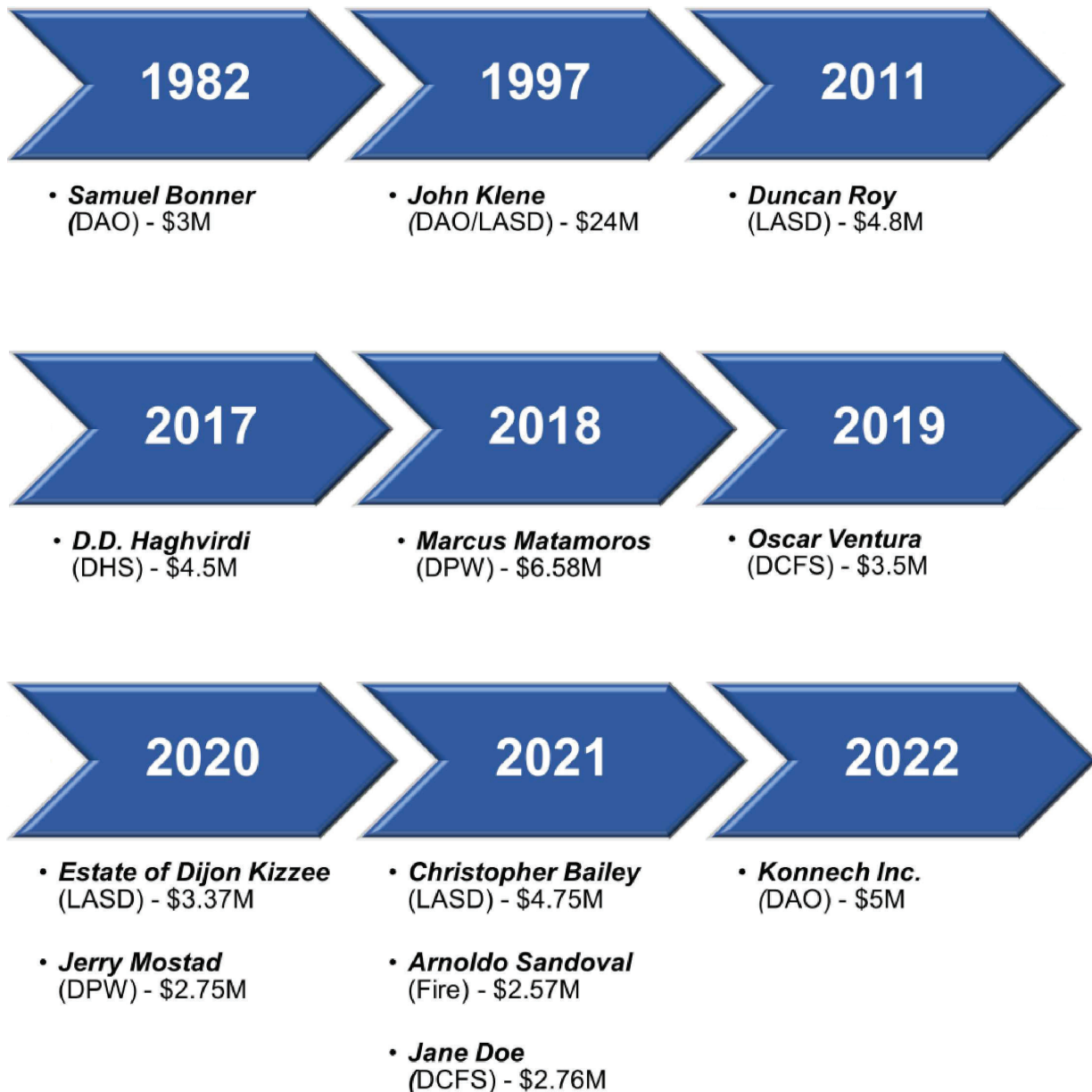
Case Name	Case No.	Dept.	Case Type	Judgment Amount
<i>Mary Amador, et al.</i>	2:10-cv-01649	LASD	Law Enforcement - Jail Conditions	\$17,666,666 (\$53,000,000 judgment; final installment)
<i>Eric Pierce</i>	BC675062	DHS	Employment - Race Discrimination	\$4,687,696

## SETTLEMENTS OVER \$2.5M

Case Name	Case No.	Dept.	Case Type	Settlement Amount
<i>John Klene, et al.</i>	2:22-cv-08318	DAO/LASD	Law Enforcement - Malicious Prosecution	\$24,000,000
<i>Marcus Matamoros</i>	19STCV46198	DPW	General Liability - Dangerous Condition	\$6,583,333 (\$19,750,000 settlement; final installment)
<i>Konnech Inc., et al.</i>	2:23-cv-09064	DAO	Law Enforcement - Wrongful Prosecution	\$5,000,000
<i>Duncan Roy, et al.</i>	2:12-cv-09012	LASD	Law Enforcement - Detention	\$4,837,504 (\$14,000,000 settlement; payment portion)
<i>Christopher Bailey</i>	2:21-cv-05017	LASD	Law Enforcement - Excessive Force	\$4,750,000
<i>D.D. Haghvirdi, et al.</i>	BC720058	DHS	Medical Malpractice - Labor & Delivery	\$4,500,000
<i>Oscar Ventura, et al.</i>	20STCV17730	DCFS	General Liability - Failure to Protect	\$3,500,000
<i>Estate of Dijon Kizzee, et al.</i>	21STCV34142	LASD	Law Enforcement - Excessive Force	\$3,375,000
<i>Samuel Bonner</i>	2:22-cv-02819	DAO	Law Enforcement - Wrongful Prosecution	\$3,000,000
<i>Jane Doe, et al.</i>	21STCV27868	DCFS	Employment - Disability Discrimination	\$2,764,000
<i>Jerry Mostad</i>	20STCV43700	DPW	Auto Liability - Unsafe Maneuver	\$2,750,000
<i>Arnoldo Sandoval</i>	22STCV02464	Fire	Employment - Investig. Employee Conduct	\$2,575,000

## FY 23-24 SETTLEMENTS OVER \$2.5M

### TIMELINE BY INCIDENT YEAR



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# Top Five Departments

- Sheriff's Dept.
- District Attorney's Office
- Health Services
- Public Works
- Children and Family Services



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# Sheriff's Department



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# SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

**Total Expenses** — Expenses, consisting of judgments, settlements, attorney's fees, and costs, for the Sheriff's Department decreased to \$99,902,321 in FY 23-24, from \$150,500,566 in FY 22-23. The four-year average is \$95,721,474.

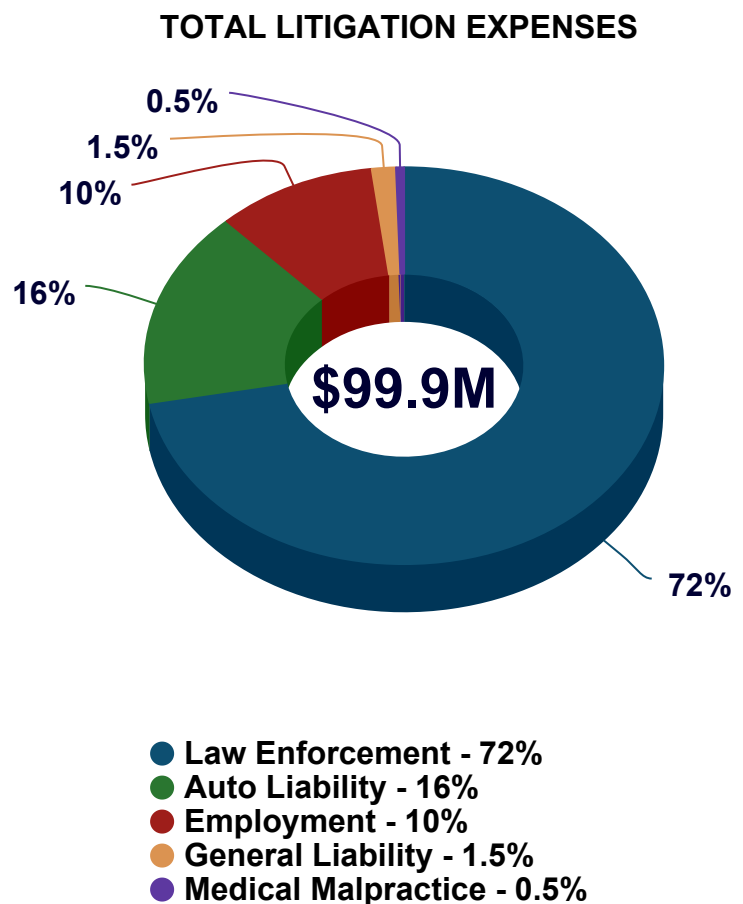
**Judgments and Settlements** — Judgments and settlements decreased to \$62,892,699 in FY 23-24, from \$117,988,083 in FY 22-23. The four-year average is \$66,631,095.

**Fees and Costs** — Fees and costs increased to \$37,009,622 in FY 23-24, from \$32,512,483 in FY 22-23. The four-year average is \$29,090,379.

**Lawsuits** — Lawsuits rose to 833 in FY 23-24, from 774 in FY 22-23. Of the 833 lawsuits, 423 were Law Enforcement, 228 were Auto Liability, 90 were Employment, 63 were General Liability, and 29 were Medical Malpractice.

**Contract Cities** — The County received reimbursement of \$12,673,214 from the Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund for expenses incurred in defending lawsuits arising from services provided by the Department to Contract Cities. In FY 23-24, reimbursement was received for three case types: Law Enforcement (\$6,505,152), Auto Liability (\$5,911,695), and General Liability (\$256,367).

**Most Expensive Case Types** — Law Enforcement, with total expenses of \$72,034,649, was the Department's costliest case type. Law Enforcement total expenses decreased by \$17,958,624 in FY 23-24, from \$89,993,273 in FY 22-23. The second costliest case type was Auto Liability, which had an increase of \$4,724,559 in expenses from \$11,103,894 in FY 22-23 to \$15,828,453 in FY 23-24.



**TOTAL EXPENSES**  
compared to FY 22-23

↓ 34%

**JUDGMENTS & SETTLEMENTS**  
compared to FY 22-23

↓ 47%

**FEES & COSTS**  
compared to FY 22-23

↑ 14%

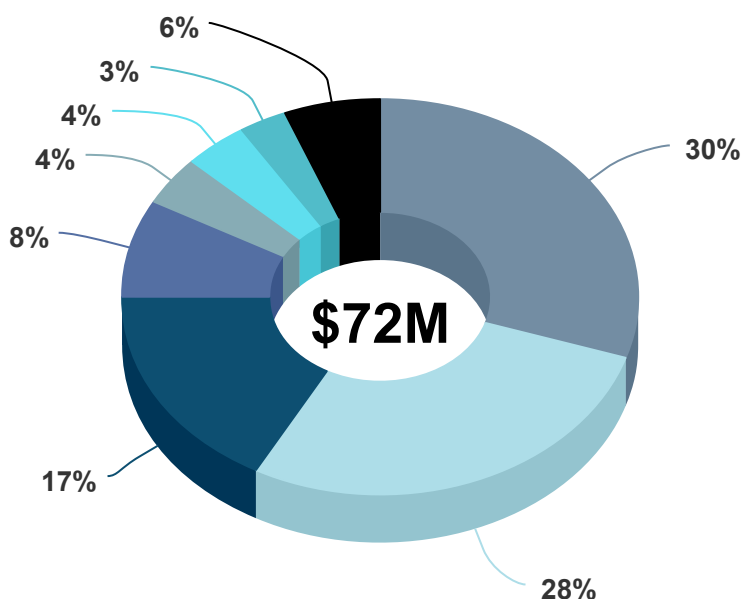
**LAWSUITS**  
compared to FY 22-23

↑ 8%

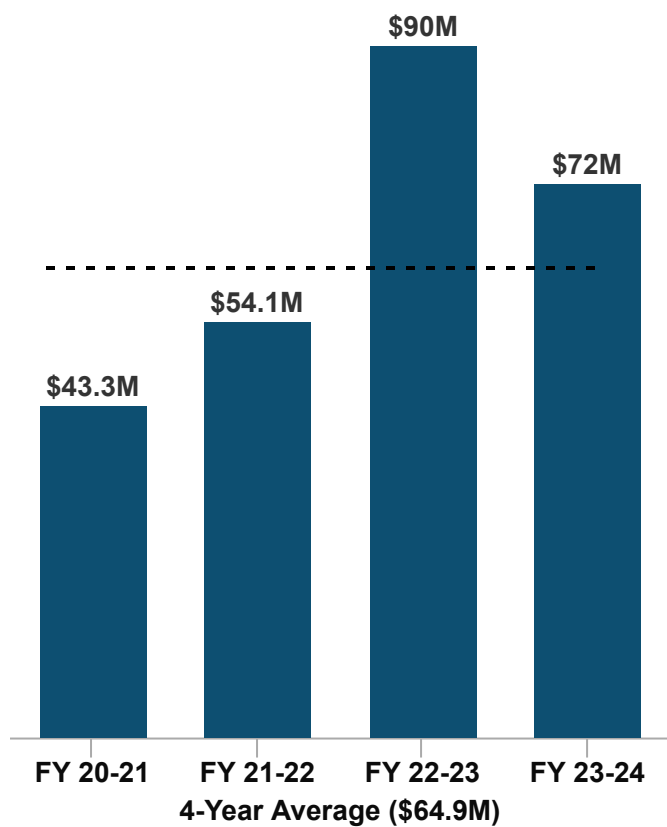
## LAW ENFORCEMENT

Law Enforcement was LASD's costliest case type in FY 23-24. The Department spent \$72,034,649 on Law Enforcement lawsuits in FY 23-24, compared to \$89,993,273 in FY 22-23. Of the total spent on Law Enforcement lawsuits, \$50,744,096 was for judgments and settlements, and \$21,290,553 was for fees and costs. The Department defended 423 Law Enforcement lawsuits in FY 23-24, up from 403 in FY 22-23.

### EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



### LITIGATION EXPENSES



- Excessive Force - 30%
- Jail Conditions - 28%
- Malicious Prosecution - 17%
- Detention - 8%
- Other-Law Enforcement - 4%
- Search and Seizure - 4%
- Civil Rights Violation - 3%
- All Other Case Subtypes - 6%

**LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPENSES COMPARISON**

Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 23-24	% Change from FY 22-23
Excessive Force	158	\$21,343,366	-37%
Jail Conditions	28	\$20,050,986	2%
Malicious Prosecution	4	\$12,334,447	No Expenses
Detention	11	\$5,940,392	24%
Law Enforcement - Other	55	\$3,119,564	-77%
Search and Seizure	13	\$2,605,925	400%
Civil Rights Violation	43	\$2,349,715	27786%
False Arrest	35	\$1,579,057	-24%
Sexual Assault by Deputy	14	\$1,361,133	138%
Failure to Protect	41	\$843,607	-94%
Non-Patrol/Non-Custody	7	\$463,903	141%
Wrongful Prosecution	4	\$19,606	71%
False Imprisonment	6	\$13,733	-75%
Wrongful Seizure	4	\$9,215	19%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>\$72,034,649</b>	<b>-20%</b>

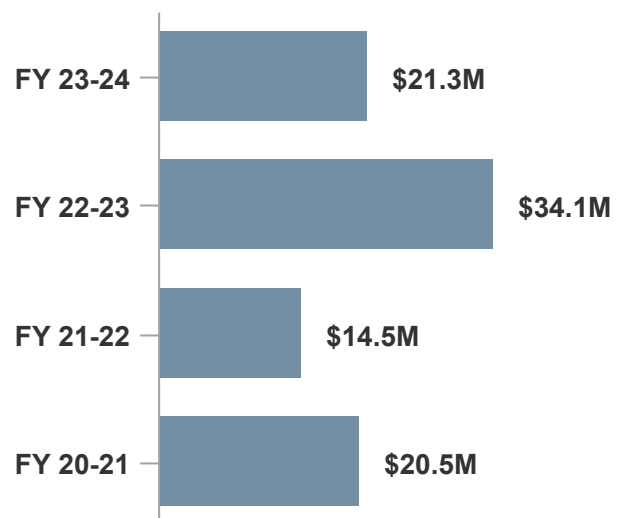
**EXCESSIVE FORCE**

Excessive Force was the Department's costliest Law Enforcement case subtype in FY 23-24.

The Department spent \$21,343,366 on Excessive Force lawsuits in FY 23-24, compared to \$34,140,849 in FY 22-23. Of the total spent on Excessive Force, \$12,688,294 was for judgments and settlements, and \$8,655,072 was for fees and costs.

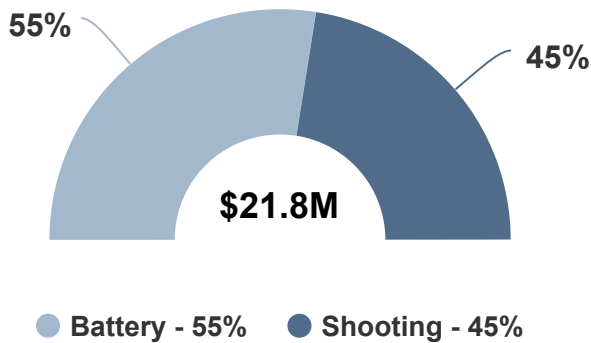
The Department defended 158 Excessive Force lawsuits in FY 23-24, up from 144 in FY 22-23.

**EXCESSIVE FORCE LITIGATION EXPENSES**



**Excessive Force lawsuits** are classified into two detailed case subtypes: Battery and Shooting.

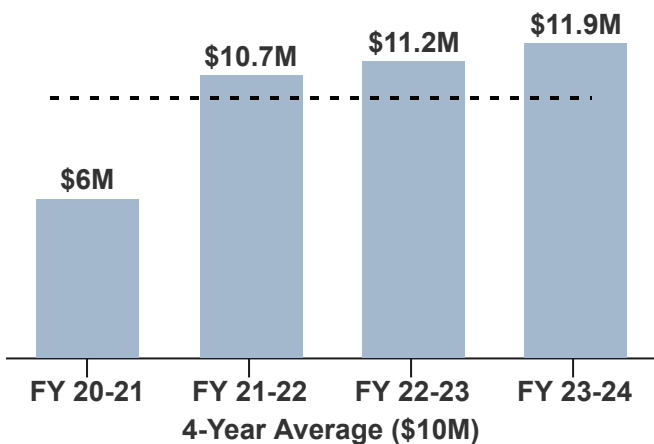
**EXCESSIVE FORCE  
BATTERY AND SHOOTING**



**BATTERY**

In FY 23-24, Battery was the costliest Excessive Force detailed case subtype. The Department spent \$11,903,159 on Battery lawsuits in FY 23-24, compared to \$11,245,248 in FY 22-23. Of the total spent on Battery, \$6,530,794 was for judgments and settlements, and \$5,372,365 was for fees and costs. The Department defended 108 Battery lawsuits in FY 23-24, up from 96 in FY 22-23.

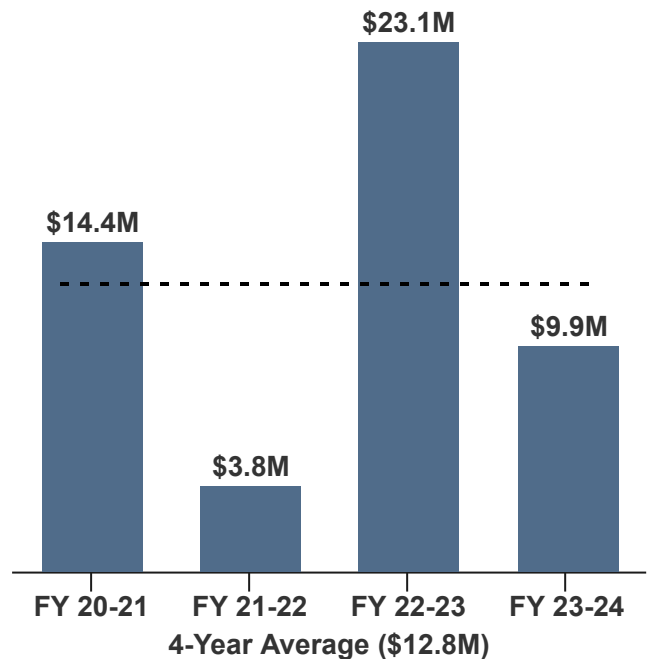
**BATTERY  
LITIGATION EXPENSES**



**SHOOTING**

In FY 23-24, Shooting was the second costliest Excessive Force detailed case subtype. The Department spent \$9,877,330 on Shooting lawsuits in FY 23-24, compared to \$23,078,160 in FY 22-23. Of the total spent on Shooting, \$6,205,000 was for judgments and settlements, and \$865,907 was for fees and costs. The Department defended 56 Shooting lawsuits in FY 23-24, up from 50 in FY 22-23.

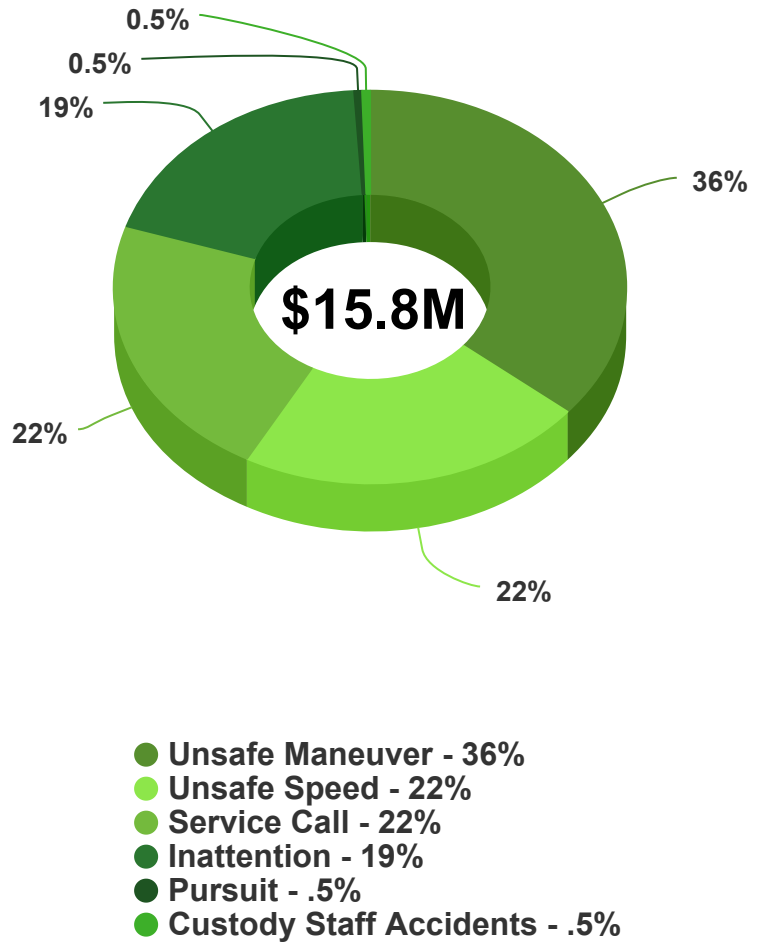
**SHOOTING  
LITIGATION EXPENSES**



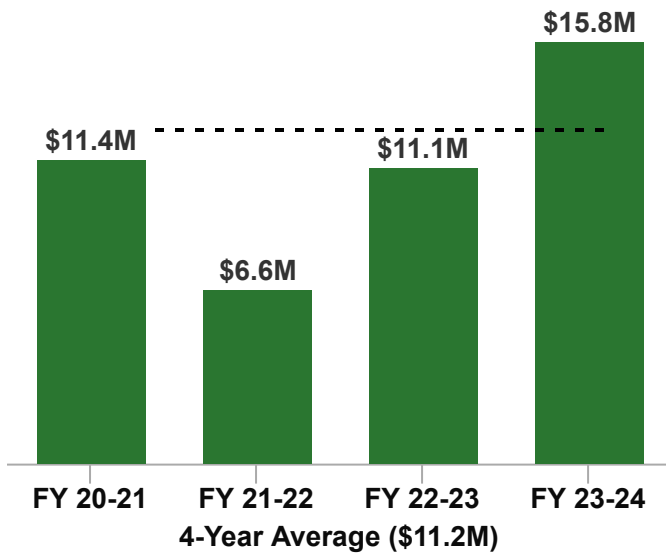
# AUTO LIABILITY

Auto Liability was LASD's second costliest case type in FY 23-24. The Department spent \$15,828,453 on Auto Liability lawsuits in FY 23-24, compared to \$11,103,894 in FY 22-23. Of the total spent on Auto Liability lawsuits, \$11,176,896 was for judgments and settlements, and \$4,651,557 was for fees and costs. The Department defended 228 Auto Liability lawsuits in FY 23-24, up from 194 in FY 22-23.

## EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



## LITIGATION EXPENSES

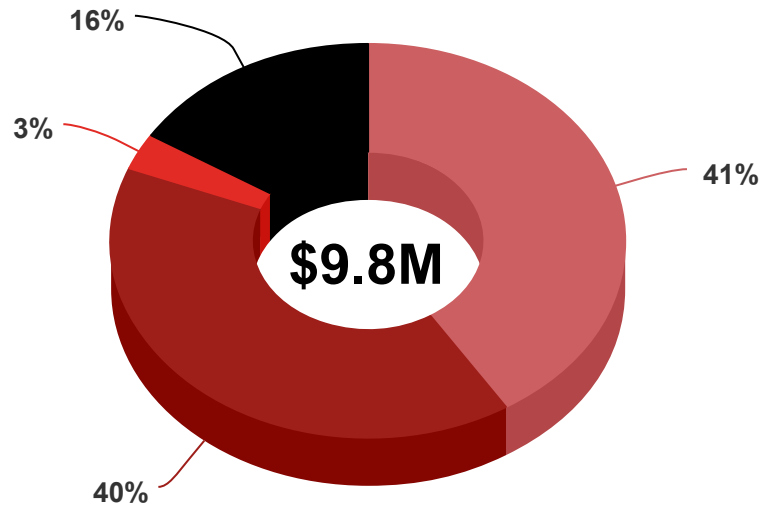


Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 23-24	% Change from FY 22-23
Unsafe Maneuver	94	\$5,674,683	-12%
Unsafe Speed	39	\$3,510,774	247%
Service Call	14	\$3,438,467	316%
Inattention	74	\$3,009,248	20%
Pursuit	4	\$134,675	-18%
Custody Staff Accidents	3	\$60,606	-54%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>\$15,828,453</b>	<b>43%</b>

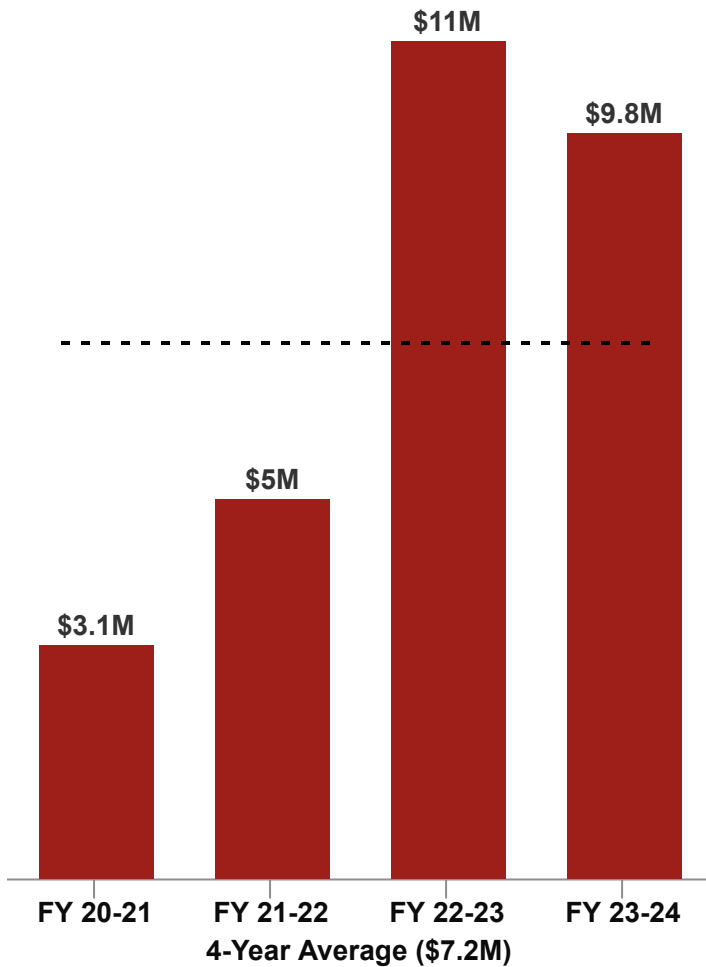
## EMPLOYMENT

Employment was LASD's third costliest case type in FY 23-24. The Department spent \$9,818,931 on Employment lawsuits, compared to \$11,044,508 in FY 22-23. Of the total spent on Employment lawsuits, \$489,517 was for judgments and settlements, and \$9,329,414 was for fees and costs. The Department defended 90 Employment lawsuits in FY 23-24, down from 95 in FY 22-23.

### EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



### LITIGATION EXPENSES



- Retaliation - 41%
- Race Discrimination - 40%
- Gender Discrimination - 3%
- All Other Case Subtypes - 16%



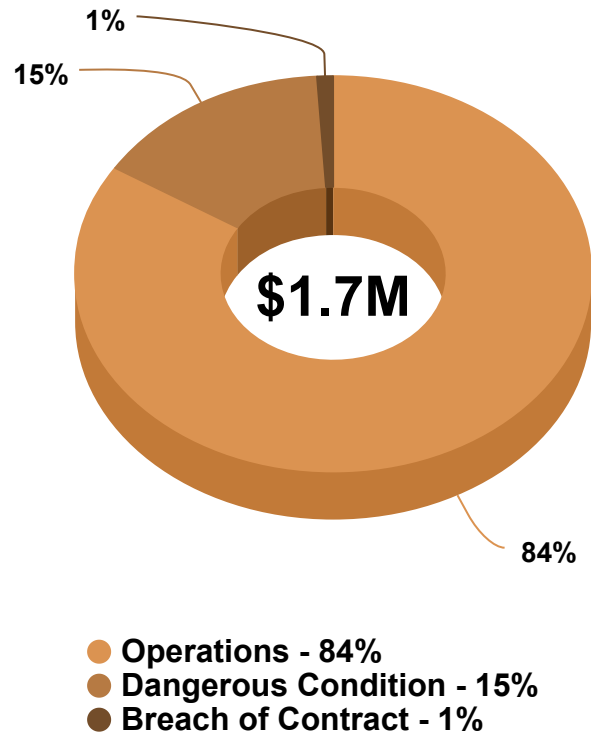
**EMPLOYMENT EXPENSES COMPARISON**

<b>Case Subtype</b>	<b># of Lawsuits</b>	<b>Total Expenses FY 23-24</b>	<b>% Change from FY 22-23</b>
Retaliation	38	\$3,977,239	5%
Race Discrimination	7	\$3,969,513	105%
Gender Discrimination	4	\$334,550	130%
Wage & Hour/Over-Time	7	\$311,506	-93%
Age Discrimination	2	\$249,799	230%
Wrongful Termination	9	\$232,907	58%
Sexual Harassment	6	\$201,777	19%
Investigating Employee Conduct	2	\$146,446	606%
Breach of Settlement Agreement	1	\$96,147	64%
Failure to Promote	1	\$80,756	11%
Denial of Promotion	2	\$59,015	-17%
Employee Benefits	4	\$47,662	-74%
Disability Discrimination	3	\$42,058	-60%
Wrongful Suspension	1	\$27,888	195%
Failure to Hire	1	\$23,055	52%
National Origin Discrimination	1	\$16,418	1822%
COVID-19	1	\$2,195	-97%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>\$9,818,931</b>	<b>-11%</b>

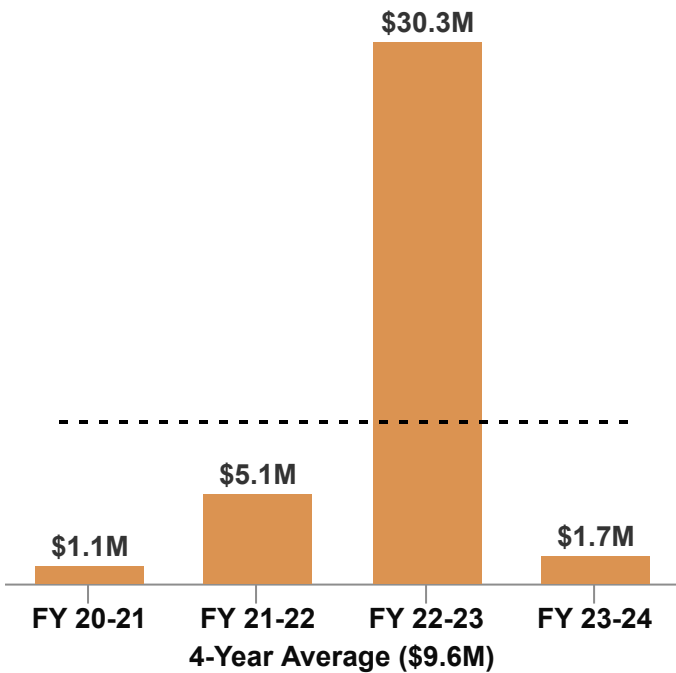
## GENERAL LIABILITY

General Liability was LASD's fourth costliest case type in FY 23-24. The Department spent \$1,686,319 on General Liability lawsuits, compared to \$30,343,770 in FY 22-23. Of the total spent on General Liability lawsuits, \$470,190 was for judgments and settlements, and \$1,216,129 was for fees and costs. The Department defended 63 General Liability lawsuits in FY 23-24, up from 50 in FY 22-23.

### EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



### LITIGATION EXPENSES



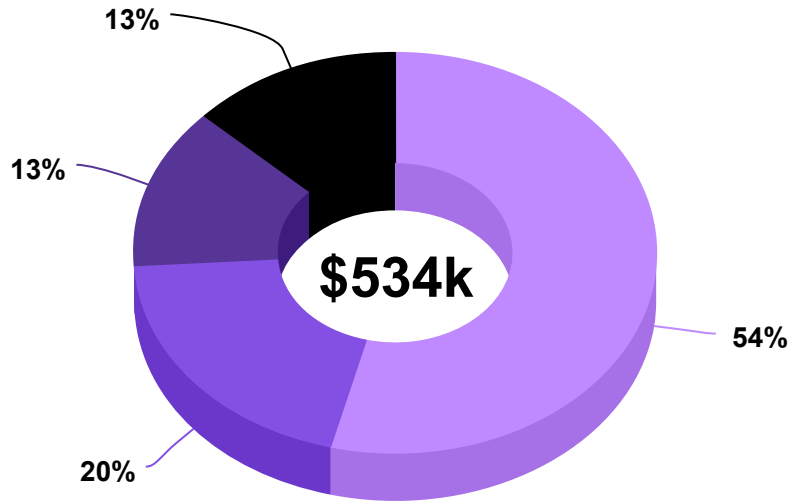
Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 23-24	% Change from FY 22-23
Operations	55	\$1,416,721	-95%
Dangerous Condition	6	\$255,666	110%
Breach Of Contract	2	\$13,932	135%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>\$1,686,319</b>	<b>-94%</b>

## MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

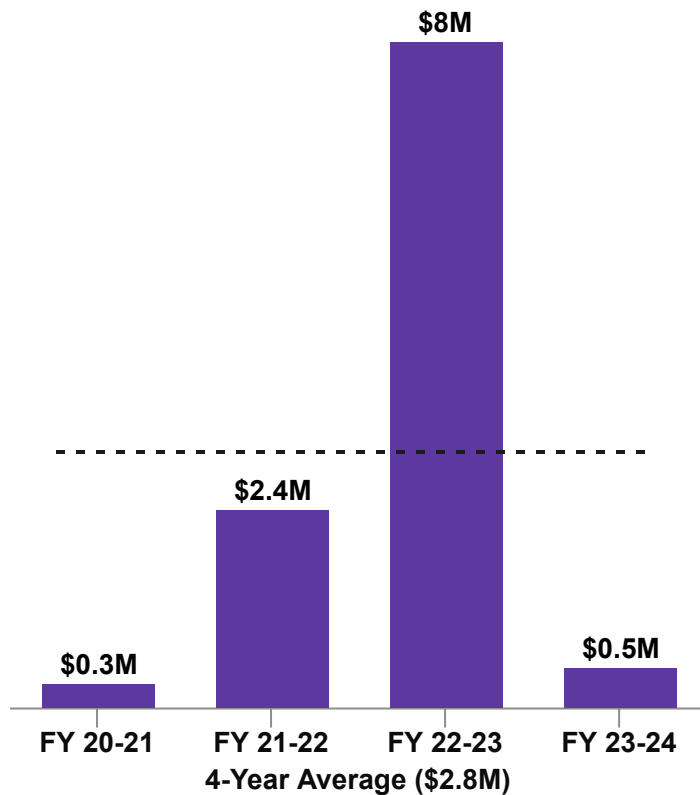
Medical Malpractice was the least costly case type for LASD in FY 23-24. The Department spent \$533,969 on Medical Malpractice lawsuits in FY 23-24, compared to \$8,015,121 in FY 22-23. Of the total spent on Medical Malpractice, \$12,000 was for judgments and settlements, and \$521,969 was for fees and costs.

The Department defended 29 Medical Malpractice lawsuits in FY 23-24, down from 32 in FY 22-23.

EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



LITIGATION EXPENSES



- Delay In Treatment - 54%
- Failure To Monitor - 20%
- Failure To Treat - 13%
- All Other Case Subtypes - 13%

**MEDICAL MALPRACTICE EXPENSES COMPARISON**

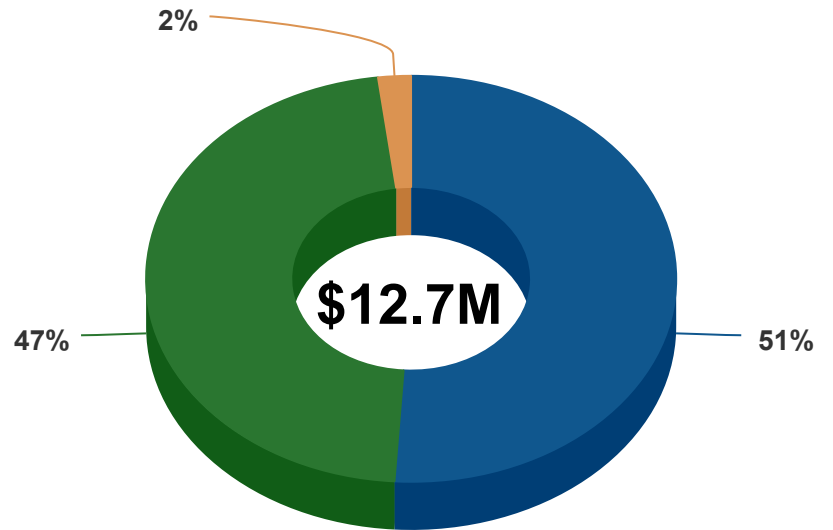
<b>Case Subtype</b>	<b># of Lawsuits</b>	<b>Total Expenses FY 23-24</b>	<b>% Change from FY 22-23</b>
Delay In Treatment	8	\$288,696	-36%
Failure To Monitor	3	\$109,208	-95%
Failure To Treat	7	\$72,041	-98%
Delay In Diagnosis	1	\$18,960	254%
Negligent Treatment	4	\$17,810	-94%
Withholding Of Medication	1	\$10,368	No Expenses
Wrong Medication	1	\$8,855	-85%
Non-ADA Compliance	1	\$4,813	No Expenses
Lack Of/Delayed Medical Custody Care	1	\$1,650	No Expenses
Failure To Provide Lower Bunk	1	\$1,501	-90%
Denial Of Medical Appliances	1	\$67	-98%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>\$533,969</b>	<b>-93%</b>

## CONTRACT CITIES

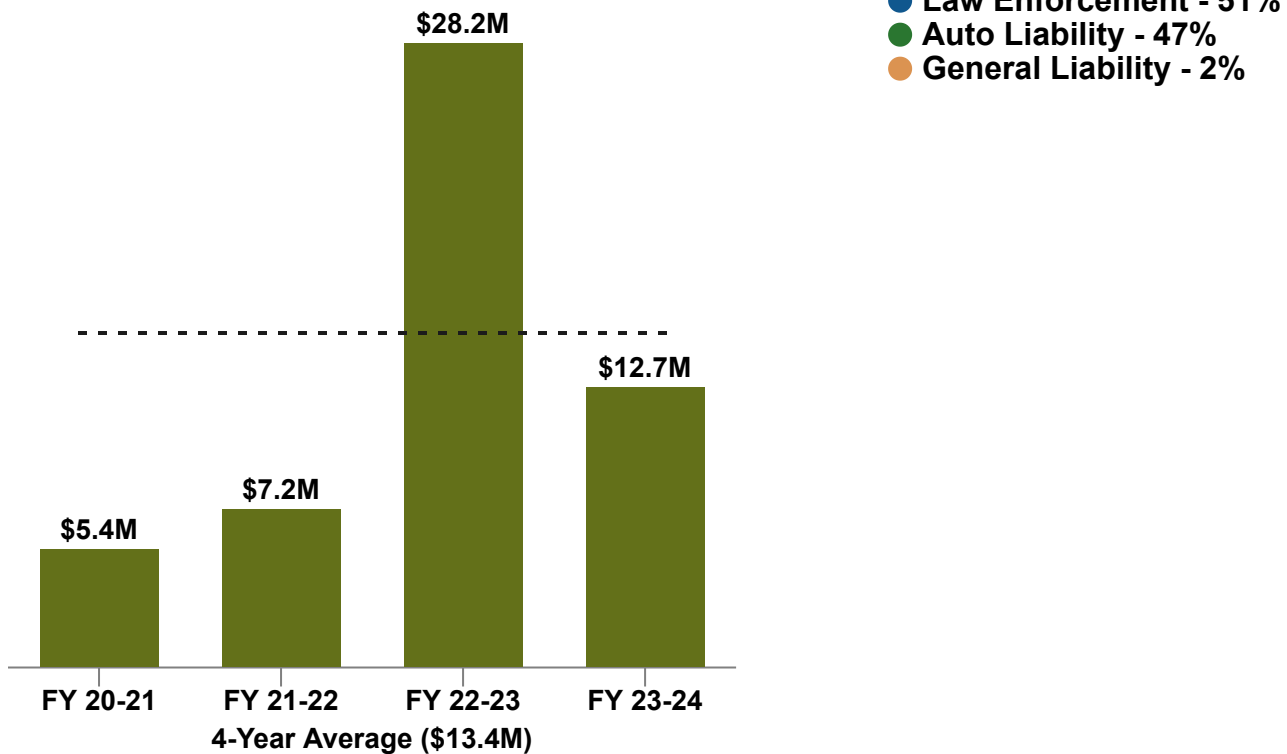
Contract Cities spent \$12,673,214 on lawsuits in FY 23-24, compared to \$28,242,413 in FY 22-23. Of the total spent in FY 23-24, \$5,713,506 was for judgments and settlements, \$6,959,708 was for fees and costs.

Contract Cities expenses include Law Enforcement, Auto Liability and General Liability lawsuits. Law Enforcement, with total expenses of \$6,505,152, was Contract Cities' costliest case type. The second costliest case type was Auto Liability, with total expenses of \$5,911,695. General Liability was the least costly case type at \$256,367.

EXPENSES BY CASE TYPE



LITIGATION EXPENSES



# CONTRACT CITIES

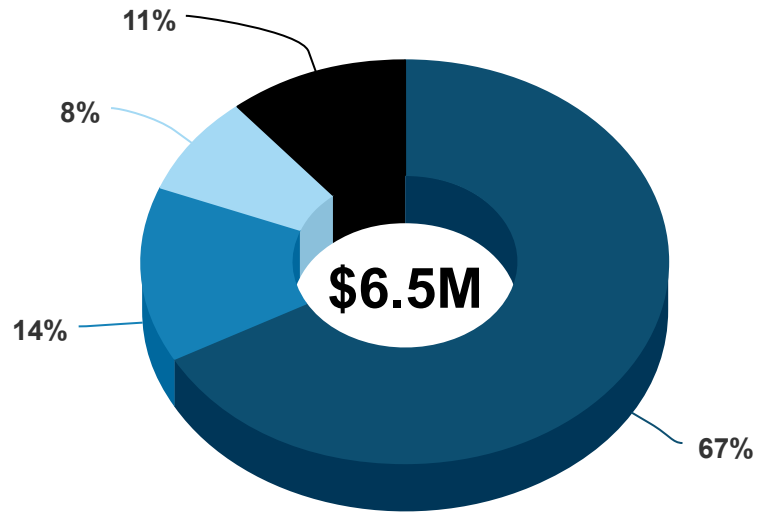
## Law Enforcement

In FY 23-24, Law Enforcement remained the costliest case type for Contract Cities. Contract Cities spent \$6,505,152 on Law Enforcement lawsuits in FY 23-24, compared to \$24,989,056 in FY 22-23.

Of the total spent on Law Enforcement lawsuits in FY 23-24, \$1,552,000 was for judgments and settlements, and \$4,953,152 was for fees and costs.

LASD defended 111 Law Enforcement lawsuits on behalf of Contract Cities in FY 23-24, down from 114 in FY 22-23.

EXPENSES BY CASE TYPE



- Excessive Force - 67%
- Civil Rights Violation - 14%
- Sexual Assault By Deputy - 8%
- All Other Case Subtypes -11%

Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 23-24
Excessive Force	64	\$4,350,928
Civil Rights Violation	9	\$909,542
Sexual Assault by Deputy	5	\$542,501
Failure to Protect	6	\$158,540
Law Enforcement - Other	10	\$158,186
False Arrest	10	\$153,403
Detention	1	\$127,381
Search and Seizure	6	\$104,671
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>\$6,505,152</b>

# CONTRACT CITIES

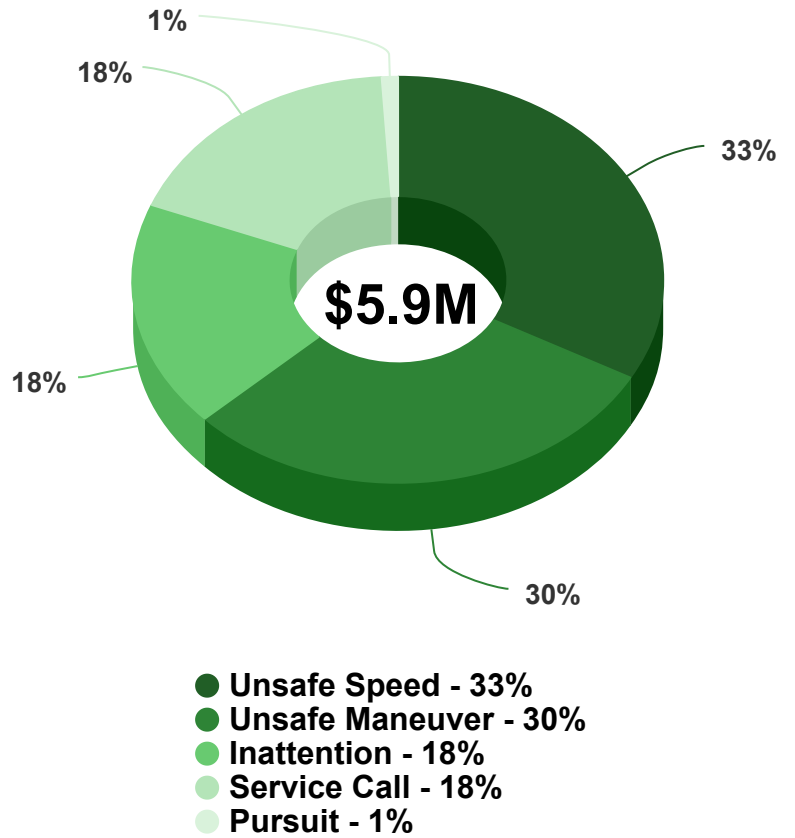
## Auto Liability

Auto Liability was the second costliest case type for Contract Cities. Contract Cities spent \$5,911,695 on Auto Liability lawsuits in FY 23-24, compared to \$3,084,992 in FY 22-23.

Of the total spent in FY 23-24, \$4,096,506 was for judgments and settlements, and \$1,815,189 was for fees and costs.

LASD defended 110 Auto Liability lawsuits on behalf of Contract Cities in FY 23-24, up from 84 in FY 22-23.

EXPENSES BY CASE TYPE



Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 23-24
Unsafe Speed	22	\$1,934,573
Unsafe Maneuver	42	\$1,798,637
Inattention	37	\$1,089,885
Service Call	8	\$1,061,257
Pursuit	1	\$27,343
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>\$5,911,695</b>

# CONTRACT CITIES

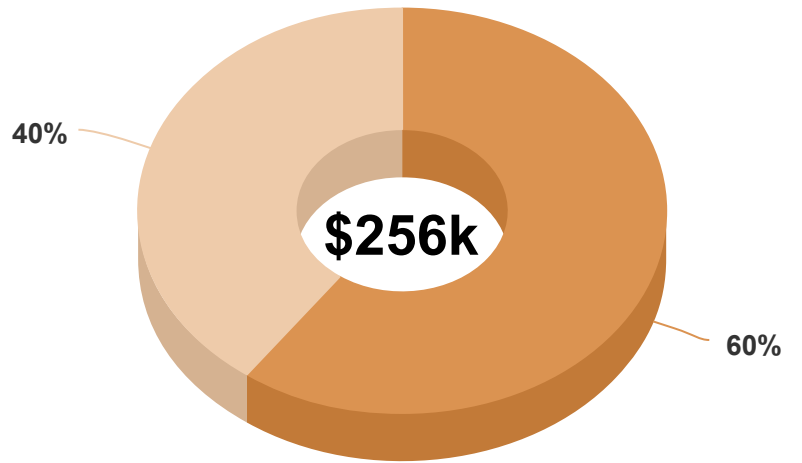
## General Liability

General Liability was the least costly case type for Contract Cities. Contract Cities spent \$256,367 on General Liability lawsuits in FY 23-24, compared to \$168,365 in FY 22-23.

Of the total spent in FY 23-24, \$65,000 was for judgments and settlements, and \$191,367 was for fees and costs.

LASD defended four General Liability lawsuits on behalf of Contract Cities in FY 23-24, down from six in FY 22-23.

**EXPENSES BY CASE TYPE**



- Operations - 60%
- Dangerous Condition - 40%

Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 23-24
Operations	1	\$154,336
Dangerous Condition	3	\$102,031
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>\$256,367</b>





# District Attorney's Office



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# DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

## Total Expenses —

Expenses, consisting of judgments, settlements, attorneys' fees, and costs, for the District Attorney's Office ("DAO") increased to \$24,905,711 in FY 23-24, from \$3,989,155 in FY 22-23. The four-year average is \$9,669,466.

## Judgments and Settlements —

Judgments and settlements increased to \$20,354,750 in FY 23-24, from \$1,401,500 in FY 22-23. The four-year average is \$7,228,938.

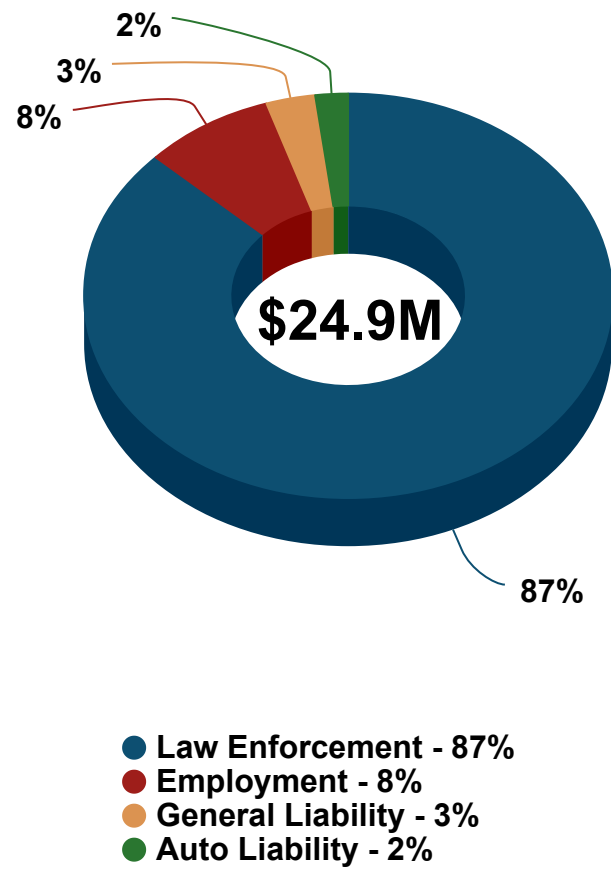
**Fees and Costs** — Fees and costs increased to \$4,550,961 in FY 23-24, from \$2,587,655 in FY 22-23. The four-year average is \$2,440,528.

**Lawsuits** — Lawsuits rose to 86 in FY 23-24, from 76 in FY 22-23. Of the 86 lawsuits, 32 were Law Enforcement, 26 were General Liability, 22 were Employment, and 6 were Auto Liability.

## Most Expensive Case Types —

Law Enforcement, with total expenses of \$21,772,353, was the Department's costliest case type. Law Enforcement expenses increased by \$20,038,024 in FY 23-24, from \$1,734,329 in FY 22-23. The second costliest case type was Employment, which had an increase of \$335,624 in expenses from \$1,578,134 in FY 22-23, to \$1,913,758 in FY 23-24.

## TOTAL LITIGATION EXPENSES



### TOTAL EXPENSES

compared to FY 22-23

↑ 524%

### JUDGMENTS & SETTLEMENTS

compared to FY 22-23

↑ 1352%

### FEES & COSTS

compared to FY 22-23

↑ 76%

### LAWSUITS

compared to FY 22-23

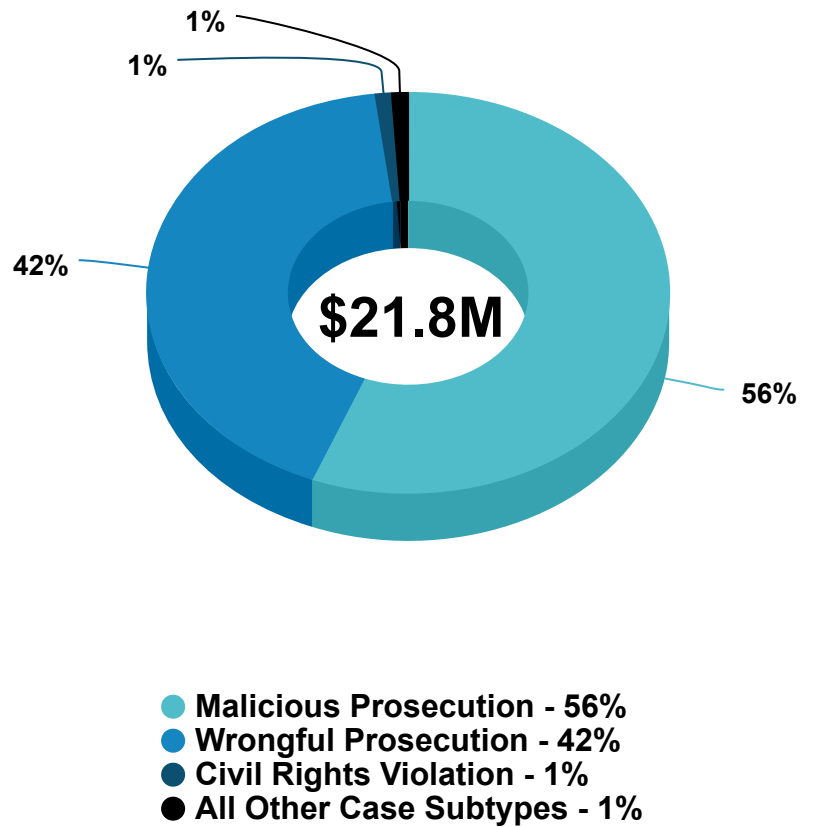
↑ 13%

# LAW ENFORCEMENT

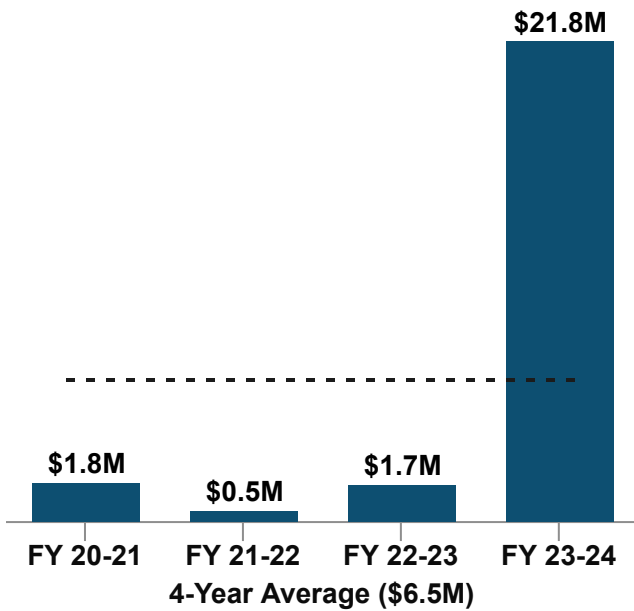
Law Enforcement was DAO's costliest case type in FY 23-24. The Department spent \$21,772,353 on Law Enforcement lawsuits, compared to \$1,734,329 in FY 22-23. Of the total spent on Law Enforcement, \$20 million was for judgments and settlements, and \$1,772,353 was for fees and costs.

DAO defended 32 Law Enforcement lawsuits in FY 23-24, up from 27 in FY 22-23.

EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



LITIGATION EXPENSES



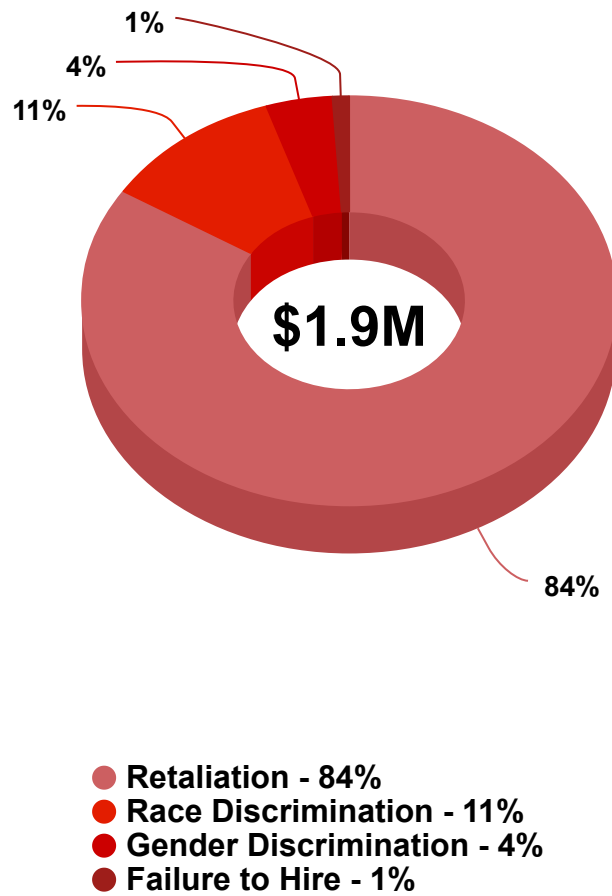
Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 23-24	% Change from FY 22-23
Malicious Prosecution	1	\$12,178,873	No Expenses
Wrongful Prosecution	11	\$9,106,354	4333%
Civil Rights Violation	3	\$261,548	No Expenses
Wrongful Seizure	3	\$75,174	-49%
False Imprisonment	9	\$73,986	-94%
Detention	2	\$59,743	471%
Law Enforcement Other	2	\$14,910	-79%
Sexual Assault by a Deputy	1	\$1,765	-96%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>\$21,772,353</b>	<b>1155%</b>

## EMPLOYMENT

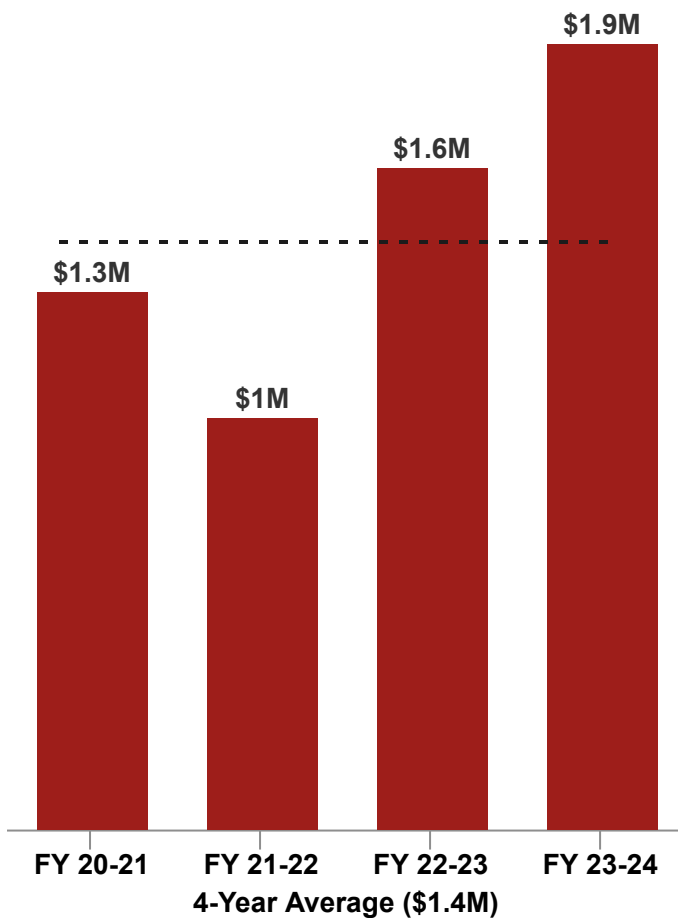
Employment was the DAO's second costliest case type in FY 23-24. The Department spent \$1,913,758 on Employment lawsuits, compared to \$1,578,134 in FY 22-23. Of the total spent on Employment, \$40,000 was for judgments and settlements, and \$1,873,758 was for fees and costs.

DAO defended 22 Employment lawsuits in FY 23-24, up from 20 in FY 22-23.

### EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



### LITIGATION EXPENSES



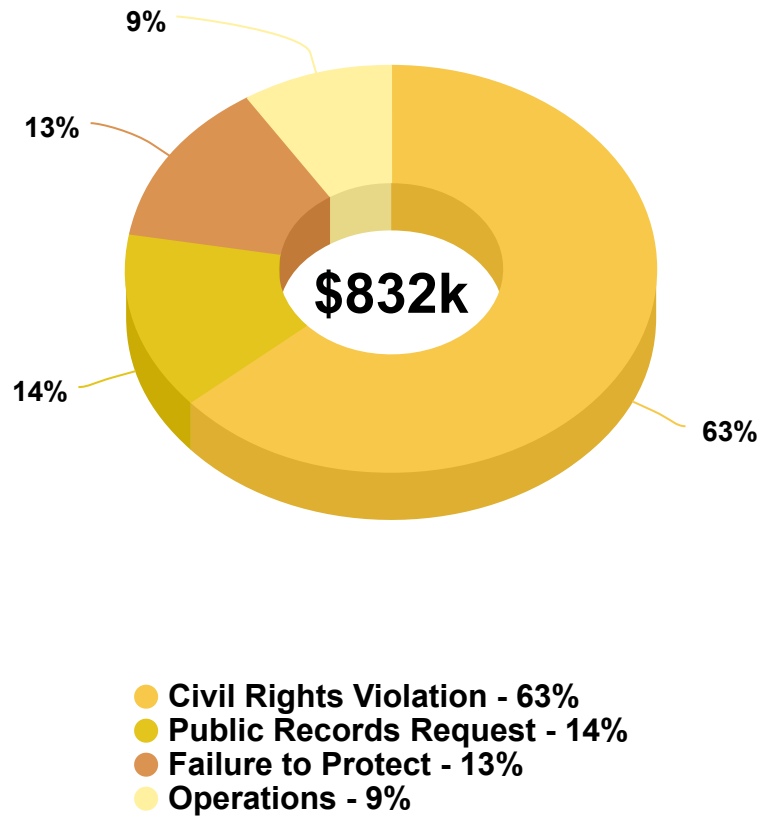
Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 23-24	% Change from FY 22-23
Retaliation	17	\$1,616,400	34%
Race Discrimination	3	\$218,871	134%
Gender Discrimination	1	\$78,069	-34%
Failure To Hire	1	\$418	-85%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>\$1,913,758</b>	<b>21%</b>

## GENERAL LIABILITY

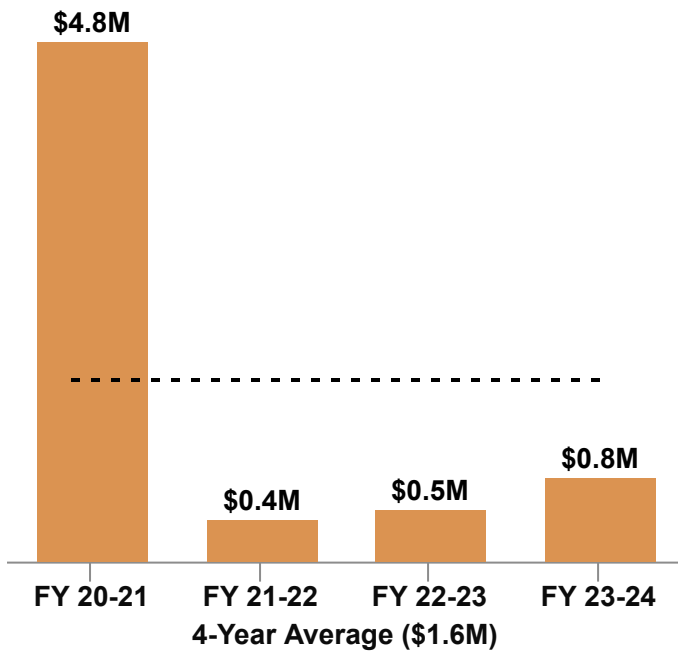
General Liability was DAO's third costliest case type in FY 23-24. The Department spent \$831,955 on General Liability lawsuits, compared to \$533,235 in FY 22-23. Of the total spent on General Liability, \$54,750 was for judgments and settlements, and \$777,205 was for fees and costs.

DAO defended 26 General Liability lawsuits in FY 23-24, up from 23 in FY 22-23.

### EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



### LITIGATION EXPENSES



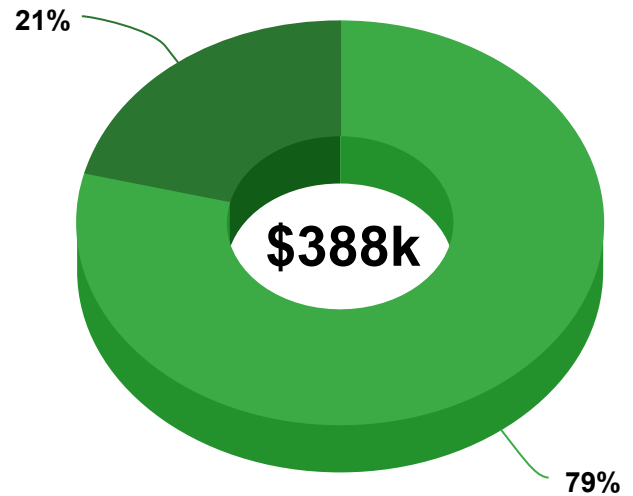
Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 23-24	% Change from FY 22-23
Civil Rights Violation	9	\$524,666	45%
Public Records Request	6	\$118,921	64%
Failure to Protect	1	\$107,177	11613%
Operations	8	\$77,629	-12%
Professional Misconduct	1	\$3,412	-19%
HIPAA Violation by Employee	1	\$150	-97%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>\$831,955</b>	<b>56%</b>

## AUTO LIABILITY

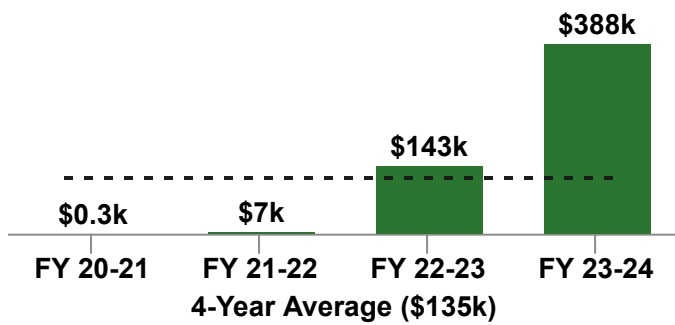
Auto Liability was DAO's least costly case type in FY 23-24. In FY 23-24, the Department spent \$387,645 on Auto Liability lawsuits, compared to \$143,457 in FY 22-23. Of the total spent on Auto Liability, \$260,000 was for judgments and settlements, and \$127,645 was for fees and costs.

DAO defended six Auto Liability lawsuits in FY 23-24, same as in FY 22-23.

### EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



### LITIGATION EXPENSES



- Unsafe Maneuver - 79%
- Inattention - 21%

Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 23-24	% Change from FY 22-23
Unsafe Maneuver	4	\$305,581	127%
Inattention	2	\$82,064	831%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>\$387,645</b>	<b>170%</b>

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**Health Services**  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

# Department of Health Services



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# HEALTH SERVICES

**Total Expenses** — Expenses, consisting of judgments, settlements, attorney's fees, and costs, for the Department of Health Services ("DHS") decreased to \$18,009,111 in FY 23-24, from \$18,775,705 in FY 22-23. The four-year average was \$13,429,197.

**Judgments and Settlements** — Judgments and settlements decreased to \$11,298,221 in FY 23-24, from \$13,121,545 in FY 22-23. The four-year average was \$8,173,568.

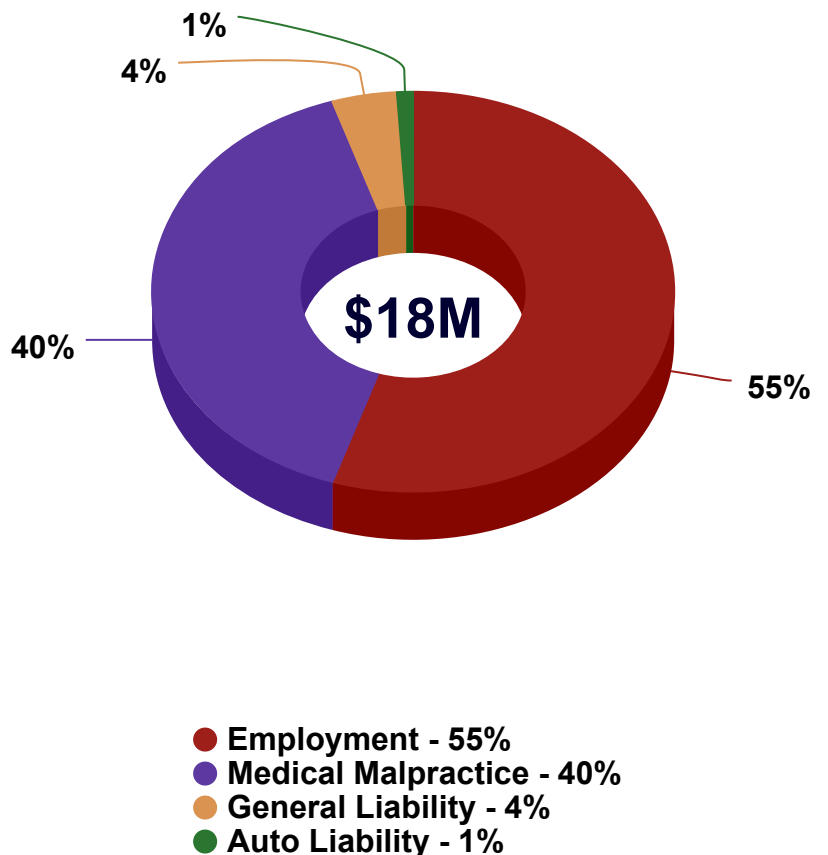
**Fees and Costs** — Fees and costs increased to \$6,710,890 in FY 23-24, from \$5,654,160 in FY 22-23. The four-year average was \$5,255,630.

**Lawsuits** — Lawsuits rose to 224 in FY 23-24, from 209 in FY 22-23. Of the 224 lawsuits, 113 were Medical Malpractice, 73 Employment, 36 General Liability, and 2 were Auto Liability.

**Expenses by Facility** — The share of total expenses by medical facility in FY 23-24 was: Ambulatory Care Network, 2 percent; Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, 15 percent; Correctional Health Services, 7 percent; Juvenile Court Health Services, 1 percent; LA General Medical Center, 9 percent; Olive View-UCLA Medical Center, 28 percent; Rancho Los Amigos National Rehab Center, 31 percent; Other DHS Facilities, 7 percent; and MLK/Drew, 0.5 percent.

**Most Expensive Case Types** — Employment, with total expenses of \$9,979,091, was DHS's costliest case type. Employment expenses increased by \$6,761,752 in FY 23-24, from \$3,217,339 in FY 22-23. The second costliest case type was Medical Malpractice, which had a decrease of \$7,375,026 in expenses from \$14,625,461 in FY 22-23, to \$7,250,435 in FY 23-24.

**TOTAL LITIGATION EXPENSES**



**TOTAL EXPENSES**  
compared to FY 22-23

↓ 4%

**JUDGMENTS & SETTLEMENTS**  
compared to FY 22-23

↓ 14%

**FEES & COSTS**  
compared to FY 22-23

↑ 19%

**LAWSUITS**  
compared to FY 22-23

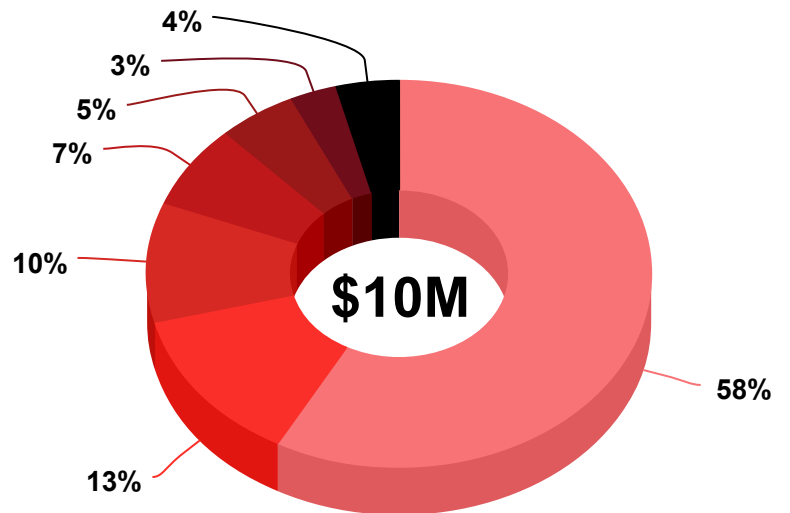
↑ 6%

## EMPLOYMENT

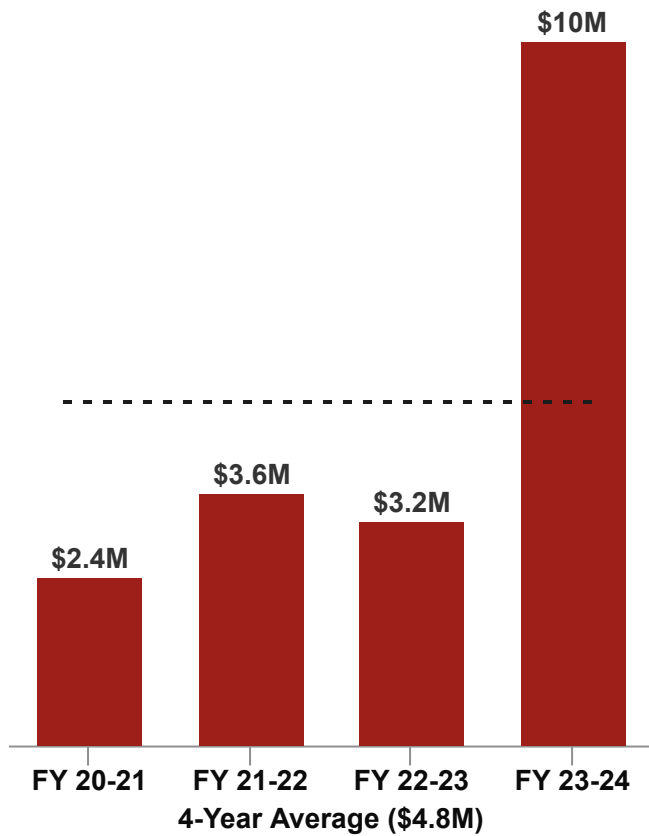
Employment was the costliest case type for DHS in FY 23-24. The Department spent \$9,979,091 on Employment lawsuits in FY 23-24, compared to \$3,217,339 in FY 22-23. Of the total spent, \$5,370,206 was for judgments and settlements, and \$4,608,885 was for fees and costs.

The Department defended 73 Employment lawsuits in FY 23-24, up from 55 in FY 22-23.

### EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



### LITIGATION EXPENSES



- Race Discrimination - 58%
- Retaliation - 13%
- Disability Discrimination - 10%
- Sexual Harassment - 7%
- Wrongful Termination - 5%
- Gender Discrimination - 3%
- All Other Case Subtypes - 4%

**EMPLOYMENT EXPENSES COMPARISON**

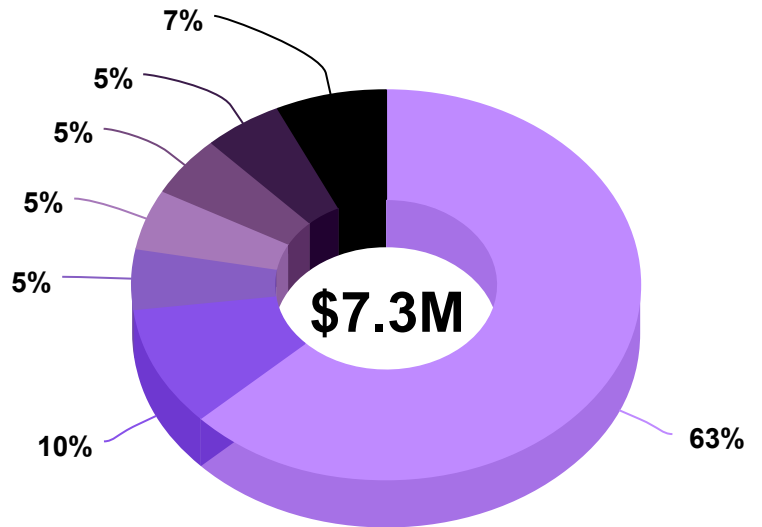
<b>Case Subtype</b>	<b># of Lawsuits</b>	<b>Total Expenses FY 23-24</b>	<b>% Change from FY 22-23</b>
Race Discrimination	7	\$5,784,297	929%
Retaliation	14	\$1,344,711	230%
Disability Discrimination	17	\$1,002,733	90%
Sexual Harassment	14	\$668,840	122%
Wrongful Termination	7	\$528,642	174%
Gender Discrimination	5	\$292,371	321%
Sexual Assault	1	\$130,155	-88%
Denial of Promotion	1	\$87,024	385%
Religious Discrimination	3	\$74,791	No Expenses
Age Discrimination	2	\$50,863	-15%
Denial of Retirement Benefits	1	\$14,546	-6%
Pregnancy Discrimination	1	\$118	No Expenses
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>\$9,979,091</b>	<b>210%</b>

## MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

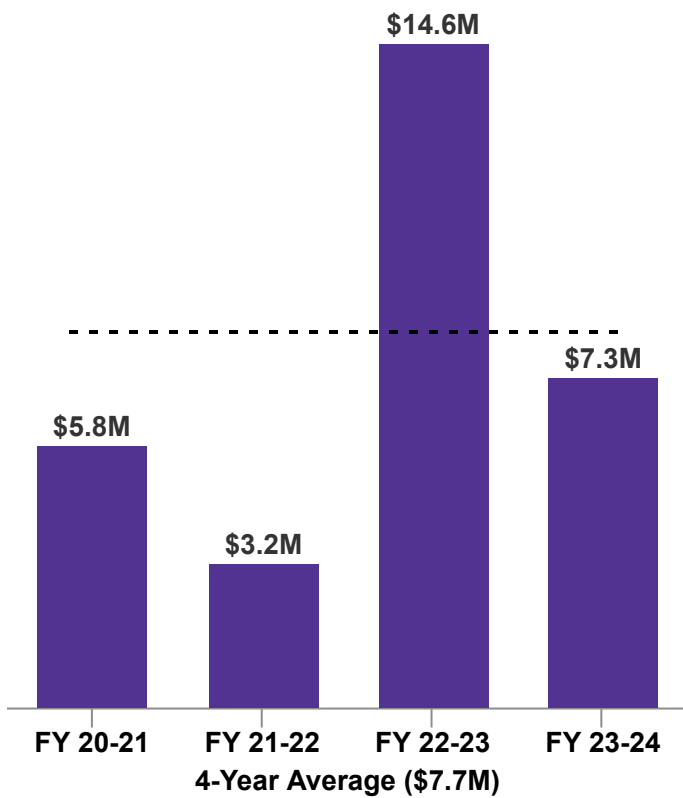
Medical Malpractice was the second costliest case type for DHS in FY 23-24. The Department spent \$7,250,435 on Medical Malpractice lawsuits in FY 23-24, compared to \$14,625,461 in FY 22-23. Of the total spent on Medical Malpractice lawsuits, \$5,847,015 was for judgments and settlements, and \$1,403,420 was for fees and costs.

The Department defended 113 Medical Malpractice lawsuits in FY 23-24, down from 122 in FY 22-23.

EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



LITIGATION EXPENSES



- Labor & Delivery - 63%
- Negligent Treatment - 10%
- Failure to Treat - 5%
- Delay in Treatment - 5%
- Failure to Monitor - 5%
- Sexual Assault - 5%
- All Other Case Subtypes - 7%

**MEDICAL MALPRACTICE EXPENSES COMPARISON**

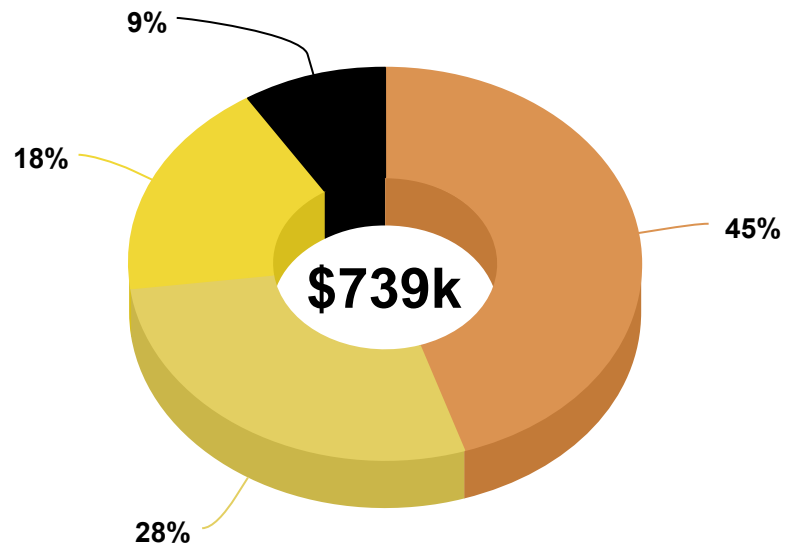
<b>Case Subtype</b>	<b># of Lawsuits</b>	<b>Total Expenses FY 23-24</b>	<b>% Change from FY 22-23</b>
Labor & Delivery	14	\$4,600,085	293%
Negligent Treatment	32	\$697,541	-56%
Failure to Treat	17	\$390,494	-16%
Delay in Treatment	11	\$390,338	-83%
Failure to Monitor	10	\$343,748	-88%
Sexual Assault	2	\$343,624	71%
Negligent Surgery	14	\$254,400	-94%
Wrong Medication	2	\$99,380	-23%
Misdiagnosis	1	\$44,482	80%
Failure to Diagnose	3	\$38,603	-90%
Delay In Diagnosis	1	\$18,960	-98%
Withholding of Medication	1	\$10,368	No Expenses
Administration of Medication	1	\$8,868	-54%
Non-ADA Compliance	1	\$4,813	No Expenses
Failure to Provide Lower Bunk	1	\$3,048	-90%
Lack of/Delayed Medical Custody Care	1	\$1,650	No Expenses
Denial of Medical Appliances	1	\$33	-98%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>\$7,250,435</b>	<b>-50%</b>

## GENERAL LIABILITY

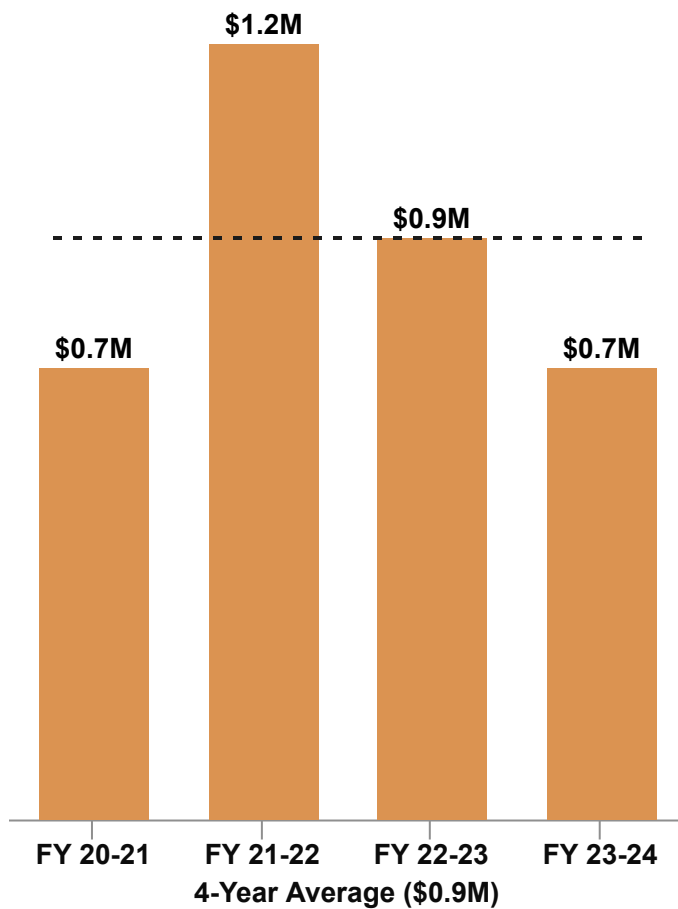
General Liability was the DHS's third costliest case type in FY 23-24. The Department spent \$739,454 on General Liability lawsuits, compared to \$877,251 in FY 22-23. Of the total spent on General Liability lawsuits, \$46,000 was for judgments and settlements, and \$693,454 was for fees and costs.

The Department defended 36 General Liability lawsuits in FY 23-24, up from 29 in FY 23-24.

### EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



### LITIGATION EXPENSES



- Failure to Protect - 45%
- Dangerous Condition - 28%
- Public Records Request - 18%
- All Other Case Subtypes - 9%



**GENERAL LIABILITY EXPENSES COMPARISON**

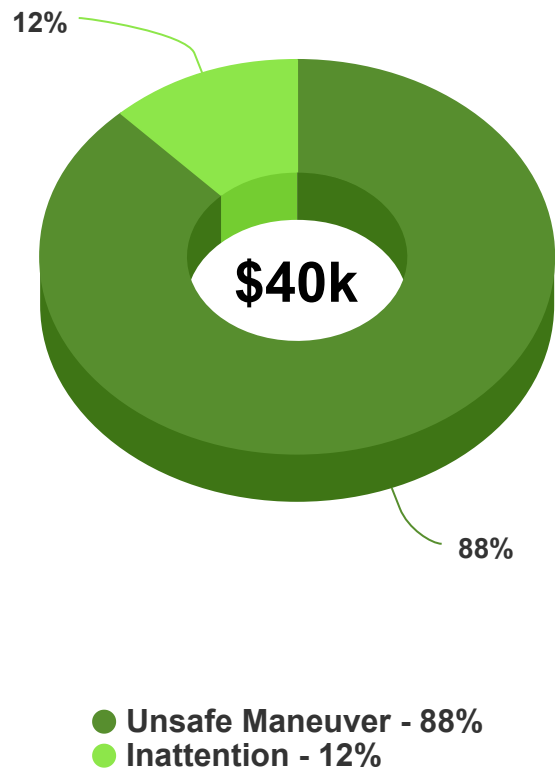
<b>Case Subtype</b>	<b># of Lawsuits</b>	<b>Total Expenses FY 23-24</b>	<b>% Change from FY 22-23</b>
<b>Failure to Protect</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>\$330,532</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Dangerous Condition</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>\$209,058</b>	<b>108%</b>
<b>Public Records Request</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>\$130,064</b>	<b>88%</b>
<b>Breach of Contract</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>\$22,924</b>	<b>-93%</b>
<b>Transfer of Structural Settlement</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>\$18,000</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Civil Rights Violation</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>\$14,500</b>	<b>2678%</b>
<b>Falsification of Records</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>\$12,968</b>	<b>322%</b>
<b>Sexual Assault by Employee</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>\$875</b>	<b>-97%</b>
<b>Operations</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>\$533</b>	<b>No Expenses</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>\$739,454</b>	<b>-16%</b>

## AUTO LIABILITY

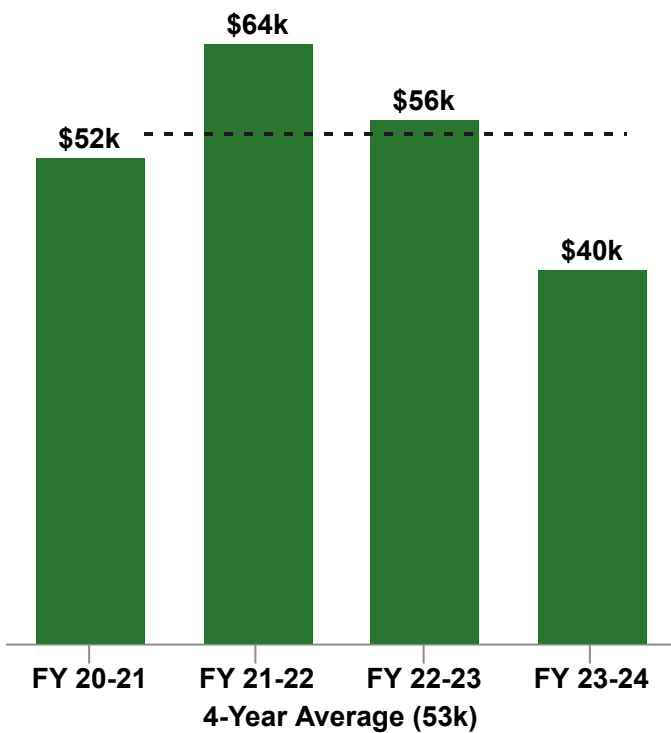
Auto Liability was DHS's least costly case type in FY 23-24. The Department spent \$40,131 on Auto Liability, compared to \$55,654 in FY 22-23. Of the total spent on Auto Liability lawsuits, \$35,000 was for judgments and settlements, and \$5,131 was for fees and costs.

The Department defended two Auto Liability lawsuits in FY 23-24, down from three in FY 22-23.

### EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



### LITIGATION EXPENSES



Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 23-24	% Change from FY 22-23
Unsafe Maneuver	1	\$35,150	150%
Inattention	1	\$4,981	No Expenses
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>\$40,131</b>	<b>-28%</b>

## FACILITIES

### Ambulatory Care Network (ACN)

Annual litigation expenses totaled \$311,058 for 12 cases, with the following breakdown: Employment - \$171,615; Medical Malpractice - \$120,859; and General Liability - \$18,584.

### Harbor-UCLA Medical Center

Annual litigation expenses totaled \$2,626,542 for 35 cases, with the following breakdown: Employment - \$1,829,025; Medical Malpractice - \$652,529; and General Liability - \$144,988.

### Correctional Health Services (CHS)

Annual litigation expenses totaled \$1,176,468 for 51 cases, with the following breakdown: Employment - \$388,474; Medical Malpractice - \$467,990; and General Liability - \$320,004.

### Juvenile Court Health Services (JCHS)

Annual litigation expenses totaled \$146,488 for five cases, with the following breakdown: Medical Malpractice - \$90,634; and General Liability - \$55,854.

### LA General Medical Center

Annual litigation expenses totaled \$1,575,896 for 79 cases, with the following breakdown: Employment - \$676,095; Medical Malpractice - \$772,629; General Liability - \$122,191; and Auto Liability - \$4,981.

### Olive View-UCLA Medical Center

Annual litigation expenses totaled \$5,089,470 for 18 cases, with the following breakdown: Employment - \$90,518; Medical Malpractice - \$4,956,064; and General Liability - \$42,888.

### Rancho Los Amigos National Rehab Center (Rancho Los Amigos)

Annual litigation expenses totaled \$5,652,575 for eight cases, with the following breakdown: Employment - \$5,624,887; Medical Malpractice - \$27,618; and General Liability - \$70.

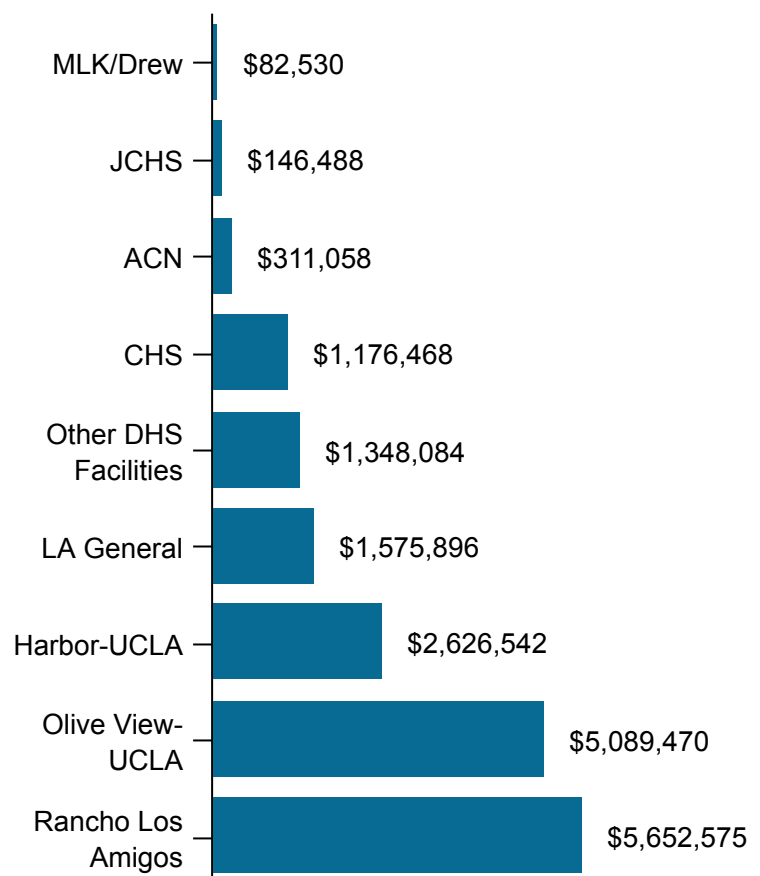
### Other DHS Facilities

Annual litigation expenses totaled \$1,348,084 for 28 cases, as follows: Employment - \$1,198,477; Medical Malpractice - \$79,582; General Liability - \$34,875; and Auto Liability - \$35,150.

### MLK/Drew

Annual litigation expenses totaled \$82,530 for six medical malpractice cases.

### EXPENSES BY FACILITY



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# Department of Public Works



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# PUBLIC WORKS

**Total Expenses** — Expenses, consisting of judgments, settlements, attorney's fees, and costs, for the Department of Public Works ("DPW") decreased to \$17,856,125 in FY 23-24 from \$31,039,789 in FY 22-23. The four-year average amounted to \$16,576,606.

**Judgments and Settlements** — Judgments and settlements decreased to \$10,349,763 in FY 23-24, down from \$25,651,537 in FY 22-23. The four-year average amounted to \$11,449,236.

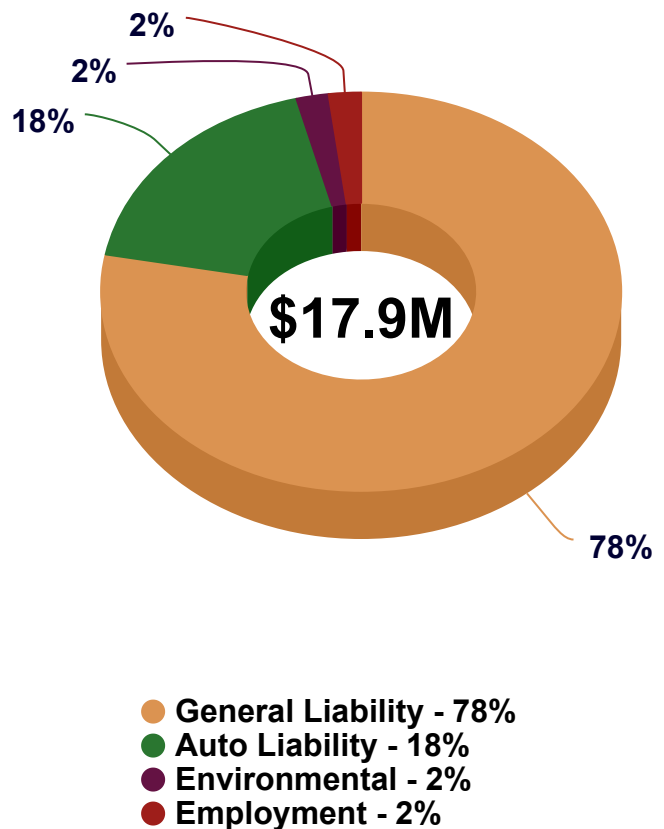
**Fees and Costs** — Fees and costs increased to \$7,506,362 in FY 23-24, from \$5,388,252 in FY 22-23. The four-year average amounted to \$5,127,371.

**Lawsuits** — Lawsuits rose to 221 in FY 23-24, from 208 in FY 22-23. Of the 221 lawsuits, 175 were General Liability, 26 were Auto Liability, 5 were Environmental, 13 were Employment, and 2 were Groundwater Adjudication.

**Contract Cities/Special Districts** — Of the \$17,856,125 in litigation expenses incurred by DPW in FY 23-24, \$1,876,852 was reimbursed by Special Districts (Waterworks, Flood Control, Sewer & Drain, and Road), and by Contract Cities.

**Most Expensive Case Types** — General Liability, with total expenses of \$13,854,826, was the Department's costliest case type. General Liability expenses decreased by \$4,864,372 in FY 23-24, from \$18,719,198 in FY 22-23. The second costliest case type was Auto Liability, which had an increase of \$1,257,928 in expenses from \$1,988,970 in FY 22-23, to \$3,246,898 in FY 23-24.

**TOTAL LITIGATION EXPENSES**



**TOTAL EXPENSES**  
compared to FY 22-23

↓ 42%

**JUDGMENTS & SETTLEMENTS**  
compared to FY 22-23

↓ 60%

**FEES & COSTS**  
compared to FY 22-23

↑ 39%

**LAWSUITS**  
compared to FY 22-23

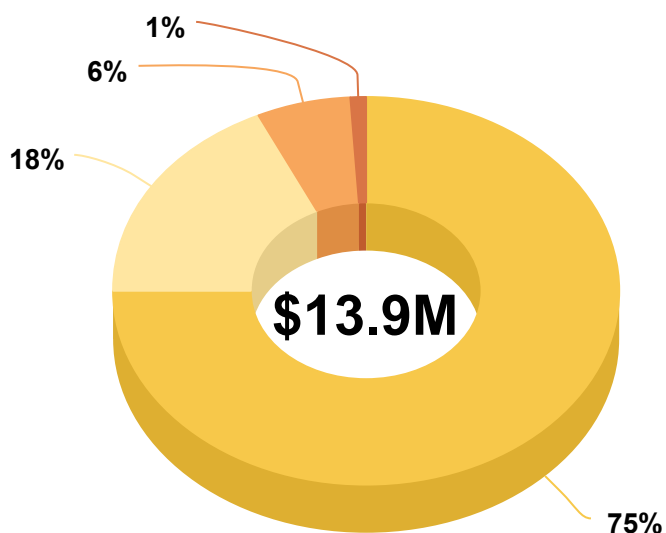
↑ 6%

## GENERAL LIABILITY

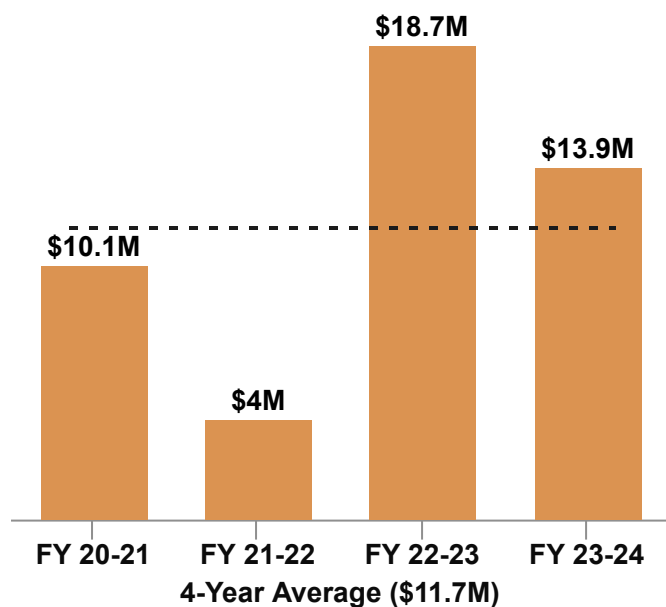
General Liability was DPW's costliest case type in FY 23-24. The Department spent \$13,854,826 on General Liability lawsuits, compared to \$18,719,198 in FY 22-23. Of the total spent on General Liability, \$7,500,813 was for judgments and settlements, and \$6,354,013 was for fees and costs.

The Department defended 175 General Liability lawsuits in FY 23-24, up from 167 in FY 22-23.

### EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



### LITIGATION EXPENSES



- Dangerous Condition - 75%
- Operations - 18%
- Real Property - 6%
- Breach of Contract - 1%

Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 23-24	% Change from FY 22-23
Dangerous Condition	124	\$10,433,171	-34%
Operations	24	\$2,491,224	34%
Real Property	23	\$873,965	59%
Breach of Contract	4	\$56,466	-86%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>\$13,854,826</b>	<b>-26%</b>

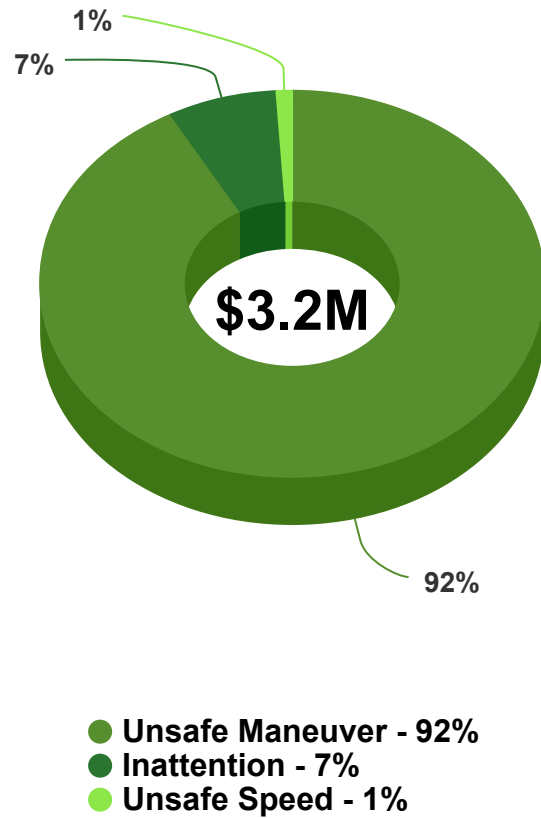


## AUTO LIABILITY

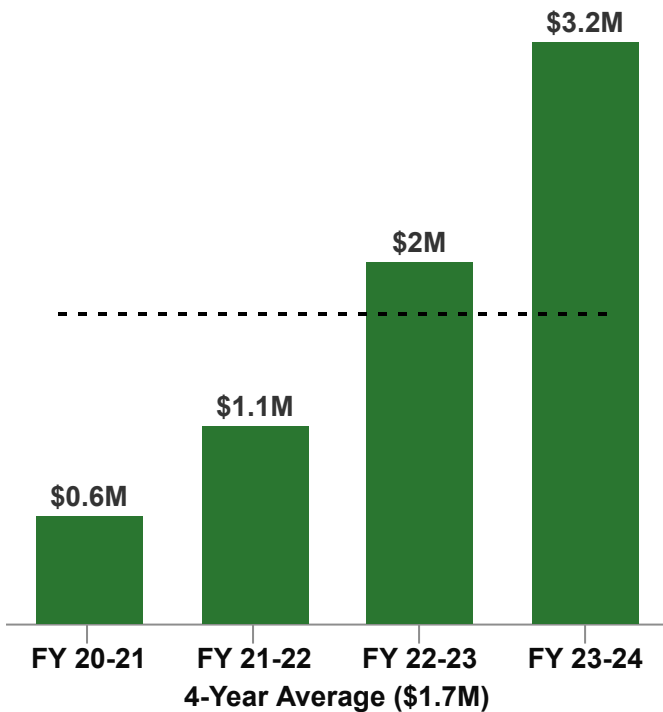
Auto Liability was DPW's second costliest case type in FY 23-24. The Department spent \$3,246,898 on Auto Liability lawsuits in FY 23-24, compared to \$1,988,970 in FY 22-23. Of the total spent on Auto Liability, \$2,843,950 was for judgments and settlements, and \$402,948 was for fees and costs.

The Department defended 26 Auto Liability lawsuits in FY 23-24, up from 22 in FY 22-23.

### EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



### LITIGATION EXPENSES



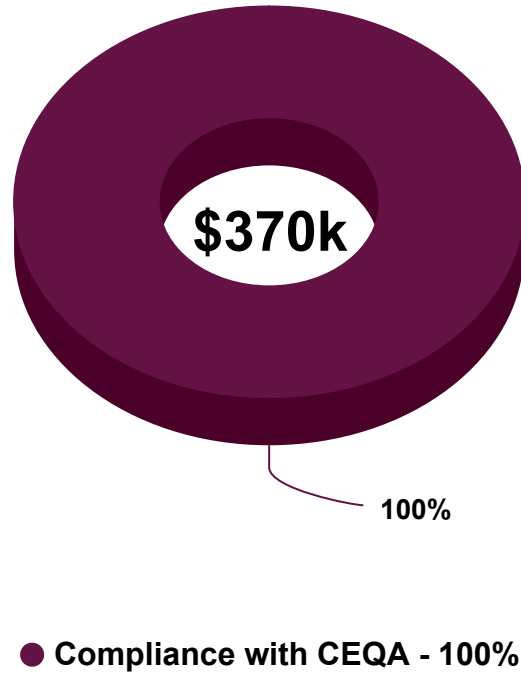
Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 23-24	% Change from FY 22-23
Unsafe Maneuver	7	\$2,987,685	118%
Inattention	18	234,900	209%
Unsafe Speed	1	\$24,313	-96%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>\$3,246,898</b>	<b>63%</b>

## ENVIRONMENTAL

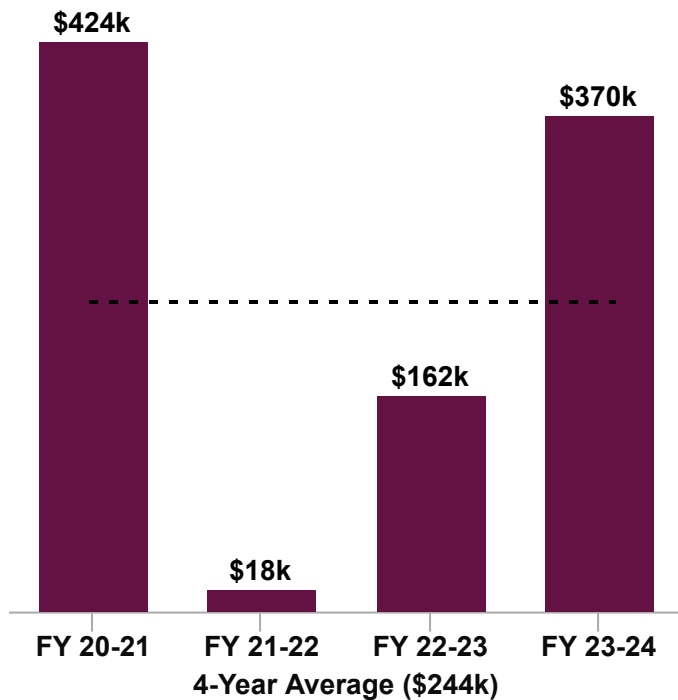
Environmental was the third costliest case type for DPW in FY 23-24. DPW spent \$369,812 on Environmental lawsuits in FY 23-24 compared to \$162,403 in FY 22-23. The \$369,812 consisted entirely of fees and costs.

The Department defended five Environmental lawsuits in FY 23-24, up from four in FY 22-23.

### EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



### LITIGATION EXPENSES



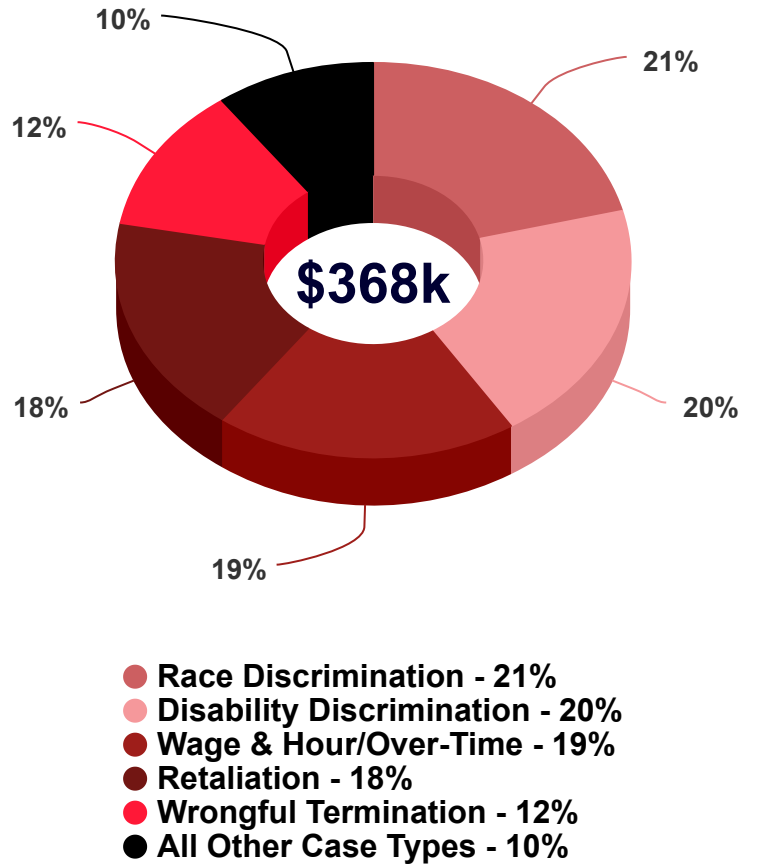
Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 23-24	% Change from FY 22-23
Compliance with CEQA	5	\$369,812	128%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>\$369,812</b>	<b>128%</b>

## EMPLOYMENT

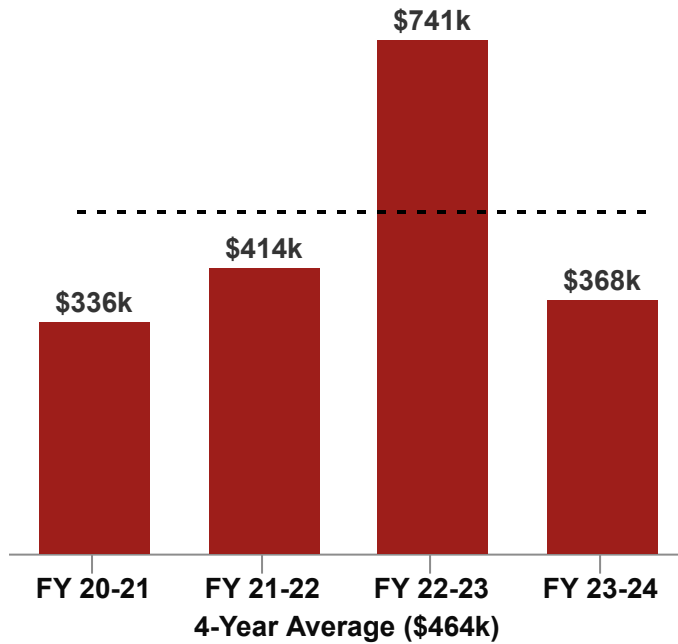
Employment was the fourth costliest case type for DPW in FY 23-24. DPW spent \$367,772 on Employment lawsuits, compared to \$741,135 in FY 22-23. Of the total spent on Employment, \$5,000 was for judgments and settlements, and \$362,772 was for fees and costs.

DPW defended 13 Employment lawsuits in FY 23-24, the same as in FY 22-23.

### EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



### LITIGATION EXPENSES



Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 23-24	% Change from FY 22-23
Race Discrimination	3	\$76,306	-85%
Disability Discrimination	2	\$71,740	267%
Wage & Hour/Over-Time	1	\$71,202	203%
Retaliation	2	\$64,987	91%
Wrongful Termination	2	\$45,813	153%
National Origin Discrimination	2	\$33,444	-3%
Age Discrimination	1	\$4,280	-96%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>\$367,772</b>	<b>-50%</b>

## SPECIAL DISTRICTS AND CONTRACT CITIES

Of the \$17,856,125 DPW spent on litigation this year, \$1,876,852 was reimbursed by Special Districts (Waterworks, Flood Control, Sewer & Drain, and Road) and Contract Cities. The reimbursed amount is less than the \$11,354,697 reimbursed in FY 22-23, primarily due to judgments and settlements.

Although Special Districts and Contract Cities' expenses are included in the Department's overall expenses, they are not ultimately paid with County funds because of the reimbursement to the Department. After the \$1,876,852 in reimbursements is credited to the litigation expenses, the bottom-line payment by the Department in FY 23-24 is \$15,979,273.

Of the total reimbursement, \$1,264,697 was reimbursed by Flood Control; \$239,025 was reimbursed by Sewer & Drain; \$195,648 was reimbursed by Waterworks; \$147,740 was reimbursed by Contract Cities and \$29,742 was reimbursed by Road-Special District.

Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 23-24	% Change from FY 22-23
Flood Control - Special District	19	\$1,264,697	33%
Sewer & Drain - Special District	6	\$239,025	-62%
Waterworks - Special District	8	\$195,648	-98%
Contract Cities	4	\$147,740	188%
Road - Special District	10	\$29,742	-81%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>\$1,876,852</b>	<b>-83%</b>



# Department of Children and Family Services



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# CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

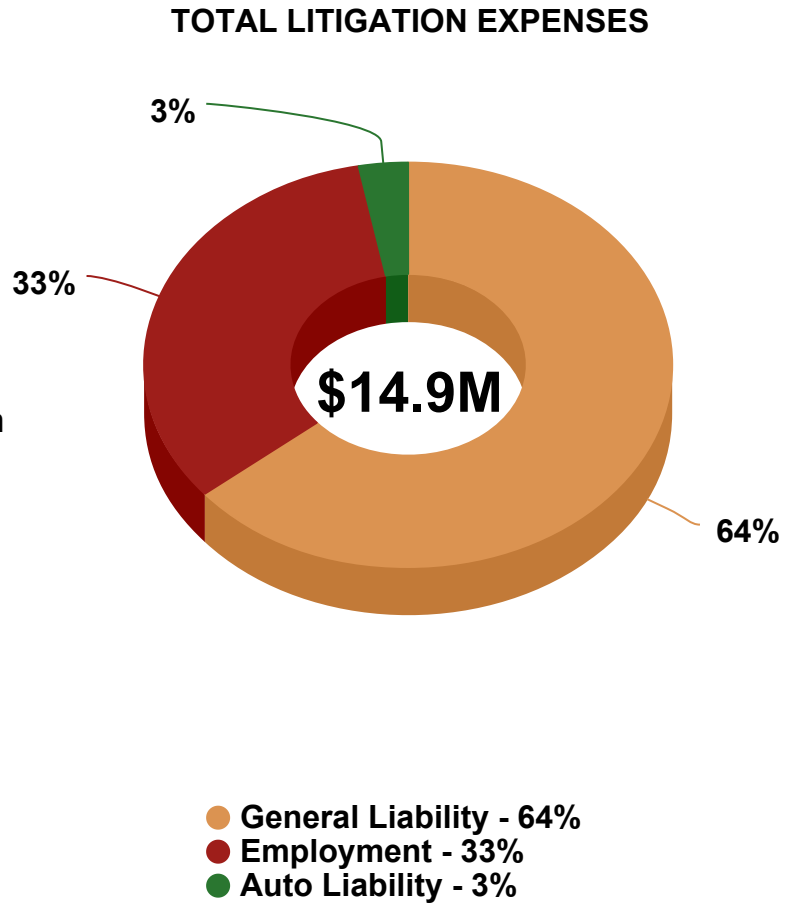
**Total Expenses** — Expenses, consisting of judgments, settlements, attorneys' fees, and costs, for the Department of Children and Family Services ("DCFS") decreased to \$14,887,864 in FY 23-24, from \$42,658,177 in FY 22-23. The four-year average amounted to \$20,079,404.

**Judgments and Settlements** — Judgments and settlements decreased to \$7,057,168 in FY 23-24, from \$36,144,659 in FY 22-23. The four-year average amounted to \$14,401,724.

**Fees and Costs** — Fees and costs increased to \$7,830,696 in FY 23-24, from \$6,513,518 in FY 22-23. The four-year average amounted to \$5,677,680.

**Lawsuits** — Lawsuits rose to 1,604 in FY 23-24, from 427 in FY 22-23. Of the 1,604 lawsuits, 1,556 were General Liability, 26 were Employment, and 22 were Auto Liability.

**Most Expensive Case Types** — General Liability, with total expenses of \$9,519,196, was the Department's costliest case type. General Liability expenses decreased by \$30,277,952 in FY 23-24, from \$39,797,148 in FY 22-23. The second costliest case type was Employment, which had an increase in expenses from \$2,540,838 in FY 22-23, to \$4,864,593 in FY 23-24.



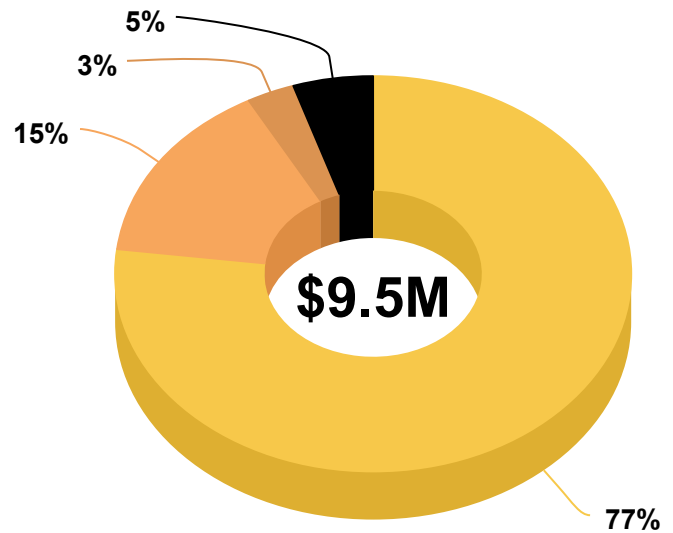
TOTAL EXPENSES	JUDGMENTS & SETTLEMENTS	FEEES & COSTS	LAWSUITS
compared to FY 22-23	compared to FY 22-23	compared to FY 22-23	compared to FY 22-23
↓ 65%	↓ 80%	↑ 20%	↑ 276%

## GENERAL LIABILITY

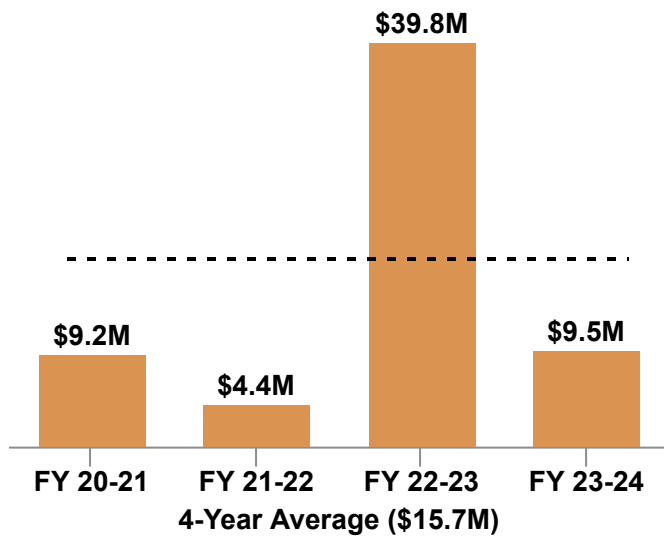
General Liability was DCFS's costliest case type in FY 23-24. The Department spent \$9,519,196 on General Liability lawsuits in FY 23-24, compared to \$39,797,148 in FY 22-23. Of the total spent, \$3,580,768 was for judgments and settlements, and \$5,938,428 was for fees and costs.

The Department defended 1,556 General Liability lawsuits in FY 23-24, up from 376 in FY 22-23.

### EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



### LITIGATION EXPENSES



- Failure to Protect - 77%
- Oversight Fees - 15%
- Civil Rights Violation - 3%
- All Other Case Subtypes - 5%



**GENERAL LIABILITY EXPENSES COMPARISON**

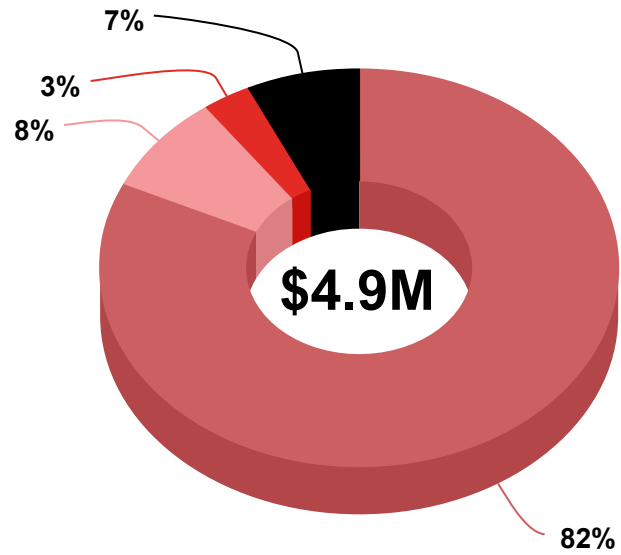
<b>Case Subtype</b>	<b># of Lawsuits</b>	<b>Total Expenses FY 23-24</b>	<b>% Change from FY 22-23</b>
<b>Failure to Protect</b>	<b>1,492</b>	<b>\$7,371,674</b>	<b>-80%</b>
<b>Oversight Fees</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$1,465,826</b>	<b>29%</b>
<b>Civil Rights Violation</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>\$273,112</b>	<b>52%</b>
<b>Breach of Contract</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>\$120,698</b>	<b>47048%</b>
<b>Operations</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>\$95,252</b>	<b>190404%</b>
<b>Removal</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>\$94,552</b>	<b>-92%</b>
<b>Child Abuse Index</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>\$40,200</b>	<b>40%</b>
<b>Denial of Parental Rights</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>\$22,163</b>	<b>-43%</b>
<b>Falsification of Records</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>\$15,204</b>	<b>No Expenses</b>
<b>Professional Misconduct</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>\$9,587</b>	<b>-90%</b>
<b>Negligent Training</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>\$4,622</b>	<b>1734%</b>
<b>Quiet Title</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>\$3,859</b>	<b>No Expenses</b>
<b>Sexual Assault by Employee</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>\$2,447</b>	<b>-90%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,556</b>	<b>\$9,519,196</b>	<b>-76%</b>

# EMPLOYMENT

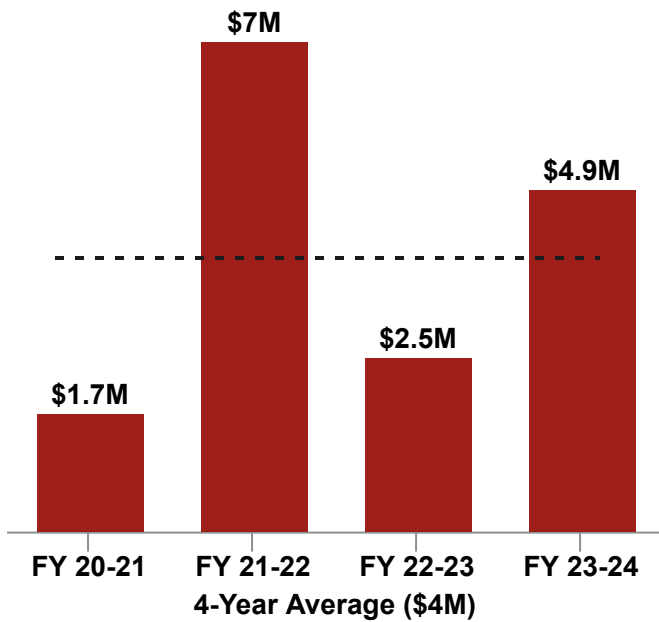
Employment was the second costliest case type for DCFS in FY 23-24. In FY 23-24, the Department spent \$4,864,593 on Employment lawsuits, compared to \$2,540,838 in FY 22-23. Of the \$4,864,593 spent, \$3,324,900 was for judgments and settlements, and \$1,539,693 was for fees and costs.

DCFS defended 26 Employment lawsuits in FY 23-24, down from 31 in FY 22-23.

## EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



## LITIGATION EXPENSES



- Disability Discrimination - 82%
- Retaliation - 8%
- Race Discrimination - 3%
- All Other Case Subtypes - 7%

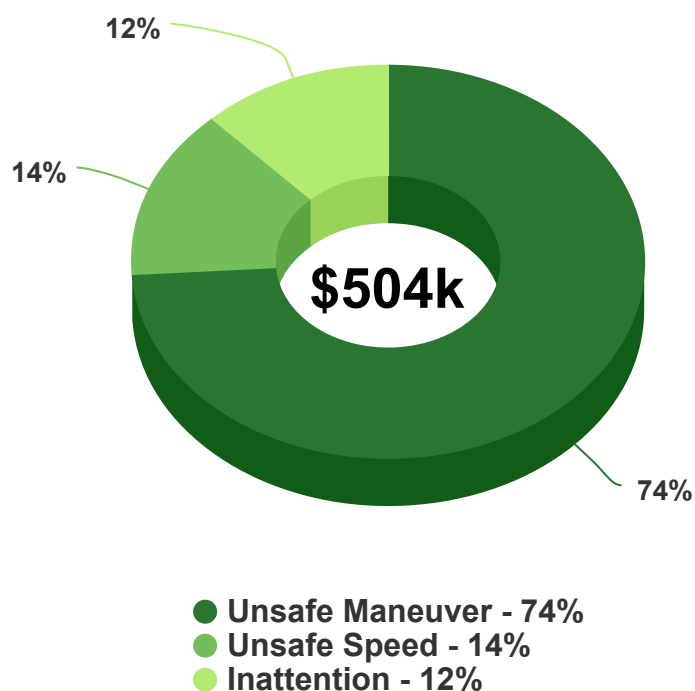
Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 23-24	% Change from FY 22-23
Disability Discrimination	10	\$3,990,033	365%
Retaliation	5	\$373,205	-57%
Race Discrimination	4	\$163,109	-68%
Sexual Harassment	2	\$139,805	-10%
Wrongful Termination	2	\$118,396	113%
Employee Benefits	1	\$61,982	169%
Gender Discrimination	1	\$16,688	-75%
Wrongful Demotion	1	\$1,375	-77%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>\$4,864,593</b>	<b>91%</b>

## AUTO LIABILITY

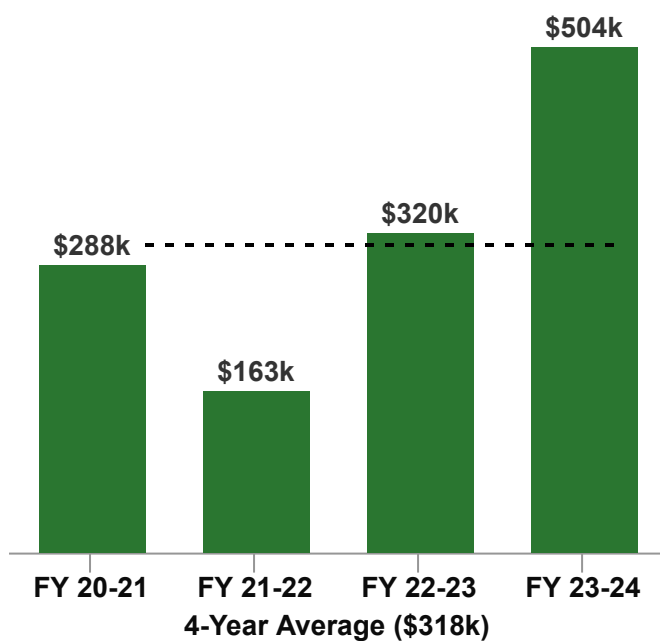
Auto Liability was DCFS's least costly case type in FY 23-24. In FY 23-24, the Department spent \$504,075 on Auto Liability, compared to \$320,191 in FY 22-23. Of the total spent on Auto Liability lawsuits, \$151,500 was for judgments and settlements, and \$352,575 was for fees and costs.

DCFS defended 22 Auto Liability lawsuits in FY 23-24, up from 20 in FY 22-23.

### EXPENSES BY CASE SUBTYPE



### LITIGATION EXPENSES



Case Subtype	# of Lawsuits	Total Expenses FY 23-24	% Change from FY 22-23
Unsafe Maneuver	12	\$370,785	117%
Unsafe Speed	3	\$72,683	-25%
Inattention	7	\$60,607	17%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>\$504,075</b>	<b>57%</b>