



Metropolitan Cases

Melanie De Leon v. Metropolitan **(Court of Appeal, 4th District, Division 1)**

On June 6, 2023, plaintiff/appellant Melanie De Leon (“De Leon”) was involved in a vehicle collision with a Metropolitan employee on the 5 freeway in the City of Santa Ana. De Leon failed to present a government claim to Metropolitan for alleged damages arising from the collision until February 2024. When Metropolitan returned De Leon’s claim as untimely, De Leon filed a Government Code section 946.6 petition in the Orange County Superior Court for relief from the claim presentation requirement. Metropolitan opposed the petition. After briefing and hearing, the trial court denied De Leon’s petition in January 2025.

De Leon appealed the trial court’s denial to the Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District, where De Leon argued that her counsel’s neglect which caused her untimely claim was excusable as a

matter of law. Metropolitan responded to the appellate brief and appeared at oral argument on June 11, 2026.

On June 18, 2026, the Court of Appeal issued a written opinion affirming the trial court’s denial of De Leon’s 946.6 petition on the basis that the trial court did not abuse its discretion when it found that De Leon’s counsel’s neglect was not excusable.

Plaintiff is therefore legally barred from bringing a lawsuit against Metropolitan for damages arising from the June 6, 2023, vehicle collision.

Plaintiff has until July 6 to petition the Court of Appeal for a rehearing, and until July 28 to petition the California Supreme Court for review.

Metropolitan was represented by the Office of the General Counsel during all stages of this proceeding.

Matters Concluded and/or Terminated

Dannelle-Mimi Phan v. Metropolitan **(Los Angeles County Superior Court)**

As previously reported, Phan, a current employee, filed suit against Metropolitan alleging causes of

action arising out of Phan’s employment. The parties thereafter entered into a settlement. As a result, on June 4, 2026, the Los Angeles County Superior Court dismissed the case with prejudice.

Matters Received

<u>Category</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Description</u>
Actions in which MWD is a party	3	Complaint for Damages, Statutory Liability filed in San Bernardino County Superior Court, in the case <i>Melody Shockley v. Gupta Family Trust; City of Chino Hills; County of San Bernardino, State of California, Monte Vista Water District, MWD</i>, Case No. CIVRS2603024, alleging that Plaintiff tripped and fell over a vertical utility access opening embedded in the city of Chino Hills Complaint for (1) General Negligence, (2) Premises Liability filed in Los Angeles Superior Court - Compton, in the case <i>Tatiana Coleman v. City of Lynwood, City of Compton, County of Los Angeles, State of California, California Department of Public Works, MWD, LADWP, SoCal Gas, SCE</i>, Case No. 26CMCV00500, alleging that Plaintiff tripped and fell on uneven, defective, cracked, broken and/or metal plates/pavement in the city of Lynwood



		Complaint for (1) General Negligence, (2) Premises Liability filed in Los Angeles County Superior Court, in the case <i>Lucina Lau v. City of Los Angeles, County of Los Angeles, State of California, California Department of Public Works, LADWP, MWD, SCE, SoCal Gas, Cambridge Properties LP</i> , Case No. 26STCV17908, alleging that Plaintiff tripped and fell on an uneven, raised, broken, deteriorating are of pavement, sidewalk, utility cover in the city of Los Angeles	
Government Code Claims	1	Claim for reimbursement of car rental. Claimant's vehicle was damaged when MWD vehicle hit Claimant's vehicle on Valley View Avenue in La Mirada	
Requests Pursuant to the Public Records Act	25	<u>Requestor</u>	<u>Documents Requested</u>
		Bleux Skye Electric, Inc.	As-Builts and/or inventory maps for MWD facilities
		Center for Contract Compliance (3 requests)	(1) Certified payroll records and contractor's fringe benefit statement of Legacy Tree Care and Landscape, Inc. for work on Eagle Rock Tree Maintenance Services (DIR 20200576815); (2) Bid results, advertisement, proposal, subcontractor and contract award documentation and copies of the bids submitted for Henry J. Mills Water Treatment Plan Fiber Conduits (2077); and (3) Bid advertisement, subcontractor list, and awarded contractor information for Reinforcing Steel Installation the Diemer Water Treatment Plant (2142)
		Chandler Gross	Lease and payment structure of Bacon Island to Lumberg Rice
		Edge Point	Outstanding and returned checks in the amount of \$100.00 or more which remain stale and/or remain outstanding from January 1, 2022 to present
		FOIA Professional Services	Proposal, contract and scoring and evaluation sheets for CyberSecurity Operation Center (CSOC) Support Services (RFP-DH-1367)
		Mundy Consulting	Bid tabulation, proposal and contract award documentation for On-Call Information Technology (IT) Application Support Services (RFQ-DS-1397) from 2025
		MWD Supervisors Association	Correspondence including written memos, digital (emails), text messages and any other reference material related to reclassification/removal from the Supervisors Association
		Neovera, LLC	Winning bidder and contract for RFP-DH-1367



<u>Requestor</u>	<u>Documents Requested</u>
Nossaman LLP	Records regarding any agreements between MWD and the Inland Empire Utilities Agency ("IEUA") regarding the Chino Basin Program of the IEUA including, but not limited to, records related to: (a) the Water Exchange Agreement; and (b) any other agreements between MWD and IEUA related to Chino Basin Program between January 1, 2025 and June 18, 2026
Pinnacle Petroleum, Inc.	Bid tabulation and bidders submitted pricing from MWD's 2026 bid for unleaded and diesel fuel for all MWD fueling facilities; bid submitted by Falcon Fuels in response to MWD 2026 bid for unleaded and diesel fuel for all MWD fueling facilities (RFB-PR-469317)
Private Citizens (5 requests, of which 3 are from the same requester)	Records relating to: (1) PV Reservoir Operations, Nitrification & Flushing Operations, Vibration & Structural Impact, Infrastructure (AMP Pipeline, Upper Feeder, & Skinner); (2) Comprehensive itemized log of all flushing events conducted between August 1, 2023, and November 30, 2023; and (3) Personnel & recruitment records from January 1, 2013 to the present Request for Proposals, evaluation, selection, negotiation, award, and lease of Bacon Island in San Joaquin County that resulted in approval of a lease agreement with Lundberg Family Farms by MWD Board of Directors on or about August 19, 2025; and Records identifying registered municipal bonds issued by MWD that are outstanding, matured-unredeemed, or in a state of non-redemption as of June 24, 2026
Proton (6 requests)	Documents relating to: (1) Proposals, executed contract, task orders, and invoices for Pure Water Program Management - Program Management Support Services (RFP-DH-1330); (2) Proposals, executed contract, task orders, and invoices for Tunnel Design Engineering Consulting Services (RFP-AM-1333) (3) Proposals, executed contract, task orders, and invoices for Progressive Design-Build Services for Lake Mathews Pressure Control Structure and Electrical System Upgrades Project (RFQ 1384);



		<u>Requestor</u>	<u>Documents Requested</u>
			(4) Proposals, executed contract, task orders, and invoices for On-Site Inspection and Construction Contract Administration Services (RFQ-AM-1387) (Requested twice); (5) Proposals, executed contract, task orders, and invoices for Engineering Services for Water Treatment Facilities, Conveyance, Storage, & Distribution Facilities, Large Rotating Equipment, Power Distribution Facilities (RFQ-MN-1404); and (6) Proposals, executed contract, task orders, and invoices for Progressive Design-Build Services for Sepulveda Feeder Pump Stations Project (RFQ 1340)
		Teamster Local 986	Memorandum of Understanding between AFSCME 1902 and Metropolitan Water District
		U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Easement granted to MWD at 15400 Oxnard Street, Los Angeles, CA 91356 (APN 2243-001-903)
Other Matters	1	Wage garnishment	



PLEASE NOTE

- ADDITIONS ONLY IN THE FOLLOWING TWO TABLES WILL BE SHOWN IN RED.
- ANY CHANGE TO THE *OUTSIDE COUNSEL AGREEMENTS* TABLE WILL BE SHOWN IN REDLINE FORM (I.E., ADDITIONS, REVISIONS, DELETIONS).



Bay-Delta and SWP Litigation

Subject	Status
Delta Conveyance Project CEQA Cases	- DWR is the only named respondent/defendant - All alleged CEQA violations - Most allege violations of the Delta Reform Act, Public Trust Doctrine and Delta and Watershed Protection Acts - Two allege violations of the fully protected bird statute - One alleges violations of Proposition 9 (1982) and the Central Valley Project Act - March 27, 2026 order denying DWR's motion to disqualify the Somach, Simmons & Dunn law firm - March 30, 2026 preliminary injunction halting preconstruction geotechnical soil testing vacated, clearing the way for the Design and Construction Authority to resume work - April 2, 2026 Metropolitan and other supporting SWP contractors granted leave to intervene - May 18, 2026 DWR certified the administrative record - May 29, 2026 Case Management Conference - July 6, 2026 deadline to file motions to augment the administrative record - Dec. 31, 2026 deadline to file discovery motions - January 22, 2027 next Case Management Conference
<i>Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District v. California Department of Water Resources</i> (case name for the consolidated cases)	
<i>City of Stockton v. California Department of Water Resources</i>	
<i>County of Butte v. California Department of Water Resources</i>	
<i>County of Sacramento v. California Department of Water Resources</i>	
<i>County of San Joaquin et al. v. California Department of Water Resources</i>	
<i>Sacramento Area Sewer District v. California Department of Water Resources</i>	
<i>San Francisco Baykeeper, et al. v. California Department of Water Resources</i>	
<i>Sierra Club, et al. v. California Department of Water Resources</i>	
<i>South Delta Water Agency and Rudy Mussi Investment L.P. v. California Department of Water Resources</i>	
<i>Sacramento County Superior Ct.</i> (Judge Acquisto)	
3d District Court of Appeal Case No. C101878	
Supreme Court Case No. S294127	
2025 Delta Conveyance Program Revenue Bond Validation	Jan. 6, 2025, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) adopted a new bond resolution Jan. 7, DWR filed a complaint seeking a judgment validating its authority to issue the bonds under the CVP Act 15 answers filed, 10 in opposition and 5 in support June 12, 2025 two motions to dismiss denied Aug. 15, 2025 case assigned to Judge Mennemeier for all purposes
<i>Department of Water Resources v. All Persons Interested, etc.</i>	
<i>Sacramento County Superior Court</i> (Judge Kenneth C. Mennemeier)	



Subject	Status
	Sept. 23, 2025 Case Management Conference Dec. 5, 2025 opening trial briefs Jan. 14, 2026 DWR filed a motion to stay the case pending exhaustion of appellate remedies in the 2020 bond validation case Jan. 21, 2026 hearing on motion for stay and stay granted May 2026 bond resolution rescinded and case dismissed
2024 CESA Incidental Take Permit Consolidated Cases <i>California Sportfishing Protection Alliance, et al. v. California Department of Water Resources, et al.</i> (CEQA, CESA, Delta Reform Act, Public Trust Doctrine) Sacramento County Superior Ct. Case No. 24WM000181 (Judge Arguelles) (Designated lead case for the consolidated cases) <i>San Francisco Baykeeper, et al. v. California Department of Water Resources</i> (CEQA, Delta Reform Act, Public Trust Doctrine) <i>Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority, et al. v. California Department of Water Resources, et al.</i> (CEQA) <i>Central Delta Water Agency and South Delta Water Agency v. California Department of Water Resources</i> (CEQA, Delta Reform Act, Watershed Protection Acts, Public Trust Doctrine)	Cases challenge DWR's Final EIR and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit for the updated Long Term Operations plan for the State Water Project - Oct. 8, 2025 minute order consolidating cases under the <i>California Sportfishing Protection Alliance</i> case name Dec. 12, 2025, case management conference in the consolidated cases <u>June 26, 2026 Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority voluntarily dismissed its case</u> <u>July 24, 2026 hearing on State Water Contractors' motion to intervene</u> June 12<u>Dec. 11</u>, 2026 case management conference
Water Management Tools Contract Amendment <i>California Water Impact Network et al. v. DWR</i> Sacramento County Superior Ct. (Judge Acquisto) <i>North Coast Rivers Alliance, et al. v. DWR</i> Sacramento County Super. Ct. (Judge Acquisto)	- Filed September 28, 2020 - CWIN and Aqualliance allege one cause of action for violation of CEQA - NCRA et al. allege four causes of action for violations of CEQA, the Delta Reform Act, Public Trust Doctrine and seeking declaratory relief - SWC motion to intervene in both cases granted - Dec. 20, 2022 DWR filed notice of certification of the administrative record and filed answers in both cases



Outside Counsel Agreements				
Firm Name	Matter Name	Agreement No.	Effective Date	Contract Maximum
Aleshire & Wynder	Oil, Mineral and Gas Leasing	174613	08/18	\$50,000
Anzel Galvan LLP	Bond Issues	220411	07/24	N/A
Atkinson Andelson Loya Ruud & Romo	Employee Relations	59302	04/04	\$1,316,937
	Delta Conveyance Project Bond Validation-CEQA Litigation	185899	09/21	\$250,000
	MWD Drone and Airspace Issues	193452	08/20	\$50,000
	AFSCME Local 1902 in Grievance No. 1906G020 (CSU Meal Period)	201883	07/12/21	\$30,000
	Ethics and EEO Investigation	222534	01/25	\$50,000
	PRA Issues	222539	02/25	\$110,000
	Sanchez Job Audit Appeal	222551	03/25	\$50,000
	Gutierrez Job Audit Appeal	222552	03/25	\$100,000
	RFIs by AFSCME Local 1902	222554	03/25	\$20,000
	EEO Investigation	226516	05/25	\$25,000
	Advice and Counsel – AB399 Issues	226533	01/26	\$50,000
	Employment Matter	226534	01/26	\$50,000
	Team Manager Leave Premiums Denial HO Appeal	226539	01/26	\$50,000
	Temporary Upgrade Assignment Denial HO Appeal	226540	01/26	\$50,000
	Temporary Upgrade Assignment Standby Denial HO Appeal	231484	01/26	\$50,000
	Desert Medical Credit HO Appeal	231487	01/26	\$50,000
	Employment Matter	231488	03/26	\$50,000
	Employment Matter	231491	04/26	\$50,000
	Employment Matter	231496	05/26	\$50,000



Firm Name	Matter Name	Agreement No.	Effective Date	Contract Maximum
	Employment Matter	231497	5/26	\$50,000
	<u>C&D Mechanics Out of Class (Diemer) HO Appeal</u>	<u>231503</u>	<u>05/26</u>	<u>\$50,000</u>
BDG Law Group, APLC	Gutierrez v. MWD	216054	03/24	\$900,000
	Hagekhalil Defense in Kasaine Litigation	222547	03/25	\$250,000
Best, Best & Krieger	Environmental Compliance Issues	185888	05/20	\$100,000
	Grant Compliance Issues	211921	05/23	\$250,000
	Pure Water Southern California	207966	11/22	\$350,000
	Progressive Design Build	216053	04/24	\$250,000
	Pure Water – SB 149 CEQA Record Preparation	222526	02/25	\$150,000
	Rates and Taxes Advice	226517	05/25	\$50,000
	PWSC Construction Contracting Issues	226524	07/25	\$125,000
	Diamond Valley Lake Groundwater Basin Issues	231486	1/26	\$100,000
	Technology – Contracts and Related Matters	231489	03/26	\$35,000
Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP	Real Property – General	180192	01/19	\$100,000
	Labor and Employment Matters	180207	04/19	\$75,000
	General Real Estate Matters	180209	08/19	\$200,000
	Rancho Cucamonga Condemnation Actions (Grade Separation Project)	207970	05/22	\$150,000
	Foothill Pump Station Condemnation	226522	06/25	\$100,000
	Fakhoury, et al. v. City of Rancho Cucamonga, et al.	226528	12/25	\$100,000
	Ethics Office Investigations	226537	01/26	\$75,000



Firm Name	Matter Name	Agreement No.	Effective Date	Contract Maximum
Law Office of Alexis S.M. Chiu*	Bond Counsel	220409	07/24	N/A
Cislo & Thomas LLP	Intellectual Property	170703	08/17	\$100,000
Davis Wright Tremaine, LLP	Advice and Representation re Potential Litigation	220424	10/24	\$250,000
	Kasaine v. MWD	222543	03/25	\$250,000 \$750,000
	Advice and Representation re Employment -Related Claims	226526	08/25	\$200,000
	Government Code Claim Investigation	226538	02/26	\$150,000
Erin Joyce Law, PC	Ethics Advice	216058	05/24	\$100,000
Haden Law Office	Real Property Matters re Agricultural Land	180194	01/19	\$50,000
Hanna, Brophy, MacLean, McAleer & Jensen, LLP	Workers' Compensation	211926	06/23	\$500,000
Hanson Bridgett LLP	Finance Advice	158024	12/16	\$100,000
	Deferred Compensation/HR	170706	10/17	\$600,000
	Alternative Project Delivery (ADP)	207961	10/22	\$250,000
	Lake Mathews Mining Issues	231485	01/26	\$100,000
Hausman & Sosa, LLP	Villavicencio v. MWD	220426	10/24	\$100,000
	Jensen Operator Standby Removal	222522	10/24	\$100,000
	Villa NOIS Appeal	222553	03/25	\$50,000
	Alberto NOID Appeal	226523	06/25	\$100,000 \$150,000
Hawkins Delafield & Wood LLP*	Bond Counsel	220405	07/24	N/A



Firm Name	Matter Name	Agreement No.	Effective Date	Contract Maximum
Horvitz & Levy	General Appellate Advice	146616	12/15	\$200,000
	Colorado River	203464	04/22	\$100,000
	Delta Conveyance Bond Validation Appeal	216047	03/24	\$25,000
	PFAS Multi-District Litigation – Appeal	216050	03/24	\$200,000
Internet Law Center	Cybersecurity and Privacy Advice and Representation	200478	04/13/21	\$100,000
	Systems Integrated, LLC v. MWD	201875	05/17/21	\$500,000
	General Advice and Counsel	222544	02/25	\$25,000
Jackson Lewis P.C.	Employment: Department of Labor Office of Contract Compliance	137992	02/14	\$45,000
Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP	Bond Counsel	220412	07/24	N/A
Kronenberger Rosenfeld, LLP	Systems Integrated, LLC v. MWD	211920	04/23	\$500,000
Kutak Rock LLP	Delta Islands Land Management	207959	10/22	\$160,000
Lesnick Prince Pappas & Alverson LLP	Kidde-Fenwal Bankruptcy	216061	06/24	\$50,000
Liebert Cassidy Whitmore	Labor and Employment	158032	02/17	\$244,741
	EEO Advice	216041	12/23	\$450,000
Lieff Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein, LLP	PFAS Multi-District Litigation	216048	03/24	\$200,000
Marten Law LLP	PFAS Multi-District Litigation	216034	09/23	\$550,000
	PFAS-Related Issues (PWSC)	220414	08/24	\$150,000
	Perris Valley Pipeline Project	220415	07/24	\$100,000
	PFAS-Related Issues (General)	220413	10/24	\$50,000
Milbank LLP	Colorado River	231490	04/26	\$250,000



Firm Name	Matter Name	Agreement No.	Effective Date	Contract Maximum
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius	Project Labor Agreements	200476	04/21	\$100,000
Musick, Peeler & Garrett LLP	Arvin-Edison v. Dow Chemical	203452	01/22	\$150,000
	Semitropic TCP Litigation	207954	09/22	\$75,000
	Employment Matter	220417	08/24	\$150,000
	Employment Matter	226535	01/26	\$50,000
Nixon Peabody LLP*	Bond Counsel	220404	07/24	N/A
Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP*	Bond Counsel	220407	7/24	N/A
	Pure Water Special Project Finance	226513	05/25	\$200,000
Olson Remcho LLP	Government Law	131968	07/14	\$600,000
	Advice/Assistance re Proposition 26/Election Issues	211922	05/23	\$100,000
Pearlman, Brown & Wax, L.L.P.	Workers' Compensation	216037	10/23	\$100,000
Redwood Public Law, LLP	PRA and Conflicts Issues	222540	02/25	\$150,000
Renne Public Law Group, LLP	Employee Relations and Personnel Matters	216045	01/24	\$50,000
	ACE v. MWD (PERB Case No. LA CE 1729 M)	220421	09/24	\$70,000
	AFSCME v. MWD (PERB Case No. LA-CE-1733-M)	220422	09/24	\$35,000
	AFSCME v. MWD (PERB Case No. LA-CE-1746-M)	222528	11/24	\$35,000
	AFSCME v. MWD (PERB Case No. LA-CE-1774-M)	226515	05/25	\$35,000
	AFSCME v. MWD (PERB Case No. LA-CE-1772-M)	226518	05/25	\$35,000
	AFSCME v. MWD (PERB Case No. LA-CE-1775-M)	226519	05/25	\$35,000



Firm Name	Matter Name	Agreement No.	Effective Date	Contract Maximum
	AFSCME v. MWD (PERB Case No. LA-CE-1776-M)	226520	05/25	\$35,000
	AFSCME v. MWD (PERB Case No. LA-CE-1785-M)	226527	10/25	\$50,000
	Supervisors Association of MWD v. MWD (PERB Case No. LA-CE-1854-M)	226536	01/26	\$50,000
Ryan & Associates	Leasing Issues	43714	06/01	\$200,000
	Unlawful Encroachment on Metropolitan Rights-of-Way	216065	06/24	\$100,000
Seyfarth Shaw LLP	Phan v. MWD	201897	11/04/21	\$700,000
	Claim (Contract #203436)	203436	11/15/21	\$1,000,000
	General Labor/Employment Advice	211917	3/23	\$250,000
	Crawford v. MWD	216035	09/23	\$1,200,000
Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP	Iverson v. MWD	222532	12/24	\$500,000
Snell & Wilmer LLP	Public Records Act Requests	226531	12/25	\$150,000
Stradling Yocca Carlson & Rauth*	Bond Counsel	220408	7/24	N/A
Theodora Oringer PC	Construction Contracts - General Conditions Update	185896	07/20	\$100,000
	Santa Monica Feeder Incident	226526	08/25	\$150,000
Thompson Coburn LLP	NERC Energy Reliability Standards	193451	08/20	\$600,000
Van Ness Feldman, LLP	General Litigation	170704	07/18	\$50,000
	Colorado River MSHCP	180191	01/19	\$50,000
	Bay-Delta and State Water Project Environmental Compliance	193457	10/15/20	\$50,000
	Colorado River Issues	211924	05/23	\$500,000
	Cajalco Road Widening Project	226509	04/25	\$50,000



Firm Name	Matter Name	Agreement No.	Effective Date	Contract Maximum
Wesierski & Zurek LLP	Eight-Vehicle Pile-Up Claims, Rancho Cucamonga	226529	12/25	\$150,000
	General Tort Claims and Litigation Defense Advice	226530	12/25	\$150,000

*Expenditures paid by Bond Proceeds/Finance

**Expenditures paid by another group