



Mayor Timothy M. Keller

CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE
Albuquerque, New Mexico
Office of the Mayor

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/17/2026

TO: Klarissa J. Pena, President, City Council

FROM: Timothy M. Keller, Mayor



SUBJECT: Legal Department's Quarterly Litigation Report for the 1st Quarter of FY 2026
(Greater than 10,000)

Submitted herewith to City Council is the Legal Department's Quarterly Litigation Report for the 1st Quarter of FY 2026 (Greater than \$10,000) as required pursuant to R.O.A. §2-8-1-5.

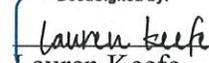
I request that the Quarterly Litigation Reports be presented to City Council for information.

TITLE/SUBJECT OF LITIGATION: Legal Department's Quarterly Litigation Report for the 1st Quarter of FY 2026 (Greater than 10,000)

Approved:


Dr. Samantha Sengel Date
Chief Administrative Officer

Approved as to Legal Form:

DocuSigned by:
 2/18/2026 | 8:23 AM MST
Lauren Keefe Date
City Attorney

Cover Analysis

1. What is it?

Legal Department's Quarterly Litigation Report for the 1st Quarter of **FY 2026** (greater than 10,000)

2. What will this piece of legislation do?

The purpose of the reports are to inform the City Council of litigation developments, i.e., City victories, settlements and judgments during the above-listed period pursuant to R.O.A. §2-8-1-5.

3. Why is this project needed?

See answer 2 above.

4. How much will it cost and what is the funding source?

N/A.

5. Is there a revenue source associated with this Plan? If so, what level of income is projected?

N/A.

6. What will happen if the project is not approved?

N/A

7. Is this service already provided by another entity?

N/A

**LEGAL DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY LITIGATION REPORT
SETTLEMENTS AND JUDGMENTS GREATER THAN \$10,000**

**July 1, 2025 to September 30, 2025
1st Quarter FY26**

Case Name: Zhang, Nan v. City of Albuquerque; D-202-CV-2021-04068			
<u>Type of Suit:</u>	<u>Synopsis of Case</u>	<u>Disposition</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
LIT-Employment/ Discrimination <u>Division / Attorney:</u> Litigation/EMP / Catherine Gonzalez <u>Matter ID / Outside Counsel</u> 10.1321 / Andrea Robeda <u>Department-Client:</u> Police	Claim for discrimination of due age, gender and national origin.	Settled	\$20,000.00
Case Name: Avent, Charles by and on behalf of the Estate of Tommy Avent v. City of Albuquerque, et al.; D-202-CV-2022-03083;			
<u>Type of Suit:</u>	<u>Synopsis of Case</u>	<u>Disposition</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
LIT-Tort/Personal Injury/MVA <u>Division / Attorney:</u> Litigation / Laura Callanan <u>Matter ID /Outside Counsel</u> 10.1496 <u>Department-Client:</u> Police	Claim for damages following a vehicle versus pedestrian accident that occurred while Plaintiff was operating as a tow truck driver.	Settled	\$225,000.00

Case Name: City of Albuquerque and Laura Baca; D-202-CV-2022-02509 Synopsis of			
<u>Case</u>	<u>Type of Suit:</u>	<u>Disposition</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
LIT-Tort/Personal Injury/MVA <u>Division / Attorney:</u> Litigation / Kristin J. Dalton <u>Matter ID / Outside Counsel</u> 31.043 <u>Department-Client:</u> Senior Affairs	Claim for damages following a motor vehicle collision.	Settled	\$10,000.00
Case Name: Candelaria Law, LLC v. Ethan Watson, et al.; D-202-CV-2025-01767			
<u>Type of Suit:</u>	<u>Synopsis of Case</u>	<u>Disposition</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
LIT-IPRA <u>Division / Attorney:</u> Litigation / Ashlee M. Wright <u>Matter ID / Outside Counsel</u> 45.108 <u>Department-Client:</u> Clerk's Office	Claim for violation of IPRA.	Settled	\$30,000.00
Case Name: Coleman, Sundra v. Ethan Watson, as the Designated Custodian of Public Records for the City of Albuquerque; D-202-CV-2023-07761			
<u>Type of Suit</u>	<u>Synopsis of Case</u>	<u>Disposition</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
LIT-IPRA <u>Division / Attorney:</u> Litigation / Kristin J. Dalton <u>Matter ID / Outside Counsel</u> 45.064 <u>Department-Client:</u> Clerk's Office	Claim for violation of IPRA.	Settled	\$248,000.00

Case Name: Cordova, Joyce, v. Lonnie Lane, et. al.; D-202-CV-2024-05124			
<u>Type of Suit</u>	<u>Synopsis of Case</u>	<u>Disposition</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
LIT-Tort/Personal Injury/MVA <u>Division / Attorney:</u> Litigation / Kristin J. Dalton <u>Matter ID / Outside Counsel</u> 12.438 / Katrina Bagley Brown <u>Department-Client:</u> Transit	Claim for damages following a motor vehicle collision.	Settled	\$40,000.00
Case Name: Diouf, Abdou v. Canvas Artistry, LLC, et al.; D-202-CV-2023-00073			
<u>Type of Suit:</u>	<u>Synopsis of Case</u>	<u>Disposition</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
LIT-Tort/Personal Injury/Premises Liab. <u>Division / Attorney:</u> Litigation / Kristin J. Dalton <u>Matter ID / Outside Counsel</u> 11.417 / Sean E. Garrett <u>Department-Client:</u> DMD	Claim for damages following an altercation in a City parking lot.	Settled	\$87,500.00
Case Name: Foster, Elias v. City of Albuquerque and Bridgette Casaus; D-202-CV-2021-05708			
<u>Type of Suit:</u>	<u>Synopsis of Case</u>	<u>Disposition</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
LIT-Tort/Personal Injury/MVA <u>Division / Attorney:</u> Litigation / Kristin J. Dalton <u>Matter ID / Outside Counsel</u> 12.400 / Sean E. Garrett <u>Department-Client:</u> Transit	Claim for damages following a motor vehicle collision.	Settled	\$86,000.00

Case Name: Martin, Wendy v. City of Albuquerque and Russell Calavaza; D-202-CV-2025-01885			
<u>Type of Suit:</u>	<u>Synopsis of Case</u>	<u>Disposition</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
LIT-Tort/Personal Injury/MVA <u>Division / Attorney:</u> Litigation / Ashlee M. Wright <u>Matter ID / Outside Counsel</u> 17.198 <u>Department-Client:</u> Solid Waste	Claim for damages following a motor vehicle collision.	Settled	\$50,000.00
Case Name: Sanchez, Raul A. v. City of Albuquerque; D-202-CV-2024-04790			
<u>Type of Suit:</u>	<u>Synopsis of Case</u>	<u>Disposition</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
LIT-Tort/Personal Injury/Premise Liability <u>Division / Attorney:</u> Litigation / Ashlee M. Wright <u>Matter ID / Outside Counsel</u> 11.453 <u>Department-Client:</u> DMD	Claim for damages after Plaintiff fell at the Old Town Gazebo.	Settled	\$50,000.00
Case Name: Skinner, Shawnie v. Albuquerque Police Department, et al.; D-202-CV-2022-07320			
<u>Type of Suit:</u>	<u>Synopsis of Case</u>	<u>Disposition</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
LIT-IPRA <u>Division / Attorney:</u> Litigation / Kristin J. Dalton <u>Matter ID / Outside Counsel</u> 45.038 / Carl J. Waldhart <u>Department-Client:</u> Clerk's Office	Claim for violation of IPRA.	Settled	\$75,000.00

Case Name: Synergy Investigations NM, LLC v. City of Albuquerque and Ethan Watson; D-202-CV-2025-00625			
<u>Type of Suit:</u>	<u>Synopsis of Case</u>	<u>Disposition</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
LIT-IPRA	Claim for violation of IPRA.	Settled	\$135,000.00
<u>Division / Attorney:</u> Litigation / Kristin J. Dalton			
<u>Matter ID / Outside Counsel</u> 45.107			
<u>Department-Client:</u> Clerk's Office			
Case Name: Zamora, Joshia v. City of Albuquerque and Ethan Watson; D-202-CV-2023-06892			
<u>Type of Suit:</u>	<u>Synopsis of Case</u>	<u>Disposition</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
LIT-IPRA	Claim for violation of IPRA.	Settled	\$50,000.00
<u>Division / Attorney:</u> Litigation / Kristin J. Dalton			
<u>Matter ID / Outside Counsel</u> 45.063 / Carl J. Waldhart			
<u>Department-Client:</u> Clerk's Office			
Total Amount for July 1, 2025 to September 30, 2025:			\$1,106,500.00

**LEGAL DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY LITIGATION REPORT
 SETTLEMENTS AND JUDGMENTS LESS THAN \$10,000
 July 1, 2025 to September 30, 2025
 1st Quarter FY26**

Case Name: Neha, Donovan v. Adam Bell, et al.; D-202-CV-2024-01874			
<u>Type of Suit:</u>	<u>Synopsis of Case</u>	<u>Disposition</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
LIT-Tort/Personal Injury/MVA	Claim for damages following motor vehicle	Settled.	\$1,500.00
<u>Division / Attorney:</u> Litigation / Ashlee M. Wright	accident.		
<u>Matter ID Outside Counsel</u> 12,437	<u>Department-Client:</u> Transit		
Total Amount for July 1, 2025 to September 30, 2025:			\$1,500.00

LEGAL DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY LITIGATION REPORT
CITY VICTORIES
July 1, 2025 to September 30, 2025
1st Quarter FY26

Case Name: Camarena-Cano, Raul A. v. City of Albuquerque Risk Management; D-202-CV-2023-08934		
<u>Type of Suit:</u> LIT-Tort/Property Damages	<u>Synopsis of Case</u> Claim for damage to Plaintiff’s home.	<u>Disposition</u> Dismissal granted in favor of City following motions practice. Court of Appeals affirmed.
<u>Division / Attorney:</u> Litigation / Kristin Dalton		
<u>Matter ID / Outside Counsel</u> 10.1556 / Jonlyn Martinez		
<u>Department-Client:</u> Police		
Case Name: Cano Camarena, Raul A., v City of Albuquerque Risk Management; D-202-CV-2024-00189		
<u>Type of Suit:</u> LIT-Civil Rights and Tort Claims	<u>Synopsis of Case</u> Claim for damages based on seizure of firearm by Bernalillo County Sheriff’s Deputies in 2019.	<u>Disposition</u> Dismissal granted in favor of City, with prejudice, by Second Judicial Court.
<u>Division / Attorney:</u> Litigation / Kristin J. Dalton		
<u>Matter ID / Outside Counsel</u> 10.1576 / Jonlyn Martinez		
<u>Department-Client:</u> Police		
Case Name: Jessie Carter v. City of Albuquerque, et al., D-202-CV-2022-03738		
<u>Type of Suit:</u> LIT-Employment/WPA	<u>Synopsis of Case</u> Claim for violation of the Whistleblower Protection Act.	<u>Disposition</u> City granted summary judgment based on conclusion that APD detectives are not City officials.
<u>Division / Attorney:</u> Litigation/EMP / Catherine Gonzalez		
<u>Matter ID / Outside Counsel</u> 10.1316 / Allison Beaulieu		
<u>Department-Client:</u> Police		

**LEGAL DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY LITIGATION REPORT
CITY VICTORIES**

**July 1, 2025 to September 30, 2025
1st Quarter FY26**

Case Name: Jones, Isabel v. Jordan Trujillo, Alan Moreno and City of Albuquerque; D-202-CV-2024-04532		
<p><u>Type of Suit:</u> LIT-Civil Rights/APD <u>Division /</u> <u>Attorney:</u> _____ Litigation/ Kristin J. Dalton <u>Matter ID /</u> <u>Outside Counsel</u> 10.1611 <u>Department-Client:</u> Police</p>	<p><u>Synopsis of Case</u> Claim for damages following an alleged rape by an APD Officer.</p>	<p><u>Disposition</u> Plaintiff voluntarily dismissed her Complaint.</p>
Case Name: Mahboub, Martha and David Delgado v. City of Albuquerque and Brianna Johnson; D-202-CV-2025-02951		
<p><u>Type of Suit:</u> LIT-Tort/Personal Injury/MVA <u>Division / Attorney:</u> Litigation /Kristin J. Dalton <u>Matter ID / Outside Counsel</u> 10.1695 / Fernando C. Palomares <u>Department-Client:</u> Police</p>	<p><u>Synopsis of Case</u> Claim for damages after motor vehicle accident.</p>	<p><u>Disposition</u> Dismissal with prejudice negotiated by City's Counsel following motions practice on the statute of limitations.</p>

**LEGAL DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY LITIGATION REPORT
CITY VICTORIES July 1, 2025 to September 30, 2025 1st Quarter
FY26**

Case Name: Montoya, Cherie v. New Mexico Department of Transportation, et al.; D-202-CV-2023-05712		
<u>Type of Suit:</u> LIT-Tort/Personal Injury/Premises Liab. <u>Division /</u> <u>Attorney:</u> Litigation /Kristin J. Dalton	<u>Synopsis of Case</u> Claim for damages following a bicycle accident at a railroad crossing.	<u>Disposition</u> Dismissal with prejudice of City of Albuquerque negotiated without settlement.
<u>Matter ID / Outside Counsel</u> 11.446 / Janette A. Duran		
<u>Department-Client:</u> DMD		
Case Name: Murphy, Dennis as PR of the Estate of Evan Hunt v. City of Albuquerque and New Mexico Department of Transportation		
<u>Type of Suit:</u> LIT-Tort/Personal Injury/MVA/Premises Liability	<u>Synopsis of Case</u> Claim for wrongful death damages following a motorcycle accident.	<u>Disposition</u> Order entered Granting City's Motion for Summary Judgment finding there was no waiver of immunity under the Tort Claims Act.
<u>Division / Attorney:</u> Litigation/Laura Callanan.		
<u>Matter ID / Outside Counsel</u> 11.413		
<u>Department-Client:</u> Municipal Development		

**LEGAL DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY LITIGATION REPORT
CITY VICTORIES July 1, 2025 to September 30, 2025 1st Quarter
FY26**

Case Name: New Mexico Property Tax v. City of Albuquerque and Ethan Watson, in his Official Capacity as Records Custodian; D-202-CV-2024-08462		
<u>Type of Suit:</u> LIT-IPRA	<u>Synopsis of Case</u> Claim for violation of IPRA.	<u>Disposition</u> Dismissed for lack of prosecution.
<u>Division / Attorney:</u> Litigation /Laura Callanan		
<u>Matter ID / Outside Counsel</u> 45.103		
<u>Department-Client:</u> Clerk's Office		
Case Name: O'Grady-Leat, April, et al., v. City of Albuquerque, et al.; D-202-CV-2023-01299		
<u>Type of Suit:</u> LIT-Tort/Personal Injury/Premises Liab.	<u>Synopsis of Case</u> Claim for damages based on dog bite.	<u>Disposition</u> Settled. Case tendered to Monarch Properties based on contract to operate the property. Case settled by co-Defendant with no monetary contribution from the City.
<u>Division / Attorney:</u> Litigation /Laura Callanan		
<u>Matter ID / Outside Counsel</u> 20.244		
<u>Department-Client:</u> Family and Community Services		

**LEGAL DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY LITIGATION REPORT
CITY VICTORIES July 1, 2025 to September 30, 2025 1st Quarter
FY26**

Case Name: Perea, Amanda, as Parent and Next Friend of I.P., a Minor v. City of Albuquerque and Ski Santa Fe; D-101-CV-2024-0082		
<p><u>Type of Suit:</u> LIT-Tort/Personal Injury <u>Division</u> <u>/ Attorney:</u> Litigation / Laura Callanan <u>Matter ID / Outside Counsel</u> 13.132 <u>Department-Client:</u> Parks and Recreation</p>	<p><u>Synopsis of Case</u> Claim for damages following an incident that occurred during an outing at Ski Santa Fe that was allegedly planned and sponsored by the City of Albuquerque.</p>	<p><u>Disposition</u> Order granting Defendant City's motion to dismiss for improper venue.</p>
Case Name: Trujillo, David C., v. City of Albuquerque; D-202-CV-2022-06247		
<p><u>Type of Suit:</u> LIT-Tort/Personal Injury <u>Division</u> <u>/ Attorney:</u> Litigation / Laura Callanan <u>Matter ID / Outside Counsel</u> 10.1483 <u>Department-Client:</u> Police</p>	<p><u>Synopsis of Case</u> Claim for damages following an arrest by APD.</p>	<p><u>Disposition</u> Order of dismissal with prejudice entered in favor of City's motion to dismiss based on the insufficiency of the Complaint.</p>