

**ORANGE COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
2223 E. WELLINGTON AVENUE, SUITE 100  
SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA 92701**

**DISABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING  
October 17, 2022  
8:00 a.m.  
MINUTES**

**OPEN SESSION**

Chair called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Recording Secretary administered roll call.

Attendance was as follows:

Present via Zoom Video  
conference pursuant to  
Government Code § 54953, as  
amended by AB 361: Arthur Hidalgo

Also Present: Adele Tagaloa, Chair; Steve Delaney, Chief Executive Officer; Gina Ratto, General Counsel; Suzanne Jenike, Assistant CEO, External Operations; Megan Cortez, Disability Manager; David Acuna, Disability Investigator; Anthony Beltran, Audio Visual Technician; Bill Singleton, Paralegal, Ayanna McGiffert, Recording Secretary

Absent: Jeremy Vallone

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

**MOTION** by Hidalgo, **SECONDED** by Tagaloa, to approve staff's recommendation on all of the following items on the Consent Agenda excluding item DC-10 & DC-12. The motion passed **unanimously**.

**DC-1: KENNETH BURMOOD**

**Assistant Sheriff, Orange County Sheriff's Department (Safety Member)**

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Disability Committee forward to the Board of Retirement a recommendation to:

- Grant service connected disability retirement.
- Set the effective date as January 14, 2022.

**DC-2: LARRY COSTA**

**Deputy Sheriff II, Orange County Sheriff's Department (Safety Member)**

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Disability Committee forward to the Board of Retirement a recommendation to:

- Deny service and non-service connected disability retirement without prejudice due to the member's failure to cooperate.

**DC-3: JOHN GRAY**

**Firefighter/Paramedic, Orange County Fire Authority (Safety Member)**

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Disability Committee forward to the Board of Retirement a recommendation to:

- Grant service connected disability retirement.
- Set the effective date as the day after the last date of regular compensation.

**DC-4: JASON LUONG**

**Correctional Services Assistant, Orange County Sheriff's Department (General Member)**

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Disability Committee forward to the Board of Retirement a recommendation to:

- Grant service connected disability retirement.
- Set the effective date as the day after the last date of regular compensation.

**DC-5: EDDIE MEDRANO**

**Fire Apparatus Engineer, Orange County Fire Authority (Safety Member)**

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Disability Committee forward to the Board of Retirement a recommendation to:

- Grant service connected disability retirement.
- Set the effective date as the day after the last date of regular compensation.

**DC-6: JOHN PATTERSON**

**Deputy Sheriff I, Orange County Sheriff's Department (Safety Member)**

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Disability Committee forward to the Board of Retirement a recommendation to:

- Grant service connected disability retirement.
- Set the effective date as the day after the last date of regular compensation

**DC-7: LEONIKA RECITES**

**Senior Institutional Cook, Orange County Probation Department (General Member)**

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Disability Committee forward to the Board of Retirement a recommendation to:

- Grant service connected disability retirement.
- Set the effective date as June 3, 2022, the day after last date of regular compensation as a Senior Institutional Cook.
- Find the Applicant is capable of performing other duties in the service of the County of Orange pursuant to Government Code Section 31725.65.
- Grant a supplemental disability retirement payment allowance in the amount of the salary difference between the higher and lower paying positions effective June 3, 2022, the date of the position change until the day Ms. Recites wishes to retire from the new position.

**DC-8: TODD RUSS**

**Lieutenant, Orange County Sheriff's Department (Safety Member)**

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Disability Committee forward to the Board of Retirement a recommendation to:

- Grant service connected disability retirement.
- Set the effective date as the day after the last date of regular compensation.

**DC-9: SUZANNE TINKLER**

**Deputy Sheriff I, Orange County Sheriff's Department (Safety Member)**

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Disability Committee forward to the Board of

Retirement a recommendation to:

- Grant service connected disability retirement.
- Set the effective date as April 8, 2022.

**DC-10: JONATHAN TOMER - PULLED**

**Deputy Sheriff II, Orange County Sheriff's Department (Safety Member)**

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Disability Committee forward to the Board of Retirement a recommendation to:

- Deny service and non-service connected disability retirement without prejudice due to the member's failure to cooperate.

**DC-11: ROBERT TWEEDY**

**Sheriff's Special Officer II, Orange County Sheriff's Department (General Member)**

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Disability Committee forward to the Board of Retirement a recommendation to:

- Grant service connected disability retirement.
- Set the effective date as December 27, 2021.

**DC-12: JULIAN VALENCIA - PULLED**

**Deputy Sheriff II, Orange County Sheriff's Department (Safety Member)**

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Disability Committee forward to the Board of Retirement a recommendation to:

- Deny service and non-service connected disability retirement without prejudice due to the member's failure to cooperate.

**DC-13: KELLY ZIMMERMAN**

**Battalion Chief, Orange County Fire Authority (Safety Member)**

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Disability Committee forward to the Board of Retirement a recommendation to:

- Grant service connected disability retirement.
- Set the effective date as March 25, 2022.

**CLOSED SESSION**

The Committee recessed into Closed Session at 8:10 a.m.

**DA-1: INDIVIDUAL ACTION ON ANY ITEM TRAILED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA**

**DA-2: JEFFREY GROSS**

**Disability Investigator, Orange County Employees Retirement System (General Member)**

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Disability Committee refer the matter to a Hearing Officer.

The Committee resumed into Open Session at 8:21 a.m.

**A. REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION**

**DA-2: JEFFREY GROSS**

**Disability Investigator, Orange County Employees Retirement System (General Member)**

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Disability Committee refer the matter to a Hearing Officer.

Ms. Ratto reported that the Committee met in Closed Session and the Committee voted **unanimously to adopt staff's recommendation as presented.**

**B. MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 19, 2022 DISABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Recommendation:** Approve the Minutes.

**MOTION** by Hidalgo, **SECONDED** by Tagaloa to approve staff's recommendation. The motion passed **unanimously.**

**COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

N/A

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER/STAFF COMMENTS**

N/A

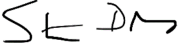
**COUNSEL COMMENTS**

N/A

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 a.m.

Submitted by:

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Steve Delaney

Approved by:

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Adele Tagaloa