



Kenneth W. Jenkins  
County Executive

Office of the County Attorney

John M. Nonna  
County Attorney

OnBase ID #: 113203

March 9, 2026

To: Honorable Members of the  
Board of Acquisition and Contract

From: John M. Nonna  
County Attorney

Re: Request for Authorization to Settle the Federal Lawsuit of Clint Edwards v. County of Westchester, et al., 19-cv-1362 (S.D.N.Y.), in the amount of \$150,000.00.

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Attached for your consideration is a resolution which, if approved by your Honorable Board, would authorize settlement of the federal lawsuit of Clint Edwards v. County of Westchester, et al., 19-cv-1362 (S.D.N.Y.) in the amount of \$150,000.00.

Plaintiff Clint Edwards filed a *pro se* lawsuit under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 in 2019, asserting violations of his Fourteenth Amendment rights as a pretrial detainee by the Westchester County Department of Correction and five individual officers. Plaintiff entered the Westchester County Jail on June 16, 2017 on charges that he had enticed a minor teenager to engage in sexual activity. He alleges he requested to be placed in protective custody upon admission, which request was granted. He subsequently filed numerous grievances in the months that followed, complaining of unhealthy and unsanitary conditions of confinement, his placement in administrative segregation, and the processing of his grievances. On May 25, 2018, Plaintiff alleges that he had a "heated argument" with Defendant Correction Officer Arocho. Later that evening, he was assaulted by another inmate without provocation by Plaintiff. He claims that Officer Arocho incited the assault because he told the inmate why Plaintiff was incarcerated.

A motion to dismiss Plaintiff's conditions of confinement and procedural due process claims was granted in August 2020. In February 2022, the District Court granted summary judgment in Defendant Arocho's favor on Plaintiff's failure-to-protect claim on the ground that Plaintiff failed to exhaust his administrative remedies. On appeal, the Second Circuit reversed both decisions, and the lawfirm of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP thereafter entered a Notice of Appearance to represent Plaintiff as *pro bono* counsel. They filed a Second

Amended Complaint in August 2025. In his Second Amended Complaint, Plaintiff asserted the following claims under 42 U.S.C. § 1983: (1) a deliberate indifference claim under the Fourteenth Amendment against Defendant Arocho; (2) conditions of confinement claims under the Fourteenth Amendment against four individual County Defendants; (3) procedural due process claims under four individual County Defendants; and (4) a Monell claim against Westchester County and the Westchester County Department of Correction (“DOC”).

A motion to dismiss the Monell claims against Westchester County and the DOC was filed. The parties agreed to stay a decision on the motion as well as stay discovery against the five individual County Defendants until a settlement conference was conducted. A settlement conference before Judge Judith McCarthy was held on February 26, 2026. A settlement in principle was reached for \$150,000.00, including attorney’s fees and costs.

In light of the age and posture of this case, the nature of the allegations (particularly the failure-to-protect claim), and the likelihood that this case would eventually proceed to trial, settlement in the total amount of \$150,000.00 is recommended, inclusive of counsel fees.

Plaintiff is represented by several attorneys at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP, 1285 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10019.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 03/19/2026 - RAYMOND SCURRY, SECRETARY

**RESOLUTION**

Upon the communication of the County Attorney, it is hereby:

RESOLVED, that the County Attorney is hereby authorized to settle the lawsuit of Clint Edwards v. County of Westchester, et al., 19-cv-1362 (S.D.N.Y.) by payment from the County of Westchester to counsel for Clint Edwards in the amount of one hundred fifty thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$150,000.00); and it is further

RESOLVED, that the County Attorney or his designee is authorized to execute any documents necessary to implement this resolution.

Original Agreement       \$  
First Amendment        \$  
**This Amendment**        \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL                       \$

Account to be  
Charged/Credited

Fund	Dept.	Unit/Sub- Unit	Object/ Sub- Object	Trust Account	Dollars
<b>615</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>0698/4250</b>	<b>4280/04</b>		<b>150,000.00</b>

Budget Funding Year(s): **2018** Start Date: **01/01/2018** End Date: **12/31/2018**  
(must match resolution)

Funding Source

Tax Dollars \_\_\_\_\_

State Aid \_\_\_\_\_

**\$ 150,000** \_\_\_\_\_

Federal Aid \_\_\_\_\_

(must match resolution)

Other (6N fund) : **\$150,000.00**