

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Tentative Settlement Reached with La Verne Firefighters on Both the State and Federal Lawsuits**

LA VERNE, CA (February 2019) – Yesterday the City of La Verne’s municipal self-insurance carrier, California JPIA, agreed to a tentative settlement with the La Verne Firefighters Association in order to resolve both pending state and federal lawsuits. Those involved in the decision believe this type of resolution will prevent prolonged and expensive proceedings and allow the City to move forward and begin rebuilding bridges with La Verne Fire Department employees. While the City looked forward to our day in court, we ultimately agreed with the CJPIA that it was in the best interests of the community to put this matter behind us.

The agreement that was discussed with the federal judge and which is in the process of being finalized does not represent an out-of-pocket expense to the City. More importantly, the settlement, as confirmed in open court yesterday, reiterates that there was no wrongdoing on the part of the City, Fire Chief Jankowski, or Battalion Chief Thompson.

The La Verne City Council is expected to meet in the coming days in closed session with their legal counsel to go over the settlement in more detail. We feel confident that the leadership team in place will continue to manage the staff with utmost professionalism and an unbending commitment to the residents and businesses of La Verne.

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