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FILED FOR THE CLERK OF
THE CO. OF SUPERVISORS

BY DEPUTY

CLAIM AGAINST THE COUNTY OF KERN

(Government Code §§ 910, 910.2 & 910.4)

This claim must be filed with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, 1115 Truxtun Ave., 5th Floor, Bakersfield, California 93301. If it is a claim for death, injury to person, injury to personal property or injury to growing crops, it must be filed within **six months after the accident or event giving rise to the claim**. If it is a claim for any other cause of action, it must be filed within one year after the event(s) giving rise to the claim. You must complete both sides and sign the claim form for the claim to be valid. Complete information must be provided. If the space provided is inadequate, please use additional paper and identify information by paragraph number. Do not attach medical records or other confidential records to your claim. ANY COMPLETED CLAIM AND ALL ATTACHMENTS WILL BE TREATED AS A PUBLIC RECORD AND WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING BY THE PUBLIC ON THE COUNTY'S WEB SITE.

1. State the name and mailing address of claimant:

Marin Mutts (~~aka~~ Lee Kuhn)

307 H Street

San Rafael CA 94901

2. State the mailing address to which claimant desires notices from the County to be sent:

Marin Mutts

307 H Street

San Rafael CA 94901

3. State the date, place and other circumstances of the accident or event(s) giving rise to the claim.

On 4/15/26, A1244762, "Flareon", received a late-gestation spay by Dr. King at the Kern County Shelter. On 4/21/26, Flareon was admitted to the vet clinic and ultimately had 4/22/26 emergency surgery at the Redwood Vet Hospital for spay complications, sepsis, necrotized tissue requiring lavage of abdomen, caused by retained uterus pieces, poor closure, requiring post-op hospitalization. We are seeking reimbursement for Redwood Vet Hospital costs totalling \$6,369.72.

4. Provide a general description of the injury, damage or loss incurred so far as it may be known:

Violation of BPC Sections 4833 (g) and 4833(i), and possibly (h). Also, 16 CCR Section 2030, Section 2030.05(e) and Section 2006: Dr. King failed in this case to demonstrate practicable skill in the spay surgery, resulting in a life-threatening diagnosis of sepsis and resulting surgical correction with initial damages in the amount of \$6369.72 to save Flareon's life. This is surgical negligence, and/or incompetence (breach of duty) for this dog which led to the resulting injuries and damages. Statistical data supports the claim of the surgical negligence and breach of duty (this result happens in 1% of spays). Dr. King's actions are in violation of BPC Section 4833(i) which prohibits negligence of incompetence in the practice of veterinary medicine. In addition, a bad spay job due to poor sterile technique, inadequate equipment or poor clinical environments violates the Boards' strict minimum standards under 16 CCR Section 2030. Further, under 16 CCR Section 2030.05(e), each licensed veterinarian shall be responsible for their individual violations of the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act or any regulation adopted thereunder.

5. Provide the name or names of the public employee or employees causing the injury, damage or loss, if known:

Dr. King, Kern County Shelter, DVM

6. Regarding the amount claimed (including estimated amount of any prospective injury, damage or loss known as of the time the claim is filed):

6,369.72

If less than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), state the amount: \$

If more than ten thousand dollars, would the claim be a limited civil case (less than \$25,000)? (Circle one)

Yes

No

7. Please state any additional information which may be helpful in considering this claim:

Initial supporting documentation and exhibits attached herein.

Claimant must date and sign below.

Signed this 5th day of October, 2026.

CLAIMANT'S SIGNATURE

BY ORDER OF THE BD/SUPV

Referred To county counsel
12 pages

Copies Furnished Risk man @ just

Date Mailed 10.13.26

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By Michelle J. [Signature], Deputy

**WARNING! IT IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE
TO FILE A FALSE CLAIM (Penal Code §72)**