

September 25, 2023

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Legal Aid Releases List of Current NYPD Members of Service Most-Named in Civil Lawsuits, Members of Service with Highest Lawsuit Payouts from 2013 -July 28, 2023

Report Comes After Legal Aid Released an Analysis on NYPD Lawsuit Payouts Which Have Ballooned to Over \$50 Million from Jan. 1 - July 28, 2023

(NEW YORK, NY) - The Legal Aid Society today released a list of active New York City Police Department (NYPD) members of service (all ranks) who garnered the highest lawsuit payouts and who were defendants in the most civil rights lawsuits alleging police misconduct from 2013 to July 28, 2023, per City <u>data</u>.

This analysis comes after a <u>report</u> released by Legal Aid earlier this month which revealed that the City paid out <u>\$50,523,914 million in lawsuits alleging police misconduct</u> from January 1, 2023, to July 28, 2023. At this rate, payouts for the entirety of 2023 could balloon to roughly \$100 million, and surpass payout amounts for calendar years 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021.

Total payouts for police misconduct are likely to be substantially higher because these data do not account for matters that were settled with the New York City Comptroller's office prior to formal litigation.

"Collectively, these active members of the NYPD have garnered hundreds of lawsuits, costing taxpayers millions of dollars in cases raising shocking allegations of misconduct, yet they are still allowed to wear a badge and carry a gun. It is also deeply concerning that many have attained ranks of sergeant or above," said **Jennvine Wong, staff attorney with the Cop Accountability Project at The Legal Aid Society.** "So long as NYPD leadership continues to allow problematic officers to rise through the ranks and refuses to address the Department's culture of impunity, our clients - the majority of whom are from Black and Latinx communities - will continue to shoulder the consequences and the general public's trust of the NYPD will remain fractured."

Active Members of Service (all ranks) Most-Named in Civil Lawsuits From 2013 - July 28, 2023

Name	# Cases Filed Since 2013	Current Rank	Total Payout Sum
David Grieco	48	Sergeant	\$1,099,825.35
Daniel Rivera	25	Detective	\$505,501
Abdiel Anderson	25	Detective	\$527,500
Jodi Brown	24	Detective	\$1,359,000
Waliur Rahman	23	Detective	\$460,500
Ricardo Bocachica	21	Detective	\$518,364.80
Edmundo Rivera	19	Sergeant	\$683,000
Henry Daverin	19	Lieutenant	\$1,516,500
Wilfredo Benitez	19	Detective	\$482,500
William Schumacher	19	Police Officer	\$337,000

Full list: https://tinyurl.com/3zvwttda

Active Members of Service (all ranks) with the Highest Total Payout Amounts From 2013 - July 28, 2023:

Name	# Cases Filed Since 2013	Current Rank	Total Payout Sum
Pedro Rodriguez	3	Police Officer	\$12,050,000
Edwin Ching	7	Sergeant	\$8,330,751
Ryan Bracconeri	6	Detective	\$8,232,500
Jeffrey Griffin	5	Sergeant	\$8,210,000
Liam Swords	2	Detective	\$8,175,000
William Concannon	7	Detective	\$7,050,000
Michael O'Sullivan	2	Detective	\$4,250,000
Juan Moreno	4	Lieutenant	\$4,179,000
Eugene Keller	3	Detective	\$4,155,000
Michael McManus	3	Police Officer	\$4,125,000

Full list: https://tinyurl.com/3hab7hzy

Lawsuit Allegation Summaries

Lewis et. al. v. City of New York et. al.

In March 2019, three individuals were inside Angeleta Lewis' home when several NYPD officers, including Police Officer Fabian Modesto, James Lukeson and Sargent. David Grieco, allegedly knocked down the front door of the apartment and stormed in with their guns drawn.

According to a civil lawsuit, Modesto, Lukeson and Grieco yelled at everyone to get down on the ground and searched the apartment. The officers inquired about the location of Junior, another family member who did not live in the apartment. Lewis and others explained that they did not know of his whereabouts.

Despite having no arrest warrant, finding no contraband and having no reasonable suspicion that a crime had been committed, Modesto, Lukeson and Grieco handcuffed the aforementioned individuals and drove them in a police van to the 67th precinct.

There, they were subjected to a search and forced to sit handcuffed to the wall for six hours. The officers interrogated them about how to find Junior and unlawfully confiscated Lewis's phone. After Junior voluntarily came to the precinct, Lewis and others were released without any charges filed against them. This lawsuit was settled in 2021.

Payout: \$45,000

Complaint: https://tinyurl.com/48hdc8yc

Edwin Liriano v. City of New York, et. al.

In November 2018, Edwin Liriano alleged he was lawfully visiting the premises of 125 Pine St. in Brooklyn when 13 NYPD officers, including Sergeant William Schumacher, unlawfully handcuffed and arrested him, even though he was doing nothing wrong.

Mr. Liriano pled that he was unjustly ensnared in the criminal legal system for months. He was taken to the 75th Precinct where he was held in custody for two days. He was forced to make appearances in court before the charges against him were eventually dismissed.

Mr. Liriano alleged that he was verbally abused and severely injured during his arrest. He stated that his experience being held in custody and attending court for charges unlawfully brought against caused permanent psychological and emotional damages, rendering him unable to sleep or maintain employment. This lawsuit was settled in 2022.

Payout: \$25,000

Complaint: https://tinyurl.com/5n8tudv7

To learn more about law enforcement misconduct records, Legal Aid's <u>Law Enforcement Lookup (LELU)</u> continues to update and add various new records on a continuing basis available to the general public.

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The Legal Aid Society exists for one simple yet powerful reason: to ensure that New Yorkers are not denied their right to equal justice because of poverty. For over 145 years, we have protected, defended, and advocated for those who have struggled in silence for far too long. Every day, in every borough, The Legal Aid Society changes the lives of our clients and helps improve our communities. <u>www.legalaidnyc.org</u>