

Large California Verdicts

Case Name	Date	Court	Summary of Claims	Compensatory Damages		Punitive Damages	Total Verdict Amount
				Lost Wages	Emotional Distress		
<i>Juarez v. Autozone Stores, Inc.</i>	11/18/2014	S.D. Cal.	The plaintiff was a former store manager alleging harassment and discrimination based on her sex and pregnancy. After learning she was pregnant, a high ranking Autozone executive allegedly said near Plaintiff "what are we running here, a boutique? Get rid of these women."	\$620,000	\$250,000	\$185,000,000	\$185,870,000
<i>Chopourian v. Catholic Healthcare West</i>	2/29/2012	E.D. Cal.	The plaintiff was a physician assistant who alleged a hostile work environment and sexual harassment. Plaintiff alleged she commonly endured vulgarity, obscenity, and other sexually inappropriate behavior from male co-workers (including conversations relating to surgeons' sex lives and other sexual advances.) She further alleged defamation.	\$3,730,488	\$39,000,000	\$125,000,000	\$167,730,488
<i>Diaz v. Tesla Inc.</i>	10/4/2021	N.D. Cal.	The plaintiff was a Black former elevator operator who worked at Tesla's Fremont facility for approximately one year before quitting his employment in 2016. Plaintiff alleged he was subjected to a hostile work environment, testifying at trial that Tesla employees frequently used the "n-word" and that they had drawn swastikas and nooses as well as racially disparaging images in the workplace.	\$0	\$6,900,000	\$130,000,000	\$136,900,000
<i>Khan v. Alki David Productions</i>	12/5/2019	LASC	The plaintiff was a production assistant who claimed she had been sexually harassed and battered in the workplace. Plaintiff alleged defendant would regularly enter her cubicle, turn her chair toward him, and thrust his pelvis toward her face. She also alleged he regularly inappropriately touched her.	\$120,000	\$8,000,000	\$50,000,000	\$58,120,000

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<i>Stewart v. American Association of Physician Specialists, Inc.</i>	2/11/2016	C.D. Cal.	The Plaintiff was a dermatologist who alleged harassment and a hostile work environment. She alleged the group's leadership circulated sexual and racially biased emails and that she was ousted when she attempted to reinstate a whistleblower.	\$26,903,470	\$0	\$20,000,000	\$46,903,470
<i>Rael v. Sybron Dental Specialties, Inc.</i>	6/21/2018	LASC	The plaintiff was a materials buyer for a dental supply company who alleged age discrimination involving comments such as "you are outdated," "we need younger workers here," and "you are part of the old culture."	\$5,282	\$3,084,511	\$28,000,000	\$31,089,793
<i>Tilkey v. Allstate Insurance Company</i>	5/3/2018	San Diego SC	The plaintiff was a former field sales leader who alleged he was wrongfully terminated based on his arrest record for domestic violence and then defamed. Although plaintiff was not convicted of the charges, the company investigated the matter and concluded that plaintiff violated its policy against physical harm or violence and terminated his employment. Plaintiff claimed Allstate impermissibly considered his arrest record when deciding to terminate his employment and that he was forced to defame himself when telling prospective employers about the reason he was terminated – a so-called "self-published defamation" claim.	\$0	\$2,663,137	\$15,978,822	\$18,641,959

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<i>Pearl v. City of Los Angeles</i>	6/14/2017	LASC	The plaintiff was a wastewater collection supervisor for the city of Los Angeles' Bureau of Sanitation who alleged he had been harassed, discriminated against and retaliated against because he had taken part in "protected activities" and because he had filed a complaint with the DFEH. Although his employment was terminated by the Bureau, he successfully appealed the termination and was reinstated. After he was reinstated, he claimed he was the subject of "rampant insults and slurs, verbally and in drawings, that implied he is gay." He allegedly was so distraught that he collapsed at work, went to the hospital and never returned to the job.	\$15,000,000	\$2,400,000	\$0	\$17,400,000
<i>Moland v. McWane, Inc.</i>	6/29/2017	LASC	The plaintiff was an insurance salesman who alleged wrongful termination and defamation. The plaintiff alleged he was frequently called racial slurs, a coworker tried to run him over with a golf cart, and he was discriminated against after the company failed to address his complaints of racism.	\$373,514	\$2,500,000	\$13,800,000	\$16,673,514
<i>Santos-Vidal v. Hongye L.L.C</i>	8/17/2017	LASC	Plaintiff was a maintenance crew and laundry worker who alleged sex discrimination, harassment, and retaliation. She alleged a male employee kept "intentionally entering the women's shower area to watch the female employees showering after their shifts," inappropriately touched her, among other things.	\$44,413	\$15,500,000	\$0	\$15,544,413

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<i>Ramirez v. Jack in the Box, Inc.</i>	4/17/2019	LASC	The plaintiff was a Jack in the Box employee who alleged disability and age discrimination (based on comments like "grandma") and retaliation for reporting a sexually inappropriate work environment (31-year old female restaurant manager was allegedly dating two subordinates, one of whom was 17 years old.)	\$392,801	\$5,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$15,392,801
<i>Pinter-Brown v. Regents of the University of California</i>	2/15/2018	LASC	The plaintiff was a professor who alleged gender/age discrimination and age harassment. Plaintiff was allegedly subjected to various audits and was called a "diva" and "angry woman" after making formal complaint about harassment.	\$3,011,671	\$10,000,000	\$0	\$13,011,671
<i>Jones v. David, Hologram USA, Inc., Filmontv, Inc.</i>	12/15/2018	LASC	The plaintiff was an account executive who alleged a hostile work environment and sexual harassment. She alleged defendant hired a stripper for an office birthday party, inappropriately touched her in the office, placed electric shock collars on employees' necks, among other things.	\$490,000	\$2,500,000	\$8,000,000	\$11,091,300
<i>Meadowcraft v. Silverton Partners Inc.</i>	9/11/2019	LASC	The plaintiffs were a tasting room supervisor and a bartender at a winery who alleged a hostile work environment and sexual harassment. Both plaintiffs alleged their general manager inappropriately touched them and made sexually inappropriate comments based on their appearances.	\$0	\$2,500,000 (each)	\$3,000,000 (each)	\$11,000,000

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<i>Flores v. Office Depot, Inc.</i>	8/29/2014	LASC	The plaintiff was a supply chain manager who alleged discrimination and retaliation after supervisor reacted "harshly" to news plaintiff was taking leave to have a herniated disk surgically repaired. Plaintiff claimed he was fired after complaining about discriminatory behavior by a supervisor.	\$867,000	\$1,064,000	\$8,000,000	\$10,000,000
<i>Leggins v. Thrifty Payless Inc.</i>	7/17/2015	LASC	The plaintiff was a former store manager alleging disability and race discrimination and harassment and retaliation. He alleged that after suffering a neck injury he stopped receiving positive performance reviews and was subjected to racist insults.	\$1,269,128	\$2,500,000	\$5,000,000	\$8,769,128
<i>Torres v. B.E. Aerospace, Inc.</i>	6/2/2016	LASC	The plaintiff was an engineer who alleged age and gender discrimination. Plaintiff worked for Defendant for 24 years before being allegedly pretextually terminated after she claimed her supervisor began showing preference for 25 year-old male employee and began a pattern of demeaning and ridiculing her in front of colleagues.	\$75,000	\$1,441,000	\$7,000,000	\$8,516,000
<i>Ortiz v. Chipotle Mexican Grill, Inc.</i>	5/10/2018	Fresno County SC	The plaintiff was a general manager at a Chipotle Mexican Grill restaurant who alleged wrongful termination and retaliation. Plaintiff was on track to receive a promotion when she filed a workers' compensation claim related to her wrists. After denying her supervisor's request to minimize the injury to her doctors so she could return soon, she was terminated five days before taking leave.	\$1,924,289	\$6,050,000	\$0	\$7,974,539

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<i>Garcia v. Gresham Apartments Investors</i>	9/3/2021	LASC	The plaintiffs were two former live-in apartment managers who sued building owner and property management company for: (1) violation of the employment provisions of the Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA) based upon a physical disability; (2) violation of FEHA – housing discrimination; and (3) wrongful termination. Plaintiffs alleged they had been wrongfully terminated shortly after Mr. Garcia was diagnosed with thyroid cancer and requested accommodations and time off from work. Upon termination, the Garcias alleged they had to leave their rent-free apartment unit, which was provided to them as part of their compensation	\$133,650	\$2,250,000	\$5,250,000	\$7,633,650
<i>Simers v. Los Angeles Times</i>	10/4/2015	LASC	The plaintiff was a former Los Angeles Times sports columnist who alleged age and disability discrimination. Defendant told him to "go easy" or "take it easy" after plaintiff worked long hours in alleged attempt to force out plaintiff.	\$2,137,391	\$7,137,391	\$0	\$7,137,391
<i>Hadsell v. City of Baldwin Park</i>	4/3/2019	LASC	The plaintiff was Baldwin Park's first female Chief of Police who alleged she was harassed based on her gender and ethnicity. Plaintiff alleged a city council member and police sergeant—who was under impression he would be Chief upon former Chief's retirement—colluded to undermine her performance, and that the sergeant created a hostile work environment.	\$1,020,000	\$6,000,000	\$0	\$7,020,000

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<i>Martinez v. Rite Aid Corp.</i>	3/27/2018	LASC	The plaintiff was a pharmacy technician who alleged she was wrongfully terminated, harassed and discriminated against. In 2004, after returning to work following medical leave, Rite Aid transferred plaintiff to four different stores over a 2-1/2 year period. In 2007, plaintiff filed an administrative charge with the EEOC alleging workplace discrimination and harassment. Specifically, she alleged that her direct supervisor had directed derogatory remarks toward her, calling her “crazy,” “psycho,” and “too old,” and threatened that he would “take care of her.” Plaintiff also sent a letter to Rite Aid’s CEO detailing the alleged workplace discrimination and harassment. Four days later, Plaintiff was suspended by the company and then terminated shortly thereafter for her alleged poor work performance and attitude.	\$1,038,258	\$4,974,000	\$0	\$6,012,258
<i>Colucci v. T-Mobile USA, Inc.</i>	8/30/2017	San Bernardino SC	The plaintiff was a store manager who alleged discrimination based on an anxiety-related disability (agoraphobia). Plaintiff was informed he was being transferred from a traditional retail location to a kiosk location in a crowded mall. He was not ultimately transferred, but was subjected to months of alleged bias and pretextual termination.	\$320,042	\$700,000	\$4,000,000	\$5,020,042

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<i>Green v. City of South Pasadena</i>	10/5/2017	LASC	The plaintiff was a police officer who alleged discrimination based on his disability of dyslexia and ADHD. Plaintiff alleged the City never attempted to accommodate his disability, and that officials "openly discussed" and "expressed disdain" for his disabilities.	\$772,000	\$4,000,000	\$0	\$4,772,000
<i>Briley v. City of West Covina</i>	10/31/2018	LASC	The plaintiff was a deputy fire marshal for the city of West Covina who alleged he was retaliated against after he was terminated. Plaintiff claimed he was fired for making complaints over the course of two years about some properties owned by the city that were allegedly violating California fire codes.	\$503,000	\$3,500,000	\$0	\$4,003,000
<i>Palma v. Rite Aid Corp</i>	7/24/2012	LASC	The plaintiff was a 24-year old employee who was diagnosed with a non-work related disability (rheumatoid arthritis) and alleged harassment and discrimination on the basis of that disability. Claimed her manager, a 30 year old man, called her "slow," "lazy," and asked if she "plan[ned] to do this" after she her second leave in six months.	\$522,070	\$3,000,000	\$0	\$3,522,070

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<i>Duffy v. City of Los Angeles</i>	8/11/2013	LASC	The plaintiff was a city gardener who alleged discrimination and harassment based on his disability and race (he was the city's only white gardener). Plaintiff claimed he suffered a head injury at work which caused short-term memory problems and that his foreman, a Hispanic gentlemen, told him he hated white people and then reiterated the statement when someone tried to qualify it.	\$380,000	\$2,875,000	\$0	\$3,255,000
<i>Albarracin v. Fidelity National Financial Inc.</i>	4/13/2018	LASC	The plaintiff was a paralegal who alleged sexual harassment and later faced a "malicious" investigation. During a work-related hotel stay, her supervisor allegedly asked "So, your room or mine?" and made multiple attempts at kissing her.	\$0	\$250,000	\$1,950,000	\$2,200,000