

CYNTHIA H. HARDAWAY, ESQ.  
Military Park Building  
60 Park Place, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Newark, New Jersey 07102  
(973) 672-7963  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
Estate of Barbara Cheryl Patrick

CHEKIRRA D. MITCHELL ALSO  
KNOWN AS CHEKIRA PATRICK,  
ADMINISTRATOR OF THE  
ESTATE OF BARBARA CHERYL  
PATRICK,  
Plaintiff,

v.

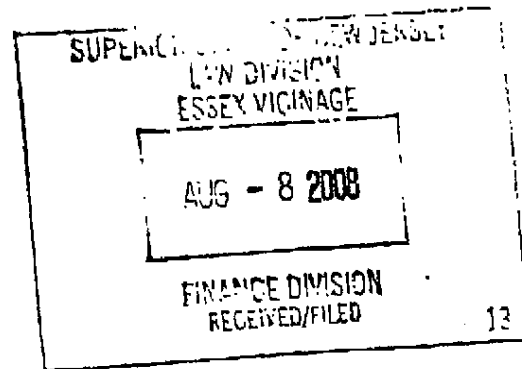
THE CITY OF EAST ORANGE, EAST  
ORANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT,  
POLICE OFFICER S.L. THIGPEN,  
(individually and in his  
official capacity), SERGEANT  
A.Y. SANCHEZ (individually and  
in his official capacity),  
Sergeant Wright (first name  
unknown) (individually and in  
his official capacity),  
Detective John Olivera  
(individual and in his  
official capacity), ESSEX  
COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY,  
JOHN DOES 1 through 10, JANE  
DOES 1 through 10, and  
Corporations ABC through XYZ,  
individually, jointly and  
severally,

Defendants.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY  
ESSEX COUNTY-LAW DIVISION  
DOCKET NO.: 6481-08

CIVIL ACTION

COMPLAINT AND  
JURY DEMAND



Chekirra D. Mitchell, also known as Chekirra Patrick is a citizen of the State of New Jersey, duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Barbara Cheryl Patrick, and residing at 220 Parker Road, Apartment 4-1, City of Elizabeth, State of New Jersey, County of Union, by way of complaint against defendants brings this complaint on behalf of the

deceased Barbara Cheryl Patrick (Patrick) hereby says:

**I. PARTIES TO THE ACTION**

1. The presently deceased Patrick, at all times relevant, was a citizen of the State of New Jersey residing in City of East Orange, State of New Jersey.

2. Upon information and belief, defendant City of East Orange is a municipal corporation in Essex County, New Jersey organized under the laws of the State of New Jersey. Defendant East Orange Police Department's principal place of business is 15 South Munn Ave, East Orange, New Jersey.

3. Defendant Officer S.I. Thigpen, at all times relevant, was employed by the City of East Orange as a police officer.

4. Defendant Sergeant A.Y. Sanchez at all times relevant, was employed by the City of East Orange as a police officer.

5. Defendant Sergeant Wright, at all times relevant, was employed by the City of East Orange as a police officer.

6. Defendant Detective John Olivera at all times relevant, was employed by the City of East Orange as a police officer.

7. Upon information and belief, defendant Essex County Correctional Facility is a municipal corporation in Essex County, New Jersey organized under the laws of the State of New Jersey whose principal place of business is 354 Doremus

Avenue, Newark, New Jersey.

8. Defendants John Does 1 through 10, Jane Does 1 through 10, and Corporations ABC through XYZ, are fictitious names of other individuals who aided and abetted and/or conspired with defendants to deprive the deceased Patrick of her civil rights and are responsible for her wrongful death.

## II. BACKGROUND AND NATURE OF ACTION

9. On August 8, 2007, at approximately 1300 hours, the deceased Patrick was inside of the residence located at 165 N. 16<sup>th</sup> Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, East Orange, New Jersey 07017. Patrick was at the location handling the affairs of her mother who had recently died and had previously resided at the 165 N. 16<sup>th</sup> Street address. Patrick also resided at and was lawfully allowed to be inside the premises of 165 N. 16<sup>th</sup> Street. Patrick's mother was also the lawful owner of the premises. Patrick was her mother's only child and was the only heir to the Estate of her recently deceased mother.

10. While Patrick was inside of the house, defendant Officer S.L. Thigpen arrived on the scene and arrested her for Burglary and Theft. Defendant Officer Thigpen arrested Patrick even though Patrick informed him that the house was owned by her recently deceased mother and that she was responsible for handling the affairs of her mother. Defendant's Sanchez, Wright, and Ortiz was also made aware that Patrick claimed she was lawfully allowed to be inside of

the house. However, said defendant's continued to arrest Patrick and cause false criminal charges to be filed against her.

11. As a result of this incident, plaintiff was falsely charged by the defendant officers with Burglary and Theft. Her bail was set at 25,000. On or around August 9, 2008, Patrick was transferred to the Essex County Correctional Facility. On or around August 12, 2008, Patrick was transferred to the defendant Essex County Correctional Facility. Patrick died while still in the custody of the defendant Essex County Correctional Facility.

12. According to Patrick's amended autopsy report dated February 06, 2008, Patrick died as a result of Acute and Chronic Nephritis. The autopsy report also indicated that defendant suffered from recent injuries consisting of three broken ribs. Upon information and belief, Patrick did not sustain any injury to her ribs prior to her arrest on August 8, 2007. However, it is unclear whether those injuries were sustained while in the custody of the defendants City of East Orange and its defendant officers or Essex County Correctional Facility.

13. Plaintiff filed a timely Notice of Tort Claim upon all named defendants through the City of East Orange, and the Essex County Correctional Facility. With respect to all of plaintiff's federal claims no Notice of Tort claim is required.

### III. INCORPORATION OF ALLEGATIONS

14. All of the allegations in each of the foregoing paragraphs are incorporated by reference into each of the following claims for relief as if fully set forth in each such claim.

#### IV. CLAIMS FOR RELIEF

##### A. FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Assault and Battery-federal and State claims)

15. Upon information and belief, the defendants committed an assault and battery upon Patrick resulting injuries to her consisting of three broken ribs. Such actions of said defendants caused permanent injury to plaintiff.

16. As a proximate result of defendants' actions, Patrick has sustained permanent injuries. These injuries have caused plaintiff great pain and suffering, both mental, emotional and physical.

**WHEREFORE**, plaintiff requests judgment against defendants for compensatory and punitive damages, together with attorney fees and costs of suit and any other and further relief as the Court may deem proper and just.

##### B. SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(false imprisonment and false arrest-federal and state claims)

17. The defendants' actions in illegally detaining and unlawfully arresting Patrick constituted false arrest and false imprisonment. Defendants actions were further committed

with malice, willfulness, and a wanton disregard of the rights of Patrick under both federal and state law.

18. As a proximate result of defendants' actions, Patrick has sustained permanent injuries. These injuries have caused Patrick great pain and suffering, both mental, emotional and physical.

**WHEREFORE**, plaintiff requests judgment against defendants for compensatory and punitive damages, together with attorney fees and costs of suit and any other and further relief as the Court may deem proper and just.

C. THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Illegal Seizure-federal and state claims)

19. The defendant officers, acting under color of law, in arresting Patrick through the use of physical force unlawfully, maliciously, and intentionally subjected Patrick to arrest absent probable cause, the deprivation of liberty, and the use of excessive force in violation of the Fourth, Fifth, and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, and against the laws of the State of New Jersey. Such actions by the defendant officers were committed with wanton disregard for the rights of Patrick.

20. As a result of the foregoing deprivations, Patrick has been permanently injured, damaged or otherwise harmed and unlawfully, which has caused her to suffer anxiety, humiliation, embarrassment, and mental anguish.

**WHEREFORE**, plaintiff requests judgment against defendants

for compensatory and punitive damages, together with attorney fees and costs of suit and any other and further relief as the Court may deem proper and just.

D. FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(breach of duty-wrongful death)

21. The defendant officers breach their duty owed to Patrick to properly investigate the allegations of burglary prior to arresting her. Further, defendants City of East Orange and Essex County Correctional Facility had a duty to provide immediate medical attention to plaintiff's injuries and/or illnesses. Instead, the defendants subjected plaintiff to great pain and suffering by refusing her medical attention for several days, which resulted in her untimely demise while in the custody of defendant Essex County Correctional Facility. Such actions on the part of defendants amounted to negligence, reckless, and/or intentional conduct as against Patrick which also constituted the proximate cause of the injuries suffered. By its conduct, defendant Essex County Correctional Facility further deprived Patrick of her constitutionally mandated federal and state rights to life and liberty. Further, the defendant Essex County Correctional Facility deprived Patrick of her life without due process in violation of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution.

22. As a result of the foregoing deprivations, Patrick has been permanently injured, damaged or otherwise harmed and

unlawfully, which has caused her to suffer anxiety, humiliation, embarrassment, mental anguish, and ultimately death.

**WHEREFORE**, plaintiff requests judgment against defendants for compensatory and punitive damages, together with attorney fees and costs of suit and any other and further relief as the Court may deem proper and just.

E. FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Municipal Liability-federal and state)

23. Defendants City of East Orange and Essex County Correctional Facility, in violation of 42 U.S.C. §1983, and state negligence laws, failed in their duty to Patrick to adequately train, and supervise the defendant officers and Essex County correctional employees, who at all times were acting within the scope of their employment and pursuant to a municipal custom or policy, so as to prevent the violation of the Fourth, Fifth, and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, the laws of the State of New Jersey, and the New Jersey State Constitution. Such a failure on the part of defendants amounted to a deliberate indifference to the constitution rights of Patrick.

24. Defendant City of East Orange and Essex County Correctional Facility is further liable to Patrick under the theory of respondeat superior, and directly liable to Patrick under § 1983 for implementing a policy, followed by the defendant officers and correctional employees, which led to



the deprivation of Patrick's life and liberty in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution.

25. As a result of the foregoing deprivations, Patrick plaintiff has been permanently injured, damaged or otherwise harmed and unlawfully, which has caused her to suffer anxiety, humiliation, embarrassment, mental anguish, and the loss of her life.

**WHEREFORE**, plaintiff requests judgment against defendants for compensatory and punitive damages, together with attorney fees and costs of suit and any other and further relief as the Court may deem proper and just.

F. SIXTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Infliction of Emotional Distress-federal and state claims)

26. All named defendants negligently or intentionally subjected Patrick to emotional distress by falsely accusing her of criminal activity, assaulting her, and illegally detaining her, and preventing her from seeking immediate medical attention for her injuries.

27. As a result of the foregoing deprivations, plaintiff has been permanently injured, damaged or otherwise harmed and unlawfully, which has caused her suffer anxiety, humiliation, embarrassment, mental anguish, and the loss of her life.

**WHEREFORE**, plaintiff requests judgment against defendants for compensatory and punitive damages, together with attorney fees and costs of suit and any other and further relief as the Court may deem proper and just.

G. SEVENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Malicious Prosecution-federal and state claim)

28. Defendants, with actual malice, instituted a criminal action against Patrick, absent probable cause for the proceeding, and said proceeding terminated favorably to plaintiff. Thus, defendants are liable to Patrick, under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and state law, for malicious prosecution.

29. As a result of the foregoing deprivations, Patrick has been permanently injured, damaged or otherwise harmed and unlawfully, which has caused her suffer anxiety, humiliation, embarrassment, and mental anguish, and the loss of her life.

**WHEREFORE**, plaintiff requests judgment against defendants for compensatory and punitive damages, together with attorney fees and costs of suit and any other and further relief as the Court may deem proper and just.

H. EIGHTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Abuse of Process-state claim)

30. Defendants made an improper use of the legal process by initiating criminal charges against Patrick. Defendants were further motivated by malice and an ulterior motive in initiating said legal proceedings.

31. As a result of the foregoing deprivations, Patrick has been permanently injured, damaged or otherwise harmed and unlawfully, which has caused her to suffer anxiety, humiliation, embarrassment, and mental anguish, and the loss of her life.

defendants were responsible for the deprivation of Patrick's rights as guaranteed by the Fourth, Fifth, and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, the New Jersey State Constitution and state law, and in violation of 42 U.S.C. §§ 1983, 1985 and 1986.

**WHEREFORE**, plaintiff requests judgment against defendants for compensatory and punitive damages, together with attorney fees and costs of suit and any other and further relief as the Court may deem proper and just.

JURY DEMAND

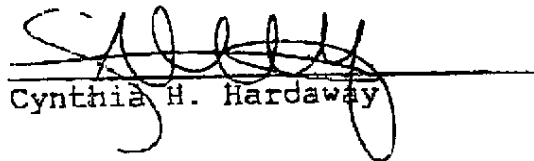
Plaintiff demands a jury trial on all issues so triable.

DESIGNATION OF TRIAL COUNSEL

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Cynthia H. Hardaway, Esq. is hereby designated as trial counsel.

CERTIFICATION

I certify that the within matter is not the subject of any matter pending in any other courts or pending arbitration proceedings. I further certify that there are no known other parties who should be joined in this action.

  
Cynthia H. Hardaway

DATED: August 8, 2008

RECEIVED  
AUG 11 2008  
ESSEX COUNTY

JAMES R. PAGANELLI, ESSEX COUNTY COUNSEL  
BY: ALAN RUDDY, ASSISTANT COUNTY COUNSEL  
HALL OF RECORDS, ROOM 535  
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07102  
(973) 621-5021  
Attorneys for Defendant Essex County Correctional Facility

CHEKIRRA D. MITCHELL ALSO  
KNOWN AS CHEKKIRA PATRICK,  
ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE  
BARBARA CHERYL PATRICK,

:SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY  
:LAW DIVISION: ESSEX COUNTY  
:DOCKET NO. ESX-L-6481-08

Plaintiff

v.

THE CITY OF EAST ORANGE, EAST  
ORANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT,  
POLICE OFFICER S.L. THIGPEN,  
(individually and in his official capacity),  
SERGEANT A.Y. SANCHEZ, individually  
and in his official capacity), SERGEANT  
WRIGHT (first name unknown) (individually  
and in his official capacity), DETECTIVE  
JOHN OLIVERA (individually and in his  
official capacity), ESSEX COUNTY  
CORRECTIONAL FACILITY, JOHN  
DOES 1 through 10, JANE DOES 1 through  
10. and Corporations ABC through XYZ.  
individually, jointly and severally,

CIVIL ACTION

Defendants

v.

ESSEX COUNTY

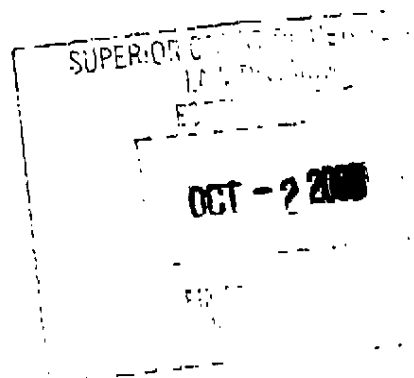
Third-Party Plaintiff

v.

CORRECTIONAL HEALTH SERVICES,  
INC., and JOHN DOE 1-10,

Third-Party Defendant

: ANSWER AND THIRD-PARTY  
: COMPLAINT



The Defendant County of Essex, improperly plead as Essex County Correctional Facility, by way of Answer and Third-Party Complaint, says:

**I. PARTIES TO THE ACTION**

1. Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations of paragraph 1.
2. Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations of paragraph 2.
3. Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations of paragraph 3.
4. Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations of paragraph 4.
5. Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations of paragraph 5.
6. Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations of paragraph 6.
7. Defendant denies the allegations as to the County of Essex in paragraph 7.
8. Defendant denies the allegations as to the County of Essex in paragraph 8.

**II. BACKGROUND AND NATURE OF ACTION**

9. Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations of paragraph 9.
10. Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations of paragraph 10.

11. Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations of paragraph 11.

12. Defendant denies the allegations as to the County of Essex in paragraph 12.

13. Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations of paragraph 13.

### III. INCORPORATION OF ALLEGATIONS

14. Defendant denies the allegations as to the County of Essex in paragraph 14.

### IV. CLAIMS FOR RELIEF

#### A. FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

15. Defendant denies the allegations as to the County of Essex in paragraph 15.

16. Defendant denies the allegations as to the County of Essex in paragraph 16.

**WHEREFORE**, the Defendant, County of Essex demands judgment dismissing Plaintiff's Complaint.

#### B. SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(False imprisonment and false arrest-federal and state claims)

17. Defendant denies the allegations as to the County of Essex in paragraph 17.

18. Defendant denies the allegations as to the County of Essex in paragraph 18.

**WHEREFORE**, the Defendant, County of Essex demands judgment dismissing Plaintiff's Complaint.

#### C. THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Illegal Seizure-federal and state claims)

19. Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations of paragraph 19.

20. Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations of paragraph 20.

**WHEREFORE**, the Defendant, County of Essex demands judgment dismissing Plaintiff's Complaint.

**D. FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

(Breach of duty-wrongful death)

21. Defendant denies the allegations as to the County of Essex in paragraph 21.

22. Defendant denies the allegations as to the Essex County Correctional Facility in paragraph 22.

**WHEREFORE**, the Defendant, County of Essex demands judgment dismissing Plaintiff's Complaint.

**E. FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

(Municipal Liability-federal and state)

23. Defendant denies the allegations as to the County of Essex in paragraph 23.

24. Defendant denies the allegations as to the County of Essex in paragraph 24.

25. Defendant denies the allegations as to the County of Essex in paragraph 25.

**WHEREFORE**, the Defendant, County of Essex demands judgment dismissing Plaintiff's Complaint.

**F. SIXTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

(Infliction of Emotional Distress-federal and state claims)

26. Defendant denies the allegations as to the County of Essex in paragraph 26.

27. Defendant denies the allegations as to the County of Essex in paragraph 27.



**WHEREFORE**, the Defendant, County of Essex demands judgment dismissing Plaintiff's Complaint.

**G. SEVENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

(Malicious Prosecution-federal and state claims)

28. Defendant denies the allegations as to the County of Essex in paragraph 28.

29. Defendant denies the allegations as to the County of Essex in paragraph 29.

**WHEREFORE**, the Defendant, County of Essex demands judgment dismissing Plaintiff's Complaint.

**H. EIGHTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

(Abuse of Process-state claims)

30. Defendant denies the allegations as to the County of Essex in paragraph 30.

31. Defendant denies the allegations as to the County of Essex in paragraph 31.

**WHEREFORE**, the Defendant, County of Essex demands judgment dismissing Plaintiff's Complaint.

**SEPARATE DEFENSES**

**FIRST SEPARATE DEFENSE**

The complaint fails to state a cause of action upon which relief can be granted.

**SECOND SEPARATE DEFENSE**

The complaint is barred by the Statutes of Limitations in N.J.S.A. 59:8-8 and N.J.S.A. 2A:14-2.

**THIRD SEPARATE DEFENSE**

Negligence, if any, on the part of these defendants was not the proximate cause of any injuries which may have been sustained by plaintiff.

**FOURTH SEPARATE DEFENSE**

The complaint is barred by the provision of the New Jersey Tort Claims Act, N.J.S.A. 59:1-1 et seq.

**FIFTH SEPARATE DEFENSE**

Damages, if any, sustained by the plaintiff were the result of the actions of the third parties over whom this defendant exercised no control.

**SIXTH SEPARATE DEFENSE**

Damages, if any, were the result of the sole and/or comparative negligence of the plaintiff.

**SEVENTH SEPARATE DEFENSE**

The defendants assert any and all defenses and limitations made available to it by the New Jersey Tort Claims Act, N.J.S.A. 59:1-1, et seq.

**EIGHTH SEPARATE DEFENSE**

The County of Essex, et al is a public entity and is immune from liability under the provision of N.J.S.A. Sec. 59:23 and 59:3-2 when in the face of competing demands it determines, in the exercise of its discretion the manner in which existing resources, equipment, facilities and personnel shall be utilized.

**NINTH SEPARATE DEFENSE**

The County of Essex is immune from suit pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 59:6 in that it is not liable for injury caused by the failure to make any inspection or the making of any inadequate or negligent inspection of property.

**TENTH SEPARATE DEFENSE**

The actions of the County of Essex, et al. its agents, servants and/or employees to protect against the alleged dangerous condition or the failure to take such actions was not palpably unreasonable.

**ELEVENTH SEPARATE DEFENSE**

The plaintiff is barred from recovery as a matter of law since the alleged claim was not made and perfected in the manner and within the time provided and required by law, statute, rule, regulation or contract upon which it is predicated.

**TWELFTH SEPARATE DEFENSE**

Any recovery to which the plaintiff might otherwise be entitled is subject to the limitations on judgment provided in N.J.S.A. 59:9-2.

**THIRTEENTH SEPARATE DEFENSE**

No liability can be imposed upon these defendants for failure to guard against a dangerous condition since the conditions precedent to the imposition of such liability pursuant to N.J.S.A. 59:4-1, et seq. have not been met.

**FOURTEENTH SEPARATE DEFENSE**

Plaintiff has failed to comply with the procedures for the presentation of claims against public entities mandated by Chapter 8 of the New Jersey Tort Claims Act.

**FIFTEENTH SEPARATE DEFENSE**

The defendants are not liable for injury caused by an approved plan or design in the construction or improvement of public property as set forth in N.J.S.A. 59:4-6.

**SIXTEENTH SEPARATE DEFENSE**

The defendants are not liable for claims arising out of a failure to provide supervision of public recreational facilities, N.J.S.A. 59:2-7 and 3-11.

**SEVENTEENTH SEPARATE DEFENSE**

The defendants are not liable for claims arising out of conditions of any unimproved property, N.J.S.A. 59:4-8.

**EIGHTEENTH SEPARATE DEFENSE**

The defendants are not liable for claims arising out of a failure to provide sufficient equipment, personnel or facilities in a prison or other correctional facilities N.J.S.A. 59:5-1.

**NINETEENTH SEPARATE DEFENSE**

The defendants are not liable for claims arising out of a failure to make an arrest or retain an arrestee in custody, N.J.S.A. 59:5-5.

**TWENTIETH SEPARATE DEFENSE**

The defendants are not liable for claims arising out of a failure to provide medical, or psychiatric facilities nor for failure to provide sufficient equipment, personnel or facilities at such institution, N.J.S.A. 59:6-2.

**TWENTY-FIRST SEPARATE DEFENSE**

The defendants are not liable for claims arising out of a failure to make physical or mental examinations, or a failure to make an adequate physical or mental examination, to determine whether a person has a condition constituting a hazard to the health or safety of anyone, N.J.S.A. 59:6-4.

**TWENTY-SECOND SEPARATE DEFENSE**

The defendants are not liable for claims arising out of a diagnosis, or a failure to diagnose, that one is afflicted with mental illness or drug dependency, or a failure to prescribe therefore, N.J.S.A. 59:6-5.

**TWENTY-THIRD SEPARATE DEFENSE**

The defendants are not liable for claims arising out of a determination whether to confirm one for mental illness or drug dependence, or a determination regarding the terms and conditions of such confinement N.J.S.A. 59:4-5.

**TWENTY-FOURTH SEPARATE DEFENSE**

The defendants are not liable for claims arising out of a failure to provide traffic signals or other markings, N.J.S.A. 59:4-5.

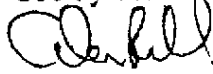
**TWENTY-FIFTH SEPARATE DEFENSE**

The defendants are not liable for claims arising solely from the effect of weather conditions on the use of County roads, N.J.S.A. 59:4-7.

**TWENTY-SIXTH SEPARATE DEFENSE**

Defendants County of Essex, et al., reserves the right to amend its answer and to assert additional defenses and/or supplement, alter or change the answer upon completion of appropriate investigation and discovery.

**JAMES R. PAGANELLI**  
**ESSEX COUNTY COUNSEL**  
Attorneys for Defendant  
County of Essex



Alan Ruddy  
Assistant County Counsel

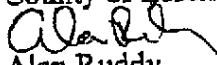
Dated: October 1, 2008

**JURY DEMAND**

The defendants demand a trial by jury as to all issues.

**CROSSCLAIM FOR CONTRIBUTIONS AND INDEMNIFICATION**

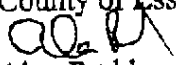
Without admitting any liability whatsoever, this defendant hereby demands from any/all other defendants currently named or to be named to this action both, contribution and indemnification, pursuant to any/all applicable provisions of common law and/or contract and/or statute (including but not limited to The New Jersey Joint Tortfeasors Contribution Act, N.J.S.A. 2A:53A-1, et seq.; The Comparative Negligence Act, N.J.S.A. 2A:15-5.1 et. seq.; The New Jersey Tort Claims Act, N.J.S.A. 59:9-3 and 59:9-4 and/or, by way of demand for complete indemnification against all other defendants currently named or to be named, assert that any negligence on the part of this answering defendant is only secondary, vicarious, and imputed, whereas the negligence of any/all such other defendant was primary, direct, and active.

**JAMES R. PAGANELLI**  
**ESSEX COUNTY COUNSEL**  
Attorneys for Defendant  
County of Essex  
  
Alan Ruddy  
Assistant County Counsel

Dated: October 1, 2008

**NOTICE OF TRIAL COUNSEL**

Please take notice that Alan Ruddy, Esq. is hereby designated as Trial Counsel in the above captioned matter for the Office of the Essex County Counsel, pursuant to Rule 4:24 et seq.

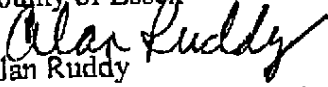
**JAMES R. PAGANELLI**  
**ESSEX COUNTY COUNSEL**  
Attorneys for Defendant  
County of Essex  
  
Alan Ruddy  
Assistant County Counsel

Dated: October 1, 2008



**CERTIFICATION**

I certify that at this time, upon information and belief, this matter in controversy is not the subject of any other action pending in any court or the subject of a pending arbitration proceeding and that no other action or arbitration proceeding is contemplated at this time.

**JAMES R. PAGANELLI**  
**ESSEX COUNTY COUNSEL**  
Attorneys for Defendant  
County of Essex  
  
Alan Ruddy  
Assistant County Counsel

Dated: October 1, 2008

**THIRD PARTY COMPLAINT**

Defendant Third-Party Plaintiff, County of Essex by way of Complaint says:

**FIRST COUNT**

1. Plaintiff, Chekirra D. Mitchell, also known as Chekkira Patrick, Administrator of the Estate of Barbara Cheryl Patrick filed a Complaint, with a Docket No. ESX-L-6481-08, with copy attached hereto.

2. Third-Party Plaintiff is entitled to recover from Third-Party defendants all or part of what plaintiff might recover from third-party plaintiff concerning claims of inadequate health care based upon Federal Constitutional law and state negligence principles.

**WHEREFORE**, Third-Party plaintiff County of Essex demands judgment for such charges, court costs, adjudged liable, attorneys fees, interests, costs and suits and whatever else the Court would deems equitable and just under the circumstances.

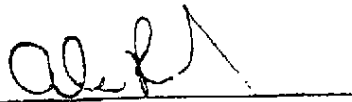
**SECOND COUNT**

1. Third-Party Plaintiff County of Essex repeats and re-alleges all the allegations of paragraph 1.

2. Third-Party defendant CHS, Inc., and Third-Party plaintiff County of Essex entered into a contract to provide medical services at the Essex County Jail. Said contract was in existence at the time of the alleged events noticed in plaintiff's complaint.

3. In said contract Third-Party defendant CHS, Inc., agreed to indemnify and defend any action under the contract.

**WHEREFORE**, Third-Party plaintiff County of Essex demands judgment for such charges, court costs, adjudged liable, attorneys fees, interests, costs and suits and whatever else the Court would deems equitable and just under the circumstances.



Alan Ruddy  
Assistant County Counsel

Dated: October 1, 2008

GRIECO, OATES & DeFILIPPO, L.L.C.  
414 Eagle Rock Avenue  
West Orange, New Jersey 07052  
(973) 243-2099  
Attorneys for Defendants, City of East Orange  
And East Orange Police Department

CHEKIRRA D. MITCHELL ALSO  
KNOWN AS CHEKKIRA PATRICK,  
ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF  
BARBARA CHERYL PATRICK

Plaintiff, :

vs. :

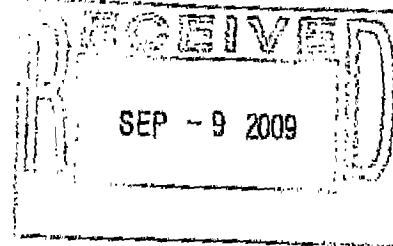
THE CITY OF EAST ORANGE, EAST  
ORANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT,  
POLICE OFFICER S.L. THIGPEN,  
Individually and in his official capacity,  
SERGEANT A.Y. SANCHEZ, individually  
And in his official capacity, SERGEANT  
Darryl WRIGHT, individually and in his official  
Capacity, DETECTIVE JOHN OLIVERA,  
Individually and in his official capacity et als.

Defendants. :

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY  
CIVIL ACTION NO.: 08-5079

Civil Action

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT  
AND RELEASE



THIS SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND RELEASE ("Settlement Agreement") is made and entered into this 7 day of ~~August~~ September, 2009 by and between Plaintiffs CHEKIRRA D. MITCHELL a/k/a CHEKIRRA PATRICK, Administrator of the Estate of Barbara Cheryl Patrick (hereinafter referred to as "PLAINTIFFS" or "RELEASORS"), and Defendants, CITY OF EAST ORANGE, EAST ORANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT, POLICE OFFICER S.L. THIGPEN, SERGEANT A.Y. SANCHEZ, SERGEANT DARRYL WRIGHT, DETECTIVE OLIVERA, (hereinafter referred to as "EAST ORANGE DEFENDANTS" OR "RELEASEES")

### RECITAL

- A. CHEKIRA D. MITCHELL A/K/A CHEKIRRA PATRICK is the plaintiff in an action pending against the EAST ORANGE DEFENDANTS in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey bearing Civil Action No. 08-5079.
- B. The parties hereto desire to enter into this Settlement Agreement in order to provide for certain payment, in full settlement and discharge of all claims against the East Orange Defendants that are the subject of Plaintiff's Complaint in the above captioned action, upon the terms and conditions set forth herein. This settlement is made in full settlement of all claims arising out of the within described lawsuit in which the plaintiff alleges that damages were suffered (hereinafter the "subject incident") as a result of East Orange defendants' actions.

### AGREEMENT

The parties to this lawsuit hereto agree as follows:

#### 1. Release and Discharge

For and in consideration of \$10,000.00, made payable through counsel to Chekirra D. Mitchel a/k/a Chekirra Patrick, Administrator of the Estate of Barbara Cheryl Patrick by and on behalf of the East Orange Defendants, Plaintiff does, for herself and the Estate of Barbara Cheryl Patrick and her heirs, administrators, executors, successors, assigns and insurers, hereby release, acquit and forever discharge RELEASEES from any and all past, present and future claims, suits, demands, losses, costs, charges, complaints, actions, expenses or causes of action, and any other claim whatsoever that has arisen or may arise from or by reason of damages that have resulted or may hereafter result from the subject allegations in the Complaint and for RELEASEESS conduct relating thereto, and for which RELEASOR claims RELEASEES are legally liable in part or in whole.

The consideration for this Release is a full and complete compromise and settlement of any and all of the aforesaid pending, future and possible, known or unknown, claims and matters being released herein.

**RELEASOR** agrees that the aforesaid payment does not constitute an admission of liability, but is made solely as a matter of compromise of disputed claims for which liability is expressly denied by **RELEASEES**. **RELEASOR** further expressly acknowledges that payment of the aforementioned sum constitutes a full and complete satisfaction of any past or continuing obligation on the part of the **RELEASEES**.

**RELEASOR** agrees, through her attorney or representatives, to dismiss all legal actions with prejudice as being fully compromised and settled with respect to **RELEASEES** including, but not limited to, the litigation described in the Recital above.

**RELEASOR** warrants that:

- a) **RELEASOR** has the sole right and exclusive authority to execute this Release and receive the sum specified herein; and
- b) **RELEASOR** has not sold, assigned, transferred, conveyed or otherwise disposed of any claims, demands, obligations, or causes of action referred to in this Release.

2. **Warranty of Capacity to Execute Agreement:**

**RELEASOR** warrants that she has not been induced to execute this Release by any representation, promise, warranty, covenant or agreement made by or on behalf of **RELEASEES** or any other party or person, other than those matters specifically set forth herein.

**RELEASOR** warrants that they she is of legal age, and under no legal disability of any kind, and is fully and completely competent to execute and deliver this Release, and is fully authorized to execute this Release on behalf of the Estate in the litigation described more fully in the Recital above.

3. **General Release:**

RELEASOR hereby acknowledges and agrees that the Release set forth in Paragraph 1 hereof is a General Release as to RELEASEES, and further expressly waives and assumes the risk of any and all claims for damages of which she is aware, and those which RELEASOR does not know of or suspect to exist, whether through ignorance, oversight, error, negligence, or otherwise, and which, if known, would materially affect their decision to enter into this Settlement Agreement. RELEASOR further agrees that payment of the sums specified herein have been accepted as a complete compromise and satisfaction of matters involving disputed issues of the law and fact. RELEASOR fully assumes the risk that the facts and the law may be otherwise than RELEASOR believe them to be.

4. **Dismissal with Prejudice:**

Counsel for RELEASEES have delivered to counsel for RELEASORS herewith a proposed Stipulation of Dismissal, dismissing all of RELEASOR'S claims against RELEASEES with prejudice, which Stipulation of Dismissal shall be executed by RELEASOR'S counsel, returned to RELEASEES' counsel, and filed with the Court and a copy thereof provided to RELEASOR's counsel.

5. **Agreement to Hold Harmless and Indemnify:**

RELEASOR agrees to hold harmless and to indemnify RELEASEES from any claims that may be asserted by RELEASOR against any third-party arising out of or which may arise out of the facts and circumstances set forth in the Complaint. RELEASOR further agrees to satisfy any liens, claims or encumbrances asserted by any third-party relating to or arising out of or which may arise out of the subject incident and/or the alleged conduct of RELEASEES with regard to the subject incident and, as such, will hold RELEASEES harmless and indemnify RELEASEES from any claims or rights asserted against RELEASEES by any third-party asserting such lien, claim or encumbrance. This provision specifically encompasses, but is not limited to, any and all outstanding attorney, medical, and hospital bills relating to the subject incident.

6. **Entire Agreement and Successors in Interest:**

This Settlement Agreement contains the entire agreement between Plaintiffs and East Orange Defendants with regard to the matters set forth herein, and supersedes any prior written or oral agreements,

understandings or arrangements. This Settlement Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the executors, administrators, personal representatives, heirs, successors and assigns of each.

**7. Confidentiality:**

As a condition of this Settlement Agreement, Plaintiff and her attorney hereby agrees not to reveal either the terms and conditions of this Settlement Agreement or the amount or range of amount of said compromise payment and settlement made on behalf of East Orange Defendants to anyone at any time, except insofar as any such disclosure may be required by law.

As a further condition of this Settlement Agreement, the undersigned and their attorneys hereby represent that they have neither disclosed the amount of the settlement nor have, in any manner, publicized the existence of the settlement, other than to indicate that the dispute between the Plaintiffs and East Orange Defendants have been resolved.

It is understood and agreed that all documents, including any drawings, photographs, labels, videos and all written material of every description, and all copies thereof of notes pertaining to this matter, which have been produced by East Orange Defendants in discovery in the within matter shall be returned forthwith to counsel for the East Orange Defendants contemporaneously with the delivery of the executed Settlement Agreement and Release.

**8. Representation of Comprehension of Document:**

In entering into this Settlement Agreement, RELEASOR represents that she has been represented by counsel of her choice at the time of execution of this Settlement Agreement and Release, that the RELEASOR has relied upon the legal advice of such counsel, that the terms of this Settlement Agreement have been completely read and explained to the RELEASOR by said counsel and that those terms are fully understood and voluntarily accepted by the RELEASOR.



Executed this 7<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2009.

Chekirra Mitchell  
By: Chekirra D. Mitchell a/k/a  
Chekirra Patrick  
Plaintiff- Releasor

STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_:

: SS

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_:

Sworn to and subscribed  
before me this 7 day  
of September, 2009

[Signature]  
attorney - New Jersey  
State

Executed this 7 day of September, 2009.

[Signature]  
By: CYNTHIA M. HARDAWY, ESQ.  
Counsel for the Plaintiff- Releasor

Executed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

By: CAROL A. FERENTZ, ESQ.  
Counsel for the East Orange Defendants

Executed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009

By: KEVIN D. HARRIS  
Assistant Corporation Counsel for the  
City of East Orange

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

**CLOSED**

CHEKIRRA D. MITCHELL, Administrator of  
the Estate of Barbara Cheryl Patrick also  
known as CHEKKIRA PATRICK,

Civil Action No.: 08-5079 (JLL)

Plaintiff(s),

**ORDER**

v.

THE CITY OF EAST ORANGE,  
et al,

Defendant(s).

It appearing that it has been reported to the Court that the above captioned matter has been settled:

It is on this *8<sup>th</sup>* day of SEPTEMBER, 2009;

**ORDERED**, that this action be and hereby is dismissed, without costs and without prejudice to the right, upon good cause shown within 60 days, to reopen the action if the settlement is not consummated.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JOSE L. LINARES, U.S.D.J.

Law Offices  
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PENNSYLVANIA OFFICE  
Two Penn Center Plaza  
Suite 1100  
Philadelphia, PA 19102  
(215) 564-0400  
FAX (215) 564-1973

July 30, 2009

Cynthia H. Hardaway, Esquire  
Military Park Building  
60 Park Place, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Newark, NJ 07102

RE: Estate of Barbara Cheryl Patrick v. Essex County, et als v. CHS  
Our File No: 210-9779

Dear Ms. Hardaway:

This will confirm that this case has been settled as to all defendants and third party defendants for a total of \$100,000.00.

The payment split on the settlement is as follows:

\$88,000.00	Correctional Health Services, Inc.
\$10,000.00	The City of East Orange and the Police Officers
\$ 2,000.00	The County of Essex

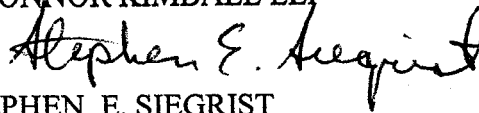
You will receive three releases, one on behalf of Correctional Health Services, Inc., one on behalf of the City of East Orange defendants and one from the County of Essex. I enclose the Release on behalf of CHS for signature by your client.

I enclose for circulation and signature a Stipulation of Dismissal with Prejudice as to all claims and crossclaims and third party claims. Please sign it and forward it on to Alan Ruddy for his signature and ask him to forward it to Carol Ferenz so that the County defendants' attorneys can sign the Stipulation of Dismissal. I ask Carol Ferenz to please return it to me for filing with the Court.

Please provide a W-9 form to me, Carol Ferenz and Alan Ruddy at your earliest opportunity.

If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call.

Very truly yours,  
O'CONNOR KIMBALL LLP



STEPHEN E. SIEGRIST

SES:lac

Enclosure

cc: Alan Ruddy, Esquire  
Carol Ferenz, Esquire  
James N. Barletti, Esquire  
Anthony F. Bellotta, Esquire  
Brenda Coppola Cuba, Esquire