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Orange County District Attorney Todd Spitzer Reaches \$125 Million Agreement in Civil Case against GKN Aerospace Transparency Systems, Inc. and GKN Aerospace, Inc. in Connection with Garden Grove Hazmat Incident that Forced 50,000 Orange County Residents to Evacuate

Parties submitted stipulated settlement to Superior Court judge and are awaiting judicial approval or modifications on proposed stipulated judgment, which includes a \$100 million claims program for evacuees, \$8.47 million for reimbursement of emergency response and abatement costs, a robust safety plan and multi-year monitoring program, and \$15 million in civil penalties.

SANTA ANA, Calif. –Orange County District Attorney Todd Spitzer has reached a \$125 million agreement with defendants GKN Aerospace Transparency Systems, Inc. and GKN Aerospace, Inc. in its civil case against the defense contractor in connection with the corporations' May 2026 hazmat incident which forced the evacuation of more than 50,000 Orange County residents who were forced to evacuate the area surrounding GKN Aerospace Transparency Systems, Inc. as a chemical tank containing an extremely hazardous chemical threatened to explode.

While the parties have agreed to the case settlement terms, the stipulated agreement must be reviewed and approved by an Orange County Superior Court judge before the agreement is final. The civil case was filed in Orange County Superior Court today with the civil complaint along with the terms of the stipulated agreement.

The stipulated agreement marks an important milestone in the District Attorney's Office's efforts to recoup millions of dollars in taxpayer funds spent responding to the Memorial Day weekend hazmat incident by the County of Orange, the Orange County Fire Authority, and the cities of Garden Grove, Cypress, Stanton, Westminster, and Anaheim as well as the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the South Coast Air Quality Management District. It also includes full repayment of \$500,000 in discretionary funds that Orange County First District Supervisor Janet Nguyen expended to aid those affected by this emergency.

The stipulated agreement between the Orange County District Attorney's Office and defendants GKN Aerospace Transparency Systems, Inc. and GKN Aerospace, Inc. includes:

- A claims program of up to \$100 million for the more than 50,000 Orange County residents who were forced to evacuate the area surrounding GKN Aerospace Transparency Systems, Inc. The GKN claims program, which will be administered by an independent third party not affiliated with GKN, will allow

residents and businesses forced to evacuate during the May 2026 incident to be reimbursed for expenses including hotel stays, loss of use, and per diem compensation for meals, transportation, and loss of wages. An estimated 13,000 to 17,000 households were evacuated during a five-day period beginning May 21, 2026.

- \$8,471,385.50 in reimbursement for emergency response and abatement costs
- Seven-year injunction monitoring which includes a robust safety and monitoring plan, requiring an outside expert monitor to maintain oversight over GKN operations for at least the next seven years to ensure all applicable laws and regulations are followed. The \$1.4 million in monitoring costs will be paid by the defendants.
- \$15 million in civil penalties which under Prop. 64 are mandated to be used by OCDA for the enforcement of consumer protection laws.

None of the provisions of the stipulated agreement will go into effect until the agreement receives judicial approval.

Prior to reaching this agreement, District Attorney Spitzer and his environmental team – including prosecutors, investigators and outside chemical safety experts - spent months investigating the May 2026 hazmat incident, including conducting onsite inspections and document review.

From the inception of the investigation, GKN and its counsel have fully cooperated with the District Attorney's investigation.