

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR,  
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

**CASE NO.:**

EDGAR M. PIMENTO, INDIVIDUALLY  
AND AS SPOUSE, AND MARIA A.  
RUBIO, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS  
SPOUSE,

Plaintiffs,  
vs.

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PALM  
BEACH COUNTY,

Defendant.

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**COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

**COMES NOW** Plaintiffs, EDGAR A. PIMENTO, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS SPOUSE, and MARIA A. RUBIO, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS SPOUSE, hereby sue Defendant, THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, and in support allege:

**ALLEGATIONS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS**

1. This is an action for damages in excess of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), exclusive of interest, costs and attorney's fees.
2. That at all times material to the cause herein, Plaintiff, EDGAR A. PIMENTO, was at all material times and remains a resident of Palm Springs, Palm Beach County, Florida, over the age of eighteen (18), and is otherwise *sui juris*.
3. Plaintiff, MARIA A. RUBIO, was at all material times and remains a resident of Palm Springs, Palm Beach County, Florida, over the age of eighteen (18), and is otherwise *sui juris*.

4. Defendant, THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, was and is a municipality meeting the definition as defined by Florida Statutes 768.28, et seq.

5. At all times material hereto, Defendant, THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, owned and/or co-owned a 2021 ICBU Bus (subject bus) which was being operated with its permission, knowledge, and/or consent by its employee, Lonnie W. Owens, at or near Gateway Blvd. and SR 9, in Boynton Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida.

6. On or about April 9, 2025, Lonnie W. Owens, negligently operated and maintained the subject bus when he crashed into the rear of Plaintiffs vehicle while stopped at the red traffic signal.

7. At the time and place, Lonnie W. Owens, was within the course and scope of his employment with Defendant, THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY.

8. At the time and place, Defendant, THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, was vicariously liable for the negligence of its employee, Lonnie W. Owens.

9. Venue is proper in Palm Beach County, Florida, because the conduct from which this cause of action arises occurred in Palm Beach County, Florida, and Defendant, THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PALM BEACH, is located in Palm Beach County, Florida.

10. Plaintiffs, EDGAR M. PIMENTO and MARIA A. RUBIO, notice pursuant to Fla. Stat. Section §768.28 dated April 22, 2025, was sent to Defendant, THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, by certified mail, and a copy to the Florida Department of Financial Services in Tallahassee, Florida. Plaintiff's return receipts indicate Defendant, THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, received said Notice on April 25, 2025, and April 28, 2025. Plaintiff's return receipt indicates the Florida Department of Financial Services received said Notices on May 1, 2025. True and correct copies of said notices and return receipts are attached hereto as Plaintiff's Composite Exhibit A.

11. All conditions precedent to the filing of this lawsuit against Defendant, THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, have been met, satisfied and/or waived.

**COUNT I**  
**EDGAR M. PIMENTO NEGLIGENCE CLAIM**  
**AGAINST THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY**

12. As a result of the negligence of Defendant, THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, and as a direct result of the negligence in the maintenance and operation of the subject motor vehicle, Plaintiff, EDGAR M. PIMENTO, was caused to suffer losses, injuries and/or damages.

13. As a direct, legal, and proximate cause of the negligence of Defendant, THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, Plaintiff, EDGAR M. PIMENTO, sustained significant bodily injuries resulting in pain and suffering, disability, disfigurement, mental anguish, inconvenience, loss of capacity for the enjoyment of life, expenses of hospitalization, medical and nursing care and treatment, loss of earnings, loss of ability to earn money and aggravation of a previously existing condition. Plaintiff, EDGAR M. PIMENTO, has incurred medical expenses in the care and treatment of said injuries; all of said injuries are permanent and ongoing. Plaintiff will continue to incur such damages into the future.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, EDGAR M. PIMENTO, demands judgment for compensatory damages and costs against Defendant, THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, and such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper under the circumstances and furthermore demands trial by jury.

**COUNT II**  
**MARIA A. RUBIO NEGLIGENCE CLAIM**  
**AGAINST THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY**

14. As a result of the negligence of Defendant, THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, and as a direct result of the negligence in the maintenance and operation of

the subject motor vehicle, Plaintiff, MARIA A. RUBIO, was caused to suffer losses, injuries and/or damages.

15. As a direct, legal, and proximate cause of the negligence of Defendant, THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, Plaintiff, MARIA A. RUBIO, sustained significant bodily injuries resulting in pain and suffering, disability, disfigurement, mental anguish, inconvenience, loss of capacity for the enjoyment of life, expenses of hospitalization, medical and nursing care and treatment, loss of earnings, loss of ability to earn money and aggravation of a previously existing condition. Plaintiff, MARIA A. RUBIO, has incurred medical expenses in the care and treatment of said injuries; all of said injuries are permanent and ongoing. Plaintiff will continue to incur such damages into the future.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, MARIA A. RUBIO, demands judgment for compensatory damages and costs against Defendant, THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, and such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper under the circumstances and furthermore demands trial by jury.

**COUNT III**  
**EDGAR M. PIMENTO CONSORTIUM CLAIM AGAINST THE SCHOOL**  
**BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY**

16. At all times material hereto, Plaintiffs, EDGAR M. PIMENTO and MARIA A. RUBIO, have been and remain married.

17. That at all times mentioned herein, Plaintiff, EDGAR M. PIMENTO, was entitled to and has been deprived of the aid, the support, services, society, companionship and consortium of each other, and as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of Defendant, as set forth above, the ability of Plaintiff, EDGAR M. PIMENTO, to render such services and assistance to each other have been permanently impaired.

18. The damages described above have been suffered in the past, are either permanent or continuing in nature, and Plaintiff will suffer such losses in the future.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, EDGAR M. PIMENTO, as spouse, demand judgment for any and all damages against Defendant, THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, and such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper under the circumstances and furthermore demands trial by jury.

**COUNT IV**  
**MARIA A. RUBIO CONSORTIUM CLAIM AGAINST THE SCHOOL BOARD**  
**OF PALM BEACH COUNTY**

19. At all times material hereto, Plaintiffs, EDGAR M. PIMENTO and MARIA A. RUBIO, have been and remain married.

20. That at all times mentioned herein, Plaintiff, MARIA A. RUBIO, was entitled to and has been deprived of the aid, the support, services, society, companionship and consortium of each other, and as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence of the Defendant, as set forth above, the ability of Plaintiff, MARIA A. RUBIO, to render such services and assistance to each other have been permanently impaired.

21. The damages described above have been suffered in the past, are either permanent or continuing in nature, and Plaintiff will suffer such losses in the future.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs, MARIA A. RUBIO, as spouse, demand judgment for any and all damages against Defendant, THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, and such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper under the circumstances and furthermore demands trial by jury.

Dated this 29<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2026.

*/s/ Kelsey Burke Arrieta*  
Kelsey Burke Arrieta, Esq.  
Florida Bar No. 118111

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