

Man wins \$240,000 from Hollywood in police brutality case

By **Susannah Bryan**
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Paul Gozaloff has won a \$240,000 settlement seven years after accusing five Hollywood officers of brutality and false arrest.

Hollywood city commissioners formally approved the deal Wednesday without comment.

"We are very pleased that the City Commission did the right thing," said Chauncey Cole, attorney for Gozaloff. "This is a positive step on the road to reform and justice for victims of police brutality."

Three years ago, Gozaloff filed a federal lawsuit claiming five officers — Joseph Siple, Alexander Chang, Matthew Petty, Travis Schuller and William Cash — attacked him in a "shark-like feeding frenzy" in 2008.

Gozaloff says he did nothing wrong but was jailed on charges of drug possession and obstructing a traffic stop. A judge later tossed out the charges, citing conflicting testimony made by the officers.

Gozaloff, now 54, was putting out campaign signs for then-presidential candidate Rudy Giuliani when he encountered a group of Hollywood cops at a traffic stop.

Gozaloff, who thinks the cops attacked him because they thought he was homeless, says he felt like **Rodney King**.

His lawsuit also claims Siple planted a baggie of Xanax pills on him.