



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SHERIFF CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT COMMISSION
MEETING HELD ONLINE AT THE LINK BELOW:**



<https://bit.ly/2WXvr2g>

<http://coc.lacounty.gov>

Thursday, August 20, 2020

Attachment: [Video](#)

Present: Chair Lael Rubin, Vice-Chair Hernan Vera, Robert Bonner, Patti Giggans, James P. Harris, Sean Kennedy, Priscilla Ocen, Casimiro Tolentino and Executive Director Brian K. Williams.

Absent: Xavier Thompson

1. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Lael Rubin at 9:00 am. Chair Rubin welcomed everyone and announced September 17, 2020, as the next Civilian Oversight Commission (COC) meeting date. She introduced Alex Zuiderweg as the new County Counsel representative for the COC.

Chair Rubin reported on August 3, 2020, the Board of Supervisors (BOS) was notified by the Sheriff that the moratorium on Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) transfers was made permanent. She also noted that the information can be found on the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) website. Chair Rubin noted that 1200 Body Worn Cameras (BWC) will be issued to five different Los Angeles County Sheriff Stations beginning October 1, 2020.

Following the welcome, Chair Rubin requested staff member Erick Montalban to take roll, and Commissioner Sean Kennedy to lead the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance. Following the Pledge, Chair Rubin provided an overview of the virtual meeting guidelines.

- Approval of July 30, 2020, meeting minutes

On a motion of Commissioner Bonner seconded by Commissioner Harris there being no objection, the July 30, 2020 meeting minutes were approved.

[SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS](#)

2. UPDATE, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

2a. Update from Secret Deputy Subgroups Ad Hoc Committee

Chair Rubin informed the Commission that in February 2018 the Sheriff approved a Secret Deputy Subgroups policy to eradicate the groups from the Sheriff's Department. Chair Rubin noted that Chief Matthew Burson and Captain William E. (Bill) Jaeger have been designated by the Sheriff to address allegations of Secret Deputy Subgroups. Chair Rubin introduced Captain Jaeger of the LASD to address the Commission on the issue.

Captain Jaeger introduced himself to the Commission as the Unit Commander of Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB). He went on to inform the Commission of the investigative process conducted by IAB. As for the new policy, Captain Jaeger informed the Commission that there can be no retroactive enforcement of a new policy. Only after a policy is enacted can it be enforced. Captain Jaeger reported that IAB investigates involved parties to determine if deputy actions are improper and to ensure policies and procedures were followed.

Captain Jaeger provided an overview of steps taken by IAB when dealing with deputy subgroups as well as other incidents. He shared with the Commission that when there is a deadly use of force by LASD, various investigative entities are invited to the crime scene during the investigation. He noted that sometimes the investigations take months to complete. Captain Jaeger also stated that IAB monitors the homicide investigation but does not question or investigate deputies, to avoid violating the law or employee rights. He stated that after the District Attorney's office has concluded their investigation, IAB conducts their investigation to determine if deputy conduct was appropriate and within the guidelines of the LASD.

Following Captain Jaeger's statements, the floor was opened for discussion and questions from commissioners.

Vice-Chair Vera suggested requiring all LASD deputies to be required to sign a document twice a year stating they are not engaged in any actions contrary to LASD's policies and procedures.

Commissioner Bonner reminded Captain Jaeger that the Secret Deputy Subgroup policy has been in effect since April 2020, and that any deputy that joins, solicits others to join, or continues to partake, is in violation of the policy and should be disciplined. He also noted that LASD should inform deputies that any involvement in a secret deputy subgroup will result in disciplinary action.

Commissioner Giggans expressed concern over Captain Jaeger's comment regarding the Secret Deputy Subgroup policy as a first step. She also noted that this has been an issue for three years and although there is a policy in place, no additional steps have been taken.

Commissioner Tolentino voiced concerns regarding the lack of urgency concerning the secret deputy subgroup issue and failure to develop steps to

eliminate secret deputy subgroups from the LASD. Commissioner Tolentino suggested developing some questions to the Sheriff related to incorporating discipline guidelines.

Inspector General Huntsman shared with the Commission that he has been requesting LASD to investigate the deputy cliques issue for the last seven years. Mr. Huntsman made reference to the Kennedy Hall incident where 23 deputies were not required to provide statements even though LASD policy mandates it.

There were ten members of the public who addressed the Commission

Following public comment on item 2a, Chair Rubin thanked Captain Jaeger for his input and called for a meeting recess.

The meeting recessed at 10:42 am.

Open session reconvened at 10:57 am.

Present were Chair Lael Rubin, Vice-Chair Hernan Vera, Robert Bonner, Patti Giggans, James P. Harris, Sean Kennedy, Priscilla Ocen, Casimiro Tolentino, and Executive Director Brian K. Williams.

2b. Discussion regarding the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) Budget

Chair Rubin shared with the Commission that the Budget discussion would be rescheduled for another meeting.

There were six members of the public who addressed the Commission.

Following public comment on item 2b Chair Rubin moved to item 3.

3. COMMISSION UPDATES

- Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Brian Williams reminded the Commission about the Annual National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (NACOLE) Conference. He shared with the Commission that COC staff participated in a session on Use of Force and De-escalation techniques. Mr. Williams thanked those individuals who participated in the program and shared with the Commission that the COC will be contributing to one more seminar in September, and details will be provided as they are made available.

Mr. Williams reported that he recently met with some East Los Angeles (ELA) families and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) regarding harassment complaints against the ELA Sheriff's Department. He reported that staff will continue to confer with these families and inform the Commission.

- Inspector General's Report

Inspector General Huntsman shared with the Commission that little progress has been made regarding the subpoenas.

- Commissioner Comments/Ad Hoc Committee Update

Vice-Chair Vera noted that as of August 3, 2020, the moratorium on ICE transfers was made permanent. He thanked the Sheriff and his staff for their efforts. Vice-Chair Vera also thanked staff member Tracy Jordan-Johnson for her assistance.

Commissioner Bonner reported that the 18 Use of Force (UOF) reforms adopted by the Commission were reported to the Sheriff, the BOS and at a recent Public Safety Cluster meeting. He noted that the UOF Ad Hoc Committee contributed to the implementation of Body Worn Cameras, which LASD is preparing to distribute to 5 Sheriff stations beginning October 1, 2020.

Commissioner Ocen reported that the Measure R Ad Hoc Committee met a few times and is in the process of developing a budget to hire consultants and also working to identify key experts and community organizations to assist with the research. Commissioner Ocen will update the Commission as information becomes available.

Chair Rubin reported that the COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee is close to completing their draft report that will be forwarded to this Commission before the next meeting.

Commissioner Giggans reported that the Mental Evaluation Teams (MET) Ad Hoc Committee has not met recently, however, they have been in contact with Lieutenant John Gannon of LASD. She noted that correspondence was sent to the BOS regarding continued funding for MET.

Commissioner Giggans reported that the Family Assistance Ad Hoc Committee has not met since COVID-19, but they expect to meet in the coming weeks.

No members of the public addressed the Commission on item 3.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were ten members of the public who addressed the Commission.

5. MISCELLANEOUS

- Adjournment

Chair Rubin adjourned the Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission meeting at 11:56 am.