



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE SHERIFF CIVILIAN
OVERSIGHT COMMISSION MEETING HELD
ONLINE AT: <https://bit.ly/3MuqKnR>
coc.lacounty.gov**



Thursday, June 16, 2022

Attachment: [Video](#)

Present: Chair Sean Kennedy, Robert Bonner, Irma Hagans Cooper, Luis S. Garcia, Patricia Giggans, James Harris, Jamon R. Hicks, and Executive Director Brian K. Williams

Absent: Lael Rubin

1. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS & CONSENT CALENDAR

Call to Order: Chair Kennedy called the Civilian Oversight Commission (COC) meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and requested staff to call the roll. Kennedy then discussed the code of conduct and moved to the consent calendar.

Approval of Consent Calendar: Chair Kennedy called for approval, there being no objection, the [May 19, 2022](#) and [May 24, 2022](#) minutes were adopted.

Family Impact Remarks: Chair Kennedy reported no one requested to provide family impact remarks. No members of the public commented on item 1, and Kennedy then moved to item 2.

2. REPORTS & POSSIBLE ACTION

2a. Chair's Report

Chair Kennedy advised that he had nothing particular to report, and he then moved to item 2b.

2b. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Brian K. Williams advised that during the last meeting, a motion was passed and the [letter has been sent](#) to Sheriff Alex Villanueva requesting him to instruct all Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) personnel to cooperate with the deputy gangs investigation. Williams also reported that staff will participate in the Supervisorial District 2's Juneteenth celebration. Chair Kennedy then moved to item 2c.

2c. Office of Inspector General (OIG) Report

Assistant Inspector General Mahdi Mohamed discussed [OIG's quarterly report](#) and noted there were six incidents this quarter where LASD personnel shot or shot at people. Eight people were struck by deputies' gunfire, four fatally. Mohamed also stated that Correctional Health Services reported a total of 13 pregnant people at Century Regional Detention Facility (CRDF) as of April 22, 2022. Mohamed discussed updated prenatal diets, improved access to bottled water and the need for LASD to formalize the policy to ensure appropriate out of cell time to

allow for pregnant people to exercise. Mr. Mohamed also discussed the inequitable representation of people in custody at CRDF engaged in time credit earning programming based on race and ethnicity.

Mr. Mohamed then [reported on LASD's underreporting of civilian stop data](#) for the California Assembly Bill 953 entitled Racial Identity Profiling Act (RIPA) requiring LASD to track and report certain data to the State. Mohamed reported multiple discrepancies were identified in the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD), which is the primary tracking system used by LASD. Mr. Mohamed reported a new system "Sheriff's Automated Contact Reporting System (SACRS)" was developed by LASD to offset the current system, but the two systems were not compatible. Mohamed discussed concerns regarding both systems and provided recommendations for improvement.

Following Mr. Mohamed's comments, Chair Kennedy moved to commissioner questions. Commissioner Cooper inquired if LASD has considered replacing the system, and Mr. Mohamed advised that they are looking into upgrading the system. Commissioner Bonner inquired if the (California) Attorney General is monitoring LASD compliance, and Mr. Mohamed advised the issue was not flagged until OIG identified discrepancies. Commissioner Harris expressed concern over the tracking system and stated that the LASD budget identified the CAD replacement as an unmet need. Following Commissioner questions, Chair Kennedy moved to item 2d.

2d. Commissioner Comments / [Ad Hoc Committee Updates](#)

Commissioner Bonner reported the subpoenas issued at the last special hearing were accepted electronically and advised the fourth subpoena issued is being served.

Commissioner Harris commented on the urgency to replace the tracking system and stated that LASD reported that more than 13 million dollars is needed for the CAD replacement project. Following the updates, Chair Kennedy opened the floor for Commissioner questions.

Commissioner Harris made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bonner to fund the CAD replacement project. Commissioner Garcia expressed the importance of utilizing 21st century technology and the need for the "Board and the County to move in that direction." Following Commissioner comments, Chair Kennedy moved to public comment. There were three members of the public who commented on this item.

Following public comment, Chair Kennedy called for a vote on the motion to recommend the Board of Supervisors (BOS) fund LASD's Budget Request, Unmet Need #5: Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) Replacement Project and that LASD make replacement a priority. The motion passed unanimously, with the absence of Commissioner Rubin.

Chair Kennedy reported two special hearings on deputy gangs have taken place and a third is scheduled on July 1, 2022 at Loyola Law School. Chair Kennedy then moved to item 2e.

2e. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Update

Chair Kennedy called for LASD updates. Mr. Williams stated LASD is invited to attend every COC meeting. There being no LASD comments, Chair Kennedy moved to item 2f.

2f. County Counsel Updates / Reports

County Counsel's Danielle Vappie provided an update on enforcement of the subpoena issued to retired LASD Chief Matthew Burson and that it should be filed next week. Chair Kennedy recalled Mr. Burson was subpoenaed to appear at the June 10, 2022 special hearing on deputy gangs, but defied the subpoena. Chair Kennedy moved to item 3a.

3. DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION

3a. Nominations for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair of the Commission

Chair Kennedy called for Chair and Vice Chair nominations. Commissioner Bonner nominated Sean Kennedy for Chair, seconded by Commissioner Harris. Commissioner Harris nominated Jamon Hicks for Vice Chair, seconded by Commissioner Bonner.

Following nominations, Chair Kennedy moved to public comment. There were no requests for public comments on this item.

Because there was only one nomination per position, the election was held. Chair Kennedy called for a vote to elect the Chair and Vice Chair, which was unanimous with the absence of Commissioner Rubin. Following the vote, Chair Kennedy moved to item 3b.

3b. Request for Sybil Brand Commission Jail Inspections in furtherance of the BOS motion of November 2, 2021 to conduct a survey in the County jails

Mr. Williams advised that a [BOS motion dated November 2, 2021](#), tasked the Sybil Brand Commission (SBC) in conjunction with the COC to conduct a survey of the services offered to people housed in the jail system. Mr. Williams discussed the [Motion to request the SBC visit the jails to conduct a survey](#) and advised that per County ordinance, SBC members can only visit the jail twice per month and may assist with inspections at the request of the COC or the OIG. Following Mr. Williams' comments, Chair Kennedy moved to Commissioner comments.

Commissioner Bonner questioned which entity is responsible for oversight of the jails. Mr. Williams advised the COC works closely with SBC and OIG, but COC does not have authority to visit the jails. Inspector General Max Huntsman reported that OIG is the executive branch that conducts investigations on behalf of the COC and that SBC is a secondary investigative body. Commissioner Garcia inquired if both men and women will be surveyed. Chair Kennedy stated that investigating the conditions in jails is an important issue.

The [request for SBC to conduct as many jail inspections as necessary to complete the survey](#) was moved by Commissioner Harris, seconded by Commissioner Cooper. Chair Kennedy then moved to public comment, however there were no requests for public comments on this item.

Chair Kennedy then called for a vote on the motion, which passed with Commissioner Bonner abstaining and Commissioner Rubin absent.

Chair Kennedy then called for a 15-minute recess, from 10:05 to 10:20 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 10:20am, present were Chair Sean Kennedy, Robert Bonner, Irma Hagans Cooper, Patti Giggans, Luis S. Garcia, James P. Harris, Jamon R. Hicks and Executive Director Brian K. Williams. Following the break, Commissioner Harris advised that Chair Kennedy had to step away and requested Commissioner Harris continue with item 3c until his return.

3c. Discussion regarding LASD Deputy Presence in Los Angeles County Schools

Commissioner Harris called on Assistant Inspector General Mahdi Mohamed, who discussed the use of force incident where an LASD school resource deputy body slammed a Black student at Lancaster High School. He reported meeting with LASD days after the incident to request information and body worn camera footage to assist with the OIG's investigation of the incident, and he advised the information requested was not provided at that time. Mr. Mohamed discussed the [OIG report on racial disparities in contacts with students by LASD's Lancaster Station](#) and stated that Black students in Lancaster are disproportionately contacted by deputies and punished for school discipline issues. Mr. Mohamed discussed a news article and noted OIG conducted an independent review of LASD's automated contact reporting system (SACRS), where OIG identified multiple discrepancies in the data and that deputies were improperly coding calls for services. Mr. Mohamed shared OIG recommendations for improvement, including that LASD should comply with the [BOS June 8, 2021, motion](#) to report the requested data points and a plan to publish accurate data relating to contact with youth.

Following Mr. Mohamed's comments, Commissioner Harris called on the speakers from Cancel the Contract Antelope Valley, Raquel Derfler and Hal Steinberg. Derfler and Steinberg [discussed the need for Antelope Valley schools to cancel contracts](#) with LASD due to the long history of racism and law enforcement violence. Mr. Steinberg discussed the disproportionate treatment of Black and LatinX students and advised that there are no clear protocols for deputy contact with students. Ms. Derfler highlighted law enforcement's unequal treatment of Black students and reported that no consideration is given to students with disabilities. She reported that the school district gives staff the discretion to refer students to law enforcement for any educational violation, including acts as minor as using profanity. Ms. Derfler advised that a complaint has been filed and that the Antelope Valley School District is being investigated for allegedly breaking State and Federal laws. Mr. Steinberg shared recommendations for improvement, such as removing deputies from schools and acknowledged support of [Supervisor Mitchell's June 28, 2022 motion to Improve School Climate and Safety](#).

Following comments from Ms. Derfler and Mr. Steinberg, Commissioner Harris moved to Commissioner questions. Commissioner Bonner questioned if OIG consulted with a monitor under the Federal consent decree and inquired about the data's accuracy. Commissioner Cooper inquired about the criteria school administrators use to determine when to call LASD. Mr. Steinberg advised there is no criteria in place for administrators to follow. Commissioner

Giggans inquired about training for resource deputies and school administrators. Ms. Derfler advised that there is a 40-hour training for school resource deputies.

Commissioner Bonner inquired about a school safety plan, and LASD's Lancaster Station Captain John Lecrivain advised that LASD has a strong active shooter training that is offered to all LASD deputies. Cpt. Lecrivain confirmed discrepancies in the data on contact with the students and advised that most contacts are requested by school administrators.

Commissioner Harris inquired about lack of access to body worn camera footage and compliance to the consent decree. Mr. Huntsman confirmed that OIG staff did speak with a monitor and will follow-up with the monitor regarding the settlement agreement.

Commissioner Cooper inquired about use of force training regarding students and if parents are contacted. Cpt. Lecrivain discussed LASD trainings for deputies and advised he has spoken with parents and there is an advisory committee for people who prefer not to engage with LASD. Commissioner Harris inquired if deputies are trained on mental health, and Cpt. Lecrivain confirmed they are. Commissioner Bonner questioned if the COC will have an opportunity to view the body worn camera video, and Mr. Huntsman encouraged the COC to request the video directly from LASD and stated that if he receives a request in writing from County Counsel to share the video, he would comply. Following Commissioner comments, Commissioner Harris turned the meeting back to Chair Kennedy, who moved to item 3d. Since no action was taken, public comment on this topic was taken with general public comment.

3d. Update on the Rosas Settlement 10th Report & Department's Response

Chair Kennedy introduced Monitor Bob Houston, who discussed the Rosas settlement and the [10th Report](#). Mr. Houston discussed three areas of focus, which included inmate grievances, deputy performance and use of force oversight. Mr. Houston reported that 25 cases are reviewed each quarter and that the more serious cases are selected. Following Mr. Houston's comments, Chair Kennedy opened the floor for Commissioner comments. Commissioner Cooper inquired about what reasons could cause LASD use of force to be out of compliance, and Mr. Houston identified several instances that causes use of force to be out of compliance.

Following Commissioner comments, Chair Kennedy moved to public comment. Since no action was taken, public comment on this topic was taken with general public comment.

3e. Issuance and ratification of subpoenas

Chair Kennedy reported there were no subpoenas to be ratified at this time.

4. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were 5 people who provided general public comment. View [written public comment](#).

5. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Kennedy announced that the COC will host a special hearing on deputy gangs on July 1, 2022 at Loyola Law School in the Robinson Court Room and that the next regular monthly COC meeting is scheduled for July 21, 2022, and adjourned the meeting at 12:50 p.m.