



Los Angeles County Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission

MEETING MINUTES

September 18, 2025 | 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
St. Anne's Conference and Event Center



AGENDA ITEMS:		VIDEO
1	CALL TO ORDER Chair Hans Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.	00:12
2	PUBLIC COMMENT RULES	1:41
3	ROLL CALL Commissioners Present: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Arthur Calloway II, Co-Vice Chair<input type="checkbox"/> Irma Cooper (excused absence)<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Luis S. Garcia, Co-Vice Chair<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patricia Giggans, left the meeting at 12:45 p.m.<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> James P. Harris<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jamon Hicks, left the meeting at 1:04 p.m.<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hans Johnson, Chair<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> George Newhouse<input type="checkbox"/> (Vacant) Seven Commissioners were present, constituting a quorum. Agency Representatives Present: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Sheriff Robert Luna, LA County Sheriff's Department (LASD)Inspector General Max Huntsman, LA County Office of Inspector General (OIG)Janssen Diaz, Senior Deputy, LA County Office of County Counsel (CoCo)Brenda Perez Rodriguez, Deputy County Counsel, CoCo Commission Staff Present: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Sharmaine Moseley, Executive Director (ED)Bikila Ochoa, Deputy Executive Director (DED)Tracy Jordan, Principal Staff AnalystRobert Flores, Community Services Coordinator	4:07
4	CONSENT CALENDAR MOTION: Commissioner Harris moved for the Commission to approve the July 17, 2025 Meeting Minutes on the consent calendar. Commissioner Hicks seconded the motion. VOICE VOTE: <ul style="list-style-type: none">7 Ayes: Calloway, Garcia, Giggans, Harris, Hicks, Johnson, Newhouse0 Nays0 Abstentions1 Absent	4:56
5	FAMILY IMPACT REMARKS None.	6:41
8C	SHERIFF'S REPORT Chair Johnson took this item out of order to accommodate the Sheriff's schedule, as he had to attend a court hearing. Participating in the Commission meeting remotely, Sheriff Luna provided the below report: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Sheriff Luna said the Attorney General (AG)'s lawsuit alleging inhumane conditions in LA County Jails "relies on outdated information and does not reflect the reforms and compliance already in place."	11:43

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When reporting on immigration, the Sheriff noted that the LASD “stays away from (immigration enforcement), as much as we can” and urged crime victims/witnesses not to be afraid to come forward to the LASD. He said the LASD is “in complete connection” with local, state, and federal agencies to “keep tabs” on potential political violence, esp. against LGBT communities. In response to concerns raised by the OIG, the LASD has developed crime scene entry protocols that would “ensure alignment with oversight expectations.” 	
	DISCUSSION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-Vice Chair Garcia requested that LASD provide an update on health and behavioral healthcare in the jails. The Sheriff did not immediately provide a response. Saying LASD personnel are “not immune” to the current “climate of racial profiling,” Chair Johnson urged them to speak out about the impact of federal immigration enforcement on their own families and communities. Sheriff Luna said he “accepts that challenge,” adding that many LASD employees come from immigrant backgrounds, including himself. 	26:44
6	UNFINISHED BUSINESS – STRATEGIC PLAN CHECKLIST COC Deputy Executive Director Ochoa reported that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Efforts to strengthen the LASD policy to prohibit participation in deputy gangs and cliques remain in the meet-and-confer process with unions. The Commission’s ad hoc committee to improve the LASD’s disciplinary process has not made recommendations and is being considered for dissolution. The Commission’s Use of Force Ad Hoc was dissolved before it could make recommendations because LASD denied its information requests, citing confidentiality. The Commission’s Jail Staffing and Conditions Ad Hoc was not allowed to participate in the meet-and-confer over the 65:35 ratio of deputies to custody assistants in County jails. The Commission continues to negotiate with CoCo on revisions to its governing ordinance, LA County Code 3.79, particularly on provisions to protect confidential information. The Commission’s Communications Manager and Community Resources Coordinator have successfully increased the Commission’s visibility, per analytics distributed at the meeting. The Board of Supervisors (BOS) has directed the Commission to perform additional work to ensure LASD compliance with the Prison Rape Elimination Action (PREA). 	32:26
	DISCUSSION Chair Johnson said the BOS also directed the Commission to look into whether LASD’s automated license plate readers are being used for federal immigration enforcement.	45:50
	PUBLIC COMMENT Former Commission Chair Robert Bonner suggested not dissolving the Disciplinary Process Ad Hoc, as its final report is 60% complete and could be issued in a month or so.	48:15
7A	NEW BUSINESS: PROFESSIONAL PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION REMARKS PPOA Board President Lt. Stephen Johnson told the Commission: “We recognize oversight as a necessity, but we insist that it operate within the boundaries of the law, fairness, and the collective bargaining process.” Lt. Johnson added that “oversight dysfunction... risks undermining both officer morale and public trust,” and he urged the Commission to “consult with [PPOA], and not to bypass [PPOA] when creating policies that affect [PPOA] members.”	53:20
	DISCUSSION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commissioner Calloway asked if PPOA ever directed its members to respond to requests for information from the Commission when the Commission followed due process in making those requests. Lt. Johnson responded that because of three potentially related unfair labor practices cases being litigated by PPOA, he can only say that when PPOA’s members are subpoenaed, PPOA will fight for their procedural rights and due process. 	1:06:06

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commissioner Giggans reminded Lt. Johnson that, during the first four years of the Commission, LASD “rejected oversight at every turn.” She welcomes collaboration with PPOA. She acknowledged that “nobody wants somebody looking over their shoulder,” but said the Commission has brought to light many community concerns that had been ignored. Commissioner Harris said if the LASD provided confidential information to the Commission, subpoenas would not have been issued. PPOA is a party to a lawsuit over the subpoenas. 	
	PUBLIC COMMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Isaac Ashbury commented on deputy gangs Marisela Roses, Vanessa Perez, Yousef Miller, Julie Martinez, Anthony Arenas, Deanna Brock, Cindy Nunez and Pamela Serna each criticized Lt. Johnson’s presentation, with some calling it “condescending,” “insulting,” and a “disgrace.” They urged the Commission to continue pursuing effective oversight. 	1:41:52
7B	NEW BUSINESS: Scroll and Plaque Presentation to former Chair Robert C. Bonner Chair Johnson thanked former Chair Bonner for his service, and Commissioners Newhouse, Giggans and Harris also spoke warmly of him. Former Chair Bonner expressed his gratitude.	1:41:48
	PUBLIC COMMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Isaac Ashbury commented on deputy gangs Eddie, Madeline, Julie Martinez, Deanna Brock, Paloma Serna, Hilda Eke, Yousef Miller, Vanessa Perez and Ali Rubinfeld each paid tribute to former Chair Bonner. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pamela Moses, who identified herself as being with the US Human Rights Network, expressed concern that law enforcement bodies were not adhering to PRA 25-3049 and PRA 25-012. Ms. Moses said she has requested public records from the LASD, LAPD, and the Superior Court related to an investigation that she is conducting. She asked the Commission, “Can you please get a subpoena?” She also asked the Commission to “tell me what I need to do to get the subpoena to get these records.” 	2:03:05
	RECESS	2:11:50
7C	NEW BUSINESS: LASD Station Statistics Chair Johnson suggested that this item be tabled.	2:30:05
	MOTION Commissioner Harris moved for the Commission to hear this item at its next meeting, on Oct. 16, 2025. Commissioner Newhouse seconded the motion VOICE VOTE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 Ayes: Calloway, Garcia, Giggans, Harris, Johnson, Newhouse 0 Nays 0 Abstentions 1 Absent 	
7D	NEW BUSINESS: Protection of Media in Demonstrations Ad Hoc Committee Chair Harris said Supervisor Hilda Solis’ motion to commemorate the 55 th anniversary of the Chicano Moratorium called on the LASD to report back to the Board of Supervisors on its current use of force policy and training programs to protect journalists covering protests, including those related to federal immigration enforcement. The motion also directed the Commission to hear from an expert and provide feedback on the LASD’s report back.	2:31:03
	MOTION Commissioner Calloway moved for the Commission to create a Media in Demonstrations Ad Hoc Committee. Commissioner Giggans seconded the motion. PUBLIC COMMENT	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paloma Serna said the best way to honor the late journalist Ruben Salazar, who was killed when the LASD intervened during the Chicano Moratorium demonstrations, is to protect journalists currently covering protests. Yousef Miller supported creating the ad hoc. <p>VOICE VOTE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 Ayes: Calloway, Garcia, Giggans, Harris, Johnson, 0 Nays 1 Abstention: Newhouse 1 Absent 	
8A	<p>CHAIR'S REPORT</p> <p>Chair Johnson reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Commission has a new member, Commissioner Newhouse, who said he's humbled to follow in former Chair Bonner's footsteps. The Commission's outside counsel attended the case management conference regarding the Sheriff's lawsuit seeking clarification from the Court on LASD's obligations to disclose confidential personnel information to the Commission. He listed key dates in the legal process and noted PPOA and ALADs have become parties in the case. The State legislature passed AB 847, which is now headed to the Governor. There has been no change in the status of PPOA and ALADS' Employee Relations Commission complaint against the Commission. Proposed revisions to LA County Code 3.79 may be approved before yearend as the Commission and CoCo appear to be making progress in their negotiations. 	2:38:40
8B	<p>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT</p> <p>Executive Director Moseley reported on Commission staff's work to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure Commissioner access to laptops and completion of mandatory trainings Onboard Commissioner Newhouse Prepare for the Commission's Annual Conference and to host/attend other events. Participate in jail inspections, tours, and rides-along Attend a meet-and-confer over Measure R Issue a new one-pager on the Commission's community engagement and communications, which showed significant progress in raising the Commission's visibility Acquire a project management tool, new offices, and translation services. 	2:47:19
	<p>DISCUSSION</p> <p>Chair Johnson praised the hard work of the Commission and spoke out against what he perceived as efforts to muzzle it, pointing to the BOS Executive Office (EO)'s now-rescinded communications protocols for commissions and oversight bodies. He called the memo the "most caustic, corrosive, and chilling effort to squash the voice" of the Commission, OIG and Sybil Brand Commission (SBC). He vowed the Commission "will not be gagged."</p>	3:07:45
8 ABC	<p>PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE CHAIR'S, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S AND SHERIFF'S REPORTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Racquel Derfler said LASD unions use meet-and-confer to block reforms Vanessa Perez urged the Commission to enforce its subpoenas, esp. regarding her son. Ali Rubinfeld opposed the BOS-EO's memo on communications protocols, sunseting the SBC, and staffing cuts to the OIG. Paloma Serna accused the Sheriff of using taxpayer money to shield LASD from oversight. Yousef Miller praised the passage of AB 847 	3:17:21
9A	<p>INSPECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inspector General Huntsman reported that OIG was asked, along with the Commission, to give feedback on the LASD's automated license plate readers report. 	3:17:06

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He said the OIG will stop rolling out to officer-involved shootings even though the Sheriff has implemented new protocols aimed at increasing access. He said OIG's efforts are being "stymied in a variety of ways." • He also opposed budget cuts to the OIG, sunseting the SBC, and the BOS-EO developing a now-withdrawn communications policy that would result in "non-independent oversight." 	
9B	AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complaints: Commissioner Calloway is awaiting information before issuing a preliminary report and expects to issue a final report three months later. Chair Johnson said Commissioner Newhouse is interested in joining the committee. ED Moseley said Commission staff is continuing to work with IT on a complaints database and other projects. • Jail Conditions and Staffing: Commissioner Harris said the ad hoc gave feedback on the FY 2024-25 Civil Grand Jury recommendation that LASD facilitate tours of County jails. It also met with the County Risk Mgmt. Office and Auditor-Controller to discuss in-custody deaths. • Technology: Chair Johnson said the ad hoc is continuing to work with the IT department on a complaints database. • Disciplinary Process. Chair Johnson said this ad hoc will not be dissolved at this time. • Commission Vacancy Interview Panel: Chair Johnson said 33 out of 55 applicants met the minimum requirements and hopes a selection can be made within the next two months. 	3:25:25
9 AB	PUBLIC COMMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T. Carter criticized the OIG and CoCo. • Yadi express support for stronger privacy protections related to automated license plate reader data. • Paloma Serna said the OIG's latest report on LASD's SB1421 compliance is "damning." • Nell Scott said he's binary trans and is scared. He raised concerns about President Trump's actions to limit freedom of speech. 	3:30:29
10	NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raquel Derfler criticized the staffing cuts to OIG and sunseting the SBC. • Ron Dowell commented on the Commission's strategic plan and County bureaucracy. • Tramira Thomas spoke about her uncle Eugene Youngblood and deputy gangs. • T. Carter commented on the OIG report. • Neil Scott commented on Paragon Technologies • Anthony Arenas commented on the Care First policy • Javier talked about fusion centers gathering information. • Mike Booth called for an audit of data shared to fusion centers. • Vanessa Perez sought help that would enable Eugene Youngblood's family to get answers • Carlos Montes criticized the BOS-EO's communications memo • Cindy Nunez demanded an end to deputy gangs. • Deanna Brock asked the Commission to continue seeking transparency and accountability • Paloma Serna commented on in-custody deaths <p>Chair Johnson said the Commission is in the process of securing a meeting with LASD officials related to the Nunez case.</p>	3:39:16
11	UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS	4:03:37
12	ADJOURNMENT <p>The meeting adjourned at 1:04 p.m.</p>	