



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE  
BUSINESS MEETING OF THE  
SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL  
INSPECTIONS  
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 372  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012  
<http://sbc.lacounty.gov>**

**Wednesday, February 15, 2017**

**10:00 AM**

AUDIO LINK FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (17-0976)

**Attachments:** [AUDIO](#)

Present: Commissioner Barbara Bigby, Vice Chairperson Cheryl Grills Ph.D., Johanna Arias-Bhatia, Commissioner Susan Burton and Commissioner Percy Duran III

Call to Order. (17-0869)

**Chairperson Bhatia called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.**

**Chairperson Bhatia led in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence.**

Staff present: Cesar Hernandez and Roy Sinclair. (17-0977)

**I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER**

1. Approval of the February 8, 2017 Minutes. (17-0870)

**On motion of Vice Chairperson Cheryl Grills, Ph.D., seconded by Commissioner Barbara Bigby, unanimously carried, this item was approved.**

**Attachments:** [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

**II. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

2. Department of Auditor-Controller (AC). (17-0874)

**Ms. Michele Day, AC, Group Home Ombudsman, distributed copies and reported on the Children's Group Home Ombudsman Activity Report during the month of January 2017.**

**There were a total of 18 Hotline Requests for Assistance Calls and there were a total of 7 Outreach visits to the following facilities:**

- **Junior Blind of America (4 Requests)**
- **Bourne, Inc (2 Sites - 2 Requests)**
- **Rosemary Children's Services - Romberger house (1 Request)**

**3. Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). (17-0875)**

**Esther Pulido, Out of Home Care Management Division, DCFS, reported that during the month of January 2017 there were a total of 860 Absent Without Leave (AWOL) and the child abuse hotline received a total of 26 referrals in the following categories:**

- **1 General Neglect**
- **19 Sexual Abuse**
- **6 Physical Abuse**

**During the same reporting period 30 investigations were closed in the following categories:**

- **9 General Neglect**
- **12 Physical Abuse**
- **8 Sexual Abuse**
- **1 Severe Neglect**

**During the same reporting period 30 referrals were closed for the following reasons:**

- **7 Inconclusive**
- **10 Evaluated Out**
- **1 Unfounded**
- **6 Not Applicable/ Not Investigated**

**Ms. Pulido also reported that on January 23, 2017 Phoenix Academy Group Home was placed on an Investigative Hold at the request of the Probation Department.**

**4. Internal Services Department (ISD). (17-0876)**

**There was no report presented, however Mr. Lear answered questions posed by the Commission.**

**5. Department of Mental Health (DMH). (17-0877)**

**Mr. Bart Callender, Residential/TBS Program Administration, DMH, provided an update regarding the SBC's inquiry pertaining to Inmate Reception Center at Century Regional Detention Facility, he stated that the center is fully staffed, however, a few of the staff members are off work on medical leave.**

**6. Probation Department (PD). (17-0878)**

**Mr. Michael Varela, Director of Dorothy Kirby Center, reported that Terry McDonnell has been appointed as the new Chief Probation Officer and Sheila Mitchell is Chief of juvenile camps. The Probation Department is looking to consolidate a number of probation camps, namely, Camp Scudder with another camp due to the decline in the number of juveniles in probation camps.**

**Ms. Mikesha Taylor, Program Analyst, PD, provided the status of group home AWOLs during the month of January 2017 as follows:**

**There were 117 AWOLs involving 97 youth:**

- 36 Remain AWOL**
- 57 Returned to group homes**
- 22 Placed in Juvenile Hall**
- 1 Home on Probation**
- 1 Jurisdiction terminated**

**Ms. Taylor also reported that there were 8 CSEC AWOLS in the month of January 2017.**

- 3 Remain AWOL**
- 2 Returned to group homes**
- 2 Placed in Juvenile Hall**
- 1 Home on Probation**

7. Office of the Inspector General (OIG). (17-0879)

**There was no report presented.**

**However, Commissioner Burton inquired whether the LASD could provide a monthly report on allegation of use-of-force incidents involving sheriff deputies, and the population breakdown of the incarcerated and the offense committed.**

8. Sheriff's Department (SD).
- Update on DeVert Training (Mental Health training for SD Deputies) (17-0880)

**Commander Dempsey, LASD, reported that he is filling in for Commander Henry Romero, LASD (Ret.), for the next two months.**

**Sergeant April Carter, LASD, provided updates to the Commission's inquiries regarding the EBI program for women at Twin Towers Correctional Facility, AB109 inmate population and the number of inmates that are registered to vote. She also reported that the DEVERT Training for LASD deputies/ First responders is scheduled to be held on Monday, February 27, 2017. She asked that Commissioners confirm whether they are able to attend the meeting. The Water in dorm 251 was tested and found to be drinkable.**

**She further reported that Vice Chair Grills gave a positive comment regarding the quality services she received from Deputy Alfaro at Century Regional Center.**

### **III. COMMISSION REPORTS**

9. Chairperson's Report on various items. (17-0871)

**There was no report presented.**

10. Staff Report on Correspondence Received and Department Representative Reports. (17-0872)

**There was no report presented.**

11. Commissioners' Reports on Group Home and/or Detention Facilities Inspections. (17-0873)

**During the reporting period, the following group homes/facilities were reported as being in satisfactory condition:**

**Commissioner Bigby Visited**

- **San Dimas Sheriff Station - (South Walnut, San Dimas, CA) on February 9, 2017.**

**Commissioners Bigby and Duran III, Visited**

- **LeRoy Haynes Center - Boys Home (West Baseline Road, La Verne, CA) on February 2, 2017.**

**Not Home**

**Commissioners Bigby Visited**

- **Hillsides Home for Children - Girls' Satellite Home - (North Hill Avenue, Pasadena, CA) and noted no one was home.**

**IV. MISCELLANEOUS**

**Matters Not Posted**

12. Matters not on the posted agenda, to be discussed and (if requested) referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action came to the attention of the Committee subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (17-0881)

**There were no items presented for a future agenda.**

**Public Comment**

13. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (17-0882)

**There was no report presented.**

**Adjournment**

14. Adjournment for the meeting of February 8, 2017. (17-0883)

**There being no further business, Chairperson Bhatia adjourned the meeting of February 15, 2017 at 12:01 p.m.**