



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
BUSINESS MEETING OF THE
SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL
INSPECTIONS**

**500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 372
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
<http://sbc.lacounty.gov>**

Wednesday, August 16, 2017

10:00 AM

AUDIO LINK FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (17-3903)

Attachments: [AUDIO](#)

Call To Order. (17-3713)

Chairperson Bhatia called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

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

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

Excused: Commissioner Susan Burton and Commissioner Pauline Bullock

Staff Present: Cesar Hernandez, Roy Sinclair and Shawna Kuhns.
(17-3902)

I. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. Department of Auditor-Controller (AC). (17-3714)

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

There were a total of 19 Hotline Requests for Assistance Calls and there were a total of 5 Outreach visits.

Ms. Patricia Bolanos Gonzales provided an update on AWOLs, and the steps that the group homes are taking to reduce AWOL incidences.

2. Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). (17-3715)

Edyth Yates Redmond, Program Manager, Out of Home Care Management Division, DCFS, reported that during the month of July 2017 there were a total of 665 Absent Without Leave (AWOL) and the child abuse hotline received a total of 14 referrals in the following categories:

- **4 General Neglect**
- **1 Sexual Abuse**
- **9 Physical Abuse**

During the same reporting period 27 investigations were completed in the following categories:

- **7 General Neglect**
- **12 Physical Abuse**
- **6 Sexual Abuse**
- **2 Emotional Abuse**

During the same reporting period 27 referrals were closed for the following reasons:

- **12 Inconclusive**
- **7 Evaluated Out**
- **5 Unfounded**
- **3 Substantiated**

Ms. Redmond also reported that during the month of July 2017 no group homes were placed on an Investigative Hold.

3. Internal Services Department (ISD). (17-3716)

No report was presented.

4. Department of Mental Health (DMH) (17-3725)

Bart Callender, DMH, reported that DMH continues to work on assisting group homes that are transitioning to SRTRP, and Optimist Group Homes were the first to convert to the Short Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP).

5. Probation Department (PD). (17-3717)

No report was presented.

6. Office of the Inspector General (OIG). (17-3718)

La Donna Jackson, OIG reported that the OIG met with the Board of Supervisors on August 15, 2017 to discuss the lack of medical staffing in Los Angeles County jail facilities, and discuss ways to collaborate with the Sheriff Department on how to provide better medical services to inmates.

7. Sheriff's Department (SD). (17-3719)

Sergeant April Carter provided an update regarding LA County jail inmate Jessie Johnson's complaint on the lack of access to the law library. She stated that during the investigation of the complaint, it was reported that the inmate did receive access to the law library, and the inmate has now been released from custody. She also reported that Commissioner Bigby's concern regarding the excess food at Al Hambra Court has been addressed. Sergeant April Carter will provide SBC an update regarding the Sheriff Department's desire to have a mobile library.

II. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER

8. Approval of the August 2, 2017 Minutes. (17-3720)

This item was continued without discussion to the September 6, 2017 meeting.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

III. COMMISSION REPORTS

9. Chairperson's Report on various items. (17-3721)

No report was presented.

10. Staff Report on Correspondence Received and Department Representative Reports. (17-3722)

No report was presented.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

Public Comment

11. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (17-3723)

There were no members of the public present to address the Commission.

Adjournment

12. Adjournment for the meeting of August 16, 2017. (17-3724)

There being no further business, Chairperson Bhatia adjourned the meeting of August 16, 2017 at 11:12 a.m.