



## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS  
372 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
(213) 974-1465 or (213) 974-1431  
Website: <http://sbc.lacounty.gov>

FOUNDER  
Mrs. Sybil Brand

CHAIRPERSON  
Mrs. Eleanor R. Montaña

VICE CHAIRPERSON  
Mr. Frank S. Bacio

Ms. Barbara Bigby  
Ms. Rita Hall  
Mr. John A. Hammargren  
Ms. Anne S. Hill  
Mr. Carl E. Moore

### MINUTES OF THE SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING JULY 29, 2009

#### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Montaña called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

#### OPENING CEREMONIES

Chair Montaña led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

#### ATTENDANCE

##### Present

Chair Eleanor R. Montaña  
Vice Chair Frank S. Bacio  
Rita Hall  
John A. Hammargren  
Carl E. Moore

##### Excused Absence

Barbara Bigby  
Anne S. Hill

##### Staff, Commission Services

Martha Arana  
Jimmy Prieto

#### APPROVAL OF JULY 22, 2009, MEETING MINUTES

**On motion of Commissioner Hammargren, seconded by Vice Chair Bacio and unanimously carried, the minutes of July 22, 2009, were approved with the following change:**

- On page 3, under "Facility/Group Home Inspection Reports From July 15, 2009, to July 21, 2009,"

##### Add

##### **Long Beach Branch – Commissioner Montaña**

The facility was visited on July 21, 2009, and found to be in satisfactory condition.

**Areas of Concern:** repairs made to the damaged floor were insufficient (only a small area on the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor was repaired); fire extinguisher needs recharging.

### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Montaño reported on three (3) news articles:

- “South L.A. Boy Died After Previous Reports of Abuse”, Los Angeles Times, July 25, 2009, regarding a 6-year-old boy’s death in South Los Angeles although many reports of child abuse and neglect were made to the Department of Children and Family Services’ Hotline.
- “Board Seeks Review of DCFS Child Death Cases”, Daily Breeze, July 29, 2009, regarding Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors’ request for a review of child deaths connected to abuse cases reported to the Department of Children and Family Services, and an evaluation of the department’s policies and caseload.
- “Texas Investigators Stunned by Infant Dismemberment”, The Associated Press, July 28, 2009, regarding a San Antonio, Texas case of a 3 ½ week-old boy who was dismembered by his mother.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Vice Chair Bacio reported that the current balance of the Commission’s Charitable Fund is \$1,245.93.

### **CORRESPONDENCE/AUDIT REPORTS**

Commissioner Hammargren reviewed the following Audit Report with the Commission:

The Pacific Lodge Youth Services/Pacific Lodge Boys Home Group Home – 35, #1, Audit report dated July 8, 2009, which revealed minor issues. The group home was inspected by the Auditor-Controller on January 2009; the Commission plans to revisit group home in the future.

The Rancho San Antonio Boys Home – 40, #1, Audit report dated July 7, 2009. Group home was inspected by the Auditor-Controller in April 2009, and found to be in excellent condition.

### **DISCUSSION OF SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

Vice Chair Bacio reported that he will continue to seek potential scholarship candidates from the Dorothy Kirby Center, and will follow up with Mr. Michael Varela, Director, Dorothy Kirby Center.

### **FACILITY/GROUP HOME INSPECTION REPORTS FROM JULY 22, 2009, TO JULY 28, 2009**

#### **Community Youth Sports and Arts Foundation – 11, #2 – Commissioners Bacio, Hall and Moore**

The facility was visited on July 23, 2009, and found to be in satisfactory condition.

**Fleming & Barnes Dimondale Adolescent – 9, #5 – Commissioner Montaña**

The facility was visited on July 27, 2009, and found to be in satisfactory condition.

**Area of Concern:** First aid kit needs restocking.

**Touch A Life Foundation #2 – 17, #3 – Commissioners Hammargren and Montaña**

The facility was visited on July 28, 2009, and found to be in satisfactory condition.

**Areas of Concern:** Fire extinguisher needs to be recharged; crawl space screen needs to be replaced; kitchen sink surface needs to be repaired with a non-permeable surface to eliminate staining.

**Touch A Life Foundation #1 – 58, #1 – Commissioners Bacio and Moore**

The facility was visited on July 28, 2009, and found to be in satisfactory condition.

**Areas of Concern:** Clothing allowance records were not available; Needs and Services Plan not available; House Rules not posted; smoke alarms in all bedrooms and hallway were inoperable; drawer in bedroom #3 needs to be replaced; disaster drill log had not been updated (last entry recorded on July 2008).

**NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There was none.

**MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA (To be presented and placed on a future agenda)**

Commissioner Moore requested staff to:

- Inquire on the possibility of providing Commissioners with parking C-Cards that would allow parking at all outlying area permit lots.
- Revise the *“Sybil Brand Commission for Institutional Inspections for Courts, Custody/Jails, Probation, and Sheriff Stations”* reporting form and place on a future agenda for approval by the Commission.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was none.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Montaña adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m. in memory of Lily Burke, a 17-year-old whose body was found in the passenger seat of a car near skid row in Los Angeles on Saturday, July 25, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

*Martha Arana*  
Commission Services Division