



**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, May 18, 2016

10:00 AM

AUDIO LINK FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (16-2604)

Attachments: [AUDIO](#)

Present: Chairperson Barbara Bigby, Commissioner Donald S. Andrews, Commissioner Johanna Arias-Bhatia, Commissioner Susan Burton, Commissioner Percy Duran III, Commissioner Eleanor R. Montañó and Commissioner Theresa Zhen

Excused: Vice Chairperson Cheryl Grills Ph.D. and Commissioner Anne S. Hill

Staff present: Roy Sinclair and Jenny Kimbell. (16-2608)

Call to Order. (16-2473)

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

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

Self-introductions were made by all in attendance.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER

1. Approval of the May 11, 2016 Minutes. (16-2502)

On motion of Commissioner Percy Duran, III, seconded by Commissioner Donald S. Andrews, unanimously carried, this item was approved.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

II. REPORTS

2. Department of Auditor-Controller (AC). (16-2503)

There was no representative present to report.

3. Internal Services Department (ISD). (16-2504)

Mr. Brian Lear stated that he did not have anything to report, however, he is available to answer any questions that the Commission may have regarding any of the facilities his office is responsible for monitoring.

4. Department of Mental Health (DMH). (16-2505)

There was no representative present to report.

5. Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). (16-2506)

Ms. Patricia Bolanos-Gonzalez, Children Services Administrator II, Out of Home Care Management Section, DCFS, reported that during the month of April 2016 there were a total of 778 Absent Without Leave (AWOLS) and the child abuse hotline received a total of 25 referrals in the following categories:

- **9 Physical Abuse**
- **8 Sexual Abuse (SA)**
- **5 General Neglect (GN)**
- **2 Emotional Abuse (EA)**
- **1 Caretaker Absence/Incapacity (CAI)**

There were a total of 22 referrals closed in April 2016:

- **5 GN**
- **9 PA**
- **8 SA**

Investigation results of closed referrals:

- **9 Evaluated Out**
- **3 Inconclusive**
- **7 Unfounded**
- **3 Substantiated**

Ms. Bolanos-Gonzalez also reported that the following Group Homes were placed on hold:

- **Human Services Network**
- **B & I**
- **Sand Hill**

6. Probation Department (PD). (16-2507)

Ms. Pamela Pease, Supervising Deputy Probation Officer, Group Home Monitoring and Investigations Unit, Placement Services Bureau, Probation Department, provided the status of group home AWOLs for April 2016 as follows:

There were 91 AWOLs involving 85 youth:

- **45 Remain AWOL**
- **27 Returned to group homes**
- **19 Placed in Juvenile Hall**

Ms. Pease also provided the Commission with detailed monthly status reports of group home AWOLs during the month of April 2016.

Mr. Michael Varela, Director of Dorothy Kirby Center, provided the Commission with the Probation Department's Executive Bulletin announcing the managerial reassignments, effective May 16, 2016.

7. Sheriff's Department (SD). (16-2508)

Commander Henry Romero, Los Angeles County Sheriff Department, addressed the Commission regarding the response letter from the Sheriff Department regarding the Century Regional Detention Center and any additional concerns by the Commission. The Commissioners expressed their concerns regarding their town hall visit with the families of inmates. Commissioner Zhen submitted corrective action forms to Commander Romero for the May 5, 2016 and May 17, 2016 visits to Men's Central Jail.

8. Office of the Inspector General (OIG). (16-2509)

Ms. Barbara Phillips, Monitor, Office of Inspector General (OIG), reported that they are continuing to conduct visits and interviews with individuals in custody.

9. Chairperson's Report on various items. (16-2510)

There was no report presented.

**Commissioner Montaña shared the following article with the Commission:
Foster Child Says He Was Falsely Held (May 15, 2016)**

10. Staff Report on Correspondence Received and Department Representative Reports. (16-2511)

Staff reported that every two years the County of Los Angeles Department of Human Resources requires employees and Commissioners to take mandatory Cultural Diversity, Sexual Harassment Prevention and Ethics trainings. Mandatory trainings will be available online and instructor-led sessions.

11. Commissioners' Reports on Group Home and/or Detention Facilities Inspections from May 12, 2016 to May 17, 2016. (16-2512)

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

Chairperson Bigby visited:

- **Hillsides Home for Children (Hill Ave., Pasadena, CA) on May 12, 2016 and reported that no one was home.**

Commissioner Duran visited:

- **LAC USC Jail Ward (Marengo St., Los Angeles, CA) on May 11, 2016.**
- **San Gabriel Children's Center (Enid Ave, Azusa, CA) on May 15, 2016.**

Commissioners Andrews and Montaña visited:

- **Penny Lane (Valley St., Burbank, CA) on May 16, 2016 and reported no one was home.**
- **Star View Group Home (226th St., Torrance, CA) on May 17, 2016.**

During the reporting period, the following group home was reported as being in unsatisfactory condition:

Commissioner Bhatia visited:

- **Eggleston Youth Center (Waco St., Baldwin Park, CA) on May 17, 2016 and reported the following items were unsatisfactory:**
 - **The cleanliness of the floors**
 - **There was debris behind the washing machine**
 - **The bathroom was in need of a deep cleaning**
 - **The furniture was broken**

There were no earthquake supplies

Commissioner Zhen visited:

- **Men's Central Jail - 7000 Floor Hospital (Bauchet St., Los Angeles, CA) and reported the following items were unsatisfactory:**
 - **The drain system needs repairing in module 7063. The showers flood and trustees scoop out the water multiple times a day.**
 - **Blankets are not being changed for several months**
 - **Time is not being honored in the recreational room on the 7000 Floor**
 - **Module 7037 floors need painting**
 - **Module 7008 light fixture needs to be replaced**

A corrective action form was provided to Commander Romero for follow-up.

III. 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. (16-2513)

The following item was introduced for discussion and is to be placed on a future agenda:

Discussion regarding Assembly Bill 167: High school graduation, local requirements for foster children.

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. (16-2514)

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

Adjournment

- 14.** Adjournment for the meeting of May 18, 2016. (16-2515)

There being no further business, Chairperson Bigby adjourned the meeting of May 18, 2016 at 12:25 p.m.