



# Office of Inspector General County of Los Angeles

## **Reform and Oversight Efforts: Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department**

July to September  
2020

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## INTRODUCTION

This report describes a portion of the Office of Inspector General’s monitoring, auditing, and reviewing activities related to the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department (LASD) that occurred from July 1, 2020, through September 30, 2020.<sup>1</sup>

## MONITORING LASD OPERATIONS

### Service Comment Reports

In accordance with LASD policies, the Department accepts and reviews all comments from members of the public about departmental service or employee performance.<sup>2</sup> LASD categorizes these comments into three categories:

- External Commendation: an external communication of appreciation for and/or approval of service provided by LASD members;
- Service Complaint: an external communication of dissatisfaction with LASD service, procedure or practice, not involving employee misconduct; and
- Personnel Complaint: an external allegation of misconduct, either a violation of law or LASD policy, against any member of LASD.<sup>3</sup>

Recent discussions with LASD personnel have raised the Office of Inspector General’s concerns as to the possibility of inconsistencies in the handling of these service comments. The Office of Inspector General will continue to monitor these comments made by the public to identify inconsistencies in the documentation, investigation, and resolution of the service comments and opine on steps forward to establish consistent protocols for processing these comments and reporting the outcomes to complainants.

The following chart lists the number and types of comments reported for each station or unit.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The report will note if the data reflects something other than what was gathered between July 1, 2020 and September 30, 2020.

<sup>2</sup> See Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department, *Manual of Policies and Procedures*, 3-04/10.00, “Department Service Reviews.”

<sup>3</sup> It is possible for an employee to get a Service Complaint and Personnel Complaint based on the same incident in question.

<sup>4</sup> This data was obtained from LASD’s Performance Recording and Monitoring System on October 6, 2020, and reflects the data provided as of that date.

<b>INVESTIGATING BUREAU/STATION/FACILITY</b>	<b>COMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>PERSONNEL COMPLAINTS</b>	<b>SERVICE COMPLAINTS</b>
ADM : COURT SERVICES DIV HQ	2	0	0
ALD : ALTADENA STN	7	3	1
AVA : AVALON STN	6	2	0
BOL : BUREAU OF LABOR RELATIONS AND COMPLIANCE	0	1	0
CAF : COMM & FLEET MGMT BUR	0	1	0
CCS : COMMUNITY COLLEGE BUREAU	1	3	0
CEN : CENTURY STN	6	17	4
CER : CERRITOS STN	10	6	2
CIS : CUSTODY INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES	0	1	1
CMB : CIVIL MANAGEMENT BUREAU	1	3	3
CNT : COURT SERVICES CENTRAL	3	1	0
COM : COMPTON STN	1	3	2
CPB : COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP BUREAU	2	2	0
CRV : CRESCENTA VALLEY STN	5	4	1
CSB : COUNTY SERVICES BUREAU	1	1	0
CSN : CARSON STN	4	10	3
ELA : EAST LA STN	6	8	1
EOB : EMERGENCY OPER BUREAU	4	0	0
EST : COURT SERVICES EAST	0	4	0
FCC : FRAUD & CYBER CRIMES BUREAU	2	0	1
HOM : HOMICIDE BUREAU	2	3	1
IAB : INTERNAL AFFAIRS BUREAU	0	3	1
IND : INDUSTRY STN	11	13	1
IRC : INMATE RECEPTION CENTER	3	1	1
LCS : LANCASTER STN	17	14	6
LKD : LAKEWOOD STN	10	15	6
LMT : LOMITA STN	9	5	2
MAR : MARINA DEL REY STN	8	8	1
MCB : MAJOR CRIMES BUREAU	3	0	0
MCJ : MEN'S CENTRAL JAIL	0	1	0
MLH : MALIBU/LOST HILLS STN	5	10	2
MTL : METROLINK	3	1	0
NAR : NARCOTICS BUREAU	0	1	0
NCF : NORTH CO. CORRECTL FAC	1	1	1

<b>INVESTIGATING BUREAU/STATION/FACILITY</b>	<b>COMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>PERSONNEL COMPLAINTS</b>	<b>SERVICE COMPLAINTS</b>
NWK : NORWALK REGIONAL STN	16	7	1
OSS : OPERATION SAFE STREETS BUREAU	0	4	1
PER : PERSONNEL ADMIN	1	1	0
PKB : PARKS BUREAU	1	3	1
PLM : PALMDALE STN	19	17	4
PRV : PICO RIVERA STN	7	1	1
RIB : RECORDS & IDENTIFICATION	1	0	0
RMB : RISK MANAGEMENT BUREAU	1	1	1
SCV : SANTA CLARITA VALLEY STN	19	8	5
SDM : SAN DIMAS STN	11	5	0
SEB : SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT BUR	0	1	0
SHR : OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF	0	3	1
SIB : SHERIFF INFORMATION BUREAU	1	2	0
SLA : SOUTH LOS ANGELES STATION	7	9	0
SO : PITCHESS SOUTH FACILITY	1	0	0
SVB : SPECIAL VICTIMS BUREAU	3	1	0
TB : TRAINING BUREAU	1	1	0
TEM : TEMPLE CITY STN	22	12	4
TSB : TRANSIT SERVICES BUREAU	3	7	0
TT : TWIN TOWERS	1	1	0
USR : OFFICE OF THE UNDERSHF	2	1	0
WAL : WALNUT/SAN DIMAS STN	7	6	2
WHD : WEST HOLLYWOOD STN	12	15	2
WST : COURT SERVICES WEST	5	2	1
Total :	274	254	65

### **Handling of Comments Regarding Department Operations and Jails**

The Office of Inspector General received sixty-four new complaints in the third quarter of 2020 from members of the public, prisoners, prisoners' family members and friends, community organizations, and County agencies. Each complaint was reviewed by an Office of Inspector General staff.

Forty of these complaints were related to conditions of confinement within the Department's custody facilities, as shown below:

Grievance/ Incident Classification	Totals
Personnel Issue	10
Mental	1
Medical	14
Classification	2
Food	2
Living Condition	1
Mail	3
Dental	1
Property	1
Other	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>

Twenty-four complaints were related to civilian contacts with Department personnel by persons who were not in custody.

Complaint/ Incident Classification	Totals
Personnel Issue	2
Criminal Conduct	1
Force	1
Improper Search, Detention, Arrest	5
Discourtesy	1
Dishonesty	2
Harassment	4
Policy Procedures	1
Response Time	1
Traffic	2
Service	3
Other	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>

### Taser Use in Custody

The Office of Inspector General has compiled the number of times LASD has deployed a Taser in custodial settings from January 2018, through September

2020. The numbers below were gathered from the LASD's *Monthly Force Synopsis*, which LASD produces and provides to the Office of Inspector General each month.<sup>5</sup>

<b><u>Month</u></b>	<b><u>Number of Taser Deployments</u></b>
January 2018	5
February 2018	2
March 2018	7
April 2018	7
May 2018	0
June 2018	4
July 2018	6
August 2018	7
September 2018	3
October 2018	5
November 2018	3
December 2018	1
January 2019	9
February 2019	9
March 2019	5
April 2019	4
May 2019	1
June 2019	2
July 2019	6
August 2019	9
September 2019	6
October 2019	3
November 2019	6
December 2019	5
January 2020	5
February 2020	3
March 2020	3
April 2020	4
May 2020	3
June 2020	5
July 2020	1
August 2020	3
September 2020	4

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<sup>5</sup> The Office of Inspector General is not opining on whether the use of the Taser in each of these incidents was permissible under LASD's policies and/or if the Taser was deployed lawfully. During the presentation the Quarterly Report for the first quarter at the Cluster Agenda Review for Public Safety, there was a discussion of the possibility of supplementing taser usage data. The Office of Inspector General is in the process of devising the best way to present the data in a more meaningful way.

## Use-of-Force Incidents in Custody Division

The Office of Inspector General monitors LASD's staff-on-prisoner use of force incidents, prisoner-on-prisoner violence, and assaults by prisoners on LASD personnel. LASD reports the following numbers for the uses of force within its Custody Division through March of this year. LASD is still verifying the accuracy of the reporting of incidents which occurred subsequent to March 2020.

### Prisoner-on-staff Assaults:

1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2018	144
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2018	173
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2018	131
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2018	115
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2019	122
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2019	132
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2019	164
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2019	136
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2020	131

### Prisoner-on-prisoner Assaults:

1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2018	871
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2018	905
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2018	988
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2018	881
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2019	769
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2019	794
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2019	858
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2019	709
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2020	717



## Use-of-force Incidents:

1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2018	546
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2018	592
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2018	530
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2018	452
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2019	501
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2019	478
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2019	525
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2019	431
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2020	386

## **LASD Use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems**

LASD reports that it deployed the Unmanned Aircraft twice between July 1, 2020, and September 30, 2020. The first time was on September 15, 2020, in the city of Lynwood. The assisted in a call of an armed carjacking suspect who had barricaded himself in a home. The aircraft was flown in the interior and exterior of the home to assist LASD deputies with clearing areas that could not be viewed using any other technology available to LASD. The suspect was eventually taken into custody.

The second time was on September 29, 2020, in the city of Lomita. The aircraft assisted in a call regarding an assault with a deadly weapon. The aircraft was flown in the interior and exterior of the residence to assist LASD deputies with clearing areas that could not be viewed by a helicopter or could not be reached using any other technology available to LASD. The suspect was eventually arrested.

## **DATA REVIEW**

### **Deputy-Involved Shootings**

The Office of Inspector General reports on all deputy-involved shootings in which a deputy intentionally fired a firearm at a human being or intentionally or unintentionally fired a firearm and a human being was injured or killed as a result. This quarter there were eight incidents in which people were shot or shot at by LASD personnel. OIG staff responded to each of these deputy-involved shootings. Six people were struck by deputies' gunfire, two of them fatally.

The following are summaries of shootings that occurred this quarter:

**Lancaster:** LASD reported that on July 30, 2020, at approximately 2:59 p.m., Lancaster patrol station received a service call to respond to a domestic violence incident. When the deputies arrived at the scene, they were notified that the male Black suspect had fled the location in his vehicle. The victim stated that the suspect, her husband, had tried to stab her and her daughter.

A crime broadcast was issued, and shortly after, deputies spotted the suspect's car and attempted to conduct a traffic stop. The suspect failed to yield, and a vehicle pursuit ensued. The suspect drove his vehicle back to the location of the initial domestic violence call and stopped his vehicle in the victim's driveway.

The deputies ordered the suspect out of his vehicle, but he refused to comply. Deputies attempted to use less lethal weapons to gain compliance. Instead the suspect placed his vehicle in reverse and drove backwards toward the deputies. A deputy fired his weapon at the car.

As the suspect fled the location, he rammed two patrol cars. The deputies reinitiated the pursuit. As a deputy attempted to stop the suspect using a spike strip, the suspect's vehicle accelerated toward the deputy and a second deputy-involved shooting occurred, with the deputy firing towards the suspect. The vehicle pursuit continued until the suspect's vehicle came to rest. A Taser was deployed in an effort to get the suspect out of the vehicle. Deputies used less lethal force to remove the suspect from his vehicle and take him into custody. Deputies rendered first aid to the suspect's left hand, which appeared to have been struck by gunfire. The knife reportedly used in the domestic violence incident was recovered from the garage of the victim's residence.

**Industry:** LASD reported that on August 7, 2020, at approximately 1:03 a.m., deputies responded to a call of an armed robbery at a CVS pharmacy. When deputies arrived, they made a preliminary crime broadcast describing the male Hispanic suspect, his car and weapon, described by witnesses as an AK-47.

At approximately 1:08 a.m., Industry Station deputies saw a vehicle matching the description stopped at a Shell gas station a few miles south of the crime location. When they stopped to investigate, the suspect exited the gas station market armed with an M4 assault rifle, equipped with a drum magazine. The suspect raised the weapon at deputies and shouted, "Get some!" At that point, deputies shot at the suspect. The suspect was not struck and fled in his vehicle.

Deputies initiated a vehicle pursuit. The suspect lost control of his vehicle upon exiting a freeway, exited the vehicle and fled on foot, still with the M4 slung across the front of his body. The deputies initiated a foot pursuit, during which deputies shot at the suspect again, striking him once in the chest and once in the face. The suspect was taken to the hospital and treated for his injuries. The suspect's gun was recovered at the scene.

**Compton:** LASD reported that on August 19, 2020, at approximately 4:09 a.m. deputies responded to a call for service involving a possible assault with a deadly weapon. Deputies observed a black vehicle that was described in the call, in the alley adjacent to the location. A male Black suspect ran from the vehicle while holding a firearm. The driver of the vehicle drove into the north lot from the alley and deputies broadcast the suspect was fleeing with a firearm. Moments later, the suspect who had ran appeared in the alley from behind a structure and was detained at gunpoint by deputies. During this time, the driver of the vehicle turned around and exited the fenced-in lot and drove into the alley directly towards the deputy who was holding the suspect at gun point. At that time, the deputy shot at the driver of the vehicle. The vehicle continued southbound in the alley and out of view of the deputies.

The suspect who ran was taken into custody and booked for assault with a deadly weapon on a peace officer and possession of a loaded firearm. The vehicle was later found abandoned. The front passenger tire of the vehicle was flat and possibly struck by the deputy's gunfire. No known persons were injured as a result of the gunfire.

**East Los Angeles:** LASD reported that on August 22, 2020, at approximately 9:52 p.m., deputies received a call for service regarding a possible hit and run collision with a parked vehicle. Two deputies each arrived separately on scene and stopped behind the suspect vehicle. They observed three male Hispanics and one female Hispanic standing in front of the suspect vehicle. As both deputies exited their patrol vehicles to contact the group, one of the males reached down with his right hand and removed a black semi-automatic handgun from his waistband. Fearing for his safety, one of the deputies fired one round at the suspect, but unintentionally struck one of the other males standing next to the armed suspect. Although the armed suspect fled he was later apprehended. No firearm was recovered. The male who was shot was taken to the hospital and treated for a gunshot wound to his right ankle.

**South Los Angeles:** LASD reported that on August 31, 2020, at approximately 3:14 p.m., two deputies were driving near 110th Street and Budlong Avenue when they observed a male Black (Dijon Kizzee) riding a bicycle in violation of a vehicle

code. They attempted to contact Mr. Kizzee but he discarded the bicycle and ran north on Budlong Avenue and out of view.

Eventually the deputies located Mr. Kizzee on an adjacent street and exited the vehicle to contact him. According to LASD, Mr. Kizzee resisted and fought with one of the deputies. During the struggle, Mr. Kizzee dropped a semi-automatic handgun to the ground. According to the deputies, Mr. Kizzee immediately reached down toward the firearm, at which time both deputies shot at him.

Mr. Kizzee sustained several gunshot wounds to the upper torso. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

A Ruger 9mm handgun, loaded with an unknown number of live rounds, was recovered at the scene.

**Compton:** LASD reported that on September 10, 2020, at approximately 5:36 a.m., deputies served a search warrant at a location in Compton. Deputies entered the residence and attempted to clear the home of all persons. The subject of the search warrant, a male Hispanic, ran from the main house and barricaded himself in the detached garage. Deputies surrounded the garage. Deputies heard possible gunshots and one of the deputies fired toward the barrel of a rifle that was pointed out of a rear door to the garage. At some point, a deputy at the front of the garage, shot toward the rollup door at the garage front. According to the deputies on scene, the suspect continued to intermittently shoot from the garage, and multiple deputies returned fire.

During this time, other individuals exited the rear garage, but the suspect remained barricaded in the garage. The garage caught fire and the suspect escaped through a hole in the side of the garage which exited onto neighboring property. Deputies had already set up a containment in the neighboring yard. According to the deputies, as the suspect crawled through the hole, he reached for his waistband and another deputy-involved shooting occurred. The suspect then clasped both hands in front of him and was dragged away from the garage and the fire. The suspect was pronounced dead at the scene. In all, a total of 57 shots were fired by the deputies.

Two loaded weapons magazines were recovered on the ground where the suspect crawled from the hole. Just inside the garage, deputies recovered an AK-47 assault rifle and a Glock .21 semiautomatic pistol. A search of the property yielded 14 firearms (including the two found near the suspect's body), a large quantity of cocaine, methamphetamine, and \$9,000 in cash.

**Whittier:** LASD reported that on September 23, 2020, at approximately 4:08 p.m., a LASD deputy had just finished his shift at the courthouse and was walking to his parked car in "street" clothes. While in the parking structure the deputy observed two men looking into his car's window. The deputy asked the male white suspect what he was doing. The deputy took out his cellphone and began filming the interaction. One suspect fled while the second suspect, a male white, walked away and demanded the deputy stop filming him. The second suspect then turned and advanced on the deputy while reaching for his waistband. The deputy identified himself as an off-duty deputy and removed his firearm. The second suspect continued to advance towards the deputy while reaching for his waistband, and the deputy shot three times.

The second suspect sustained two gunshots to his upper torso. He was taken to the hospital and treated for his injuries. He was listed in stable condition. In the male suspect's waistband, deputies located a folding knife.

The other suspect was not found.

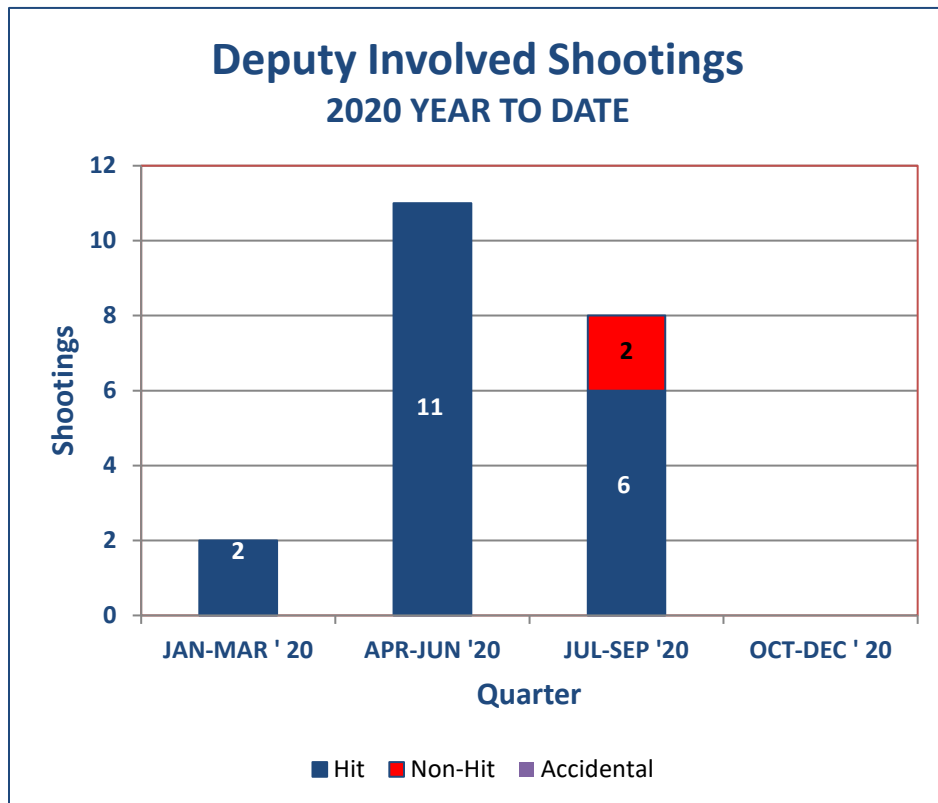
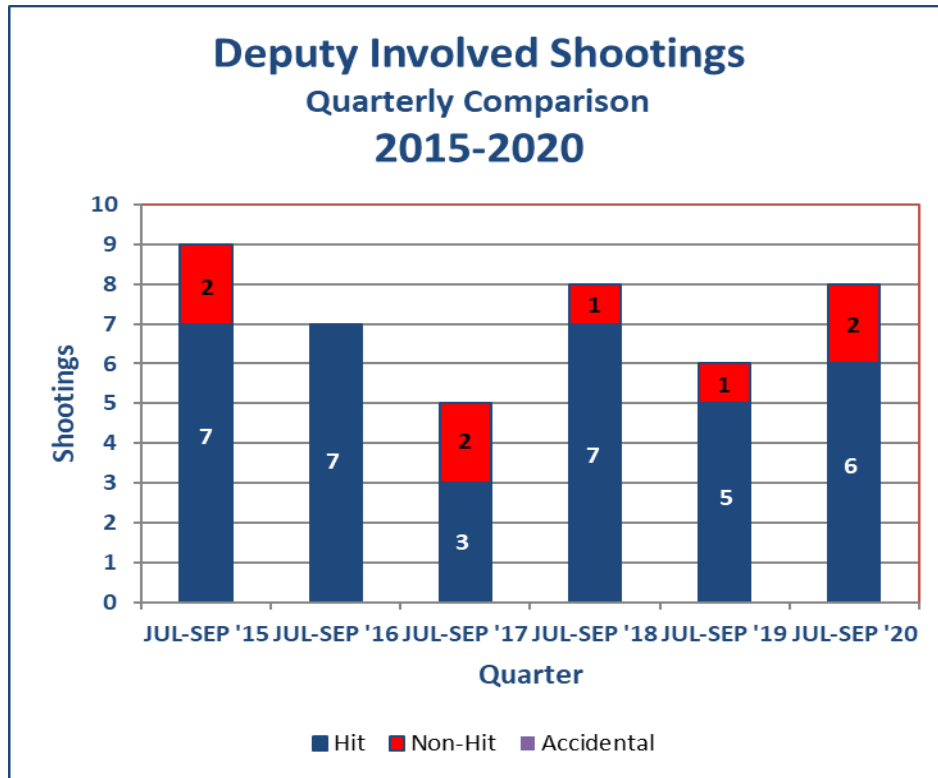
**East Los Angeles:** LASD reported that on September 24, 2020, at approximately 5:15 p.m., East Los Angeles Station received a call from an anonymous informant that four individuals were involved in an altercation near the intersection in East Los Angeles. A short time later, the informant updated the call stating one of the males was armed with a handgun and the group was last seen fleeing in a four-door white Nissan Sentra.

Deputies responded to the location and spotted the suspect vehicle. Deputies activated their overhead lights to conduct a felony traffic stop. The suspect's vehicle immediately pulled over. Two deputies got out of their patrol car to approach the suspect vehicle. As the suspect's car came to a rest, two male Hispanics exited the suspect vehicle and ran towards adjacent alley. As they fled, one of the suspects fired four shots in the direction of the deputies. One of the deputies shot one time at the suspects. The deputies did not give chase and stayed with the suspect vehicle, which still had three females inside. One of the females in the vehicle suffered a gunshot wound to her shoulder, which is thought to be from the suspect's bullets.

Deputies contained the area and ultimately located the two male suspects. One of the suspects was found hiding in a parked car. When deputies took him into custody, they found a handgun in the car.

The female was taken to the hospital, treated for her injuries, and released.

## Comparison to Prior Years



## District Attorney Review of Deputy-Involved Shootings

LASD's Homicide Bureau investigates all deputy-involved shootings in which a person is injured, regardless of shooting category. The Homicide Bureau submits the completed investigation of each deputy-involved shooting in which a person has been injured and which occurred in the County of Los Angeles, to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office (LADA) for review and possible filing of criminal charges.

Between July 1, 2020, and September 30, 2020, the LADA issued findings in four deputy-involved shooting cases involving LASD employees.

- In the July 26, 2019, non-fatal shooting of Timothy Neal, the District Attorney opined in a memorandum dated July 28, 2020, that deputies Ian Walker and Connor Hoffman acted lawfully in self-defense and in defense of others.
- In the September 8, 2016, non-fatal shooting of Jason Dyer, the District Attorney opined in a memorandum dated August 24, 2020, that deputies Justin Smith and Taylor Wells acted lawfully in self-defense and in defense of others.
- In the August 2, 2019, non-fatal shooting of Joseph Young, the District Attorney opined in a memorandum dated September 14, 2020, deputy Andrew Makins used reasonable force in the defense of others.
- In the October 31, 2017, non-fatal shooting of Sason Malca, the District Attorney opined in a memorandum dated September 16, 2020, Sergeant Charles Moylan acted lawfully in self-defense and in defense of others.<sup>6</sup>

The District Attorney's formal findings and the facts surrounding each of the above cases may be found at the District Attorney's web site at:

<http://da.lacounty.gov/reports/ois>.

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<sup>6</sup> The described September 14 and 16, 2020, District Attorney letters were posted on the District Attorney's web site subsequent to the Office of Inspector General's original submission of this report. Other than the addition of the description of these two letters, this report remains unchanged.

## Homicide Bureau's Investigation of Deputy-Involved Shootings

The Homicide Bureau is responsible for conducting the investigation of all deputy-involved shootings, regardless of category, in which a person is injured or killed. After completing its investigation, the Homicide Bureau submits its investigation to the LADA for consideration of filing criminal charges.

If the LADA declines to file the case, LASD's Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) completes a force review to determine whether Department personnel violated any Departmental policies during the incident.

For the present quarter, the Homicide Bureau reports 20 shooting cases involving LASD personnel are currently open and under investigation. The oldest case the unit is still actively investigating is the June 6, 2020 shooting that occurred in South Los Angeles. For further information as to that shooting, please refer to the Office of Inspector General's *Reform and Oversight Effort: Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, April to June 2019* report<sup>7</sup>. The oldest case that the unit has open is a 2017 shooting in Century, which has been sent to the LADA's office and awaiting a filing a decision.

This quarter, LASD reports it has sent three cases involving a deputy-involved shooting to the LADA for filing consideration.

## Internal Criminal Investigations Bureau

LASD's Internal Criminal Investigations Bureau (ICIB) reports directly to the Sheriff and Undersheriff. It is responsible for investigating allegations of criminal misconduct by members of LASD.

As of September 30, 2020, LASD reports ICIB has 70 active cases. This quarter, LASD reports sending eight cases to the LADA for filing considerations. The oldest open case that ICIB has sent to the LADA for filing consideration is a 2016 case, which is still being reviewed by the LADA.

## Internal Affairs Bureau

The Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) is responsible for conducting administrative investigations of policy violations by LASD members. It is also responsible for responding to and investigating deputy-involved shootings and significant use-of-

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<sup>7</sup> [https://oig.lacounty.gov/Portals/OIG/Reports/2nd\\_QRTR\\_2019\\_Reform\\_and\\_Oversight\\_Efforts.pdf?ver=2019-08-12-141305-897](https://oig.lacounty.gov/Portals/OIG/Reports/2nd_QRTR_2019_Reform_and_Oversight_Efforts.pdf?ver=2019-08-12-141305-897)



force cases. Administrative investigations are also conducted at the unit level. The subject's unit and IAB of command determine whether an investigation is investigated by IAB or remains a unit-level investigation.

This quarter, LASD reports opening 86 new administrative investigations. Of these 86 cases, 25 were assigned to IAB, 38 were designated as unit-level investigations, and 23 were entered as criminal monitors. In the same period, IAB reports that 94 cases were closed by IAB or at the unit level. There are 325 pending administrative investigations. Of those 325 investigations, 222 are assigned to IAB and the remaining 103 are pending unit-level investigations.

### **Civil Service Commission Dispositions**

From July 1 to September 30, 2020, the Civil Service Commission issued final decisions involving four LASD sworn personnel. In two of those cases, the Civil Service Commission upheld the Department's discharge of the employees. In two cases, the Civil Service Commission reduced the Department's discipline – in one case from an eight-day suspension from service to a letter of reprimand, and in the other from discharge to a thirty-day suspension from service.

## **CUSTODY DIVISION**

### **Handling of Prisoner Grievances**

LASD is still in the process of installing iPads in all jail facilities to capture information related to prisoner requests and, eventually, prisoner grievances. There are still a total of 180 installed iPads. There are 48 iPads at Century Regional Detention Facility (CRDF), 48 iPads at Men's Central Jail (MCJ), and 84 iPads at Twin Towers Correctional Facility (TTCF). As previously reported, LASD reports that Wi-Fi connection issues at MCJ required LASD to take the iPads off-line until the Wi-Fi upgrades are completed. LASD reports that they are experiencing issues updating the iPads throughout the system and connectivity issues at CRDF. Due to the ongoing issues with the iPads, LASD is now considering moving to Windows based tablets in order to rectify compatibility issues and ease other connectivity concerns. LASD reports that prisoners have accessed the iPads to obtain information on 577,861 occasions between July 1, 2020, and September 30, 2020.

As reported in the Office of Inspector General's January 2018 *Reform and Oversight Efforts: Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department* report, LASD implemented a

policy restricting the filing of duplicate and excessive prisoner grievances.<sup>8</sup> LASD reports that between July 1, 2020, and September 30, 2020, 10 prisoners were restricted from filing 40 grievances under this policy.

## **In-Custody Deaths**

Between July 1, 2020, and September 30, 2020, 14 individuals died while under the care and custody of LASD. Of these 14 decedents, three died at TTCF, two died at MCJ, one died at NCCF, one died in a court lockup, and seven died in the hospitals to which the decedents had been transported.

Office of Inspector General staff attended the Custody Services Division Administrative Death Reviews for each of the 14 in-custody deaths.

The following summaries, arranged in chronological order, provide brief descriptions of each in-custody death:

On July 4, 2020, an individual died at Los Angeles County/USC Medical Center (LCMC) after being transported from MCJ on June 17, 2020, for a higher level of care.

On July 5, 2020, an individual at TTCF was reportedly discovered unresponsive during a Title-15 safety check. Deputies and medical personnel rendered emergency aid until paramedics arrived and transported the individual to LCMC. The individual died six hours later.

On June 19, 2020, an individual at Inmate Reception Center (IRC) suffered a medical emergency. Deputies and medical personnel rendered emergency aid until paramedics arrived and transported the individual to LCMC. The individual died on July 6, 2020.

On July 10, 2020, an individual died at LCMC after being transported from TTCF's Correctional Treatment Center on June 30, 2020, for a higher level of care.

On July 13, 2020, an individual died at LCMC after being transported from TTCF on June 27, 2020, for a higher level of care.

On July 13, 2020, an individual died at LCMC after being transported from TTCF's Correctional Treatment Center on June 9, 2020, for a higher level of care.

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<sup>8</sup> See Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, *Custody Division Manual*, 8-04/050.00, Duplicate or Excessive Filings of Grievances and Appeals, and Restrictions of Filing Privileges.

On July 14, 2020, an individual was reportedly discovered by deputies in a cell at MCJ during what was described as a suicide attempt. Emergency aid was rendered, paramedics were called, and the individual was pronounced dead at the scene.

On July 22, 2020, an individual was reportedly discovered by deputies in a cell at Metropolitan Courthouse during what was described as a suicide attempt. Emergency aid was rendered, paramedics were called, and the individual was pronounced dead at the scene.

On August 6, 2020, deputies were alerted to an individual at TTCF having a medical emergency. Deputies and medical personnel rendered emergency aid, paramedics were called, but the individual was pronounced dead at the scene.

On August 15, 2020, an individual at TTCF was reportedly discovered unresponsive during a Title-15 safety check. Emergency aid was rendered, paramedics were called, but the individual was pronounced dead at the scene.

On August 16, 2020, an individual at NCCF was reportedly discovered unresponsive during a Title-15 safety check. Emergency aid was rendered, paramedics were called, but the individual was pronounced dead at the scene.

On August 20, 2020, an individual at MCJ was reportedly discovered unresponsive during a Title-15 safety check. Emergency aid was rendered, paramedics were called, but the individual was pronounced dead at the scene.

On September 6, 2020, an individual at TTCF was reportedly discovered unresponsive during a Title-15 safety check. Emergency aid was rendered, paramedics were called, but the individual was pronounced dead at the scene.

On September 20, 2020, an individual died at LCMC after being transported from TTCF's Correctional Treatment Center on September 3, 2020, for a higher level of care.

### **Office of Inspector General Site Visits**

The Office of Inspector General normally conducts site visits and inspections at LASD's custodial facilities to identify matters requiring attention. Since the Los Angeles County Safer at Home Order issued on March 19, 2020, the Office of Inspector General has limited site visits. In the third quarter of 2020, Office of Inspector General personnel completed 13 site visits inside LASD's Pitchess Detention Center (PDC) – South Facility, North County Correctional Facility (NCCF),

MCJ, and CRDF. Office of Inspector General staff have been closely monitoring LASD's and Correctional Health Services' (CHS's) response to the COVID-19 pandemic and following up on concerns raised by the public. As part of the Office of Inspector General's jail monitoring, Office of Inspector General staff attended 62 Custody Services Division executive and administrative meetings and met with division executives for 58 monitoring hours related to COVID-19 as well as general conditions.

Also due to the COVID-19 pandemic, on June 26, 2020, the Executive Officer appointed the Inspector General to oversee the County's capacity to monitor and regulate SNFs in order to ensure quality care. On July 30, 2020, the Inspector General and A-C each submitted a scope of work detailing the objectives, tasks and preliminary reporting schedule for their review and oversight of SNFs (Attachments III and IV, respectively). Our resulting report, [Improving Oversight and Accountability Within Skilled Nursing Facilities: First Interim Report](#), may be viewed at the Office of Inspector General's [web-site](#).

To perform this function the Office of Inspector General was required to repurpose 2,241 hours from oversight of the Sheriff's and Probation departments between July 1 and August 31, 2020.

As reported in the previous quarter, the Office of Inspector General has been exploring regaining access to the Justice Video Conference System (JVCS) to facilitate meetings with persons in custody. On August 7, 2020, ten staff members of the Office of Inspector General obtained access, permission, and capability to use Cisco Jabber software, which allows these members to facilitate meetings with those in custody with video and audio capability.

## **CITIZENS' COMMISSION ON JAIL VIOLENCE UPDATES**

### ***CCJV Recommendation 3.12: The Department should purchase additional body scanners***

LASD continues to operate body scanners at MCJ, CRDF, PDC North, PDC South, NCCF, and IRC.

According to LASD records, from July 1, 2020, to September 30, 2020, 617 prisoners refused to go through the body scanners across all applicable facilities. As previously reported, LASD reported that it no longer records the reasons for such refusals because the data did not contribute significant feedback towards the goal of reducing strip searches since the primary reason for refusals is jail politics.

*CCJV Recommendation 7.15: The use of lapel cameras as an investigative tool should be broadened*

As previously reported, LASD opted for an alternative implementation of this recommendation and embarked on a five-year program to install fixed cameras in the jail facilities. All identified cameras are now up and running at PDC South Facility, laundry area, and vocational shops. Efforts to implement body worn cameras in patrol are ongoing.