

Written Public Comment Provided for the September 23, 2021 Meeting of the Los Angeles County Sheriffs Civilian Oversight Commission As of 9/23/2021 at 5:00pm.

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September 22nd, 2021

Brian K. Williams, Esq, Executive Director Priscilla Ocen, Chair Casimiro Tolentino, Vice-Chair

Los Angeles County Civilian Oversight Commission 350 S. Figueroa St. Suite 288 Los Angeles, CA 90071

## SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY

# Re: Subpoena to Sheriff Villanueva on Department's Potential Administrative Misuse of Investigative Powers to Target Oversight officials

Dear Members of the Los Angeles County Civilian Oversight Commission:

The Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA) is a leading immigrant rights organization based in Los Angeles County, with a statewide presence and national impact. CHIRLA's work is rooted in the need for intersectional advocacy.

Every day, we work to actively understand and help reimagine new realities for immigrants, whose racial identity and racialization, immigration status, and experiences with systems of power are unique and intricately connected to criminalization and systemic violence. With these values and communities in mind, I am writing to express CHIRLA's support towards the Civilian Oversight Commission and our deep disappointment and increasing concern with Sheriff Villanueva's leadership.

## HEADQUARTERS

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We are disappointed by the Sheriff's hostility towards the Civilian Oversight Commission and his antagonism towards investigative procedures requiring his testimony, recently regarding organized deputy cliques and presently, LASD's pattern of publicly announcing the opening of criminal investigations of various department heads, public officials, oversight officials and other professionals who disagree with the LASD.

The people of Los Angeles County are now demanding the Sheriff's Department be monitored by the Civilian Oversight Commission; and that Sheriff Villanueva comply with internal and external investigations. CHIRLA firmly believes that the Sheriff's department should be committed to transparency and transformation, and should work in partnership with the Civilian Oversight Commission. Sheriff Villanueva's refusal to cooperate with oversight and accountability measures strays exceedingly far from the departmental changes that our communities expect

We commend the Civilian Oversight Commission for continuously looking to hold the Los Angeles Sheriff Department and Sheriff Villanueva accountable for change. We respectfully call for the Los Angeles County Sheriff, Alex Villanueva to comply with the subpoena for personal appearance before the Los Angeles County Civilian Oversight Commission, and testify on the matter of administrative misuse of investigative powers to target Oversight officials and political adversaries.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Maria Jose Vides at <u>mvides@chirla.org.</u>

Respectfully,

Joseph Villela Director of Policy

Maria Jose Vides

Maria Jose Vides Regional Policy Advocate



**CC:** Los Angeles County Civilian Oversight Commission Brian K. Williams, Esq, Executive Director Priscilla Ocen, Chair Casimiro Tolentino, Vice-Chair 

Agenda Item	Public Comment	Name
Sheriff Villanueva	I want to say a big THANK YOU to Sheriff Villanueva. He seems to be the only person in public office who is taking any action. Not sure what all the other elected officials are doing except watching our city deteriorate. Villanueva for Mayor. He should be everyone else's boss. He has my vote.	
Homeless people and their feeders	If you remain inhumane, keeping people homeless by paying their fines which is paying them to be homeless and subject to death or rape nightly, while promising a SHELTER yet not allowing any homeless in the homeless shelter(???) the eventual and inevitable answer out of caused and done purposely for frustration, will absolutely lead to anyone or everyone against this wall, and snapping like they should have. Before MB lied to ALL. Dirty. Cheat. Filthy. Do not represent me. Or anyone including people subject to arm twists controlled by MB. He is profiting off of this, and other disgusting ways from the homeless and crime. He is a criminal, and the proof is far too much to type, but look outside. IT SHOWS. Reflects who you are. Wonderful role model MB and company are. For a carjacker maybe. BUT HOW DOES SOMEONE THINK THEY KNOW WHATS BEST FOR THIS SITUATION, WHEN THEY HAVE NEVER WALKED INTO THE SITUATION AT HAND??? Wouldn't the RESIDENTS WHO LIVE AMONG THE PROBLEMS, THE UNHOUSED THIEVS, UNHOUSED RAPISTS, UNHOUSED INMATES, UNHOUSED ANYONE at all? People/residents all obviously that complain, absolutely have something to complain about. The others, UNHOUSED prisoners, ( he loves no houses, why?) aren't who MB works for. He can be king and queen of the streets but not beach. Not one job criteria or description has been met. This man Mike Bonin is more than unfit for office he's only fit to ruin anything and everything to his liking. Drug test him please also. Thanks.	ONE OF MANY BOSSES
The newly arrived so called "Homeless " hanging out by the thousands inVenice!	The removal of this menace of drug addicted ,mentally ill and criminal predators from our neighborhoods which have become a dumping ground for the inept and corrupt frauds in our local, city and state government!!!	
Deputies Misconduct	The civilian oversight committee .can make the list of Deputies misconducts or abusing there power and corruption.cases there are deputies are abusing the position to use aircraft helicopters drones jets to do invasion of privacy and to intimidate people flying those aircraft by people houses.they are acting like criminals.they violating people civil rightsthe helicopter supposed to fly 400 Ft high not on top of people s houses.the drones they supposed to use for investigation not to use to harass people invasion of privacy and violating the 4fourt admedmemt.	Reynaldo

Intimidation & harassment by authorities I'm in	My concern is regarding on how in multiple occasions I've contacted local authority because of a crime but the authorities usually never answer when I call. This is concerning especially because there is lives put at risk & when the authorities are needed they aren't there. If there is actually any transparency how is this justifiable? Until when will the authorities understand that they are getting paid by the taxpayer & they DON'T choose when to respond! Someone is in danger & their duty is to protect & serve therefore that is what they need to provide as a professional.	Jessica Martinez
Administrative	I would like to comment on the many issues that are happening within IRC. As of late I have noticed 3 OIG representatives coming into the jail and talking with inmates and staff. The most I have ever seen since my 20+ years working IRC. There are issues of favoritism, nepotism and age discrimination happening. I reported an issue about the cleanliness of 231 and the problem has not been addressed. The stench and condition of the cells the inmates are in are horrible!!! Can OIG inspect these areas and assist personnel in getting help with the issue? I have emails and pictures where I have provided to our logistics and line supervisors. Initially a cleaning crew was sent to bandage the problem. Problem not solved. Personnel's health is affected also.	Doryce Rushing
2E and Public Comment	The Commission should urge the Board of Supervisors to overhaul the entire Sheriff's Department, including a ballot measure that would amend the L.A. County Charter to maximize civilian oversight and community control over the sheriff and LASD. For decades, we have faced a crisis of tattooed deputy gangs among the ranks and management of the L.A. County Sheriff's Department (LASD). Often adopting white supremacist and neo-Nazi ideologies and imagery, LASD gangs have emerged in Black and brown communities, where it's perceived it's acceptable to brutalize, lie, and engage in crime. Deputy gang members have hunted, framed, beaten, shot, and killed people of color for membership ("ink") and prestige. We've known of at least 18 deputy gangs that have existed in various stations and units. The RAND report only confirms what we've known all along. We were never expecting the RAND report to accurately depict the full extent of the decades-long deputy gangs crisis. It has severe limitations in its methodology, fails to fully make the connection between deputy gangs and the wholly-lacking LASD disciplinary system, and mainly recommends reform and training—nibbling at the edges, really. RAND is saying that deputy gangs exist, some are actively recruiting and doing harm, and more could be done. In fact, the report's recommendations to create (a) a strong and clear policy prohibiting deputy gangs and (b) external mechanisms for accountability are good jumping-off points. And it serves to stop Villanueva's gaslighting on the issue. The report also confirms there's been no coordinated effort to discourage membership in deputy gangs. And the fact that the vast	Carlos M. Montes

Impacted Family	As a community we should feel safe enough to call 911 while in crisis,	Emily Ordaz
Member - Public Comment	LASD has made it evident that even when you're suicidal, they'll come and execute you in front of your family and home. Alex Villanueva issued a statement saying he sent me and my family his deepest condolences yet there has been no actions made to prove it. Accountability isn't just one officer being "relieved of duty", instead it's making sure you eradicate the gang culture in LASD and keep murderous officers as far away from law enforcement as you can. Even with one officer being "relieved of duty" that leaves 3 more murderers in LASD and then some. Men who have taken lives, and executed our community members should be prosecuted not just "held accountable" by putting their names on some hidden PDF document on the LASD website. That's not accountability, Alex.	
2c	https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qNXfQYIbbFaCvpWvU2eKIpIJunx f- aN1/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=103493084500527482756&rtpof=true&sd =true Please view document.	Maria Vides
Measure R	I am Terrance Henson with Southern California Resource Services for Independent Living. We are a non-profit Independent Living Center that assists people with disabilities achieve their goals of independence and community living. I am here to offer my center's resources and assistance with Supervisor Solis' priorities and unmet needs identified on Measure R. If there is any information on how to assist the Ad-Hoc committee I would like to be contacted, thenson@scrs-ilc.org. Please add my comment to the official records. Thank you.	Terrance Henson

Public Comment -	I am unable to attend today due to work, but I am asking from our	Franki Jacobs - VAA
	Coalition who serves with non profits in LA County for many years to both Victims of Violent Crime and related policy expansion areas. We as a collective community have waited over 12 months to learn that LASD has not provided Police Reports to Felony Violent Crime Victims upon a request for copy at a later date. The Felony Violent Crime Reports have been PURGED. When can we have a PANEL together with other VICTIM ADVOCATES to allow our voices to be heard on a full panel????? This topic is not only one that impacts Diversity, but it includes many single mothers and we know that the voice of our community is not being heard. We appreciate an answer to this question, WHEN can the VOICE of VICTIM ADVOCATES be on a Panel with our LASD, and others within these meetings?????	Victim Advocates Association & the Angels of Strength AS1 Educational Programs
2c	We want to thank you for listening. These issues are not made up, it's REAL! Until it hit home the feeling is different. It's a NIGHTMARE! What the LASD have been allowed to get away with is illegal, MURDER is crime. Now with the RAND investigation completed, it's time to hold them accountable. They need to be arrested and charged, like every other human. ALL their arrest should be reversed and remove! Deputy Gonzalo Inzunza shot 4 people in 7 months. A Jumpout Boy!	Jacqueline Venters
2b	Inmates in the overcrowded IRC need to be released without using the racist risk factor evaluation. The police have plenty of money, they do not need any more money. The police need to redirect their money to helping the houseless population, not locking them up. We need to abolish the jails and we need to abolish the police.	Caleb Schoenfeld
2c	Sheriff Villanueva needs to be held accountable for not obeying the subpoena, along with threatening and harassing oversight officials. Villanueva needs to be fired. Villanueva needs to resign.	Caleb Schoenfeld

4	In regard to SB2, we shouldn't need to look into the intent of an officer. We know from history that police lie repeatedly. We also know from history that police feel justified in their racist intentions so we should not rely on their intentions. Intent would be so hard to prove with police we should not focus on their intent, focus on the action. If an officer murders or harasses civilians we do not need to know the intent of that officer, they need to be held accountable.	Caleb Schoenfeld
4	The LAPD and the LASD should not be allowed to investigate themselves. These police proudly wear their Blue Lives flags and we know they are in gangs together so why are discussing if or when police should investigate themselves? Police should not be allowed to investigate themselves. Outside sources need to investigate the sheriff's and police.	Caleb Schoenfeld