

A Message from the Chairman of the Board

Thank you Zev and congratulations on a job well done.

This coming year, I look forward to pursuing a number of goals that will maintain and increase the public's trust and support for their County government, but I would like to touch briefly on several highlights.

The top priority facing the County this year will be the implementation of health care reform. The Federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, promises to cover 1.8 million of our County's 2.2 million uninsured Angelenos. The successful implementation of the program, however, will require the efforts of multiple departments and rigorous oversight by the entire Board of Supervisors.



Enhancing public safety will remain a priority. We have an obligation to protect the civil rights of everyone touched by the criminal justice system, which is why I am committed to the implementation of the County Jail Violence Commission's recommendations, as well as the creation of a Citizen's Commission to oversee the Sheriff's Department. Our Sheriff's Department can and will be a model of transparency and reform.

In the same regard, the realignment efforts and implementation of AB 109 are of utmost concern. Passage by the voters this November of Proposition 30 affords the County a dedicated revenue stream with which we can pursue the business of ensuring public safety. We must institute effective supervision models and the rehabilitative services for those formerly

incarcerated, who need to successfully re-enter our communities and avoid re-offending and recidivism.

Reform of our Probation Department remains crucial, as well as safeguarding the civil rights and physical well-being of its young wards. On that front, it will remain both mine and the Board's priority to pursue an integrated, multi-disciplinary approach to address human trafficking. We have more knowledge now, more data and information about the toll human trafficking is taking on minors caught in our probation system. Supervisor Don Knabe has kept us focused on this issue, and it is one we cannot afford to let go unattended.

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
continued on page 5

Calendar of Events.....	2	HIGHLIGHTS Volume 45 Issue 1	NoHo Senior Villas.....	8
New D.A./Green Leadership.....	3		For Your Health.....	8-11
QPC Launches Alumni Network.....	5		Human Trafficking Awareness Month.....	12
CDC/HACoLA New Home.....	7		Retirees/DIGEST Turns 45.....	13

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

California Science Center
700 Exposition Boulevard, Los Angeles 90037
(323) 724-3623
www.californiasciencecenter.org

Ongoing – Space Shuttle Endeavour

Natural History Museum
900 Exposition Boulevard, Los Angeles 90007
(213) 763-DINO
www.nhm.org

Ongoing – Butterfly Brooch Collection

LACMA
5905 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles 90036
(323) 857-6010
www.lacma.org

Ongoing – Levitated Mass
Ongoing – Metropolis II

Through February 10 – Bodies and Shadows: Caravaggio and His Legacy
Through March 24 – Robert Mapplethorpe: XYZ
Through June 30 – Stanley Kubrick

Center Theatre Group
www.centertheatregroup.org

Kirk Douglas Theatre
March 19 through April 14 – The Nether

Ahmanson Theatre
January 20 through March 1 – Backbeat
March 12 through April 21 – End of the Rainbow
April 25 through May 5 – Fela!

Mark Taper Forum
February 27 through April 14 – Tribes

Dorothy Chandler Pavilion
February 1 through February 3 – The Joffrey Ballet
March 9 through March 30 – The Flying Dutchman
March 23 through April 14 – Cinderella

Happy New Year

Visit <http://hr.lacounty.gov>
for information on employment
opportunities with the
County of Los Angeles



Members of the Board

Mark Ridley-Thomas
Chairman
Second District

Gloria Molina
First District

Zev Yaroslavsky
Third District

Don Knabe
Fourth District

Michael D. Antonovich
Fifth District



Lisa M. Garrett
Director of Personnel

Carla D. Williams
Sr. Human Resources
Manager

John S. Mina
Editor-in-Chief



County DIGEST Editorial Office
Department of Human Resources
500 West Temple Street, Suite 555
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 893-7810

CountyDIGEST@hr.lacounty.gov

Submissions to the DIGEST may be
edited or otherwise altered for clarity.

Check out the DIGEST at

<http://dhrdcap.co.la.ca.us/jic/digest/>

Historic Election for L.A. County:

Jackie Lacey First African-American and Female District Attorney

Jackie Lacey was sworn in as Los Angeles County District Attorney on December 3, 2012 at the University of Southern California's Galen Center, making history as the first woman and first African-American to hold the office.



In her first speech as leader of the 2,100-employee office, District Attorney Lacey pledged to serve justice and the public. "I am committed to making the best decisions possible, putting the best people in place to carry out our mission and never forgetting that I work for you," she told a crowd of 1,200.

She also touted some of the office's many achievements: the advancement of DNA evidence; prosecution of gang members and narcotic dealers; and innovations in the prosecution of public corruption, high-tech and white-collar crime cases.

District Attorney Lacey also praised and thanked her predecessor, former District Attorney Steve Cooley, "for modeling such extraordinary leadership and being a mentor and my biggest supporter outside of my family."

Cooley administered the oath of office to District Attorney Lacey who was flanked by her husband, David Lacey, and children, April and Kareem. Former District Attorneys Gil Garcetti, Robert Philibosian and John Van de Kamp were on stage, looking on.

The new District Attorney swore the oath on a cherished family bible that once belonged to her late maternal grandmother, Alene Luke, who raised 14 children in rural Georgia.

Van de Kamp introduced the newly sworn District Attorney and presented her with the District Attorney's badge.

United States Attorney André Birotte Jr. served as master of ceremonies for the event. The Inner City Youth Orchestra

performed and Lacey's 9-year-old niece Kaylla Samuel sang "I Am."

Judge Lee Smalley Edmon, the first woman to serve as presiding judge of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, was the guest speaker.

District Attorney Lacey joined the District Attorney's Office in 1986 as a deputy district attorney. She is the 42nd District Attorney of Los Angeles County.

L.A. County Seeks Entries for 2013 Green Leadership Awards



The County of Los Angeles is now accepting applications for the 2013 "Green Leadership Awards" program announced Chief Executive Officer William T Fujioka.

"As one of the largest employers in Southern California, the County of Los Angeles practices and promotes good environmental stewardship," said CEO Fujioka. "The Green Leadership Awards program provides a unique opportunity for the Board of Supervisors to recognize the outstanding efforts of both the private and public sectors to improve environmental sustainability."

Each year, residents, businesses, local governments and community-based organizations in the County submit entries that show innovative and creative solutions to challenges involving environmental issues.

All County residents, public agencies, businesses, and nonprofit organizations are eligible to participate in the Green Leadership Awards program. The Board of Supervisors will recognize the winning outstanding projects at a regular Board meeting in April as part of its annual observance of Earth Day.

For more information, including guidelines and an application, please visit www.lacounty.gov.

Application deadline: February 22, 2013 by 5:00 p.m.

Safe Surrender Program Celebrates 101 Saved Lives

One hundred and one lit candles solemnly lined the fountain at Downtown's Grand Park on November 27, 2012 serving as a visual symbol of the lives saved by the Safe Surrender program since its inception 11 years ago. Fire Chief Daryl Osby and Fire Captain Ron Ripley joined Supervisor Don Knabe and families who have adopted safely surrendered babies, in celebrating the 101 children who were given another chance at life thanks to this program.

As designated Safe Surrender sites, our fire stations serve as a haven where mothers can safely give up their newborns. "The mission of the fire service is to protect life and property, and for us that mission begins all over again every time a child is born in Los Angeles County," said Osby. "We literally opened the doors of our fire stations as safe surrender sites. And through the Los Angeles County Fire Chiefs Association, all other municipal fire departments joined in to create a seamless network of fire stations."

Since the program's inception, 12 of the 101 safe surrenders occurred at Los Angeles County fire stations. Ripley experienced a safe surrender himself seven years ago, while working at Fire Station 181 in Pomona. A man appeared at the firehouse door with a baby boy in his arms, handing the newborn infant over to Ripley. The baby was later named Ryan and adopted to a loving family. Ripley was recently reunited with Ryan, who is now a happy and healthy second grader.



On November 27, 2012, Fire Chief Daryl Osby and Fire Captain Ron Ripley joined Supervisor Don Knabe and families who have adopted safely surrendered babies, in celebrating the 101 children who were given another chance at life thanks to the Safe Surrender Program. (Photo courtesy of the Office of Supervisor Don Knabe)

"In 2001, the Safe Surrender program began in Los Angeles County. Eleven years later, I am so proud that 101 infants have been saved and new families have been created," said Knabe, who spearheaded the Safely Surrendered Baby Law Task Force and has been a primary advocate of the program. "While it is difficult to 'celebrate' a baby being given up, when we consider what the alternative could have been, we recognize the courage it took for a mother, who found herself in a desperate situation, to make a better choice for her child."

Established in 2001, the Safe Surrender program allows a parent or legal guardian to confidentially hand over an infant, three days old or younger, to any hospital emergency room, fire station or other designated Safe Surrender site, as long as the baby has not been abused or neglected. To learn more about the Safe Surrender program, visit <http://www.babysafela.org>. You can also follow Safe Surrender on Twitter @SurrenderSafe and on Facebook at Facebook.com/SafeSurrender.

DHR mobile site:

<http://m.hr.lacounty.gov>

- Search for upcoming job opportunities
- Search for positions available throughout LA County
- Stay current with DHR news



QPC Launches Alumni Network

Quality and Productivity Commission Launches Alumni Network and Sets Calendar for 2013

On December 6, 2012, the Quality and Productivity Commission sponsored a reception for department productivity managers. During the event a new and exciting initiative, the Alumni Network, was launched to provide support to current managers in a virtual environment.

Chief Executive Officer William T Fujioka spoke, thanking the managers “for their hard work throughout the year to improve County services.” Guest speaker Tony Bell, Assistant Chief Deputy to Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, encouraged the productivity managers “to continue to identify creative and unique programs that will make the County more efficient.”



Assistant Chief Deputy for the Fifth District Tony Bell (right) with 2013 QPC Chair Edward T. McIntyre

County Savings

Supervisor Antonovich introduced the Board motion in 1981 which created the QPC. Cost-saving programs recognized by the Commission since its inception have resulted in nearly \$4 billion in savings, cost avoidance and revenue for the County.

“Productivity managers are really our ambassadors within County departments and this new initiative will strengthen their role,” said 2012 QPC Chair William Sullivan. “We rely on the managers to promote quality and productivity, and to identify innovative projects which may be eligible for financial support from the Productivity Investment Fund (PIF),” he said.

Information Sharing

“Our productivity managers are dedicated and a valuable asset to the Commission,” said QPC Chair Emeritus Jaclyn Tilley Hill. “We envision the alumni sharing their wealth of knowledge

and information with current managers. It will be a win-win exchange for all involved,” she said.

On February 11, 2013, the PMN Executive Committee will meet to finalize guidelines for the Alumni Network.

In other Commission news, the QPC has a full calendar of Department visits scheduled for 2013, beginning with the Department of Health Services on January 30, 2013.

The annual Commissioners’ Leadership Conference will be held on Wednesday, May 22, 2013 at the Music Center, Fifth Floor, Salons A & B.

Departments are encouraged to seek funding for innovative projects that will enhance employee productivity and improve the quality of services provided to the public.

For more information, visit <http://qpc.co.la.ca.us> or contact the Commission at (213) 974-1361 or (213) 974-1390.

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

continued from page 1

Economic development and capital projects are ongoing endeavors. This means a sustained involvement with the creation of low and moderate income housing – an effort that is all the more important given the dissolution of redevelopment agencies.

In my own district, I also look forward to a productive year. We will continue the momentum of building new libraries, community centers, parks, environmentally sustainable community gardens, as well as medical and transportation infrastructure, including, our most notable projects to date: the construction of the new Crenshaw-to-LAX light rail line and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Hospital.

I look forward to working collaboratively with my colleagues on the Board. Their stewardship of the County has been exemplary, and each preceding chair has worked hard to keep the region’s safety net of services strong and effective.



2013 Cesar Chavez Community Service Week

“Service to Others”

March 25 – 29, 2013

On January 15, 2013 the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors declared March 25 to March 31 as Cesar E. Chavez Community Service Week, with the theme “Service to Others.” The County will be honoring his life and work during this week by allowing County employees to volunteer in the community at a County department or non-profit organization on March 26, 27, or 28. In addition, a fund drive with the L.A. Regional Food Bank will begin March 25 and end March 29, 2013.

Employee volunteer opportunities will include spending four or eight hour days on March 26, 27, or 28. Packets will be sent to County employees the first week of February with information on how to participate. You can also visit the Chief Executive Office, Office of Workplace Programs website at www.ceo.lacounty.gov and click on Cesar Chavez Community Service Week to obtain a packet, which includes the flyer, application, procedures, volunteer opportunities, food drive, and other information.

Last year, hundreds of employees participated at the Weingart Center, L.A. Regional Food Bank, and at the departments of Animal Care and Control, Beaches and Harbors, Parks and Recreation, Public Library, Public Social Services, Probation, and Military and Veterans’ Affairs. Employees enjoyed volunteering their time and giving back to our communities.

Photos from the 2012 Cesar E. Chavez Community Service Week.



The Community Development Commission/Housing Authority Relocates to Alhambra

The Community Development Commission (CDC) and the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles (HACoLA) have moved into their new headquarters, located at 700 West Main Street in Alhambra.



Adjacent to public transit systems, the move is designed to better serve the residents of the County with a single location. Previous to the move, the agency had separate offices in East Los Angeles, Monterey Park, and Santa Fe Springs. The move

consolidated 500 employees from remote operations and satellite offices into a single address, thereby increasing operating efficiencies and reducing administrative costs.

The headquarters location is formerly the site of the Alhambra Theater, one of Los Angeles' most historic movie theaters. The Edwards Atlantic Palace multiplex was built in its place after the original theater was destroyed in the 1987 Whittier earthquake. The multiplex was demolished in July after the agency purchased the property.

Featuring state-of-the-art environmental building techniques, the structure is comprised of steel and glass, and measures 120,000 square feet. For example, the materials from the demolished multiplex were separated, ground up, and reused along with organic materials, as infill for the new facility. Also, the use of fresh air and natural light is maximized to reduce the need for mechanical lighting, as well as heating and cooling. The site landscaping includes an irrigation basin which allows runoff to be collected for additional plant feeding, minimizing overall water use. A Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certification is expected upon full occupancy. For information on services offered by the CDC/HACoLA, please visit www.lacdc.org.

Child Support Services Opens New Antelope Valley Division

On October 24, 2012, the Los Angeles County Child Support Services Department (CSSD) held a grand opening for the Department's new Antelope Valley Division in Lancaster which will improve the delivery of child support services to the area's residents. Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich and CSSD Director Dr. Steven J. Golightly provided keynote addresses during ceremonies for the new division. The event was attended by 100 community leaders, court officials, Los Angeles County executives, and CSSD staff.

"This is, in fact, our prototype for the CSSD office of the future," said Dr. Golightly at the ceremony. He pointed out that the office features a customer-friendly lobby and interview area that eliminates physical barriers and provides play areas for children.

Supervisor Antonovich represents the Antelope Valley area serviced by the new office. The Supervisor emphasized that the child support program is very important to the welfare of children in Los Angeles County and that CSSD has made great strides in improving customer service.

"This new facility provides great access to the public because it is located closer to public transportation and the freeway," said Supervisor Antonovich. He also noted that County supervisors are pleased with Dr. Golightly's leadership and his Department's efforts to improve child support services in the County.

At the grand opening, Supervisor Antonovich and members of the community were given tours of the Antelope Valley Division office, located at 42281 10th Street West in Lancaster. The region had previously been served in the nearby city of Palmdale. The new location provides a more efficient and professional space for both child support customers and staff. Ample parking is available and the site is strategically well positioned allowing for easy access from all locations in the Antelope Valley. The 60 staff members of the Antelope Valley Division officially moved in on May 29, 2012 following the Memorial Day weekend. For more information about the Los Angeles County Child Support Services Department, go to <http://cssd.lacounty.gov>.



Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, CSSD Director Dr. Steven J. Golightly and CSSD executives take part in the ribbon cutting for the new Antelope Valley Division in Lancaster.

Grand Opening for NoHo Senior Villas

On November 29, 2012, the North Hollywood (NoHo) Senior Villas officially opened its doors for the community to see. The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) supported this project that created 49 affordable apartments for seniors (ages 55 and older) who were homeless and/or diagnosed with a serious mental illness. Thirty of the one-bedroom apartments are designated units for Mental Health Services Act (MHSa) eligible clients.

The NoHo Senior Villas broke ground in April 2011 and was completed in October 2012. PATH Ventures will be providing on-site resident services coordination and case management services. The lead mental health services provider is the San Fernando Valley Community Mental Health Center.

LACDMH committed more than \$6.2 million of MHSa Housing Program funds for the NoHo Senior Villas, designating \$3.1 million for capital development and \$3.1 million for operating subsidies. Over the term of the loan, LACDMH will provide \$3.6 million of in-kind mental health services for the tenants residing in the MHSa-funded units. With LACDMH's commitment, the project leveraged an additional \$13.8 million to finance the development of the project.

“These things (housing communities) don't just happen by accident. It takes two things: leadership and partnership,” said LACDMH Director Dr. Marvin J. Southard, D.S.W. “Events like these (grand openings) don't happen without partnerships. So, we are pleased to have built partnerships so we can build more projects like this one.”



The grand opening was hosted by Clifford Beers Housing and PATH Ventures who were also the project sponsors and developers. Besides LACDMH, the NoHo Senior Villas was also supported by the City of Los Angeles (Los Angeles Housing Department, Community Development Department and Community Redevelopment Agency), the County of Los Angeles (Community Development Commission) and the State of California (Tax Credit Allocation Committee, Debt Limit Allocation Committee and Department of Housing & Community Development).

Other supporters include Citi Community Capital, Corporation for Supportive Housing, California Housing Finance Agency, the Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco – Affordable Housing Program and the Raymond James Tax Credit Funds.



It's Flu Season Get Vaccinated!



For additional information regarding Flu vaccinations and locations, please visit <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/ip/flu/FluLocatorMain.htm>





New Year, Cleaner Air: Hospitals Go Smoke Free

Patients and employees can no longer light up at County-run hospitals... thanks to a new smoke-free policy phased in last year. LAC+USC, Harbor-UCLA and Olive View-UCLA Medical Centers no longer allow smoking or the use of tobacco products anywhere on campus. Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center will transition to the new policy early in 2013.

“As health providers, we need to send the right message to our patients and staff,” says Olive View-UCLA Chief Executive Carolyn Rhee, whose facility adopted the new Department of Health Services policy last month. “We want

to advance good health practices and at the same time support those trying to quit smoking.”

Olive View-UCLA Compliance Officer Azar Kattan credits the hospital’s advance planning for the smooth transition. “Stress triggers smoking, so we knew that giving people ample time to prepare was important to doing this right.”



County-run health facilities care for larger segments of low-income, homeless, and vulnerable populations with greater nicotine dependence, therefore have lagged behind other health organizations in instituting smoke-free environments.

“Culture in any organization is hard to change, but the reality is that we must compete for patients under health reform and improve patient experience of care in our health system,” adds Kattan. “That experience starts before people enter the building.”

In December, the California Department of Public Health released new data related to declines in cigarette consumption. Despite declines, smoking and the use of other tobacco products continues to be a major public health concern in California. The cost of adult health care related to smoking in California is projected to be \$6.5 billion this year, about \$400 per taxpayer.

The County Department of Public Health’s Tobacco Control Program lent support to the three hospitals in their efforts to go smoke free. Tobacco Control Program staff participated in the transition process at the facilities and provided smoking cessation materials and educational support. Among the steps Olive View-UCLA took to adopt the new policy were coordinating educational rounds, staffing Q&A sessions,

developing patient education handouts, and creating physician orders for nicotine replacement therapies for patients.

For additional information, please visit <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/tob/>

New Year’s Resolution: Quit Smoking

Quitting smoking isn’t easy, but you can do it or motivate someone to do it. Whether this is the first time trying to quit or an attempt to quit again, you’ll find resources and free help on www.laquits.com, a website developed by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. Through this site, you can develop a quit plan or help someone develop one and find support along a smoke-free journey.

Quitting smoking offers many benefits: it improves physical health, saves money and, for many people, leads to a better social and family life and a feeling of greater freedom.

Free Nicotine Patches for County Residents

There’s no better time to try to quit smoking because right now County residents can obtain FREE nicotine patches to kick-start their quit attempt. Please call the California Smokers’ Helpline at 1 800 NO BUTTS (662-8887) for additional information and to get a free, four-week supply of nicotine patches, no strings attached.

Using nicotine patches can double the chances of successfully quitting smoking by lessening feelings of withdrawal and reducing cravings. The patch is easy to use and will help adjust to a smoke-free lifestyle by getting off nicotine slowly.

To be eligible, participants must live in Los Angeles County and be 18 years of age or older. For more information, visit www.laquits.com.



Protect Yourself From the Flu



Influenza activity is high across most of the United States according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) latest FluView report. CDC continues to recommend influenza vaccination for people who have not yet been vaccinated this season and antiviral treatment as early as possible for people who get sick and are at high risk of flu complications.

Following are three steps to help protect yourself and those around you from flu:



Take Time to Get a Flu Vaccine

- CDC recommends a yearly flu vaccine as the first and most important step in protecting against flu viruses. While there are many different flu viruses, a flu vaccine protects against the three viruses that research suggests will be most common.
- Vaccination also is important for health care workers, and other people who live with or care for high risk people to keep from spreading flu to high risk people.



Take Everyday Preventive Actions to Stop the Spread of Germs

- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- If you are sick with flu-like illness, CDC recommends that you stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities. (Your fever should be gone without the use of a fever-reducing medicine.)
- While sick, limit contact with others as much as possible to keep from infecting them.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Germs spread this way.



Take Flu Antiviral Drugs if Your Doctor Prescribes Them

- If you get the flu, antiviral drugs can treat your illness. Antiviral drugs are different from antibiotics. They are prescription medicines (pills, liquid or an inhaled powder) and are not available over-the-counter.
- Flu-like symptoms include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. Some people also may have vomiting and diarrhea. People may be infected with the flu, and have respiratory symptoms without a fever.

Visit CDC's website to find out what to do if you get sick with the flu and how to care for someone at home who is sick with the flu at <http://www.cdc.gov/features/fluactivity/>



FREE / GRATIS
LUNCHTIME YOGA
reTREAT IN GRAND PARK

EXTENDED INTO 2013!

EVERY WED & FRI, 12:15-1PM
JAN 9 THRU MAR 8

**Resolve to dissolve stress with gentle
and energizing yoga sessions for all.**
Grand Park's Performance Lawn
(between Grand Ave. & Hill St.)

GRAND PARK

FOR MORE INFORMATION / PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN
grandparkla.org (213) 972-8080

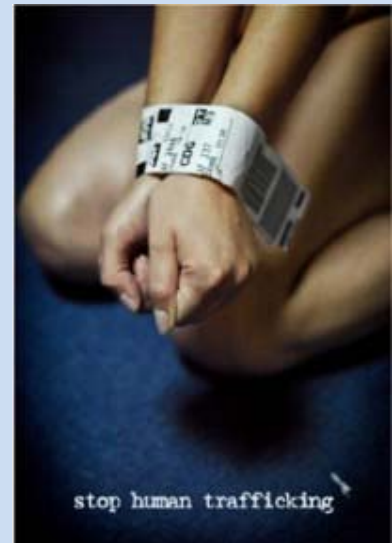
facebook.com/grandparklosangeles [@grandpark_la](https://twitter.com/grandpark_la)

Human Trafficking Awareness Month

The Board of Supervisors declared January 2013 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month. This follows the Board's November 27, 2012 motion, introduced by Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich and amended by Supervisor Don Knabe, that instructed the Director of Children and Family Services and the Chief Probation Officer to co-chair a Sex Trafficking Task Force with membership including the District Attorney's Office, Sheriff's Department, Los Angeles County Police Chiefs' Association, Los Angeles Police Department, Department of Mental Health and others to address the issue of sex trafficking of minors within the foster care system. The first task force meeting will be held in late January and will meet monthly in the following five months. The task force will report back to the Board with recommendations to address the needs of these youth and eliminate their recruitment into the abusive life of sex trafficking.

Current efforts to address this population include the following projects:

- The District Attorney's Office and its collaborative partners are developing protocols for identifying and assessing minors who have been detained by law enforcement and may have been victims of commercial sexual exploitation.
- The Juvenile Court along with their collaborative partners have implemented a court that identifies and provides support to victims of sex trafficking.
- The DCFS Compton Teen Task Force, in partnership with the Probation Department, the Department of Mental Health, law enforcement, and community organizations, is coordinating services for youth who are victims of sex trafficking.
- The DCFS Multi-Agency Response Team (MART) participates in the FBI-led Innocence Lost Task Force, which is responsible for the rescue and identification of victims who have been picked up during child exploitation special operations; MART helps stabilize children at home or provides emergency placement and other critical services as needed.



Rideshare L.A. County!

All New Year's resolutions start off with the desire for a better year than the last. When it comes to pollution in Los Angeles County, each year has progressively been better. In 1943, visibility on Los Angeles downtown streets went no further than three blocks. Seventy years later, we have made improvements, but still have a long way to go.

Rideshare L.A. County offers numerous benefits for County employees and together we can continue to improve the environment. Make a resolution to join a carpool, ride the rail, or take a bus.

For more information, please contact your local Employee Transportation Coordinator or visit www.rideshare.lacounty.gov.

Rideshare L.A. County wishes you a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year!



Retirees

Congratulations to the following employees who are joining the ranks of the retired after their many years of service to the County of Los Angeles:

40+ Years

CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES: Carol A. Boswell
CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Crystal L. Cooper-Smith
DISTRICT ATTORNEY: Deborah A. Passow
HEALTH SERVICES: Vanessa Ajufoh, Addie L. White-Caldwell, Rosa Villavicencio
MENTAL HEALTH: Fernando L. Escarcega
PUBLIC HEALTH: Simon Russin
PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Alice J. Alexander, Peggy A. Garner, Charlotte A. Lee, Oliver Thomas Jr.
SHERIFF: Susan Bissman, Cheryl A. Smith

30+ Years

ASSESSOR: Roosevelt Miller
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER: Judi E. Thomas
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE: Wayne J. Willard
CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES: Dora M. Bretado, Barbara Catlow, Irma Rincon
CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Marilyn A. Chairez, Alba A. Diaz, Patricia E. Grant
DISTRICT ATTORNEY: Stephen L. Cooley, Curtis A. Hazell
FIRE: Ronald A. Jones Jr., Glenn Sleight, Stephen A. Walker
HEALTH SERVICES: Roy C. Colson Jr., N D. Crawford, Candy E. Egbalic, Erlinda M. Movida, Ladda Rattivat, Martin A. Reeves, Jorginna Rios, Florita Soriano, Joyel L. Thomas, Ruby L. Thompson, Hilda M. Torrez, Dante Varias
INTERNAL SERVICES: Haroutioun Abadjian, Sherry D. Bedard, Earl R. Comstock, Silvia Diaz, Robert A. Hannah, Michael L. Swift, Albert Yamasaki
PARKS & RECREATION: Ruben Olguin, Jose N. Ramirez
PROBATION: George E. Robnett
PUBLIC DEFENDER: Stanley S. Shimotsu
PUBLIC HEALTH: Patricia Mark
PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Dyanne A. Crockett, Benita Harris, Lula C. Hendrix, Gladys Oshon
PUBLIC WORKS: Thomas J. Ashon, Davis M. Higley, Thomas R. Oberg, Alfred Porcho
REGIONAL PLANNING: Mildred J. Howard
REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK: Thelma B. Palma
SHERIFF: Timothy G. Barker, Dana E. Bonsall, Carol I. Caudle, James Chatman, Pamela S. Kaparoff Gut, Fred B. Keelin, Ivy H. Mutto, Agustin E. Pando, Gary S. Sholder, Patricia E. Duvall-Thomas, Jimmy Wong

SUPERIOR COURT: Robert R. Pena

25+ Years

ASSESSOR: Karam Iskander
CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Thelidria Calhoun, Renee Sweeney
FIRE: John A. Lopez, Annette E. Manning
HEALTH SERVICES: Odilia G. Caballero, Josephine Callanta, Paulina Campos, Sandra Candler, Auderella Hawkins, Anne M. Jacobus, Daniel Koyama, Jane D. Krasaesin, Florica Nedelcu, Daisy E. Padre, Rindy L. Stewart, Barbara V. Sumagaysay
INTERNAL SERVICES: Sahag H. Kurdian, William D. Nendel
PROBATION: Henry L. Frierson
PUBLIC DEFENDER: John M. Bransfield
PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Margarita A. Castro, Terry Chin-M Kuo, Jenik Masihi
PUBLIC WORKS: Burt B. Bryant
REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK: Maria E. Cardoza
SHERIFF: Cecilia L. Arzate, Sherryl D. Chaffin, Garry M. Dawson, Steven D. Garren, Carlton T. Hinchman, Jr., Chandra Y. Trower

Celebrating 45 Years

The County DIGEST was first published on January 10, 1968 with the late Lorin Peterson as its first editor. The DIGEST began as a four-page newsletter and through the years has expanded in size. It ceased publication for three months: July through September 2010 due to budget constraints. It resumed in October 2010 in accordance with the County's "Green Initiatives" as an online publication which has led to cost-savings for the County.

The County DIGEST is produced by the Executive Services Division of the Department of Human Resources. It is available online at <http://hr.lacounty.gov/wps/portal/dhr>.

A debt of gratitude goes to the past editors and public information officers of the County of Los Angeles for their continued support and participation, and to our readers, the employees of the County of Los Angeles.

WeTip

WELFARE FRAUD
1 (800) 87-FRAUD

New Year Brings New Laws for Consumers

Consumer Affairs offers a list of important new State laws affecting consumers in 2013

Many new laws went into effect as the calendar turned to 2013. In California alone, there are dozens of new laws directly affecting consumers like you. Like most legislation, these laws can be very dense. They're hard to get through and difficult to digest.

No one wants this in a new year. Most New Year's resolutions are about portion control and simplifying your life.

That's why Consumer Affairs is here to help. We're all about Plain Language. So we've taken some very heavy legislation and tried to trim it down to some easy, bite-sized pieces.

You can read in detail about the 2013 new consumer laws at <http://dca.lacounty.gov/ConsumerLaws13.html>, but if you prefer something small and simple, here is our list of new consumer laws for 2013.

Homeowners' Bill of Rights: Lenders restricted from foreclosing when working with a homeowner on a loan modification; homeowners get one knowledgeable point of contact from their lender; three-year statute of limitation on mortgage fraud crimes; notices must be reviewed in order to avoid robo-signing; State Attorney General office gets more power to fight fraud across several counties; local governments get more power when multiple vacant homes cause blight.

Buy Here, Pay Here car dealers: These dealers must state the "reasonable market value" of the cars they sell and offer a warranty good for 30-days or 1,000 miles.

Security freezes for seniors: Consumers age 65 or older can get free security freezes from credit reporting agencies.

Renters in foreclosure: Renters in a home sold in a foreclosure get at least 90 days, or the length of their lease, before being evicted. A landlord must tell the renter if the house has gone into foreclosure.

Declawed pets: If a landlord allows a prospective renter to have animals, the landlord cannot insist or even encourage a renter to declaw or devocalize their animals.

Postsecondary schools: For-profit schools must disclose more information, including: if they're accredited, if students are eligible to be licensed in their field after graduation, default rates, financial aid eligibility and loan programs available, and how many former students actually end up working in their field of study.

Prescription drugs: Consumers can save dispensing fees by requesting from their pharmacist a 90-day refill of their prescription, after they have finished their initial 30-day supply.

Correct pricing for recycled items: You must receive the correct amount of money when you sell your recycled cans and bottles.

Debtors: Bankrupt debtors can exempt higher values of just about everything, including cars, jewelry, professional tools and real estate interest. Similarly, more of a debtor's weekly earnings are exempt from a levy.

Security deposits and rental payments: Landlords and tenants can agree to have security deposits and itemized deduction statements sent electronically; also, landlords cannot insist on receiving rent or security deposits by only one method, be it cash or electronic.

More information for homeowners in foreclosure: When a copy of a recorded document is sent to homeowners, it will now also include a summary explaining the notice.

Reverse mortgages: Borrowers must receive reverse mortgage counseling in person unless they choose otherwise.

Advance fees for loan modifications: Homeowners cannot be charged advance fees if they're seeking a loan modification. This law is already in effect and will remain so for another four years.

For more consumer information, go to the Consumer Affairs website at dca.lacounty.gov or call (800) 593-8222.

