

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES HATHLOF JUSTICE



ROBERT G. LUNA, SHERIFF

May 28, 2024

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

REPORT BACK ON INCREASING JEWISH COMMUNITY SAFETY THROUGHOUT LOS ANGELES COUNTY

On January 23, 2024, the Los Angeles County (County) Board of Supervisors (Board) adopted a motion by Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath (Motion). The Motion requested the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Department) and Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACoFD), in collaboration with the Office of Emergency Management (OEM), in consultation with Jewish community organizations, to report back to the Board, in writing, with a plan to incorporate Jewish community cultural competencies to the mass violence recovery plan.

The Board Motion is as follows:

1. Direct the LACoFD, in collaboration with the Department and OEM, to report back to the Board within 120 days with a plan to develop an antisemitism and mass violence attack preparedness and training exercise, including implementation timelines.

PLANNING, PREPARING, AND TRAINING

The Department, in collaboration with LACoFD and OEM, has been at the forefront of effectively training its members to counter threats, including mass violence incidents. The Department's proactive approach to addressing mass violence and active shooter threats protects the community through preparedness and training exercises. The Department has played a pivotal role in shaping national active shooter mass violence incident response standards through its active contribution to the National Fire Protection Association, NFPA-3000 (Active Shooter/Hostile Event Response Program).

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This standard follows best practices and ensures a coordinated, effective response to active shooter incidents.

This plan emphasizes counter-response strategies based on comprehensive national standards to enhance public safety and minimize the impact of such tragic events. The planning includes pre-event education, rapid law enforcement, and fire department response, immediate law enforcement entry to stop the violence, rapid medical care, hot zone law enforcement response, warm zone fire department response, family reunification area, business and government continuity of operations planning, medical facility coordination, mental health support, and post-incident procedures.

The Department addresses dynamic threats such as active shooters or potential risks targeting schools, educational institutions, and faith-based organizations. Continuously striving to enhance its response capabilities, the Department diligently explores new and effective strategies to ensure community safety.

As part of educating members and recognizing the paramount importance of public awareness and preparedness, the Department has taken steps to disseminate vital information through accessible mediums. A video, "Surviving an Active Shooter,"¹ which has gained national attention and accolades, and informative pamphlets, ² are readily available on the Department's website, encouraging and empowering individuals to educate themselves on safety protocols and response procedures. By making such resources easily accessible to the public, the Department fosters a culture of preparedness and strengthens community resilience in the face of evolving threats.

On April 29, 2024, the Department conducted a comprehensive active assailant training exercise, Surviving a Mass Violence, in collaboration with LACoFD and OEM, at the Pasadena Jewish Temple and Center, located at 1434 North Altadena Drive, in the city of Pasadena, focusing on a simulated terrorist-type assault on a Jewish synagogue. This extensive training exercise brought together Jewish community members and other agencies.

The event showcased the meticulous planning and rigorous training undertaken by the Department, LACoFD, OEM, and its partners, highlighting its commitment to preparedness and response effectiveness.

The Department consistently trains its members throughout the year to educate them on mass violence response. By involving the community directly in the exercise, participants gained invaluable insight into the nature of such assaults and what to expect during such crises. This proactive approach enhances community awareness

^{1 1}https://lasd.org/active-shooter/survivinganactiveshooter

² ² https://lasd.org/active-shooter/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/brochure_active_shooter

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and strengthens trust and collaboration between law enforcement and the public, fostering a safer and more resilient society. During the Surviving a Mass Violence training, pamphlets were disseminated to the public in both English and Spanish.

For any questions regarding the antisemitism and mass violence attack preparedness and training exercise, please contact Commander Thomas Giandomenico, Special Operations Division, at (213) 229-2210.

Respectfully,

R. Lamo

ROBERT G. LUNA SHERIFF