



Los Angeles County Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission



BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, December 19, 2024

St. Anne's Conference Center

	<u>AGENDA</u>	<u>VIDEO</u>
	<u>bit.ly/42VXG48</u>	<u>bit.ly/4jYBsEQ</u>
I. CALL TO ORDER		
Chair Robert Bonner called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.		
II. MEETING RULES		
Reading of the guidelines for respectful participation and public comment.		
III. ROLL CALL		
Seven Commissioners were present, constituting a quorum		
• Robert Bonner, Chair	Present	
• Luis Garcia, Vice Chair	Present	
• Hans Johnson, Vice Chair	Present	
• Arthur Calloway II	Present	
• Irma Hagans Cooper	Present	
• Patricia Giggans	Absent	
• James Harris	Present	
• Jamon Hicks	Absent	
• Sean Kennedy	Present	
Commission Staff:		
• Executive Director Sharmaine Moseley (ED)		
• Principal Analyst Tracy Jordan		
• Community Services Coordinator Robert Flores		
• Communications Manager Christina Villacorte		
Agency Representatives:		
• Commander Tania Plunkett, Acting Chief, Sheriff's Department (LASD)		
• Max Huntsman, Inspector General, Office of Inspector General (OIG)		
• Senior Deputy County Counsel Janssen Diaz, Office of County Counsel (CoCo)		
IV. CONSENT CALENDAR		
Minutes from the November 21, 2024, meeting will be ready for approval at the next COC meeting.		
V. COMMISSION/LASD REPORTS		
V.1 CHAIR'S REPORT (Chair Robert C. Bonner)		
A. FY 2024–2025 Strategic Plan discussion was deferred to later in the meeting.		<u>2:34</u>
B. Chair Bonner, Commissioners, and staff met with the Office of Constitutional Policing (OCP) to address issues and concerns regarding the six oversight entities that oversee jail facilities and the burden on LASD because of overlapping and duplicative requests. COC agreed to coordinate with the OIG, SBC, and the monitors to avoid duplicative requests for information from LASD. This will fall on the Conditions of Confinement Ad Hoc Committee.		
C. Chair Bonner, ED Moseley, and IG Huntsman met to discuss the complaints process. It was agreed that the Complaints Ad Hoc would study the current complaints process and determine best practices. IG Huntsman agreed for the current practice to proceed with the limitation that the IG is prohibited from informing COC how a LASD handled a complaint. IG explained his complaint process of looking at complaints for completeness. Under limited		<u>9:36</u>

circumstances, he can conduct independent investigations. He does not have the authority to discipline or make changes and is completely blocked from conducting investigations.	
V.2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Executive Director Sharmaine Moseley)	14:46
Commissioner Update: Commissioner Jamon Hicks has been reappointed.	
Staff Updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COC hired Christina Villacorte as its Communications Manager. Temporary employee Joel Torrez is currently serving as Staff Analyst. The Senior Staff Analyst position is vacant and two employees on leave which is contributing to our staffing deficiencies. • Commissioners and staff participated in webinars and attended LASD graduations. 	
Continuing Projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner on-going training curriculum • Online complaint form and dashboard for the COC website • COC day-to-day-operations manual - completion anticipated in 2025 • 2025 COC Meeting schedule - attached to the agenda • Proposed COC venue change - meetings will be at St. Anne's until further notice 	20:10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed revisions to the 3.79 County Code - anticipated by year end • Chair Bonner noted that the proposed revisions are imperative for effective oversight and requested CoCo complete its review in time for the BOS to enact the revisions at its next meeting. 	26:41
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2024 Annual Report - delayed due to shift from fiscal to calendar year. • Chair Bonner requested a draft be sent to the Governance Ad Hoc in January. 	30:39
Community Meetings/Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COC Town Hall Listening Session is scheduled for January 23, 2025, to hear public feedback on LASD response to 2024 World Series and playoff celebrations in East LA. COC's Community Services Coordinator identified the panelists as COC Vice Chairs Garcia and Johnson, ED Moseley, and community leader Carlos Montes. • COC is also planning a town hall in the Antelope Valley, date TBD. • Participation in LASD graduation and NACOLE webinar on firearms. 	18:32
V.3 LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S UPDATE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update: Acting Chief Plunkett reported on LASD milestones in public safety, transparency, community engagement, including property and violent crime decreases. 	32:45
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus Fleet: Commissioner Kennedy raised the issue of incarcerated people missing or being late to court appearances due to bus transportation issues and requested information from LASD about its bus fleet. • Commissioner Harris asked about budgetary restraints delaying purchase of new buses. • LASD responded the issue is being addressed and the Office of Constitutional Policing (OCP) will provide bus information. • Chair Bonner requested this subject matter expert (SME) report at next COC meeting. 	37:26
VI. NEW BUSINESS	
VI.1 CREATION OF A NEW COMPLAINTS AD HOC COMMITTEE:	47:40
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Bonner called for creating a Complaints Ad Hoc Committee. Primary purpose to review processes for handling citizen/resident complaints holistically, and the current and future roles of the OIG and COC in the overall process of addressing citizen complaints against the LASD. Secondary purpose: develop procedures for logging and tracking citizen/resident complaints submitted to the Commission. Additional purpose: develop messaging about limitations on the Commission's ability to acquire information about the status/and or disposition of complaints made to the Sheriff's Department. 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion filed by Vice Chair Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Harris: “The Chair of the Commission will form a new ad hoc committee to be called the Complaints Ad Hoc committee and select Commissioners less than a quorum to serve on this committee. The committee will review, study, analyze and evaluate the LASD policies, procedures and practices for handling external citizen/resident complaints relating to the conduct of Sheriff Department personnel as well as examine the practices of other law enforcement agencies regarding the handling of external complaints and recommend any changes in policies and procedures needed to improve the Sheriff’s Department complaint process.” 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee Membership: Commissioner Calloway will chair; Vice Chairs Garcia and Johnson and Commissioner Harris will serve as members. Chair Bonner opened the floor to other Commissioners interested in being a member of this ad hoc committee. 	55:42
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amendment proposed by Vice Chair Garcia: include internal grievance complaints. 	58:22
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Comment 	1:00:25
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vanessa Perez: complaint process. ○ Michelle Infante: transparency, accountability and misconduct complaints. ○ Unknown caller: establishing a complaints committee. ○ Jay: death of his friend Francisco Nunez. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VOTE: ○ 7 Aye: Bonner, Garcia, Johnson, Calloway, Cooper, Harris, Kennedy ○ 0 Nay 	1:07:55
<p>VI.2 DISCUSSION OF THE COMMISSION’S 2024 STRATEGIC PLAN AND GOALS</p>	1:12:05
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Bonner provided a status report on COC’s 2024 Strategic Plan and Goals. Given limited staffing, he recommended COC focus on policy changes and reforms in 2025 to address systematic issues impacting the public. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deputy Gangs and Cliques Ad Hoc: Commissioner Kennedy reported progress by LASD, including developing a policy prohibiting participation in deputy gangs. Sheriff Luna also agreed to develop a policy prohibiting deputy cliques, but the union has objections. Citing testimony during Special Hearings, Commissioner Kennedy said this is a 2025 priority. Chair Bonner said another goal should be implementation of the COC’s 27 recommendations to eradicate deputy gangs, cliques and/or subgroups. He noted the public corruption unit established by the previous administration has been disbanded and inquired about holding special hearings to discuss that topic. • Commissioner Kennedy said another goal is a special hearing on the LASD Homicide Unit. 	1:14:50
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discipline Process Ad Hoc: Chair Bonner said they met with several SMEs to identify the best recommendations for improving LASD’s discipline process. 	1:26:49
<p>RECESS (10:45-11am)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Ad Hoc Committee: Commissioner Cooper reported the ad hoc meet its PREA goals for 2024. She noted it was tasked with responding to a 3/19/24 BOS motion to evaluate LASD’s compliance with PREA. She said LASD has provided information that can be used to develop recommendations, adding the report back to the BOS will be on the COC’s January meeting agenda. 	1:53:25
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of Force (UOF) Ad Hoc Committee: Commissioner Kennedy reported the ad hoc did not meet its 2024 goal of developing a report with recommendations to reduce UOF incidents because LASD did not comply with multiple PRA requests. Commissioner Kennedy recommended the ad hoc hold a special hearing to retrieve the information that LASD continues to withhold. Chair Bonner agreed with this recommendation. 	1:57:06

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Calloway inquired about information on cases that have been closed. Chair Bonner and Commissioner Kennedy will request those investigative case files. • Commissioner Harris suggested requesting information about the Perez case, as well, and Chair Bonner agreed. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance Ad Hoc Committee: Chair Bonner reported the ad hoc committee’s 2024 goals and objectives have been completed. 2025 goals will include BOS approval of revisions to ordinance 3.79 and the development of an internal operations manual for the Commission by the end of the year. A 2026 goal is to update the Commissioner’s handbook. 	2:07:06
VI.3 DISCUSSION OF THE COMMISSION’S GOALS AND PRIORITIES FOR 2025	2:11:03
A. Each Ad Hoc Committee will discuss potential priority goals and objectives for 2025.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ED Moseley provided an overview of the strategic goals and accomplishments for 2024 which included providing training on LASD operations, policies, and initiatives, participating in LASD ride-alongs, jail visits, attending various webinars. • ED reported attending the 2024 National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (NACOLE) conference with several Commissioners. • ED announced training on the Brown Act and other topics are available to Commissioners through Commission Services; Commissioner Calloway will receive training from CoCo. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRA: Chair Bonner recommended a 2025 goal be to strengthen the relationship with OIG and monitor LASD compliance with Senate Bill (SB) 1421 PRA requests. He noted an ad hoc committee would need to monitor LASD PRAs to be effective. Commissioner Kennedy advised that the PRA issue is closely related to the UOF ad hoc and agreed to take on monitoring the LASD PRA compliance. 	2:13:33
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach Committee: Principal Analyst Jordan provided an overview of mini-conferences, which included communicating with the public, BOS justice deputies, and ad hoc committees to identify key topics, SME’s, etc. Chair Bonner is concerned over COC’s limited staffing and requested future mini-conferences be discussed with the Governance Ad Hoc. ED Moseley advised that COC has a staff analyst deficit, but the communications manager and the community engagement coordinator can handle the tasks for now. 	2:15:48
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional Ad Hoc Goals for 2025: Commissioner Bonner noted several ad hoc committees did not have any goals or objectives to report. He recommended each identify one goal and objective for 2025 and beyond, and that each ad hoc chair hold a monthly meeting with staff to draft their agendas. Chair Bonner said each ad hoc chair will be asked to provide an update on their meeting schedule at the next COC meeting. 	2:23:37
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget Ad Hoc Committee: Commissioner Harris reported the budget ad hoc will request that LASD present their budget priorities so the ad hoc committee can make recommendations to which the full Commission can provide feedback. Chair Bonner inquired about the timeline for 2025. 	2:29:23
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality of Life (QOL) Ad Hoc Committee: Vice Chair Garcia reported on the ad hoc committee’s accomplishments. Its 2025 goals will include finalizing the law enforcement mental health report, reviewing QOL policy, advocating policy updates, hearing from SME’s through mini conference sessions, and making a full report to the Commission. He wants to schedule an educational presentation at a COC meeting with LASD and other SMEs, and conduct research and analysis of the QOL process. 	2:32:41
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technology Ad Hoc Committee: Vice Chair Johnson reported the committee prepared reports on the LASD use of drones and tasers in 2023, and that the LASD will soon be upgrading tasers. In 2025, the ad hoc will revisit the done issue and MOUs between 	2:35:33

LASD and outside agencies to ensure compliance with federal standards. The ad hoc will also research how artificial Intelligence (AI) can be used to improve oversight of LASD. The ad hoc is open to assisting in the implementation of the Commission's recommendation that LASD switch to a less polluting bus fleet.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conditions of Confinement Ad Hoc Committee: Commissioner Cooper reported 2025 priorities include advocating for policy updates that encourage fair and unbiased policing. Objectives include increasing transparency in LASD implementation policies and revision dates, and to research, review, and analyze jail public tours and the jails' corrective action plan. The ad hoc committee will continue to collaborate with the SBC and OIG and develop recommendations. 	2:38:42
B. The Executive Director will discuss her potential goals and objectives for 2025.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Bonner advised that ED Moseley and the Governance Ad Hoc Committee will generate the 2025 Priorities and Objectives to present at the January COC meeting. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ED Moseley shared a PowerPoint presentation outlining goals and objectives for 2025, which included developing a citizen complaint process for the Commission and improving internal operations and procedures for the COC. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responding to a comment from Vice Chair Johnson about the number of ad hoc committees and whether any can be dissolved or consolidated, ED Moseley recommended combining the Jail Staffing and Conditions of Confinement ad hoc committees. 	2:49:41
PUBLIC COMMENT:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vanessa Perez: UOF against minors. 	2:56:35
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T Carter: ED Moseley presentation. 	2:57:51
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michelle Infante: importance of report writing. 	2:59:30
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yousef Miller: transparency and accountability. 	3:02:26
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carlos Montes: clarified his comments about Fort Apache at the last meeting. 	3:04:48
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salena Coleman: thanked the Commission for the work being done. 	3:06:32
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deana Brock: commented on the complaint process. 	3:08:54
VII COMMISSION AD HOC COMMITTEES & AGENCY REPORTS/UPDATES	
VII.1 AD HOC COMMITTEES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This item was discussed during the Strategic Plan item discussion for the Committee reports. 	3:17:35
A. Deputy Gangs Ad Hoc Committee (Commissioner Kennedy):	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Investigation of the Public Corruption Unit 2. LASD Investigation of Industry Indians: Chair Bonner referenced a 4/2/2024 letter by former Chair and now Commissioner Kennedy about LASD's Industry Indians investigation and requested an update. Commissioner Kennedy said COC has requested information from LASD and CoCo but has not received a response despite legal authority presented. 	
B. Use of Force Ad Hoc: Commissioner Kennedy shared background	
VII.2 OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL UPDATE (MAX HUNTSMAN, INSPECTOR GENERAL)	
	3:12:08
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benza Case: IG Max Huntsman called for the investigation of deputies who falsified a police report related to a use of force incident involving a transgender man. He encouraged the COC to request an investigation. Mr. Huntsman also commented about overlapping oversight of LASD and advised that this is due to LASD's failure to respond to numerous requests. 	
VII. NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENTS	

• Vanessa Perez: Industry Indians	3:25:12
• T. Carter: OIG report and his own unresolved complaint	3:26:20
• Crystal Chavez: LASD inappropriate use of Tasers	3:28:31
• Tiara Thomas: Death of brother Eugene Youngblood	3:31:00
• Cindy Nunez: Death of brother Francisco Nunez	3:32:41
• Cassandra: Death of Francisco Nunez	3:36:22
• Raquel Derfler: LASD’s use of tasers	3:38:36
• Michelle Infante: Jail oversight	3:40:49
• Allison Rubinfeld: COC Complaints Ad Hoc Committee	3:42:32
• Stephanie Luna: Nephew shot by LASD	3:44:00
• Yousef Miller: Need for transparency and accountability	3:46:10
• Salena Coleman: LASD camera footage availability	3:48:37
• Paloma Serna: LASD transparency and the death of her daughter	3:51:21
• Chair Bonner announced the COC’s 2024 accomplishments and fourth COC goal is attached to the agenda, and thanked staff and Commissioners for their work.	3:53:31
• The next regular COC Business meeting will be on January 16, 2025.	
IX. UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS	
• The next regular COC Business meeting will be on January 16, 2025.	
ADJOURNMENT	
Meeting adjourned at 1:07 p.m.	