



**Los Angeles County
Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission**



BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

March 20, 2025

St. Anne's Conference Center

	AGENDA	<u>VIDEO</u>
I. CALL TO ORDER		
Chair called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.		
II. MEETING RULES		
Reading of the guidelines for respectful participation and Public Comment Rules		
III. ROLL CALL		<u>2:22</u>
Eight Commissioners were present, constituting a quorum:		
1. Robert Bonner, Chair	present	
2. Luis Garcia, Vice Chair	present	
3. Hans Johnson, Vice Chair	present	
4. Arthur Calloway II	Present (arrived at <u>9:34 a.m.</u>)	
5. Irma Hagans Cooper	present	
6. Patricia Giggans	present	
7. James Harris	present	
8. Jamon Hicks	present	
9. Vacant		
Agency Representatives:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robert Luna, Sheriff, Sheriff's Department (LASD) • Max Huntsman, Inspector General, Office of Inspector General (OIG) 		
Commission Staff:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharmaine Moseley, Executive Director • Bikila Ochoa, Deputy Executive Director • Christina Villacorte, Communications Manager • Tracy Jordan, Principal Staff Analyst • Robert Flores, Community Services Coordinator • Starlet Atkins, Management Secretary • Janssen Diaz, Senior Deputy County Counsel, Office of County Counsel 		
IV. CONSENT CALENDAR		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting minutes for February 13, 2025, and February 20, 2025, were approved: 		<u>3:12</u>
V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Bonner briefly discussed the background information related to the 27 recommendations to eliminate Deputy Gangs and Deputy Cliques from the Sheriff's Department and called on Sheriff Luna who provided an update on the progress made. 		<u>13:35</u>
LOS ANGELES SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT UPDATE:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sheriff Luna gave a detailed presentation on the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's (LASD) self-assessment of its progress in addressing the Commission's 27 recommendations to eliminate deputy gangs. He reported 19 of the recommendations have been completed or nearing completion, and five others are still under evaluation for possible adoption. The recommendations to reduce supervision and to rotate deputies will not be implemented. Sheriff Luna is in ongoing discussions with the Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs (ALADS) and the Professional Peace Officers Association (PPOA) to address logos and law enforcement gangs and cliques policies. He has also created a focus group and launched a department-wide initiative aimed at eliminating 		<u>14:30</u>

<p>deputy gangs, cliques, and sub-groups within LASD. Sheriff Luna reported on training, interview questions for new recruits, the two-captain model in Lancaster, the LASD mentoring program, and community engagement activities. Sheriff Luna said this is currently in the meet and confer process.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Bonner commended Sheriff Luna for his efforts to eradicate deputy gangs but expressed concern with the chain of command structure. 40:35 • Commissioner Cooper requested clarification on the LASD self-assessment. 44:36 • Commissioner Hicks inquired about assigning new deputies to custody. 47:21 • Commissioner Giggans expressed approval with Sheriff Luna’s comments on promotions and the two-captain model. 49:00 • Vice-Chair Johnson commended the LASD report on training but expressed concern over an emerging deputy gang in Palmdale and new logo in the Antelope Valley. 51:22 • Commissioner Calloway inquired about allegations made against deputies and if they are removed from patrol until an investigation is conducted. 55:12 • Chair Bonner requested the Deputy Gangs Ad Hoc to update the Commission’s January 5, 2025 scorecard on its 27 recommendations and to report back at the April Commission meeting. 57:22 • At 10:08 a.m., Chair Bonner noted the time and called for the LASD Custodian of Records to appear in response to the Commission’s subpoenas. There being no LASD representative present, Chair Bonner moved to agenda item 9C of the Executive Director’s report. • Chair Bonner referenced item 9C and reported on the East LA Town Hall on February 27, 2025, and noted that a recommendation was made to the Sheriff to ban any “station logo” that is offensive or inappropriate and to take immediate action for a department-wide ban on the Fort Apache logo at the East Los Angeles Sheriff’s station. 58:25 • Vice Chair Johnson reported on the East LA Town Hall and shared health and safety concerns expressed by the community and the actions of LASD during the celebratory event of the L.A. Dodgers World Series win. 1:00:01 • Vice Chair Garcia also commented on the East LA Town Hall. • ED Moseley said that listening sessions will be ongoing and community feedback is encouraged. Ms. Moseley commended staff for their efforts and provided stats on in-person and virtual attendees. She reported that a listening session will be held on the LASD complaint process in the Antelope Valley on March 27, 2025, and that future mini virtual conferences are being planned. 1:02:55 • Chair Bonner noted the East LA Town Hall was one of the best the Commission has held. He also noted how offensive the Fort Apache logo is to the East LA community and that the logo was previously banned by Sheriff McDonald but restored by Sheriff Villanueva. Chair Bonner called for a motion to “urge Sheriff Luna to immediately adopt a policy banning offensive and inappropriate station logos specifically the Fort Apache logo.” 1:06:17 • Commissioner Giggans filed the motion, which was seconded by Co-Vice Chair Johnson. 1:08:35 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Cooper commented on the East LA listening session. 1:10:30 • Commissioner Giggans spoke on the past listening session held in ELA in 2019 regarding the Fort Apache logo. 1:12:26 	
<p>VI. RETURN OF COMMISSION’S THREE DOCUMENT SUBPOENAS</p>	
<p>VI.1 - 3 Custodian of Records/Representative of LASD to testify and produce documents pursuant to the Commission’s subpoenas for the investigation reports related to LASD uses of force against Andres Guardado, Emmett Brock and Joseph Andrew Perez.</p>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair Bonner noted the subpoenas required the LASD custodian of records to appear before the Commission at 9:00 a.m. He advised that if no one is present by 10:00 a.m., LASD will be considered in defiance of the subpoenas, and the Commission will take legal action to enforce the subpoenas. 	3:58
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sheriff Luna reported that County Counsel (CoCo) advised LASD that LASD is complying with the law and that a Custodian of Records should not appear. Sheriff Luna also noted that LASD has filed a declaratory relief action to go to court to seek clarification on all the Commission's requests. 	6:26
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair Bonner told Sheriff Luna that the subpoenas were pursuant to the authority granted to the Commission under Measure R and that CoCo is incorrect. 	7:43
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inspector General (IG) Huntsman reported LASD has failed to respond to investigative requests made by the Office of Inspector General (OIG), and requested clarification on CoCo's advice. 	11:18
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair Bonner interjected and advised that if LASD's custodian of records does not appear, the Commission will go into closed session and obtain advice from outside Counsel. Chair then returned to item V. 	12:50
VI. CONTINUED RETURN OF COMMISSION'S THREE DOCUMENT SUBPOENAS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair Bonner reminded the Commission about its independent subpoena power and noted that three subpoenas were issued and served to LASD related to its use of force on Andres Guardado, Emmett Brock and Joseph Andrew Perez. Chair Bonner said Undersheriff Tardy sent the Commission a letter the night before, asserting confidentiality claims related to the Andres Guardado unredacted investigative files. Chair Bonner reported that the documents provided for the Perez use of force incident is the same information made available to the public. He also noted that LASD reported that the Emmett Brock use of force incident is still under active investigation. Chair noted that if LASD's claim for not producing the records is due to confidentiality, the Commission will need to go into closed session to review the unredacted files. Chair Bonner advised that the Commission anticipates going into litigation with LASD. 	1:37:20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> County Counsel Janssen Diaz advised that due to Chapter 3.79.035 of the Commission's governing ordinance, and the Commission being a Brown Act body, the Commission cannot go into closed session. 	1:45:45
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair Bonner disagreed with CoCo and stated that "this Commission can go into closed session to have an attorney client conversation." Chair Bonner advised that the Commission would go into closed session with IG Huntsman as its special counsel. 	1:46:19
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CoCo Diaz noted Chair Bonner's comments, and that COC and Executive Office are working on proposed amendments to the Commission's ordinance, which would allow the Commission to meet in closed session. Mr. Diaz reiterated that the COC cannot meet in closed session and recommended scheduling a meeting among Chair Bonner, CoCo, and Ms. Moseley regarding enforcement of the subpoenas. 	1:49:05
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair Bonner again contradicted CoCo Diaz's comments and called for a break. 	1:49:55
RECESS (11:01 a.m. -11:18 a.m.)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following the recess, Chair Bonner advised that the Commission would go into closed session with IG Huntsman acting as its Special Counsel to discuss possible legal action to gain access to confidential information. Chair Bonner noted CoCo's refusal to participate in the closed session, and excused CoCo, staff, and the audience. 	2:13:41
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CoCo Diaz again quoted ordinance 3.79.025 and advised that the Commission is not authorized to go into closed session. Mr. Diaz quoted ordinance 6.44.19H and advised against IG Huntsman going into closed session as special counsel for the COC. 	2:15:04
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair Bonner excused CoCo Diaz along with the rest of the audience, and the Commission went into closed session. 	2:17:42

<p>PUBLIC Comment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve Hill: commented on his arrest by LASD. • Jaqueline Venters: commented on LASD internal investigations. • Cindy Nunez: commented on the Sheriff reporting fewer use of force incidents. • Gina Youngblood: commented on LASD ‘scontinued uses of excessive force and harassment and deputy gangs in the Antelope Valley (AV). • Julie Martinez: commented on Sheriff Luna’s presentation. • Yousef Miller: commented on LASD internal investigations. • Lori Atwater: commented on being assaulted by LASD • Erick Miller: commented on Sheriff Luna’s comments related to deputy gangs. 	<p>1:14:29 1:16:20 1:18:30 1:20:41 1:22:45 1:25:33 1:27:58 1:30:08</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Bonner commented on Undersheriff Tardy’s tattoo and requested clarification on whether Undersheriff Tardy’s tattoo is a station tattoo or related to deputy gangs. • Commissioner Calloway inquired about LASD’s strategy to root out deputy gangs. • Chair Bonner referred Commissioner Calloway’s inquiry to the Deputy Gang Ad Hoc and called for a roll call vote on the item moved by Commissioner Giggans. 	<p>1:32:09 1:33:29 1:34:20</p>
<p>MOTION: “Urge the Sheriff Luna to immediately adopt a policy banning offensive and inappropriate station logos specifically the Fort Apache logo.”</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Bonner, Garcia, Johnson, Calloway, Cooper, Giggans, Harris, Hicks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ayes – 8 ○ Nays – 0 ○ Abstain - 0 ○ Motion passed 8-0 	<p>1:36:03</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Bonner returned to item VI regarding the three subpoenas. 	<p>1:37:17</p>
<p>VII. PART TWO - CLOSED SESSION (11:20 – 12:30 p.m.)</p>	
<p>Following the Commission’s closed session, Chair Bonner moved to item IX of the Chair’s Report. Chair Bonner advised that the Commission plans to seek independent outside counsel to represent the Commission and filed a motion seconded by Commissioner Calloway.</p> <p>MOTION #1: to “Direct Chair Bonner to request County Counsel to enforce the Commission's subpoenas, or to provide the Commission with independent outside counsel, if County Counsel has a conflict of interest and cannot represent the Commission.”</p>	<p>2:45</p>
<p>MOTION #2: Filed by Commissioner Bonner and seconded by Commissioner Cooper to authorize the Chair and the Executive Director as soon as possible to secure counsel to defend the Commission in LASD’s declaratory relief action.</p>	
<p>PUBLIC COMMENT:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vanessa Perez commented on the subpoenas. 	<p>7:11</p>
<p>VOTE MOTION #1: “Direct Chair Bonner to request County Counsel to enforce the Commission's subpoenas, or to provide the Commission with independent outside counsel, if County Counsel has a conflict of interest and cannot represent the Commission.</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Bonner, Garcia, Johnson, Calloway, Cooper, Giggans, Harris, Hicks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ayes – 8 ○ Nays – 0 ○ Abstain - 0 ○ Motion passed 8-0 	<p>9:00</p>
<p>VOTE MOTION #2” Authorize the Chair and the Executive Director as soon as possible to secure counsel to defend the Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission in a declaratory relief action filed by Sheriff Luna.”</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Bonner, Garcia, Johnson, Calloway, Cooper, Giggans, Harris, Hicks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ayes – 8 	<p>10:07</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nays – 0 • Abstain - 0 o Motion passed 8-0 	
VIII. FAMILY IMPACT REMARKS	
There was no action on this item.	
IX.1 Chair Report	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Bonner updated the Commission on the search for a permanent venue for its monthly meeting. He announced the April 17, 2025, Commission meeting will be held at the Hall of Records (HOR), and Commissioners would vote on a venue afterwards. • Chair Bonner also reported on item IX-1B and shared that the Governance Ad Hoc had a productive meeting with staff and recommended future such meetings. Chair Bonner apologized publicly for his inappropriate behavior toward Commissioner Calloway and Commission staff member Joel Torrez at the previous meeting. • Chair Bonner reported on the status of Sean Kennedy’s resignation and noted that the Board of Supervisors (BOS) has acted to accept or reject his resignation. 	<u>13:45</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-Vice Chair Johnson described on the all-hands meeting with Commission staff and the Governance Ad Hoc 	<u>20:28</u>
2 Executive Director’s Report	
Chair Bonner said the Executive Director’s report will be included in the meeting records.	<u>11:29</u>
3. Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Update	
This item was discussed at the beginning of the meeting.	
X. OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL UPDATE (MAX HUNTSMAN, INSPECTOR GENERAL)	
A. IG Huntsman updated the Commission on OIG’s Quarterly report on LASD’s Taser Policy.	<u>12:32</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-Vice Chair Johnson reported on the Technology Ad Hoc Committee’s activities. 	<u>13:02</u>
IX. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raquel Derfler: commented on LASD use of force policy. • Cerise Castle: commented on Parking at HOR. • Hill: commented on his arrest by LASD. 	<u>25:43</u>
	<u>27:52</u>
	<u>29:00</u>
X. UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 27, 2025 – the Commission’s Antelope Valley Community Listening Session on LASD’s Complaints and Commendations process • April 17, 2025 – the Commission’s next regular meeting will be held at the 320 W. Temple Street. • April 24, 2025 – Virtual Listening Session on the LASD’s Complaint Process 	<u>30:40</u>
XI. ADJOURNMENT	
The meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m.	

ATTACHMENTS



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HALL OF JUSTICE

ROBERT G. LUNA, SHERIFF



February 4, 2025

Sharmaine Moseley, Executive Director
Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission
World Trade Center
350 South Figueroa Street, Suite 288
Los Angeles, California 90071

Via Electronic Submittal

Dear Ms. Moseley:

**UPDATE ON THE 2023 RECOMMENDATIONS OF
THE CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT COMMISSION ON DEPUTY GANGS/CLIQUEs**

Attached please find the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's self-assessment of its progress with the recommendations made in the Civilian Oversight Commission's 2023 Report entitled: "Report and Recommendations of the Special Counsel to Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission Regarding Deputy Gangs and Deputy Cliques in the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department."

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

ROBERT G. LUNA, SHERIFF


APRIL L. TARDY
UNDERSHERIFF

211 WEST TEMPLE STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

A Tradition of Service
— Since 1850 —