Los Angeles County
Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission

MONTHLY MEETING
September 17, 2026 | 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
St. Anne's Conference and Event Center

MEETING MINUTES
AGENDA | VIDEO

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:
- Hans Johnson, Chair
- George Newhouse, Second Vice Chair (arrived 9:17 a.m.)
- Luis S. Garcia
- Irma Cooper
- James P. Harris
- Jamon Hicks

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:
- Arthur Calloway II, First Vice Chair
- London McBride

AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT
- Sheriff Robert Luna (departed 10:15 a.m.)
- Eric Bates, Interim Inspector General (departed 12:30 p.m.)
- Brenda Rodriguez, Office of County Counsel

STAFF PRESENT
- Sharmaine Moseley, Executive Director
- Robert Flores, Community Services Coordinator

The following minutes are listed in the order of the meeting agenda, not the sequence in which items were taken up during the meeting. For the chronological list, scroll to the end of this document.

1. **CALL TO ORDER (00:00:10)** Chair Hans Johnson called the Los Angeles County Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission (COC) meeting to order at 9:12 a.m. and provided an overview of the agenda.

2. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT (00:00:11)** Chair Johnson read the land acknowledgement statement.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT RULES (00:06:38)** The COC's Community Services Coordinator, Robert Flores, explained the rules for providing public comment on agenda items during the meeting.

4. **ROLL CALL (00:0 8:29)** The COC's Community Services Coordinator, Robert Flores, conducted the roll call. The Brown Act's quorum requirement for a Commission meeting was met.
   - **Commissioners Present:** Chair Hans Johnson; Second Vice Chair George Newhouse; Commissioner Luis S. Garcia; Commissioner Irma Cooper; Commissioner James P. Harris; and Commissioner Jamon Hicks.
   - **Quorum:** Six Commissioners were present during the roll call, which constituted a quorum.
   - **Absent**: First Vice Chair Arthur Calloway II and Commissioner London McBride.

5. **CONSENT CALENDAR (00:08:50)** The Commissioners reviewed the items on the consent calendar, which consisted of the COC's September 17, 2026meeting minutes and the COC's Annual Report. It was noted that there were no questions about the September 17, 2026 meeting minutes.
MOTION (00:08:59) Chair Johnson stated that he would move to suspend the Annual Report for consideration until the COC's October 20, 2026, meeting. Commissioner Irma Cooper moved and Second Vice Chair George Newhouse seconded the motion.
MOTION (00:09:35) Chair Johnson then asked if there was a motion to approve the revised consent calendar, consisting only of the September 17, 2026, Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Irma Cooper moved, and Second Vice Chair George Newhouse seconded the motion.
PUBLIC COMMENT None
VOICE VOTE (00:09:48)
   - **6 Ayes:** Chair Hans Johnson; Second Vice Chair George Newhouse; Commissioner Luis S. Garcia; Commissioner Irma Cooper; Commissioner James P. Harris; and Commissioner Jamon Hicks.
   - **0 Nays**
   - **0 Abstentions**

   The motion passed unanimously by a vote of **6 ayes**, **0 nays**, and **0 abstentions**.

6. **FAMILY IMPACT REMARKS (00:10:56)** None

7. **LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S UPDATE (00:11:49)**
Sheriff Luna reported the following:
   - The LASD released its 2025 Annual Review covering public safety, accountability, community engagement, workforce development, technology, and organizational improvements. He praised the work performed by LASD personnel while acknowledging continuous improvement and accountability are needed.
   - The LASD added 113 new deputies with July and September academy graduations.
   - The LASD understands the seriousness of the problems cited by the US Department of Justice (DOJ) in opening a civil rights investigation into Men's Central Jail (MCJ) and is committed to addressing them for both inmates and staff.
   - Regarding the Board of Supervisors' (BOS) recent motion to identify deputy gangs, Sheriff Luna spoke of his efforts to strengthen policy, training, investigations, and transparency.
   - LASD therapy dogs supported grieving NBC staff after the death of their colleagues in a recent helicopter crash.
   - 45 meet-and-confer topics were active in 2025 (38 completed, 7 carried into 2026). In 2026, 44 topics were active (16 completed, 28 pending).
   - 29 in-custody deaths have taken place so far in 2026, compared to 38 at this time last year (46 total in 2025). The National Institute of Corrections has arrived to conduct an independent review of LASD custody operations and make recommendations.

   COMMISSION DISCUSSION (00:28:00)
   - Chair Johnson speculated whether the DOJ investigation is politically motivated, given its timing and the nature of the announcement. He added that Commissioners, community members, and longtime observers have seen meaningful improvements at MCJ, making the DOJ's framing of the investigation ahead of the upcoming election surprising. He stated that the announcement was curious, given that the federal administration has not shown attention to MCJ and humane conditions of confinement in Los Angeles County jails.

- Chair Johnson expressed concern that the large presence of uniformed LASD personnel during the BOS' discussion of the deputy gangs motion could be perceived as intimidation. He asked Sheriff Luna whether he aware of this interpretation of uniformed staff in the BOS meeting. Sheriff Luna replied that the concern was legitimate but sad. The LASD personnel were members of the Law Enforcement Gangs and Hate Crimes Committee who were already scheduled to meet that day and chose to attend to hear the BOS discussion on the topic firsthand. It was a coincidence before the motion was agendized.
- Chair Johnson asked if there was any progress in removing the Fort Apache logo from East LA Station, noting that a 2019 COC resolution that called for fully removing any station insignia that incorporates the Fort Apache logo from East L.A. Sheriff Luna responded that meet-and-confer is still in progress but he hopes to bring changes in the near future.
- Commissioner Harris urged removal of the Ford Apache/East L.A. Station from the LASD website, noting the LASD does not need union approval of content on its website. Sheriff Luna stated the deputy cliques policy and the logo policy are still in the meet-and-confer process.
- Commissioner Cooper asked for clarification about the inspectors coming to the jails, and Sheriff Luna explained that the newly launched DOJ investigation will cover only MCJ. He said that he invited a separate set of inspectors from the National Institute of Corrections to conduct a comprehensive review of the system, including Correctional Health Services and other programs. He is interested in their feedback, saying that sheriffs from other jurisdictions have found their recommendations for their respective correctional facilities "game changing".
- Commissioner Cooper reported receiving calls about inmates being locked down during these inspections, and inspectors supposedly being shown only cleaner sections of the facilities. Sheriff Luna asked for specific details so that the LASD can investigate. LASD's Office of Community Policing (OCP) will follow up with Commissioner Cooper.
- Commissioner Cooper asked whether the LASD plans to adopt "taser-mitts." Sheriff Luna answered no, clarifying that recent media reports on "shock gloves" involved ICE, not the LASD.
- Commissioner Garcia stated that the DOJ investigation is an important opportunity to examine the rest of L.A. County's responsibilities in the jails. He noted, for example, that the County Department of Health Services' Correctional Health Services (CHS) division has a role in preventing in-custody deaths.

PUBLIC COMMENT (00:52:37)

- Deanna Brock urged the LASD to support the deputy gangs motion and felt the large deputy presence at the Board meeting on deputy gangs was intimidating.
- Byron Jose criticized the Sheriff's conduct during the Board meeting, raised concerns about delayed action on deputy gangs, and noted transgender and gender-expansive individuals' negative interactions with deputies, particularly involving.
- Dr. Perry Crouch requested collaboration with the LASD on respectful ways to cover bodies at homicide scenes to prevent community trauma and online exploitation.Deborah Ashheim focused on the trauma of families grieving their loved ones' deaths in encounters with the LASD, the urgency of addressing deputy gangs, and frustration that deputies left the BOS meeting on deputy gangs before listening to public comment.
- Emmett Brock described being beaten by deputies and urged the Sheriff to comply with transparency laws and uphold accountability.
- Cindy Nunez challenged the Sheriff's framing of declining in-custody deaths, criticized inadequate safety checks, and deputies' intimidation at the Board meeting.

- Fourth Estate News expressed concern that the DOJ investigation appeared political, supported eliminating deputy gangs, and advocated for keeping LASD radio channels publicly accessible.
- Vanessa Perez acknowledged the Sheriff's efforts, called for continued improvements on deputy gang issues, and encouraged embracing the BOS motion regarding deputy gangs.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT (01:07:47)

Second Vice Chair Newhouse respectfully disagreed with the Chair, stating that he saw nothing improper about the DOJ investigation. He commended Sheriff Luna and the LASD for being open to external oversight and willing to receive feedback. He noted that the COC is currently limited in its subpoena powers, while the DOJ is not, making the investigation potentially helpful.

8. COC REPORTS

A. CHAIR'S REPORT

i. 2025-2026 Grand Jury Report and COC Approved Responses (01:08:50)

Chair Johnson stated that the County and the BOS Executive Office suppressed the response formally enacted by the COC. He further stated that this is unacceptable and urged the public to read both the COC's suppressed response and the County's version that replaced it, which are linked to the meeting agenda.

ii. Update on COC's Litigation Regarding Enforcement of 3 Subpoenas: August 25, 2026, Court Ruling in the COC's Subpoena Enforcement Action Denying Deputy Associations' Request to Intervene. (01:44:12)

- Chair Johnson recognized the COC's pro bono counsel, both former COC Chairs, Robert Bonner and Sean Kennedy, to provide a public briefing.
- Mr. Bonner stated that while he approved of Supervisor Holly Mitchell's recent BOS motion asking the Sheriff to investigate whether the LASD has deputy gangs, he pointed out that the COC's Special Counsel report in March 2023 already named those deputy gangs, including the Executioners, Banditos, Grim Reapers, etc.
- He also noted the Commission held special hearings, issued subpoenas, heard testimony and issued findings on this topic. He further noted that deputy gangs exist in the Sheriff's Department and (the COC) called them out. He questioned why the BOS is asking the Sheriff to do this since the Commission already investigated this. He stated thatthe motion is not needed and that Supervisors need to ask the COC to finish its investigation, which has been blocked by deputies' unions.
- Mr. Bonner criticized County Counsel and ALADS for blocking the COC since November 2022 from issuing subpoenas to union-represented deputies. He spoke of "dark forces" and wondered whether County Counsel, the BOS-EO, ALADS, and possibly the BOS itself oppose the COC's independent subpoena power despite voter and legislative authorization.
- Mr. Bonner summarized the COC's subpoena enforcement action, which the Clerk's Office accepted on June 22, and has been assigned to Superior Court Judge Jerrold Abeles.
- Mr. Bonner and Mr. Kennedy also represent the Commission, pro bono, in an August 2026 lawsuit in which ALADS accused the Commission of violating the Brown Act by discussing – outside of a public meeting with a quorum - the COC Chair's authorization of pro bono counsel to file the enforcement action. He stated the COC's position is that the COC had approved a motion authorizing the Chair to select the counsel.

- Mr. Bonner reported that the LASD, represented by outside counsel via County Counsel, filed a demurrer and motion to strike the COC's action to enforce its subpoenas on two grounds. County Counsel stated that the COC lacks the authority to bring an enforcement action not authorized by County Counsel and lacks the authority to bring in outside counsel. He stated that County Counsel's position is that the Commission lacks independent authority to enforce subpoenas, even though the COC issued the subpoenas under state law and a voter-initiative, Measure R, both of which gave the Commission authority to do so. He stated the COC's lawyers have filed an opposition to the demurrer and expect the court to rule on the respondent's demurrer and motion to strike on September 30, 2026. He noted that the judge denied union attempts to intervene. The judge also issued an order to show cause, directing County Counsel to show why it claims not to have a conflict of interest in simultaneously representing both the COC and the LASD in litigation against each other.
- Mr. Bonner directed County Counsel representative Brenda Perez Rodriquez, who was in attendance at the meeting, to leave the meeting and not participate in closed session. He also excused the Commission's Executive Director and staff from the closed session.
- County Counsel Perez Rodriquez stated that County Counsel objected to the Commission going into closed session. **(02:17:19)**
- Chair Johnson announced the meeting was transitioning into closed session and invited the public to return afterwards. Mr. Bonner read the Commission into closed session, which began at 11:19 a.m.
- For more information on the closed session, go to Items 12-14 of these meeting minutes.

iii. COC Annual Conference Webinar Series (01:12:34)

Chair Johnson announced that the COC was hosting three virtual conferences on September 29, October 29, and November 23, 2026, to mark the 10th anniversary of the COC. He encouraged the public to share the flyer posted on the agenda.

iv. One-year anniversary of rescission of policy that attempted to muzzle oversight bodies in L.A. County, withdrawn amid criticism in Sept. 2025. (01:14:32)

Chair Johnson referenced the anniversary of the September 11, 2025, BOS-EO policy that he considered an attempt to muzzle oversight bodies — a policy retracted days later following criticism in the news media. Chair Johnson warned against similar attempts, emphasizing the importance of transparent oversight and respect for community voices.

v. Update on the crisis of in-custody deaths (01:16:34)

Chair Johnson reported that LASD still averages one death every eight to nine days and monthly updates by the COC presented in a clear visual format can help ensure accountability.

vi. Update on Sentencing Hearing for Former Deputy Joseph Benza in Case Involving Norwalk Sheriff Station and Victim/Survivor Emmett Brock.

This item was not discussed during the meeting.

B. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- **(01:17:45)** Executive Director Moseley reported that Commission staff has been busy with community engagement, preparing the Annual Report, planning the COC's 10th Anniversary Virtual Conference Series, and supporting ad hoc committees.

- ED Moseley further reported that HR opened the Senior Staff Analyst exam on August 24, 2026. She introduced the COC's new interns, Nathan Tsai and Ryan Youk, (Nathan was present at the meeting), and noted that Supervisor Horvath has yet to fill the vacancy on the Commission.
- It was reported that laptops were issued to Commissioners who requested them and the COC is preparing to relocate to the Office of Inspector General's (OIG) office suite.
- It was further reported that COC staff will brief BOS justice deputies about its work during the next Public Safety cluster meeting.
- ED Moseley stated that Community Engagement Specialist Robert Flores will provide a report on our community engagement activities.
- **(01:20:36)** Community Engagement Specialist Robert Flores stated that since the COC's last meeting on July 16, 2026, Commissioners and/or staff have participated in the LASD's AB 481 meeting and Use of Force training, OIG's CRDF site inspection, several community and advisory meetings, JCOD Warm Landing Place groundbreaking, LGBTQ+ Commission meeting, and other community events. He noted the COC's presentation to the Democratic Club of the High Desert, and participation in a BOS-EO-hosted recruitment event where it informed participants about the COC's open Senior Staff Analyst position.
- He announced upcoming engagements, including an OIG jail wing inspection, presentations to the Antelope Valley NAACP and the South El Monte Homeless COC, tabling at the Taste of Soul event, and a closed presentation at the Captains Command College. Mr. Flores concluded his report withinformation on the COC's 10th Anniversary Virtual Conference Series.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS 8A AND 8B None

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. Dozens of Protracted Meet & Confer Negotiations Continue Time-Consuming Process for LASD. More Than 59 Separate Negotiations Remain Open, Going Back to 2020. (01:23:56)

- Chair Johnson noted LASD has dozens of prolonged meet-and-confer processes, some going back six years. Because the Measure R meet-and-confer that began in November 2022 remains unresolved, the COC has been unable to subpoena ALADS- and PPOA-represented deputies, impeding its deputy-gang investigations.
- He said it may be that County Counsel, on behalf of the County, is engaged in a meet-and-confer regarding AB 847, but the COC has never agreed to participate in it on the grounds that it is not required to join a meet-and-confer that would delay enforcement of state law. He added that AB 847 falls outside the scope of the Myers-Milias-Brown Act. He stated that the COC will not participate until County Counsel, which he said has a conflict of interest in representing to the COC and LASD, appoints independent counsel to represent the COC. However, County Counsel has refused to do.
- He noted that dozens of meet-and-confer items have remained unresolved far beyond the 60- to 90-day period envisioned by the Employee Relations Commission.
- Commissioner Newhouse criticized County Counsel's position that subpoenas cannot be enforced until the conclusion of meet-and-confer. He questioned whether County Counsel takes meet-and-confer seriously, noting it has met only once with the deputies' unions, back in March 2026, and no other meetings are scheduled.

PUBLIC COMMENT (01:32:04)

- Deanna Brock expressed frustration with meet-and-confer delays, urged enforcement of AB 847 and the subpoena related to her son's case. She urged the COC to attend the October 23, 2026, sentencing of former Deputy Joseph Benza for beating her son.
- Olivia Irene Fitzsimmons called meet-and-confer a fraud and a cover-up, described her own negative experiences with law enforcement, and called for accountability.
- Vanessa Perez stated that AB 847 is law and must be followed.
- Byron Jose thanked the COC for its independent oversight, emphasized community support for Measure R, and urged the County to ensure the COC has independent counsel and full subpoena authority.
- Yousef Miller stated that meet-and-confer is being used to stall oversight, eroding public trust and safety. He called for timely meet-and-confer meetings and documentation of those meetings.
- Maya Daniels supported creating a PREA ad hoc committee, urged limiting LASD involvement in sexual assault investigations, and stressed the need for independent investigators and engagement with impacted transgender, gender variant, and intersex (TGI) individuals.
- Emmett Brock urged immediate enforcement of AB 847, described how the LASD mishandled the excessive force against him until federal intervention, and called for long overdue subpoenas and independent counsel for the COC.
- Billy Arreaga supported the PREA ad hoc committee, stressed the high risk of sexual violence for TGI individuals, and called for survivor-centered processes, demographic tracking, and appropriate housing and reentry support.
- Dr. Perry Crouch urged County officials to follow the law and noted that the public cannot be expected to comply when officials do not.

B. Discussion and Possible Action to Adopt Revised Ad Hoc Committee List (02:38:01)

Chair Johnson noted the changes in the ad hoc committee list include Commissioner McBride, the most recent addition to the Commission, being appointed to two committees.

MOTION Commissioner Cooper moved to adopt the Revised Ad Hoc Committee List. Commissioner Garcia seconded the motion.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION None

PUBLIC COMMENT None

VOICE VOTE

- **6 Ayes:** Chair Hans Johnson; Second Vice Chair George Newhouse; Commissioner Luis S. Garcia; Commissioner Irma Cooper; Commissioner James P. Harris; and Commissioner Jamon Hicks.
- **0 Nays**
- **0 Abstentions**

The motion passed unanimously by a vote of **6 ayes**, **0 nays**, and **0 abstentions**.

C. Recommendation by the Governance Ad Hoc Committee for the COC to Adopt Revisions to the COC Bylaws. (02:29:20)

Chair Johnson noted that the updates to the COC's bylaws include reinstating the First and Second Vice Chair roles to align with the COC's governance structure.

MOTION: Commissioner Cooper moved for the COC to adopt the revisions to the COC's Bylaws. Commissioner Harris seconded the motion.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION

- Commissioner Garcia asked why the revised bylaws removed the word "Sheriff" from "Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission," as this may conflict with the COC's governing ordinance. Chair Johnson explained that the change in the bylaws does not change the COC's legal name but is intended to reflect the Commission's independence.
- Commissioner Garcia asked whether a name change was part of the COC's previously proposed revisions to its governing ordinance. Chair Johnson responded yes, but those amendments to Chapter 3.79 of the LA County Code are still pending.
- Commissioner Newhouse disagreed with removing "Sheriff," stating that the full name accurately reflects the COC's jurisdiction over LASD.

PUBLIC COMMENT None
VOICE VOTE (02:32:49)

- **4 Ayes:** Chair Hans Johnson; Commissioner Irma Cooper; Commissioner James P. Harris; and Commissioner Jamon Hicks.
- **0 Nays**
- **2 Abstentions:** Second Vice Chair George Newhouse and Commissioner Luis S. Garcia

The motion passed unanimously by a vote of **4 ayes**, **2 nays**, and **0 abstentions**.

D. Discussion and Possible Action to Establish an Ad Hoc Committee that would focus on COC directives in the Board of Supervisors' June 30, 2026, Motion Titled "Survivors First: Protection Against Sexual Assault in the Los Angeles County Jails" (Sexual Assault Prevention and Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) (02:33:51)

MOTION: Second Vice Chair Newhouse moved, seconded by Commissioner Hicks, to establish a PREA Ad Hoc Committee to carry out the COC's responsibilities under the BOS motion, including:

a. Collaborate with LASD, OIG, SBC, and County Counsel to provide the Board, in writing, with a report back in 90 days, on recommendations to:
   - Update the investigative responsibilities and processes to limit LASD's role in investigating sexual assault allegations committed by deputies against incarcerated people, as legally allowable;
   - Onboard sexual assault counselors to be part of the investigative process for support and safety purposes;
   - Create a Survivor's Bill of Rights in collaboration with service providers
b. Continue to monitor and engage with Transgender, Gender-variant, and Intersex (TGI) individuals and other incarcerated people on PREA compliance and responses to sexual assault complaints and allegations and report back in respective reports to the Board.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION

Commissioner Garcia underscored the motion's importance and highlighted input from the TransLatin@ Coalition regarding challenges faced by transgender and TGI individuals in custody. He added that concerns also involve healthcare interactions, noting that feedback about clinical care, medical access, and unique needs warrant further exploration.

PUBLIC COMMENT None
VOICE VOTE (02:36:50)

- **6 Ayes:** Chair Hans Johnson; Second Vice Chair George Newhouse; Commissioner Luis S. Garcia; Commissioner Irma Cooper; Commissioner James P. Harris; and Commissioner Jamon Hicks.
- **0 Nay:**
- **0 Abstentions**

The motion passed unanimously by a vote of **6 ayes**, **0 nays**, and **0 abstentions**.

E. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve and Transmit Two COC Memoranda to the LASD. (02:40:38)

- **Inmate Grievance Processing and Filing Limitations**
- **Information Regarding LASD In-Custody Death Reporting**

Chair Johnson said the first memorandum was related to concerns over the LASD's intent to enforce a cap on grievances, while the second memorandum underscores the importance of ensuring that all in-custody deaths, including those occurring in outside facilities, are properly reported.

MOTION: First Vice Chair Newhouse moved to approve the two memoranda and authorize their transmittal to LASD. Commissioner Harris seconded the motion.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION

- Commissioner Garcia noted that during jail visits, he observed separate forms for grievances, inmate requests, and health services, and that it was difficult to understand how issues are categorized. He requested clearer breakdowns to better distinguish grievances.
- Chair Johnson noted that the LASD is also failing to respond to grievances in the mandatory 15 days. To avoid confusion and duplicate filings, he called for a transparent and improved process, possibly including a flowchart.

PUBLIC COMMENT None

VOICE VOTE (02:42:52)

- **6 Ayes:** Chair Hans Johnson; Second Vice Chair George Newhouse; Commissioner Luis S. Garcia; Commissioner Irma Cooper; Commissioner James P. Harris; and Commissioner Jamon Hicks.
- **0 Nay:**
- **0 Abstentions**
- The motion passed unanimously by a vote of **6 ayes**, **0 nays**, and **0 abstentions**.

10. OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL, SYBIL BRAND COC, & COMMITTEE UPDATES

A. Inspector General (OIG) Updates on its Report - Reform and Oversight Efforts: Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department - April to June 2026 (02:15:50)

Interim Inspector General Bates summarized some of the findings of the OIG's quarterly report:

- There were three deputy-involved shootings during the quarter (two fatal, one non-fatal). Two are under California DOJ investigation pursuant to AB 1506. Meanwhile, the May 20, 2026, shooting involved LASD deputies from the San Dimas station and L.A. County Department of Mental Health (DMH) staff responding twice to a call about a man with a knife displaying suicidal ideation. During the first response, DMH personnel felt unsafe and disengaged, leaving the family with a safety action plan instead. Deputies also withdrew, relying on DMH's assessment. When deputies were called to respond for a second time, on the same day, the man charged at one of the deputies, who opened fire. The man was transported to the hospital in stable condition. OIG's review identified areas needing further inquiry, including protocols for responding to calls related to a mental health crisis.
- The LASD had 128 new administrative investigations open during the quarter. He added that 453 remain pending, of which 318 are assigned to Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB).
- The LASD had recorded 11 in-custody deaths this quarter (5 natural, 2 accidental, 3 suicides, and 1 undetermined).

- The jail population, as of June 30, 2026, was 11,992 people against a BSCC-rated capacity of 12,444 people. MCJ, Pitchess North, and North County operated over capacity.
- The OIG reiterated its recommendation for a 120-second pre-event buffer for body-worn cameras, instead of the current 60 seconds. The LASD disagreed, citing operational, technological and labor impacts, and a 2020 nationwide survey data of buffer periods for law enforcement agencies.
- The LASD had meaningful policy progress related to transgender, gender-diverse and intersex (TGI) protections, though implementation is uneven and complaints persist regarding harassment, housing assignments, and misgendering.
- The report summarizes narcotics-related search activity and medication-assisted treatment for opioid use disorder and Narcan availability in the jails. There was one accidental overdose death during the quarter.
- The OIG reports improved collaboration with the LASD Office of Constitutional Policing (OCP) on deputy gang inquiries.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION (2:24:38)

Chair Johnson asked whether OCP staff have read the COC's 2023 deputy gangs report. Interim IG Bates could not confirm that.

PUBLIC COMMENT (2:47:11)

Olivia Irene Fitzsimmons reported that LAPD asked her if she could provide related case materials to the OIG. She said the OIG responded that they were not involved despite her saying the suspect was on probation. She said the case was forwarded to the Fraud Department, which informed her that they were not processing details from 2024-2026.

B. Sybil Brand Commission Update on Jail Facility Conditions

No representative of the Sybil Brand Commission was present to provide an update.

C. Reports of Ad Hoc Committees (The Committee leads did not provide reports under this item.)

i. **Complaints Ad Hoc Committee**
ii. **Deputy Gangs & Deputy Cliques Ad Hoc Committee - Update on Ad Hoc Committee work**
iii. **Complaints Ad Hoc Committee - Update on revisions to the COC's complaint and commendation form**
iv. **Discipline Process Ad Hoc Committee - Update on issuance of a report and recommendations**
v. **Governance Ad Hoc Committee - Update on Revisions to the COC's bylaws**
vi. **Jail Conditions & Staffing Ad Hoc Committee**
vii. **Legal Ad Hoc Committee - Update on Ad Hoc Committee work**
viii. **Technology Ad Hoc Committee**

11. NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT (02:48:08)

- Deanna Brock thanked the Commission for its work and raised concerns that the deputies relieved of duty in the alleged cover-up of her son's beating continue to receive full pay and, in some cases, promotions.
- Olivia Fitzsimmons stated that the OIG declined to process her case and described ongoing issues with her name being misspelled in LASD records, which she said affected court proceedings. She

also reported unaddressed allegations involving fraud, obstruction, and serious crimes and urged LASD and LAPD to uphold the law.

- Steve Hill thanked the Commission for reviewing his arrest and weapons confiscation, urged faster responses to Antelope Valley community concerns. He believes that his arrest, which he believes was retaliatory, has resulted in significant personal losses.
- Nik Roybal, who identified himself as a journalist, submitted written testimony requesting oversight of LASD's use of Flock Safety ALPR systems in West Hollywood, citing unauthorized data access by external agencies and potential noncompliance with the California Values Act. He asked the Commission to examine data-routing practices through fusion centers and procurement issues.

12. CLOSED SESSION (02:06:47)

A. Briefing on the Status of the COC's Enforcement in Superior Court of Three Lawful Subpoenas on LASD and Related Deliberation and Possible Action by COC

The COC entered closed session at 11:19 p.m.

13. REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION (2:07:43)

The COC resumed open session at 12:11 p.m. Chair Johnson reported that, during closed session, Commissioners approved a motion by Commissioner Newhouse and seconded by Commissioner Cooper to waive deliberative process privilege or any other privilege under seal in the enforcement action.

14. MOTION TO RATIFY LIMITED WAIVER OF ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE (02:09:13)

Chair Johnson explained that the motion was related to the limited waiver of attorney-client privilege previously approved by the Chair and the Legal Ad Hoc Committee on August 27, 2026.
MOTION: First Vice Chair Newhouse moved to approve and ratify the limited waiver of attorney-client privilege dated August 27, 2026. Commissioner Harris seconded the motion.
COMMISSION DISCUSSION None
PUBLIC COMMENT

- Olivia Irene Fitzsimmons asked whether the motion to ratify a limited waiver of attorney-client privilege relates to data sharing with the L.A. Sheriff's Department, LAPD, District Attorney, or other agencies. She described past violations of her criminal protective order.
- Vanessa Perez thanked the Commission for supporting families and thanked Sean Kennedy and Rob Bonner for their continued advocacy even after leaving the COC.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION (2:12:50)

- Commissioner Newhouse expressed appreciation for the work of pro bono counsel and former Chairs Bonner and Kennedy, following closed session.
- County Counsel representative Perez Rodriguez objected to the COC voting on this item.

VOICE VOTE

- **6 Ayes:** Chair Hans Johnson; Second Vice Chair George Newhouse; Commissioner Luis S. Garcia; Commissioner Irma Cooper; Commissioner James P. Harris; and Commissioner Jamon Hicks.
- **0 Nay:**
- **0 Abstentions**

The motion passed unanimously by a vote of **6 ayes**, **0 nays**, and **0 abstentions**.

15. UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

This item was not discussed during the meeting.

16. ADJOURNMENT (2:57:44) The meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

- Below is the chronological order in which the COC took up items on the agenda:
  1-7, 8A-i, 8A-iii-v, 8B, 9A, 8A-ii, 12-14, 9B, 10A, 9C-E, 11, 16.

- The COC tabled the following item:
  Item V – 2026 Annual Report component.

- The COC did not take up the following items:
  8A-vi, 10B-C, 15