



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR
INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS**

**500 WEST TEMPLE STREET
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012**

<http://sbc.lacounty.gov/>

Thursday, December 7, 2023

9:00 AM

Call to Order.

Los Angeles County Land Acknowledgment

The County of Los Angeles recognizes that we occupy land originally and still inhabited and cared for by the Tongva, Tataviam, Serrano, Kizh, and Chumash Peoples. We honor and pay respect to their elders and descendants past, present, and emerging as they continue their stewardship of these lands and waters. We acknowledge that settler colonization resulted in land seizure, disease, subjugation, slavery, relocation, broken promises, genocide, and multigenerational trauma. This acknowledgment demonstrates our responsibility and commitment to truth, healing, and reconciliation and to elevating the stories, culture, and community of the original inhabitants of Los Angeles County. We are grateful to have the opportunity to live and work on these ancestral lands. We are dedicated to growing and sustaining relationships with Native peoples and local tribal governments, including (in no particular order) the

Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians
Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council
Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians
Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
San Fernando Band of Mission Indians

To learn more about the First Peoples of Los Angeles County, please visit the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission website www.lanaic.lacounty.gov <<http://www.lanaic.lacounty.gov>>.

Roll Call. (23-4324)

AUDIO FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (23-4547)

Attachments: [AUDIO LINK](#)

Present: 6 - Vice Chairperson Alexander Sherman, Vice Chairperson Norma Cumpian, Commissioner Bob Frutos, Commissioner Eric Miller, Commissioner Raymond Regalado, and Commissioner Mary Veral

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Ingrid Archie and Commissioner Joahanna Terrones

Vice Chairperson Alexander Sherman called the meeting to order at: 9:10 a.m. Followed by the reading of the LA County Land Acknowledgement. After a quorum of in-person members was confirmed Vice Chairperson Alexander Sherman introduced and welcomed First Supervisorial District appointee, Commissioner Norma Cumpian. Commissioner Cumpian provided a brief overview of her personal endeavors and professional experience.

Commissioner Veral joined the meeting in-person at 9:23 a.m.

Roll Call was performed by Commission Staff.

I. REPORTS

1. Commissioners Reports on Detention Facilities. (23-4325)

- Commissioner Bob Frutos and Commissioner Raymond Regalado Norwalk Courthouse, 12720 Norwalk Blvd., Norwalk, CA. 90650, November 17, 2023.

Commissioner Regalado reported that his visit to Norwalk Courthouse was on November 17, 2023, not on November 12, 2023. He and Commissioner Frutos observed a pattern in a delay in getting graffiti removed/cleaned, as well as maintenance delays. This facility needs help staying clean. And there has been no hot water for over a week and the phones are not working. Lastly, the staff seems to be engaged in their work. The LASD to look into an operation manual for the courthouse lock ups so that the SBC can understand the duties of the LASD maintenance of the courthouse lock up facilities. Commissioner Regalado expressed concerns regarding the access to medical at the courthouse. The SBC to follow up with Dr. Henderson regarding this matter. Other Inspections were conducted but not discussed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)
[PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

2. Los Angeles Sheriff Department, LASD (Commander Hugo Macias). (23-4326)
- LASD Roll Call
 - Follow-up discussion regarding Sheriff Luna's comments about a partnership with SBC.
 - Presentation of the LASD death review process.

LASD staff present: Commander Hugo Macias and Lieutenant Oscar Escobedo.

Commander Macias to follow up regarding Sheriff Robert Luna's 11/02/2023 comment pertaining to a partnership with the SBC.

Lieutenant Oscar Escobedo, LASD gave a presentation on the LASD's death review process. Including In-Custody Deaths, post Release Deaths, the History of how the Death Review Team, DRT was established, the Purpose of Executive Reviews, the Death Review Team, Procedures Immediately Following an Inmate Death, Upon DRT Notifications, Days Following the Death, Executive Inmate Death, Preliminary Executive Inmate Death Review, Post Preliminary Review, During Subsequent Death Reviews, and the Conclusion of Death Reviews. A discussion followed in which the SBC expressed concerns about that the SBC learns about in custody deaths from the press and requested that they be informed about in custody deaths from the LASD directly. The LASD to look into updating their policy as to who gets notified on in custody deaths. The LASD also notifying families and the public defender's office of an in-custody death. Also discussed was what is counted as in custody deaths. The LASD to follow up with the SBC on whether or not the LASD tracks the number of people released under compassionate release, due to a terminal health condition.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)
[PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

10 MINUTE RECESS

3. Department of Correctional Health Services (Dr. Sean Henderson).
- Update on Medi-Cal Justice-Involved Initiative. (23-4327)

Dr. Henderson reported that CHS is conducting a pilot program however no progress has been made due to Medi-Cal being turned off. The objective is to move forward with the permission application in April 2024 and to go live and re-activating Medi-Cal by October of 2024. Dr. Henderson will be returning a couple months with a progress update on this item.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)
[PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

4. Civilian Oversight Commission, COC announcements and upcoming meetings (Mr. Erick Montalban, COC and Commissioner Luis Garcia, COC). (23-4328)

Mr. Erick Montalban reported that the COC will be hosting a meeting on December 14, from 9am to 1pm at Heck Park, in San Pedro and will go over what their achievements over 2023 year as well as the 2024 meeting schedule. And their focus areas in the coming year. In addition, they are seeking assistance from the court to have former Sheriff Alex Villanueva and Assistant Sheriff at an upcoming meeting. In addition, they are holding a meeting on law enforcement and the four deputies that died by suicide. Commissioner Miller shared that he attended the last COC meeting and shared the SBC report to the BOS and in which the SBC outlined their concerns in the jails and lock ups and humanitarian crisis. Vice Chairperson Sherman asked Mr. Montalban to share the report with the COC and requested the COCs feedback or anything they would like to discuss. Vice Chairperson Sherman shared with Commissioner Cumpian that the report is a summary of the SBCs observation on the past year. Staff to share a copy of the report with Commissioner Cumpian.

Commissioner Cumpian asked about the next steps. In which Vice Chairperson stated that the report has been sent to the BOS and that Sheriff Luna was also in receipt of the report. And that they will be following up with Commander Macias on this matter.

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

II. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

5. Approval of Minutes for the meeting of September 7, 2023. (23-4329)

On motion of Vice Chairperson Alexander Sherman seconded by Commissioner Mary Veral this item was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ayes: 6 - Vice Chairperson Alexander Sherman, Vice Chairperson Norma Cumpian, Commissioner Bob Frutos, Commissioner Eric Miller, Commissioner Raymond Regalado, and Commissioner Mary Veral

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Ingrid Archie and Commissioner Joahanna Terrones

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)
[PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

6. Approval of Minutes for the meeting of November 2, 2023. (23-4330)

On motion of Vice Chairperson Alexander Sherman, seconded by Commissioner Eric Miller this item was approved as amended (include the transcript and include Comments made by the Commission as well as the race comments made by former Commissioner Dr. Cheryl N. Grills) with the following roll call vote:

Ayes: 6 - Vice Chairperson Alexander Sherman, Vice Chairperson Norma Cumpian, Commissioner Bob Frutos, Commissioner Eric Miller, Commissioner Raymond Regalado, and Commissioner Mary Veral

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Ingrid Archie and Commissioner Joahanna Terrones

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)
[PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

7. Election of the Los Angeles County Sybil Brand Commission for Institutional Inspections (SBC) Chairperson, for a term of office beginning January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2024. (23-4331)

Commissioner Frutos nominated Vice Chairperson Alexander Sherman, seconded by Regalado. However, Vice Chairperson Sherman declined the nomination due to personal reasons. Commissioner Bob Frutos then rescinded his nominations. And then nominated Commissioner Raymond Regalado, seconded by Commissioner Eric Miller. There being no further nominations, Commissioner Raymond Regalado was appointed Chairperson of the Sybil Brand Commission for Institutional Inspections for a term of office beginning January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2024, with the following roll call vote:

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

8. Election of the Los Angeles County Sybil Brand Commission for Institutional Inspections (SBC) Vice Chairperson, for a term of office beginning January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2024. (23-4332)

This item was moved to the January 4, 2024, meeting.

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

9. Discussion and action of the SBC 2024 meeting schedule. (23-4333)

On motion of Commissioner Bob Frutos, Seconded by Commissioner Eric Miller the meeting schedule was approved to include a special meeting on Wednesday, July 3rd, 2024, because July 4, 2024, is Independence Day with the following roll call vote:

Ayes: 6 - Vice Chairperson Alexander Sherman, Vice Chairperson Norma Cumpian, Commissioner Bob Frutos, Commissioner Eric Miller, Commissioner Raymond Regalado, and Commissioner Mary Veral

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Ingrid Archie and Commissioner Joahanna Terrones

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)
[PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

10. Review of the SBCs 2023 Strategic Goals. And discussion and action on the 2024 Strategic Goals. (23-4335)

1. Engage entities responsible for enforcement of existing State/County standards for humane and constitutional conditions inside the county jails, including:
 - a. Department of Health Services (DHS) and Correctional Health Services (CHS).
 - b. Civilian Oversight Commission (COC).
 - c. Board of State and Community Corrections.
 - d. Jail Closure Implementation Team.
 - e. Court lock ups and Court leadership.
2. Monitoring quality of access, treatment, and outcomes related to medical care and mental health care.
 - a. Underlying causes of in-custody deaths deemed natural by the Medical Examiner.
 - b. Regular meetings with the Department of Health Services and Correctional Health Services (CHS)
 - c. Monitor mental health patient rights and access to mental health services.
3. Seeking feedback and making recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on areas of concern regarding the closure of Men's Central Jail (MCJ) and implementation of the Care First, Jail Last plan as it impacts jail conditions and community capacity.

4. Evaluate expansion and targeting of programming in the jails, including access, retention, and outcomes of programming.
5. Periodic direct engagement with the Board of Supervisors on areas of concern.
6. Conduct periodic self-assessment of the commission's impact on jail conditions to determine the extent at which we may need to advocate for changes to statute.

Vice Chairperson Alexander Sherman highlighted goals and accomplishments from the 2023 year. The SBC discussed the definition and purpose of Goal #1. The intention of collaborating with the COC and other related entities to comply with State/County-set standards regarding facility inspections. Commissioner Frutos suggested adding a subcategory "D" to Goal #2, focusing on treatment for incarcerated pregnant women. Commissioner Veral requested a system be established to remind the SBC of their Goals at each meeting moving forward. Commissioner Miller stated the importance of Goal #3 and would like to renumber it to Goal #1 for the 2024 goals. The SBC agreed on the necessity for thorough follow-ups with the collaborative entities to ensure quality results from facility inspection reports. The SBC voiced their desires for more frequent facility inspections, particularly the Men's Central Jail, the Century Regional Detention Facility (CRDF), and the Inmate Reception Center (IRC). The Commission agreed that a check-in style spreadsheet to map all facility inspections would be informative. Commission Staff reminded the SBC that the Chair manages the inspection tool. Vice Chairperson Alexander Sherman recommended open-table discussions regarding facility inspection scheduling for all future Commission meetings. They also discussed methods to increase public engagement and agreed that their authority is to function as an advisory body and advocate for the community.

Following this discussion, by common consent, this item was continued to the SBC January 4, 2024, meeting.

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

III. MISCELLANEOUS

Public Comment

11. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (23-4336)

There was no in person, virtual or written public comment.

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

Adjournment

12. Adjournment for the Meeting of December 7, 2023. (23-4337)

Vice Chairperson Alexander Sherman adjourned the meeting of December 7, 2023, at 12:06 p.m.