



**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION
ON INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, RM 372
LOS ANGELES, CA. 90012**

[HTTPS://SBC.LACOUNTY.GOV](https://sbc.lacounty.gov)

Thursday, December 5, 2024

9:00 A.M.

RECORDING FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (25-0810)

Attachments: [AUDIO LINK](#)

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. (24-5147)

Chairperson Raymond Regalado called the meeting to order at 9:06 am, followed by the reading of the LA County Land Acknowledgement. Roll call was performed by staff. An in-person quorum was present. Commissioner Puja Bhatia participated in the meeting virtually exercising Emergency Just Cause.

Present: 8 - Chairperson Raymond Regalado, Vice Chairperson Haley Broder, Commissioner Puja Bhatia, Commissioner Norma Cumpian, Commissioner Katherine Hennigan, Commissioner Eric J. Miller, Commissioner Joahanna Terrones, and Commissioner Mary Veral

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Wynter Daggs, and Commissioner Bob Frutos

I. REPORTS

1. Commissioners Reports on Detention Facilities. (24-5148)

- Chairperson Raymond Regalado, and Commissioner Wynter Daggs
- Van Nuys Court House, 6230 Sylmar Ave. Van Nuys, CA. 91401, September 16, 2024
Vice Chairperson Haley Broder, and Commissioner Norma Cumpian
- Twin Towers Correctional Facility (TTCF), 450 Bauchet Street, Los Angeles, CA. 90012, September 17, 2024
Chairperson Raymond Regalado, Commissioner Wynter Daggs, and Commissioner Joahanna Terrones
- North County Correctional Facility (NCCF), 29340 The Old Road, Castaic, CA. 91384, September 21, 2024
Vice Chairperson Haley Broder, and Commissioner Eric J. Miller
- Inmate Reception Center (IRC), and Men's Central Jail (MCJ), 450 Bauchet Street, Los Angeles, CA. 90012, October 10, 2024
Chairperson Raymond Regalado, and Commissioner Bob Frutos
- Altadena Station Lock Up, 780 E Altadena Dr., Altadena, CA. 91001, October 25, 2024
Chairperson Raymond Regalado, and Commissioner Bob Frutos
- Pasadena Courthouse Lock Up, 300 East Walnut St., Pasadena, CA. 91101, October 25, 2024
Commissioner Wynter Daggs, and Commissioner Joahanna Terrones
- Men's Central Jail (MCJ), 441 Bauchet Street, Los Angeles, CA. 90012, October 30, 2024
Vice Chairperson Haley Broder, and Commissioner Mary Veral
- Twin Towers Correctional Facility (TTCF), 450 Bauchet Street, Los Angeles, CA. 90012, November 14, 2024

Vice Chairperson Broder, and Commissioner Miller reported out on the October 10, 2024 IRC and MCJ inspection. Commissioner Miller went over the shared responsibility in ensuring effective jail operations. And noted ongoing discrepancies between Watch Commander Sergeant Marshall's report and that of the SBCs, including no visible trash, and no occupied cells with malfunctioning doors. Despite their being a specific door that did not open properly and a persistent smell of smoke. Additionally noting an ongoing problem with mold, lack of FISH kits (hygiene kits), and inadequate toilets. And highlighted a report of 8 fentanyl overdoses, resulting in an in-custody death. Vice Chairperson Broder noted an ongoing presence of bugs, mold, and thick smoke impacting breathing. And promised repairs to the 3400 doors were not completed despite prior reports. And identified a proactive deputy and discussed court transportation delays due to a lack of busses. She expressed concerns on limited food provisions and medication access, particularly concerning dietary restrictions and seizure medications to the deputy, who was attentive and promised to investigate them.

Commander Geradette E. Montoya acknowledged challenges in addressing specific dietary concerns and noted plans to realign mental health services staff. She then went over the LASDs efforts to combat narcotic distribution in jails using technology enhancements like body and mail scanners and increasing searches of the incarcerated people.

Vice Chairperson Broder, and Commissioner Cumpian, reported out on the September 17, 2025 TTCF inspection emphasizing that the incarcerated people required medical attention, resulting in a hunger strike.

Chairperson Regalado and Commissioner Terrones reported out on the NCCF September 21, 2024 NCCF inspection. This being Commissioner Terrones first inspection she acknowledged helpfulness from both the Deputy and Commander Moreno. Concerns included an inadequate food supply and observed that the incarcerated people were eating in cells instead of communal dining. Leaking toilets, mold that was painted over, and a shortage in cleaning supplies. She raised the issue of demoralization among the incarcerated people, including instances of punitive measures by deputies. Chairperson Regalado noted transportation concerns, noting an alarming decline in detainee numbers expected for court due to bus transportation problems. And highlighted the need for proactive measures to rectify ongoing issues, such as rusted hot pots.

Commissioner Veral criticized the LASD for saying that the incarcerated people did not want to attend court, arguing that the conditions lead to a negative feedback loop.

And addressed the lack of family visitation and reiterated issues of access to medication during court transport. She also brought attention to the ongoing shortage of feminine hygiene products. Commander Montoya provided assurances that the LASD compiles lists of inmates going to court and work closely with judges to facilitate attendance. She acknowledged that improvements are needed in medication dispensing protocols and meal timing. And expressed the LASDs commitment to looking into providing a redacted list of court attendees as requested by Commissioner Veral. Commissioner Cumpian sought clarification on medication dispensing procedures and requested information on nurse availability at courthouses.

Action Items:

- **Food Supply:** Investigate the possibility of providing extra food and using the communal dining area more effectively to ensure everyone has access to meals.
- **Maintenance Issues:** Address the ongoing mold, leaks, missing restroom doors, and other maintenance needs to improve facility conditions.
- **Medication Procedures:** Review and improve practices for ensuring everyone receives required medications before and during transportation to court.
- **Transportation Coordination:** Develop an effective transportation plan to ensure the incarcerated people can safely and timely attend court.
- **Hygiene Supply Management:** Procure and maintain a consistent supply of feminine hygiene products and cleaning supplies to meet the incarcerated people's needs.
- **Follow-Up Inspection:** Plan for another inspection of lock-up detention centers to further evaluate conditions and address any unresolved issues.

Chairperson Regalado reported out on October 25, 2024 Altadena Station inspection stating that feminine hygiene products were not being provided. Medical and dietary concerns were lacking. And noted that with a new DA there is a potential for changes to criminal prosecution. And the perception that there will be a higher arrest rate.

During the the October 25, 2024 Pasadena Courthouse inspection Chairperson Regalado noted similar concerns as the Altadena Station. For example, if someone needs medical attention, an inmate needs to be escorted by two deputies, leaving a shortage of deputies at the facility. Which is a potentially causal chain of increased stress, as deputies must account for more individuals. And wondered if a local Sheriff's station could take on some of these duties. And if the LASD had a regional

response team to get people there quicker.

Commissioner Terrones reported out on the MCJ October 30, 2024 inspection noting several issues including multiple overdoses, food shortages, and visible mold on vents. And that it took three months to receive medical appointments and three weeks for mail to be processed. She highlighted insufficient access to showers and phones, and inadequate grievance responses. She also observed poor treatment of the incarcerated people, including deputies slamming doors and shining lights on them at night. And reported incidents of drug use symptoms and mentioned a severe injury to an individual who required emergency medical care. Other concerns included discrimination against LGBTQ+ inmates and reported abusive behavior from deputies. Commissioner Terrones warned of future addiction-related events and criticized the lack of transportation for inmates seeking release. Describing it as a larger societal issue.

Commissioner Cumpian inquired about provisions for young and LGBTQ+ inmates and the need for safe, separate housing options. Commander Montoya explained that housing decisions are based on prior criminal history and classifications and acknowledged the need for improvements. She also responded positively to the concern regarding staffing clinicians at courthouses for better inmate processing.

Commissioner Veral expressed concerns about medical staff accessibility and inadequate translation services for non-English speaking incarcerated people. And discussed issues related those being processed for release, emphasizing the need for onsite clinicians. Lastly, she Inquired about Wi-Fi access and its potential uses for the incarcerated people.

Vice Chairperson Broder highlighted the lack of virtual visitation technology and language barriers faced by individuals needing translation.

There were no virtual, written, or in person public comments.

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

2. Discussion and appropriate action on a letter to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors regarding the LASD report back on Conditions of Confinement at Men's Central Jail (MCJ).
- Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Justice Deputies (24-5272)
Vice Chairperson Haley Broder explained that letter to the BOS pertaining to the LASDs Conditions of Confinement report back is being revisited to give the public an opportunity to comment to be compliant with the Brown Act.

On motion of Commissioner Eric J. Miller, seconded by Commissioner Mary Veral the letters to the Board of Supervisors regarding the LASD report back on Conditions of confinement at Men's Central Jail was approved for distribution with the following roll call vote:

There were no in person, virtual, or written public comments.

Ayes: 8 - Chairperson Raymond Regalado, Vice Chairperson Haley Broder, Commissioner Puja Bhatia, Commissioner Norma Cumpian, Commissioner Katherine Hennigan, Commissioner Eric J. Miller, Commissioner Joahanna Terrones, and Commissioner Mary Veral

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Wynter Daggs, and Commissioner Bob Frutos

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

3. Los Angeles County Sheriff Department (LASD) Report.
- Update on incarcerated people's exposure to drugs, and other unknown substances.
 - Review of the incarcerated people housed at Men's Central Jail (MCJ) who were exposed to an unknown substance and sent to a medical facility.
 - Review of an early October instance involving 8 incarcerated people in a holding cell at the Inmate Reception Center (IRC) suspected of a drug overdose, in which one individual died and the others were hospitalized.
 - Update on the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department (LASD) delayed Written Report Back pertaining to the Board of Supervisors June 25, 2024 Board Motion "Conditions at Men's Central Jail, Reaffirm the County's Commitment to Care, and Respond to Support Those in Our Care."
 - Update on the Board of Supervisors July 9, 2024 Board Motion, "People Over Profit: Fairness and Equity in Commissary Prices for the Los Angeles County Jails".
 - Update on the Board of Supervisors June 25, 2024 Board Motion, "Dignity and Health for People Who are Incarcerated: Ensuring Accessibility to Menstrual

Products in the Los Angeles County Jails, Probation Detention Facilities, Patrol Lockups, and Court Holding Tanks steps. (24-5273)

Commander Geradette E. Montoya reported that the LASD is combating drug use with upgraded search measures. But that the added technology, is not enough due to the constant movement of the incarcerated people. And reiterated the need for advanced technology to help the LASD with their fight against narcotics. She emphasized drug education so that the incarcerated people understand the risk of ingesting narcotics. And that when there is a suspected overdose or are aware that Narcan (used to treat someone who has overdosed, it reverses the effects of the overdose until medical help arrives) has been employed individuals are immediately referred to Correctional Health Services (CHS) to receive medical medication assisted treatments. If they decline CHS continues to follow up with hopes they change their mind and help them. And added that Narcan is distributed throughout LASD facilities, including in the housing units, deputy workstations. And that the incarcerated people can self-administer, and deputies can administer the Narcan as well.

Commander Montoya then confirmed an ongoing investigation related to an incident resulting in 7 individuals hospitalized and one deceased. And that due to the investigation could only acknowledge but not discuss the matter.

Commissioner Norma Cumpian noted over 20 deaths, including homicides and overdoses, urged follow-up on preventative measures. Commander Montoya emphasized collaboration with correctional services to review processes to prevent future deaths.

Commissioner Miller queried about filing a Public Records Act (PRA) regarding the ongoing issues; County Counsel clarified the procedures and limitations.

Regarding the LASD Written Report Back, Commissioner Miller raised concerns about black mold, trash, and vermin in the facility. And Vice Chairperson Broder reported observing bugs, mold, and had trouble breathing due to the smell of thick smoke. In 3400, the door repairs had not made, even though sheriffs reported repairing them.

Commissioner Miller reiterated the mold problem and was concerned that there was a lack of FISH kits being accessible only when requested, and functioning toilets. And reported these concerns to the watch commander. Commander Montoya described cleaning efforts and the challenges with the incarcerated people as workers and the need for a professional cleaning service.

provision of meals, noting issues with delivery and hunger among inmates. Commander Montoya mentioned improvements were being assessed for hot food delivery to address this. And are bound by the current commissary contract until its expiration August of this year. And that new provider agreement is being evaluated to prevent drastic markup.

Commissioner Veral inquired about possible contract amendments. In which Commander Montoya noted a 2% retail price cap applies if changes are made. And explained that funds from the commissary go to the Inmate Welfare Fund, which supports programming and special needs.

Regarding the Menstrual Products, Commissioner Bhatia requested access to logs from audits regarding menstrual product provisions and compliance checks. Commander Montoya stated that the current system is limited and will reach out to court services for potential tracking improvements.

There were no virtual, in person, or written public comments.

Attachments: [LASD Response to Possible Drug Exposure June 25, 2024 MCJ Horvath & Solis Board Motion July 9, 2024 Horvath & Solis Board Motion June 25, 2024 Solis & Hahn Board Motion LASD Report Back on Menstrual Cycle Products PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

4. Discussion on the LASDs lack of and incomplete responses pertaining to problems identified during the Sybil Brand Commission for Institutional Inspections (SBC) Inspection Reports. (24-5274)

Commissioner Veral noted the absence of detailed information, and concerns of the substantive nature of the follow-up.

Commissioner Miller stated that during the follow-up visit, the SBC was criticized by the Assistant Sheriff regarding oversight duties. He emphasized the need for consistent supervision and accountability, particularly for safety issues in the jail, including jail doors and evacuation processes. And had concerns about earthquake preparedness.

A discussion ensued on the lack of follow-ups from the LASD. And perhaps there being a lack of clarity in the follow-up processes and expectations from the LASD. In which the SBC suggested that the structure may not be effectively set up for substantive results. And recommended the possibility of a Board of Supervisors (BOS) motion to initiate legislative action for better follow-up processes with the sheriff's department. And that addressing the cultural issues within the department is crucial.

Commissioner Miller raised concerns about the staffing of nurses for medication dispensation and the mental health status of the incarcerated people. Emphasizing understanding the challenges facing correctional health services.

Justice Deputy Chloe Rice stated that she would follow up on securing board support for these issues.

Commissioner Veral expressed discrepancies between the sheriff's reports and the SBC inspections, asking how to bridge that gap. Chairperson Regalado suggested a need to adjust expectations regarding feedback from inspections and how they relate to systemic issues within the department. And stressed the necessity of a few commissioners to engage with the Ad-Hoc Committee to address conditions that were discussed.

Commissioner Bhatia asked about meetings with justice deputies to amplify oversight, emphasizing the limitations within BOS supervision over the sheriff's department. Justice Deputy Chloe Rice suggested the importance of a forum for deputies and commission members to discuss pertinent issues.

Chairperson Regalado discussed the necessity for a special meeting to focus on specific processes, expectations, and overcoming systemic challenges.

Commissioner Norma Cumpian motioned to schedule a special meeting of the SBC and the Justice deputies to discuss ways to leverage the SBCs resources and responsibilities, seconded by Commissioner Veral, a meeting with the Justice Deputies was approved with the following a roll call vote.

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

5. Civilian Oversight Commission (COC), Announcements and upcoming meetings. (24-5275)

Ms. Tracy Jordan, COC reported that since the last SBC meeting the COC has created two new ad-hoc committees:

- 1) Geostaffing Ad Hoc Committee: related to the ratio of deputies vs custody assistants in the jail setting. And are looking into their respective MOUs. And the second Ad Hoc is on
- 2) Complaints.

The Next COC meeting is December 19, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. During this meeting you will hear from the leads of the AD Hoc Committees

including the Conditions of Confinement Ad Hoc Committee which will go over their Conditions of Confinement quarterly report. The report can be found on the COCs website under “Custody Reports”.

There were no in person, public, or written public comments.

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

10-Minute Recess

6. Chairperson’s Report on Correspondence received. (24-5276)

Chairperson Raymond Regalado discussed some opportunities, and areas where they have been asked to participate including a meeting last month with the Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission and COC community policing conference. Chairperson Regalado was asked to facilitate one of the round table discussions which he shared with three deputies out of South Los Angeles. And when asked how they felt about patrolling the LASD? They were enthusiastic and believed that this is an optimal model for policing.

Chairperson Regalado also shared that he had run into a colleague he worked with during his tenure with the Human Relations Commission who is now with the Department of Justice (DOJ) and after discussing the SBC goals, his colleague expressed interest in coming to a meeting. And Chairperson Regalado found that the DOJ and SBC are in alignment. Furthermore, although he was not on the COCs agenda, that he was able to address Sheriff Luna who indicated that the LASD is not going to align themselves or work with immigration services as they did not people to fear that their immigration status will be a determining factor. Following a discussion about a citizens complaint report, he found that the term “Citizen” is not the best term used for this forum as it may deter people from making a report. And could alienate individuals who do not have citizenship. He concluded that it would show all individuals that the SBC is not only open to citizens, but to immigrants as well.

There were no in person, virtual, or written public comments.

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

II. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7. Approval of Minutes for the meeting of September 5, 2024, and the meeting of September 26, 2024. (24-5277)

On motion of Vice Chairperson Haley, seconded by Commissioner Eric J. Miller this item was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

Ayes: 8 - Chairperson Raymond Regalado, Vice Chairperson Haley Broder, Commissioner Puja Bhatia, Commissioner Norma Cumpian, Commissioner Katherine Hennigan, Commissioner Eric J. Miller, Commissioner Joahanna Terrones, and Commissioner Mary Veral

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Wynter Daggs, and Commissioner Bob Frutos

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

8. Election of the Los Angeles County Sybil Brand Commission for Institutional Inspections (SBC) Chairperson, for a term of office beginning January 1, 2025, and ending December 31, 2025. (24-5642)

Commissioner Mary Veral motioned to nominate Vice Chairperson Hailey Broder, seconded by Commissioner Eric J. Miller. There being no further nominations, Vice Chairperson Hailey Broder was elected as Chairperson of the Sybil Brand Commission for Institutional Inspections for a term of office beginning January 1, 2025 and ending December 31, 2025 with the following roll call vote:

There were no in person, virtual, or written public comments.

Ayes: 8 - Chairperson Raymond Regalado, Vice Chairperson Haley Broder, Commissioner Puja Bhatia, Commissioner Norma Cumpian, Commissioner Katherine Hennigan, Commissioner Eric J. Miller, Commissioner Joahanna Terrones, and Commissioner Mary Veral

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Wynter Daggs, and Commissioner Bob Frutos

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

9. Election of the Los Angeles County Sybil Brand Commission for Institutional Inspections (SBC) Vice Chairperson, for a term of office beginning January 1, 2025, and ending December 31, 2025. (24-5643)

Commissioner Eric J. Miller motioned to table the election of Vice Chairperson of the Sybil Brand Commission of Institutional Inspections (SBC) to the next SBC meeting, seconded by Commissioner Mary Veral. There being no nominations and no objections. The SBC approved this item with the following Roll Call vote:

There were no in person, virtual, or written public comments.

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

10. Discussion and action of the SBC 2025 meeting schedule. (24-5644)
Commissioner Johanna Terrones motioned to approve the SBC 2025 meeting schedule with the following changes: Reschedule the January 2, 2025 meeting to January 9, 2025. And move the July 3, 2025 meeting to July 10, 2025. The September 4, 2025 meeting to September 11, 2025. The October 2, 2025 meeting to October 9, 2025. Seconded by Commissioner Eric J. Miller this item was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

Ayes: 8 - Chairperson Raymond Regalado, Vice Chairperson Haley Broder, Commissioner Puja Bhatia, Commissioner Norma Cumpian, Commissioner Katherine Hennigan, Commissioner Eric J. Miller, Commissioner Joahanna Terrones, and Commissioner Mary Veral

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Wynter Daggs, and Commissioner Bob Frutos

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

11. Update on the request to the LASD for the SBC, COC, and OIG to receive notice of any in custody deaths, and a 90 day follow up from the homicide detective to provide a report out on the incident(s) to the SBC, COC, and OIG. (24-5278)

After a brief discussion, the Sybil Brand Commission (SBC) decided to keep this as a Standing Item until further notice.

There were no in person, virtual, or written public comments.

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

12. Discussion and Action on establishing a Los Angeles County Sybil Brand Commission for Institutional Inspections phone line, purpose, hours of operation, and possible services/products to be identified. (24-5279)

After a brief discussion, the (SBC) decided to include this item in the special meeting with the justice deputies. The date of the meeting is to be determined.

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

13. General Condition Complaints the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Southern California received the month of September 2024 from Century Regional Detention Center (CRDF), Men's Central Jail (MCJ), North County Correctional Facility (NCCF), and Twin Towers Correctional Facilities (TTCF).

Chairperson Raymond Regalado adjourned the December 05, 2024 at 12:44 PM.

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

III. MISCELLANEOUS

Public Comment

14. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (24-5281)

There were no in person, virtual, or written public comments.

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

Adjournment

15. Adjournment for the Meeting of December 5, 2024. (24-5282)

Chairperson Raymond Regalado adjourned the December 05, 2024 at 12:44 PM.