



**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, March 6, 2025

9:00 A.M.

RECORDING FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (25-1673)

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.

Roll Call. (25-0863)

Chairperson Haley Broder called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. She then read the LA County Land Acknowledgment. Roll call was performed by Commission staff, there was a quorum of in person members present. Commissioner Joahanna joined the meeting at 9:05 a.m. Commissioner Wynter Daggs joined the meeting at 9:14 a.m. Commissioner Mary Veral and Commissioner Norma Cumpian left the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Present: 9 - Chairperson Haley Broder, Immediate Past Chairperson Raymond Regalado, Commissioner Puja Bhatia, Commissioner Norma Cumpian, Commissioner Wynter Daggs, Vice Chairperson Eric J. Miller, Commissioner Katherine Hennigan Ohanesian, Chairperson Joahanna Terrones, and Commissioner Mary Veral

I. REPORTS

1. Commissioners Reports on Detention Facilities. (25-0864)

- Vice Chairperson Haley Broder, and Commissioner Puja Bhatia
 - Men's Central Jail (MCJ), 441 Bauchet Street, Los Angeles, CA. 90012, December 20, 2024
- Chairperson Haley Broder, and Commissioner Mary Veral
 - Men's Central Jail (MCJ), 441 Bauchet Street, Los Angeles, CA. 90012, February 18, 2025
- Immediate Past Chairperson Raymond Regalado
 - Torrance Courthouse, 825 Maple Ave. Torrance, CA. 90503, February 25, 2025
- Commissioner, Wynter Daggs, and Commissioner Eric J. Miller
 - Pitchess Detention Center (PDC) Firefighters, 299310 The Old Road, Castaic, CA. 91384, February 24, 2025
- Commissioner, Wynter Daggs, and Commissioner Eric J. Miller
 - Pitchess Detention Center (PDC) South, 299330 The Old Road, Castaic, CA. 91384, February 27, 2025

Commissioner Puja Bhatia reported out on the MCJ December 20, 2024 inspection, and stated that the conditions were markedly different, it was clean and orderly in comparison to other visits. During this visit she was able to introduce herself to Sheriff Luna who was doing a walkthrough.

Commissioner Bhatia noted that in the 4800 module there were multiple showers and toilets inoperable including no hot water in showers and leaking toilets, there was a lack of access to food and property being taken such as letters and pictures, and no access to grievance forms. Grievance

forms were provided to incarcerated people in module 4800-B.

Commissioner Bhatia noted that in Module 5800 shower heads are running hot and running all day long. The incarcerated people voiced concern on protein meals not being provided, hormone treatments taking a long time to be administered. That many of the incarcerated people informed her that although grievance forms are being filled out nothing comes of it. During pill calls, the incarcerated people were being called up to get their medications which Commissioner Bhatia noted is a HIPPA violation. She indicated they spoke to the Watch Commander and Medical Supervisor about the pill call issue, and they indicated they are aware of it and are providing training to medical staff.

Chairperson Broder stated that in Module 5100 she spoke to a person who said they needed mental health treatment due to suicidal ideation. Sheriff Tokar brought in a mental health team to help this individual.

Commissioner Bhatia indicated that in Module 4800-B certain cell doors wouldn't open, with some doors being locked or wide opened. She also noted that the incarcerated people housed were not given the opportunity for showers or break time.

Chairperson Haley Broder discussed the pill dispensing at MCJ February 18, 2025 inspection, as an issue in that others know the medications they take because there is only one Nurse that issues medication. And recommended that having one nurse dispensing medication needs to change to avoid retaliation against incarcerated people who are taking that medication.

Commissioner Veral spoke on 8000 and that the poor conditions of the property make it difficult for staff to do their job. The horseshoe area that houses incarcerated people that are diabetic, have kidney issues, among other health concerns doesn't have phones or TVs. 8030 is in very poor condition and serving rotten food that has a bad smell. Lastly, she noted that the flooding issue from past inspections has been resolved.

Chairperson Broder spoke to a blind incarcerated person in Module 8230 alone in the recreation room with the TV on. He was trying to use the phone, but the phone did not have an assisted dialer for his use. And therefore, had to track someone down to help him which took a long time. In addition, there were many complaints of hunger, rotten food, an ant infestation, sewer smell, and two of the four showers were inoperable.

Immediate Past Chairperson Regalado reported graffiti on the walls and floors in the holding cells of the Torrance Courthouse during his February

25, 2025 inspection. When the staff were asked how often the walls are cleaned, staff replied, “not often enough” and that the courthouse is responsible for cleaning the cells. He expressed concerns about inconsistency in who oversees cleaning of the holding cells and wants to know what could be done to get these smaller facilities cleaned. He also reported that the refrigerator was not working and was told that there have been multiple requests to get it fixed. He expressed concern for those that have special dietary. And noted that nothing is being done to address this. He also noted that transportation has not been an issue. And that medication is not being administered in a timely manner for those waiting for a court time and some may go without their medication for an entire day.

Commissioner Eric J. Miller reported out on the PDC East, February 24, 2025 inspection stating that this location is used for men in the firefighting boot camp where they learn basic skills and do physical training. And that when the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) has enough enrolled in the program, the men receive a two-week wildfire training. He reported that the facility itself was clean, and the only issues were water pressure and phones.

Commissioner Wynter Daggs noted about the east facility is that they used to have 60 ppl out on the program and now they have 15. Post pandemic it has been challenging to get double digits. And pointed out that there is a big concern about programming recovering since the pandemic. And that the sergeant reported that the issue with enrollment is that there aren't enough incarcerated people. And that after they complete the program that it is challenging to have them return to general population. And that improvements in this facility may lead to incarcerated people being transferred from the MCJ to PDC. At the time of the inspection the incarcerated people were training so they did not have an opportunity to speak to anyone housed here.

Commissioner Veral asked the LASD that they speak to their staff about not referring to the incarcerated people “bodies” due to it being demoralizing to those incarcerated.

Commissioner Miller then reported out on the PDC South inspection on February 27, 2025, noting that it is not at capacity, as it is foregoing a renovation and that it was clean and spacious. The major issues being plumbing and phone usage due to gang intimidation on who uses what phones and when. And that the Education Based Incarceration program (EBI) is received well by the incarcerated people.

Chairperson Broder stated that moving forward she has assigned two inspection locations to each commissioner for the month of March.

In person public comments were provided by Ms. Berkley Donovan and Ms. Melissa Camacho, ACLU. There were no virtual or written public

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

2. Los Angeles County Sheriff Department (LASD) Report and updates. (25-0865)
 - Review of the LASDs Emergency Evacuation plans for the various facilities.
 - Transportation and housing relocation
 - Wildfire impacts on the Jails
 - Facilities to prioritize during inspections in consideration of the LA Wildfires

Commander Montoya reported that the custody division emergency evacuation plan is currently under revision and contingency plans are in place should the incarcerated population need to be moved. Noting that the primary objective would be to rehouse the incarcerated people within Los Angeles County to continue to provide medical care with Correctional Health Services (CHS). And that the LASD is working on increasing their bus fleet with the help of the Chief Executive Office (CEO) and when needed, that the LASD works with other agencies including LAPD, and metro to obtain modes of transportation.

Commander Montoya further spoke on Assembly Bill 109 (AB109) population and that the incarcerated people are medically screened to verify they can be enrolled in the fire camp program. And that there are several requirements needed for individuals to participate in the program, including having no mental health issues, no violent or serious convictions, they must be fully sentenced with no future court dates, have a security level between one and seven, no serious discipline reports, and should have at least six months left to serve on their sentence. Once the program has been completed, the incarcerated people are issued a certificate of completion to offer them a career path with the fire department. And that there are currently 12 individuals in the training program as well as two in the fire camp program. Additionally, that the same process is used for females who are part of AB 109 however, females do not go through the training camp but instead go directly to the fire camp program which includes the two-week training. Furthermore, that outreach for enrollment is not done after the initial outreach but will follow up to confirm.

Commissioner Miller indicated that one of the worries is that efforts from the LASD to give the incarcerated people opportunities is not being fully met. Commander Montoyo stated she will take this suggestion back to her superiors for reevaluation.

Chairperson Broder recommended the LASD add a Communication section to their evacuation plan and specific draft language to add to the plan was provided by the SBC for the LASD to use with the ability to tailor the language.

Commander Montoya indicated the LASD does not track whether there are opportunities with the LA County Fire or Cal Fire once an incarcerated person is released.

Commissioner Daggs asked if the LASD Information Bureau should be invited to the Commission meetings and Commissioner Bhatia indicated once the evacuation plan is final it would be worthwhile to invite them to review the plan.

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT CORRESPONDENCE](#)

3. Discussion and Update from the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department (LASD) on In-custody deaths from December 2024 to present. (25-0866)

Chairperson Broder stated there were 6 deaths in January 2025 one in February 2025, two in March 2025 with a total of 9 deaths for 2025. Commander Montoya stated that the deaths are for a variety of reasons but did not have the autopsy reports to confirm the cause of death but was able to confirm that some of the deaths occurred in the hospital and some were suspected overdoses. She further noted they are looking at safety and security measures within the incarcerated population. And that the LASD is in the process of purchasing property scanners to screen staff as they enter the facility. And that the body scanners will require research to review best practices and how they would be implemented into their facilities.

Commander Montoya informed she had not heard from CHS on patterns and death trends. And that families are notified through the Family Assistance Program will follow up on this at the next SBC meeting. She also stated that the LASD does not compile death reports and it's more of a per incident bases as to how changes are made.

Immediate Past Chairperson Regalado asked if they could get the information on whether the death was a pre-existing condition or other circumstances including whether they are drug related.

Commissioner Miller indicated that in 2022 six proposals were provided and noted racial disparities among it. And expressed concern over the uptick in the number of deaths in 2025. Commissioner Bhatia expressed that it is important to know the systemic issues on the causes of deaths so

they can focus their inspections on the facilities experiencing these issues.

Chairperson Broder indicated that the SBC requested the Corrective Action Plan and was informed that the SBC could not have access to it due to HIPPA. The LASD will discuss this matter with County Council and will circle back to the SBC on this matter.

The COC informed the SBC of several measures that were taken to have reports on deaths made available on the LASD website, including the "Transparency", "In Custody Death" section.

In person public comment was provided by Melissa Camacho, ACLU. There were no virtual or written public comments.

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

4. Discussion, Update, and Next Steps on the LASD Report Back status regarding the Board of Supervisors July 9, 2024 Board Motion, "People Over Profit: Fairness and Equity in Commissary Prices for the Los Angeles County Jails". (25-0867)

Commander Montoya informed there is nothing new to report and will bring report new findings any supporting documents to the next SBC meeting.

Chairperson Broder informed that the incarcerated people are consistently hungry due to the poor food standards and not getting enough food. And that the incarcerated people are reporting they are required to have commissary money so they may eat which is posing a financial burden on them as a result of the expensive commissary pricing.

The SBC noted that one of the complaints is commissary prices such as a pack of ramen is about \$32.00 and coffee being around \$9.00. And that it is a financial burden to the families of the incarcerated people.

Chairperson Broder asked Commander Montoya if an extension request was issued to the Board and Commander Montoya said no and that the contract should be finalized and awarded by the April SBC meeting.

Immediate Past Chairperson Regalado asked if LASD is also looking for a new food supplier in their contract and if commissary prices will be reasonable, and Commander Montoya stated that a new food vendor has been chosen. And will share the new commissary prices once the Contract is issued. Chairperson Broder asked that the SBC be included in future vendor selection.

Commissioner Veral asked if there is some financial piece that is paid by family members diverted to the inmate welfare fund for the incarcerated

people to use, and what are the factors that the LASD uses to ensure lower pricing. Commander Montoya stated she will get back to the SBC and share the previous and current commissary prices for comparison and will follow up on the length of the contract.

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

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

5. Review, Discussion and Action on the SBC report Back regarding 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” next steps. (25-0868)

Commissioner Bhatia reported that surveys conducted were limited to CRDF, and the Avalon facility didn’t have a working facility. Additionally, that the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) report was very helpful in doing their surveys. Menstrual products are very limited, so they need to make sure there is enough inventory and that there are no limitations placed on individuals requesting them. Furthermore, that there is a lack of policy for individuals searched who are coming back from court appearances. Also, that a report indicating misuse of products is out but there is no indication of how they are misused or what constitutes misuse.

Immediate Past Chairperson Regalado highlighted that there is no consistency on what is required to be at a site. And that there is no procedure on how to obtain menstrual products.

Commander Montoya reported that the Special Project team has been appointed to verify that products are readily available for the incarcerated people. Commissioner Veral highlighted that what came up a lot is how all of the issues are intertwined and that products may be being used as cleaning supplies so having cleaning supplies is also very important.

Commissioner Miller stated that menstruation is not the only issue but also highlighted that pain medication for cramps and having exercise options available to mitigate pain during menstruation is essential for women who are incarcerated.

Ms. Daisy Ramirez, OIG, presented the OIG reports regarding the Board of Supervisors June 25, 2024, Board Motion, “Dignity and Health for People Who are Incarcerated”, reporting that she visited CRDF and was able to visit every type of housing module at the facility.

And based on her findings made the following recommendations:

- **Increase the inventory of menstrual products**
- **Continue to make products available in the common areas**
- **Resume the cell-to-cell distribution of products**
- **Address inconsistent stocking practices**
- **Optimize placement of products in the common areas**
- **Make pantliners available in housing locations**
- **Establish standardized procedures for requesting and fulfilling menstrual products**
- **Document why products are not fulfilled**
- **Prioritize the least invasive option when searching individuals**
- **Assess individual menstruating needs of those in the high observation housing or the correctional treatment center**
- **Improve the documentation of stocking products and report any issues in both their electronic log and Watch Commander log**
- **Use gender neutral language in their policy**

Ms. Ramirez indicated the Board Motion requires they continue to report on this issue in their quarterly reports. Also noting that the LASD and CHS are working on a policy to address this issue, and that OIG will be monitoring the progress of that policy to document what the process is.

Chairperson Haley Broder motioned to approve the SBCs report back to the Board, seconded Commissioner Mary Veral this motion was approved with the following roll call vote:

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

Ayes: 9 - Chairperson Haley Broder, Vice Chairperson Wynter Daggs, Immediate Past Chairperson Raymond Regalado, Commissioner Puja Bhatia, Commissioner Norma Cumpian, Vice Chairperson Eric J. Miller, Commissioner Katherine Hennigan Ohanesian, Chairperson Joahanna Terrones, and Commissioner Mary Veral

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[PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

6. Civilian Oversight Commission (COC), Announcements and upcoming meetings, Tracy Jordan, COC. (25-0869)

Tracy Jordan noted the COC will hold their next meeting on March 20, 2025, and the OIG will present their report at the March 27, 2025 COC Townhall meeting in Lancaster California.

The COC informed the SBC that the Conditions of Confinement Ad Hoc Committee was combined with another ad-hoc and are now “The Jail of Conditions and Staffing Ad Hoc Committee. And that the COC is in the process of looking at several things and will reach out to have reps from this body to join this meeting.

Commissioner Miller inquired about Sean Kennedy resigning, and Council advised that the Brown Act allows bodies such as commissions to discuss matters within its subject matter jurisdiction at a meeting. (Government Code Section [54952.2\(a\)](#).) The SBC’s jurisdiction is to conduct inspections as described in its ordinance and advise on industrial and educational programs for adult inmates in County jail facilities. ([LACC 2.82.070](#)). A discussion ensued on the SBCs duties roles and responsibilities, and why this matter will not be discussed at this meeting.

The COC informed the SBC that Ms. Irma Cooper is now the Chair of the COC, and that Luis S. Garcia, Patty Giggans, and James Harris are on the ad-hoc committee.

Commissioner Miller stated they have previously tried to gain information on mental health issues through the Freedom of Information Act and haven’t been able to get the information requested.

Commissioner Miller stated that there are a variety of things reviewed and has followed up with the LASD to establish if their practices are consistent with the policies they put in place.

The COC provided the names of the individuals on the Ad Hoc committee and will follow up with the SBC with meeting details.

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

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

7. Chairperson's Report on Correspondence received. (25-0870)
- Update on meeting with the Justice Deputies
 - Update to Inspection Report
 - o Executive Summary
 - o Inspection Report outs during Commission meetings
 - o Overall Facility Condition(s) and definition of Satisfactory vs Unsatisfactory

Chairperson Broder noted there was a discussion with the justice Deputies on the best way to conduct meetings with them and the determination was to meet through their bi-annual cluster meetings with the first in person meeting taking place on April 9, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. and the next cluster meeting is in October. She then informed that she is working on an update to streamline the inspection form to make it more user friendly. A brief discussion ensued on the definition Satisfactory vs Unsatisfactory. Chairperson Broder stated reporting if a facility is "Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory" will lead to an understanding of what it means to be satisfactory vs. unsatisfactory, will help track patterns.

Commissioner Veral stated she doesn't feel having a section of satisfactory vs. unsatisfactory should be an option because it is always under unsatisfactory in what she sees. Chairperson Broder indicated the answer to this is to always note down unsatisfactory on the report if that is what you see.

Chairperson Broder also noted that SBC should have received an email with their inspection assignments. And that moving forward the SBC will be conducting inspections as mandated by the SBCs ordinance, and that they will be tracking the facilities being inspected, and to make sure patterns are being tracked. She also noted that she and Commissioner Bhatia went over the emergency planning procedures with the LASD and will be doing a follow-up. She stated any members that would like to be a part of the process to please let her know.

Immediate Past Chairperson Regalado asked if in the future they will get updates on the MCJ closure? Chairperson Broder informed that they will invite the Jail Closure Implementation Team (JCIT) to the next SBC meeting to discuss the closure of MCJ.

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

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

II. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

8. Approval of Minutes for the meeting of December 5, 2024. (25-0871)

On motion of Chairperson Haley Broder, seconded by Commissioner Katherine Hennigan Ohanesian this Item was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ayes: 6 - Chairperson Haley Broder, Immediate Past Chairperson Raymond Regalado, Commissioner Puja Bhatia, Vice Chairperson Eric J. Miller, Commissioner Katherine Hennigan Ohanesian, and Chairperson Joahanna Terrones

Abstentions: 1 - Vice Chairperson Wynter Daggs

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Norma Cumpian, and Commissioner Mary Veral

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

9. Election of the Los Angeles County Sybil Brand Commission for Institutional Inspections (SBC) Vice Chairperson, for a term of office ending December 31, 2025. (25-0876)

This item was taken out of order.

Commissioner Mary Veral nominated Commissioner Wynter Daggs as Vice Chairperson of the Sybil Brand for a term ending December 31, 2025, seconded by Commissioner Puja Bhatia. There being no further nominations Commissioner Wynter Daggs was appointed as the Vice Chairperson of the Los Angeles County Sybil Commission for Institutional Inspections for a term ending on December 31, 2025, with the following roll call vote:

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

Ayes: 9 - Chairperson Haley Broder, Immediate Past Chairperson Raymond Regalado, Commissioner Puja Bhatia, Commissioner Norma Cumpian, Commissioner Wynter Daggs, Vice Chairperson Eric J. Miller, Commissioner Katherine Hennigan Ohanesian, Chairperson Joahanna Terrones, and Commissioner Mary Veral

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

10. 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. (25-0872)

Chairperson Broder informed there will be a discussion the Justice Deputies at the next cluster meeting to ask for and would like to see the viability in that request before it is brought to the SBC. And therefore, will table this Item until the next SBC meeting.

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

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. (25-0873)

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

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

Adjournment

12. Adjournment for the Meeting of March 6, 2025. (25-0875)

Chairperson Haley Broder adjourned the meeting of March 6, 2025, at 12:07 p.m., then informed that the next meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2025. Lastly, she reminded the SBC that the cluster meeting with the justice Deputies is on April 9, 2025.