



**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, June 5, 2025

9:00 A.M.

VIDEO FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (25-3423)

Attachments: [AUDIO LINK PART 1](#)
[AUDIO LINK PART 2](#)

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.

Opening Remarks, and Roll Call. (25-3116)

Chairperson Haley Broder called the meeting to order at 9:16 a.m. She then read of the LA County Land Acknowledgement. She added that this meeting was called to order in memory Sybil Brand Commissioner Emeritus Elenor R. Montaña, May 1, 1930 to April 29, 2025 and served on the Commission from 1993 to 2022. Roll call was performed by staff and at that time there was no quorum of in person members present. Commissioner Hennigan arrived at the meeting at 9:20 a.m. constituting a quorum of in person members present.

Present: 5 - Chairperson Haley Broder, Immediate Past Chairperson Raymond Regalado, Commissioner Eric J. Miller, Commissioner Katherine Hennigan Ohanesian, and Commissioner Mary Veral

Absent: 4 - Vice Chairperson Wynter Daggs, Commissioner Puja Bhatia, Commissioner Norma Cumpian, and Chairperson Joahanna Terrones

I. REPORTS

1. Commissioners Reports on Detention Facilities. (25-3118)

- Immediate Past Chairperson Raymond Regalado
- Marina Del Rey Sheriff's Station, 13851 Fiji Way, Marina Del Rey, CA 90292, March 29, 2025
Commissioner Katherine Hennigan Ohanesian, and Commissioner Mary Veral
 - Twin Tower's Correctional Facility (TTCF), 441 Bauchet Street, Los Angeles, CA. 90012, March 31, 2025
Commissioner Norma Cumpian, and Commissioner Joahanna Terrones
 - Men's Central Jail (MCJ), 441 Bauchet Street, Los Angeles, CA. 90012, April 16, 2025
Immediate Past Chairperson Raymond Regalado, and Commissioner Joahanna Terrones
 - Cerritos Sheriff's Station, 18135 Bloomfield Ave, Cerritos, CA 90703, April 22, 2025
Vice Chairperson Wynter Daggs, and Commissioner Mary Veral
 - North County Correctional Facility (NCCF), 29340 The Old Road Castaic 91384, April 23, 2025
Chairperson Haley Broder, Immediate Past Chairperson Raymond Regalado, and Commissioner Eric J. Miller
 - Los Angeles General Medical Center (LAGMC), 2051 Marengo Street, Los Angeles, CA. 90033, April 27, 2025
Chairperson Haley Broder, and Commissioner Mary Veral
 - Men's Central Jail (MCJ), 441 Bauchet Street, Los Angeles, CA. 90012, May 13, 2025
Commissioner Eric J. Miller, and Commissioner Mary Veral
 - Inmate Reception Center (IRC), 450 Bauchet Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012, May 20, 2025
Chairperson Haley Broder, and Commissioner Norma Cumpian
 - Twin Tower's Correctional Facility (TTCF), 441 Bauchet Street, Los Angeles, CA. 90012, May 21, 2025

Commissioner Miller and Veral during their IRC inspection noted that cells that have people with mental health issues are overcrowded due to the scheduling process, the process that incarcerated people are put through to get to court is unacceptable. And that incarcerated people are left to walk unaccompanied to find their cell. Additionally, Commissioner Miller noted she witnessed a Sheriff yelling at an incarcerated person stating, "they did not care if the incarcerated individual used drugs but told them not to get caught doing so".

Immediate Past Chairperson Regalado noted the biggest issue with courtside is if someone does not show up for their court date because of an issue within the LASD, usually transportation, there is a high level of frustration taking place and requested a report back on the bus shortage from the LASD.

Mr. Huntsman expressed he doesn't believe a new incentivized system to get incarcerated people to court will make a significant difference in getting them to court.

Chairperson Broder added that she, Immediate Past Chairperson Regalado, and Commissioner Miller visited LAGMC noting it was their first time inspecting a hospital.

See inspection reports for full details.

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

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

- 2.** Los Angeles County Sheriff Department (LASD) Report and updates. (25-3117)
 - Response to last SBC meeting requests
 - Inspection Requests
 - E-UDALs for those areas for AM shift on 3/31:
 - 172 A, B, C
 - 162A, B, C, D, E (closed), and F
 - Follow up and Update regarding deaths while in custody
 - Clarification on communication process between Custody and Medical staff

Chairperson Broder reported receipt of the LASDs responses from the April meeting including: 1. that the LASD spends \$4.86/day, per meal. 2. The population as of April 22, 2025 is 12,826. 3. Noted that the SBC received the Proposal (RFP), and the Organizational chart on April 11, 2025.

Lieutenant Mark Moreno, Unit Commander of Food Services, reported that nutrition provided to the incarcerated people is based on a 2200-2400 calorie/day diet with Dieticians and Dietic Advisors putting the meals together, broken down by protein amounts, vegetables and grain per meal, then reviewed by the Department of Health Services (DHS). Additionally, to place anyone on anything other than a mainline diet requires Custody Health Services Dieticians who can provide a vegetarian/vegan option but cannot provide a request for the 14 other special diets. Food prices are updated weekly, the month of May the mainline meal was \$4.78/day with Kosher meals at \$13.45/day.

25% of the incarcerated people have special diets. A pre-portioned meal plan has been introduced at MCJ 7 days/week for dinner and scheduled to roll out the first week of July. Dieticians are looking to add a variety hummus, and yogurt to the menu. Equipment was tested and approved to keep food hot should arrive the first week of July and implemented immediately, a proof of concept was done and received positive response was received. Equipment at CRDF will move to TTCF and automated equipment will replace existing equipment which will yield higher quantities. And that the new equipment should address food is served at the intended temperature. Also, that a budget request will be required to implement the program. And costs will be affected as a result of the increase in equipment. Lieutenant Moreno informed that 93 grams of protein is provided in each meal. And that there are currently 144 incarcerated people on a Kosher diet, which goes through Religious and Volunteer Services and vegetarian and vegan going through Health Services. And reported that the two facilities caught not providing the incarcerated people with their required food have been corrected.

Chairperson Broder to share the booking number to the LASD of the incarcerated people that reported not eating due to allergies, buses taking too long, and told to wait until they returned to Wayside because they are unable to pull food stock from IRC or the court line.

Commissioner Miller commended the LASD for their efforts and also acknowledged their limitations in determining what, and how food should be available and getting it ready for distribution to amongst the incarcerated people. He noted that it is the responsibility of the LASD to assure the food is distributed in an effective manner and pointed to two basic problems, one is being able to provide adequate nutritious food, and the other is making sure that the food is being distributed to those entitled to it.

Lieutenant Moreno reported breakfast and lunch are provided to the incarcerated people in the mainline. Those with special diets take their meals with them. And that stations will be used as a model for courts. Cambros have been purchased and delivered to both MCJ and TTCF. In terms of communication between custody and medical, there are various ways of communication between staff and Health Services including radios and coordinated quarterly drills. Injuries require an "inmate injury report" to transport an incarcerated person for medical care, clinic appointments, dental work or to see a Specialist.

Commissioner Veral reported that the incarcerated people at TTCF are in 72 hour holds too long, while experiencing medical issues at IRC, and no one helping them, and at MCJ individuals have not been outside for weeks with

no consideration of Title 15.

Commander Montoya reported that the tablets to request health services are currently in Request for Proposal (RFP). And will provide the Bid information when she has it.

Commissioner Miller informed of studies that indicate incarcerated people claim they are guilty when not, so they may receive medical care, also that jails make people sicker by undermining their health and continuously hears it is an administrative issue. Commander Montoya reported that the LASD has a medical command center that takes calls from family members but due to HIPPA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) cannot release health information. That a pill call service is available in the morning for those that take medication, and that some individuals have self-medications they carry with them, and if medication needs to be administered individuals can be transported to a clinic or wait until they are transported back. Furthermore, that the administration of medication to incarcerated persons while in court is an issue that needs to have a solution.

Chairperson Broder lifted that concerns reported by the SBC to the LASD are labeled as resolved and are not. Commissioner Miller informed that the SBC uses the UDALs to compare against their inspection observations/reports.

Commander Montoya reported 21 total deaths for 2025, 5 died of natural death, 5 accidental deaths, 1 suicide, and 10 pending an autopsy report. And that upon receipt of the autopsies that she will provide them to the SBC. Also, that safety checks are performed for incarcerated people and vary by time increments at the various facilities. During safety checks they check for signs of life or distress such as bleeding or trauma. And that challenges include floor layouts, and the quality aspects of the safety checks. Furthermore, that tenting operations are active to remove visual blockages. And that the LASD is waiting on the narcotics detection scanners and that a monitoring system is being explored to detect heart rates.

Max Huntsman, Inspector General, thanked the LASD for trying to find solutions in preventing deaths and asked if there is discussion on staffing the existing cameras in real time? To which Commander Montoya reported two issues in reviewing cameras in real time are staffing and camera quality and angles in the cells, however it is being discussed.

Chairperson Broder informed that at the last MCJ inspection 119 cameras were inoperable in the Watch Commanders office. Commissioner Miller referenced that the LA County Joint Settlement Agreement on jails

stipulated orders of resolution entered by the Department of Justice (DOJ), set a mandated monitoring schedule for medium and high observation housing at 30- and 15-minute intervals. Commander Montoya confirmed, there is a dashboard that consistently monitors the data but is not based off the scanners. SBC to follow up with the LASD for updates for items discussed later in the agenda, including on in-custody deaths.

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

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

3. Discussion, and Update on the LASD Report Back 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". (25-3119)

Commander Montoya reported that the main objective in choosing a Commissary contract was pricing and will be evaluated periodically to ensure pricing stays competitive. Incarcerated people can purchase food at cost through Commissary and vending machines. The methodology in reviewing pricing is to take the average price of an item from three retailers to ensure price increases do not exceed the average cost determined.

Chairperson Broder put on record that Commissioner Veral shared an article detailing a report that outlines what families of incarcerated people pay for Commissary items and the effect on them. Also, that the article reports it costs families with incarcerated loved ones across the country nearly \$350b annually, about 4x the amount the Federal Government estimates it costs taxpayers annually to operate the nations prisons and jail systems. Additionally, it costs on average \$4,000 a year to support incarcerated loved ones. The SBC reported that during inspections incarcerated people consistently report they are hungry and receiving spoiled food. Chairperson Broder added that the LASD pays on average \$4.86 per day, per incarcerated person with the price increasing for those with special diets. And that the absence of fish kits and that families of incarcerated people bear the burden of costs associated with personal hygiene supplies.

Chairperson Broder expressed disappointment in not having the ability to review the food pricing RFP before it was submitted to the Board. Commander Montoya reported that the RFP was provided to the SBC with the exception of the responses due to confidentiality and the contract review process. Chairperson Broder asked that they be given the opportunity to provide feedback to the Procurement team so it can be reported to the Board.

Virtual public comment was provided by Crises Investors. There was no in person or written public comment.

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

4. Discussion of In-Custody Deaths Investigation, Corrective Action Plans (CAP), and Review Process. (25-3120)
- Dr. Sean Henderson, Medical Director, Los Angeles County Department of Correctional Health Services
 - Vanessa Gastelum, Medical Examiner Coroner's Office
 - Dara Williams, Chief Deputy, Office of the Inspector General

Chairperson Broder reported that the SBC has not seen CAPs and they remain concerned on the number of deaths, particularly amongst young people. Dr. Henderson reported that his team receives the CAPs but is not part of the document trail. And noted they are crafting a response to the Board members, but it is not ready for distribution. Dr. Henderson then gave an example of what happens once a death is announced and CAP process stating that once a death occurs the individual's medical history is reviewed for gaps that and that an older population and chronic disease are contributing factors to deaths, and mental health issues increased after COVID-19 and that a spike in fentanyl was seen between 2019-2020. And reported that Narcan only works if the individual has a heartbeat and works only in a tiny window.

The SBC reported witnessing incarcerated people having seizures and the LASD not there to respond. Dr. Henderson informed that CAP questions should go to the Department of Mental Health (DMH), Department of Public Health, and the LASD. Dr. Henderson noted that the lack of interagency communication attributing to the death occurrences should be part of the CAP.

The SBC expressed concerns regarding drug use in prison cells. Dr. Henderson stated that Narcan is consistently given as a lifesaving method. He also stated that ideally screening should be used on everyone but currently custody does not have the resources for increased screening aside from using dogs for random drug screening.

Ms. Dara Williams went over their role in the CAP process, and that the OIG has been reporting and making recommendations on drug intervention efforts and noted that assisting individuals who are addicts is an important part of prevention and so is the use of programming to keep individuals occupied and keep their minds engaged with activities. Additionally, that OIG staff attend the 24-hour, seven day, and

30-day death reviews and reported that they point out to the LASD ways to improve going forward to ensure transparency. Furthermore, that not all information is shared with the death review committee and expressed the importance to have all information shared with the OIG. And that Catherine Wright, Assistant Inspector General, also reviews any video that is provided to confirm they have an accurate understanding of what occurred to the extent including the quality of the Title 15 checks. And make their concerns clear and provide specific recommendations to the LASD as to what they consider to be reasonable actions that the LASD can take. She indicated the key to the CAPs is communication and getting it to the right people to follow up on the recommendations, and noted it is about adhering to policy, and training. She also reported that the State and the DOJ are invited, and regularly attend the death review process. Ms. Williams informed that due to a new digital tracker it is difficult to say how often CAPs are reviewed to ensure that recommendations are being implemented, and that it is best to inquire with the LASD. Mr. Huntsman recommended that the SBC focus on the changes that are happening within the LASD such as the Title 15 checks, rather than the CAPs.

Ms. Tracy Jordan, Civilian Oversight Committee (COC) asked if a root cause analysis is done on whether personnel was involved in an incident, any impact the policies have had, or not had, in relation to the incident, as well as procedures and if property may have been involved in the incident. And noted that LA County has a CEO Risk Management team that submits an annual report as part of their tracking and monitoring and suggested it could be tied to the CAPs to have another set of eyes and add another level of responsibility. Also, that it could add accountability to those responsible for following through with what is on the report. Mr. Huntsman stated that a root cause analysis often appears in the CAPs and although a good idea, that CAPs that they use are not helpful.

In person public comment was provided by Berkley Donavon, ACLU of Southern California, Jails Advocate. There was no virtual or written public comment.

Chairperson Broder asked that a report back be added to the next agenda on Title 15 checks.

Attachments: [HYPERLINK TO LASD WEBSITE](#)
[PUBLIC COMMENT CORRESPONDENCE](#)

5. Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) - Discussion on the implications of Senate Bill No. 519, Chapter 306, An act to amend Section 6024 of, and to add Sections 832.10 and 6034 to, the Penal Code, relating to corrections. (25-3121)
- Terrence Keel, Professor, UCLA Department of African American Studies Institute for Society and Genetics
 - Helen Jones-Phillips, Senior Campaign Lead, Dignity and Power Now
 - Max Huntsman, Inspector General, Los Angeles County Office of the Inspector General (OIG)
 - Dara Williams, Chief Deputy, Los Angeles County Office of the Inspector General (OIG)

LA County's definition of in-custody deaths as sufficiently accurate, and Professor Keel reported that LA County's definition of in-custody deaths is not sufficient and stated that the California state law definition has three limitations: 1. California defines in-custody deaths as those that take in while incarcerated or detention centers and does not extend to those that occur during an arrest. 2. California law does not explicitly mandate that an autopsy be performed after an individual has died while in-custody. 3. California state law does not require law enforcement or the Medical Examiner to disclose the trial status of individuals who die while in custody on a death certificate or the autopsy. And stated that amending State Law for in-custody deaths is needed.

Ms. Jones noted that many families are given a wrong cause of death on the autopsy reports and do not know that a cause of death can be changed on an autopsy report. Additionally, that causes of death are knowingly noted incorrectly on death certificates.

Professor Keel stated that he does not feel that LA County's description of in-custody deaths is adequate and that consistent guidelines are needed at the State level. And that Black, Latino, Asian, and Whites should be fairly represented in the different death classifications and noted that his findings are that Black individuals are being classified as natural deaths and a high number of Hispanics are being classified as undetermined. And noted that according to the National Association of Medical Examiners and Coroners a natural death classification should be used to describe when someone has died from illness and disease at the end of someone's life. Additionally, that death investigators need to classify deaths as homicides, medical or institutional neglect to allow the public and the SBC see the structural causes for the people dying at a young age. He cited several cases of what he indicated is clear neglect and misdiagnosed causes of death and that a secondary review board is needed to investigate in custody deaths.

County Counsel to follow up on what prevents the release of CAPS and Death reviews to the SBC related to an investigation.

Mr. Huntsman explained that a CAP is a document created by the County post litigation to correct a wrong-doing and during death reviews there is a process of investigation required that could limit what one is entitled to review. Mr. Huntsman then informed that there is a new law that states investigation reports are non-confidential therefore attorney client privilege is not a legitimate reason to not release the report. And HIPAA would be a challenge but that there are ways to obtain reports with HIPAA exceptions. And that one key piece of law on attorney client privilege is that you cannot make something privileged that is fundamentally not privileged simply by having an attorney do it. And that yes, a family member can waive their HIPAA rights. And noted that he is not an expert on the nuances of HIPAA.

Chairperson Broder thanked the guest speakers and invited them back to the July 10, 2025 meeting.

In person public comment was provided by Haley Vasquez. There was no virtual or written public comment.

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

- 6.** Civilian Oversight Commission (COC), Announcements and upcoming meetings, Tracy Jordan, COC. (25-3122)

There was no discussion.

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

- 7.** Chairperson's Report on Correspondence received. (25-3123)
- Update on the April 9, 2025 cluster meeting with the Justice Deputies
 - Reminders.
 - Next Meeting Date
 - Quorum Count
 - Month Activities

Chairperson Broder informed that the next SBC meeting is July 10, 2025. She noted that inspection assignments have been sent assigned, and the outcome of the April 9 Cluster Meeting with the Justice Deputies will be shared at the next meeting in July meeting.

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

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

II. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

8. Approval of Minutes for the meeting of April 3, 2025. (25-3124)

On motion of Commissioner Mary Veral, seconded by Commissioner Eric J. Miller the SBC approved this item with the following roll call vote:

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

Ayes: 5 - Chairperson Haley Broder, Immediate Past Chairperson Raymond Regalado, Commissioner Eric J. Miller, Commissioner Katherine Hennigan Ohanesian, and Commissioner Mary Veral

Absent: 4 - Vice Chairperson Wynter Daggs, Commissioner Puja Bhatia, Commissioner Norma Cumpian, and Chairperson Joahanna Terrones

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

9. Discussion and appropriate action on the Los Angeles County Sybil Brand Commission for Institutional Inspections (SBC/Commission) 2024 Annual Report. (25-3125)

On motion of Commissioner Mary Veral, seconded by Commissioner Eric J. Miller, the SBC approved to send the SBC 2024 Annual report to the LA County Board of Supervisors with the following roll call vote:

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

Ayes: 5 - Chairperson Haley Broder, Immediate Past Chairperson Raymond Regalado, Commissioner Eric J. Miller, Commissioner Katherine Hennigan Ohanesian, and Commissioner Mary Veral

Absent: 4 - Vice Chairperson Wynter Daggs, Commissioner Puja Bhatia, Commissioner Norma Cumpian, and Chairperson Joahanna Terrones

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

10. Discussion and appropriate action on a process for the Los Angeles County Sybil Brand Commission for Institutional Inspections to address and/or respond to public concerns, and or inquiries. (25-3126)

Chairperson Broder noted that the commission has received inquiries from members of the public concerned about their incarcerated family members and that they must have a better standardized process for how the SBC responds to such inquiries. Additionally stated that Immediate Past President Regalado is working on a solution and this ties into their request for a phone line. Furthermore, that Commissioner Veral will create a standardized auto email reply to acknowledge receipt of public inquires, as well as to include on the SBC website, and potentially on their business cards to include resources for the incarcerated people. Staff reminded the SBC that calls from the incarcerated people need to be accepted so that they may speak to someone and or to leave a message. In addition, the SBC number listed is not exclusive to the SBC.

Mr. Huntsman suggested adding a list of important phone numbers one could call at the back of the commission members business cards. Immediate Past President Regalado expressed that whatever the process becomes it is important for those that reach out to the commission feel that the SBC has acknowledged their concerns.

There was 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. (25-3127)

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

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/CORRESPONDENCE](#)

Adjournment

12. Adjournment for the Meeting of June 5, 2025. (25-3128)

Chairperson Broder adjourned the meeting of June 5, 2025, at 12:34 p.m.