



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 374-A
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
<https://youthcommission.lacounty.gov>**

Thursday, July 31, 2025

6:30 PM

Video for the entire meeting. (25-4416)

Attachments: [Video](#)

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Land Acknowledgment. (25-3960)

**Co-Chair Brittianna Robinson called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.
County Staff conducted Roll Call. Commissioner Christian Gudiel read the
County's Land Acknowledgement.**

Present: Co-Chair Joshua Elizondo, Co-Chair Brittianna Robinson,
Commissioner Sherrie Bradford, Commissioner Jessica Castillo,
Commissioner Luisa Flores Urrutia, Commissioner Christian
Gudiel, Commissioner Amanda Hernandez, Commissioner
Mercedes Jackson, Commissioner Martine Jones, Commissioner
Ricardo Ortega Martinez Jr., Commissioner Clarissa Peña and
Commissioner Evelyn Karina Rodriguez

Absent: Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Commissioner Cristopher Espino
and Commissioner Florencia Flo Valenzuela

2. Awareness Video titled, "Recovering Innocence Teaser" by Kids in the Spotlight,
Inc., Recovering Innocence, YouTube. (25-3961)

**The Awareness Video titled, "Recovering Innocence Teaser" by Kids in the
Spotlight, Inc., Recovering Innocence, YouTube, was shown.**

Attachments: [VIDEO](#)

3. Approval of minutes from the regular meeting of June 26, 2025. (25-3962)

Co-Chair Joshua Elizondo requested a correction to the minutes on Page 5, Item No. 7.

On motion of Commissioner Ricardo Ortega Martinez, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Evelyn K. Rodriguez, the minutes from the June 26, 2025 meeting were approved as amended by the following vote:

Ayes: 12 - Co-Chair Joshua Elizondo, Co-Chair Brittianna Robinson, Commissioner Sherrie Bradford, Commissioner Jessica Castillo, Commissioner Luisa Flores Urrutia, Commissioner Christian Gudiel, Commissioner Amanda Hernandez, Commissioner Mercedes Jackson, Commissioner Martine Jones, Commissioner Ricardo Ortega Martinez Jr., Commissioner Clarissa Peña and Commissioner Evelyn Karina Rodriguez

Absent: 3 - Commissioner La'Toya Cooper, Commissioner Cristopher Espino and Commissioner Florencia Flo Valenzuela

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

II. DISCUSSION

4. Presentation and Roundtable Discussion on the Education Rights Videos and the Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Podcast by the Office of Child Protection (OCP).
- Barbara Lundqvist, Project Director, OCP & Director, Education Coordinating Council
 - Dr. Ramona Merchan, Project Director, OCP
 - Alaina Moonves-Leb, Project Director, OCP
 - Sherrie Bradford, Alliance for Children's Rights Education Advocate & LA County Youth Commissioner
 - Cristopher Espino, Alliance for Children's Rights Education Advocate, Castillo Consulting Partners Lived Expert Consult, & LA County Youth Commissioner
 - Myriah Smiley, Alliance for Children's Rights Education Advocate
 - Alexandria Maldonado, Alliance for Children's Rights Education Advocate (25-3964)

Co-Chair Brittianna Robinson opened the floor to the Presentation and Roundtable Discussion on the Education Rights Videos and the

Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Podcast by the Office of Child Protection (OCP). Self-Introductions were made. The presentation was led by Barbara Lundqvist, Project Director, OCP, and highlighted the following:

- **Overview of the Office of Child Protection.**
- **Working with Lived Experts**
- **Education Coordinating Council- Strategic Plan**
- **ED Rights Videos**
- **Ta(Y)lk To Me Podcast Reels (Podcast)**
- **Resources for Young People by Young People**
- **Youth Engagement Resources**
- **Social Media Guide for the Podcast**
- **Next Steps**
- **Commitment Examples**
- **Partnership Opportunities**

The following information was clarified for the Commissioners:

The Podcast Reels were based on conversations with the Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP) Workgroup. Although OCP initiated the Podcast, they are looking to community-based organizations to take up the effort. Commissioners provided their personal thoughts.

During discussion the following suggestions were made:

- **Information should be provided on how situations should go with proper implementation, not just what went wrong.**
- **Santa Monica College is looking to restart their Foster Youth Podcast that was discontinued during Covid, and is looking to secure grant funds, this may be an option for the Podcast.**
- **Links can be added to the Podcast to clarify various situations, rights, and proper processes.**
- **It would be important to have professionals involved so questions can be answered in real time.**
- **Having the Podcast done at various college locations would be beneficial.**
- **Resource links should be provided directly on the Podcast, as well as getting the word out to youth at schools and through other programs.**
- **Provide QR codes, posters and flyers at court facilities.**
- **Ensure that organizations involved or highlighted in the Podcasts provide direct services to youth.**

Discussion ensued and the following was highlighted:

- Regarding accountability for organizations, professionals, and facilities, information is being disseminated to youth regarding the role of the “Education Holder” and other supports, engagement, and follow up, especially after listening sessions.
- The Educational Rights videos came out of the Education Coordinating Council's Strategic Plan, and there are seven individuals on the video/podcast Team.

Alexandra Maldonado, Alliance for Children’s Rights Education Advocate, provided information on her work with the 21st Research National Agenda and progressive work being done in other states, and how evaluation will take place of whoever takes over the Podcast.

Co-Chair Brittianna Robinson discussed the Child Trafficking Leadership Team, and the need to incorporate CSEC (Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children) and Labor Trafficking videos in the Podcasts.

Attachments: [PRESENTATION](#)
 [TA\(Y\)LK TO ME FLYER](#)
 [ED RIGHTS VIDEO FLYER](#)

III. REPORTS

5. Leadership Report. (25-3966)

Co-Chair Joshua Elizondo reported that Commissioner Mercedes Jackson has joined the Youth Engagement Committee. Also, Commissioners Ricardo Ortega Martinez, Jr., Luisa Flores Urrutia, and Co-Chair Brittianna Robinson will be terming out and this will be their last meeting. Co-Chair Elizondo and commissioners shared their personal thoughts, gratitude, and impact made by each departing Commissioner. Commissioners made personal statements and thanked fellow Commissioners, staff, and Executive Director, Tiara Summers. Co-Chair Joshua Elizondo reported that there will be an election to fill the vacant seat of Co-Chair at the next meeting.

Members of the public, Dr. Esroruleh Mohammed, and Elianna Peña addressed the Commission.

6. Commissioner Reports on Activities and Events attended on behalf of the Youth Commission. (25-3967)

Commissioners provided reports on activities and events attended on behalf of the Youth Commission as follows:

- **Commissioner Clarissa Peña reported her involvement with autistic youth and her volunteer work with the California Abilities Network, and the ICAN Organization.**
- **Commissioner Ricardo Ortega Martinez, Jr. reported on the ILP Graduation. He spoke about the work being done in the Antelope Valley, with undocumented youth and the Cohort of Financial Literacy that works with the Spanish speaking community. Also, the American Job Center presented him and the Commission with an award for the work being done in the community.**
- **Co-Chair Joshua Elizondo reported that the Education Coordinating Council will meet on August 27, 2025. The Youth Commission, along with the Commission for Children and Families will participate in the LGBTQ+ Ad Hoc Committee on Foster Youth, the first meeting will be held Friday, August 1, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. Commissioners Clarissa Peña, Jessica Castillo, and Amanda Hernandez indicated that they would also attend.**

IV. UPDATES

7. Update on Board Motions that the Youth Commission is named in. (25-3968)

Executive Director, Tiara Summers, briefly spoke on the Child Trafficking Leadership Team (CTLT) and the Youth Empowerment Committee and indicated that there will be an opportunity at the next meeting to discuss this item at length. Regarding the recent Board Motion, the Department of Youth Development motion (DYD), Public Defender's Office, and the Alternate Public Defender's Office, will be discussing youth empowerment, and youth rights and civil engagement. Youth Commissioners were encouraged to become involved.

Regarding the TAY motion, commissioner involvement for those with lived experience has not been finalized yet. Executive Director Summers will keep everyone informed as things move forward.

8. Operations Committee update by Committee Chair Joshua Elizondo. (25-3969)

Commissioner Joshua Elizondo, Chair, Operations Committee, reported that the three onboarding videos were discussed at the last meeting. Animation software is being researched in order to initiate production. The three candidates to fill the upcoming vacancies will appear on the Board of

Supervisors' agenda for approval on Tuesday, August 5, 2025. The OPS Committee also discussed adding the task of mentorship of new onboarded commissioners. An outline of how the mentorship program will work will be presented to the full Commission for approval.

9. Youth Engagement Committee update by Committee Chair Sherrie Bradford. (25-3972)

Sherrie Bradford, Chair, of the Youth Engagement Committee, reported that the End of Year Event will be held on Saturday, October 25, 2025, and the following week the Strategic Planning meeting will be held. She encouraged Commissioners to join the YEC due to two Commissioners terming out.

V. MISCELLANEOUS

10. Opportunity for members of the public to provide comments to the Commission on item(s) not on the agenda, that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. (25-3973)

Prior to the meeting, written public comment was provided by Dr. Esroruleh Mohammed and shared with all Commissioners. Member of the public, Barbara Lundqvist, provided comments on behalf of Judge Michael Nash, Executive Director, Office of Child Protection.

11. Commissioner discussion of matters not posted on the agenda, to be considered, and placed on the agenda at a future meeting of the Commission. (25-3974)

The following items were requested to be placed on a future agenda:

- **Leveraging opportunities inside and outside of the Commission, and the importance of hearing from former commissioners; and data regarding the Transitional Age Youth (TAY) population.**
- **A presentation on youth suicide, as well as how the Departments of Health, Public Health and DCFS are working with immigration issues.**
- **Consider Commissioner reflections as part of regular or special meetings throughout the year.**
- **Reviewing how the TAY service age of 24, can be extended to age 26.**

12. Adjournment. (25-3976)

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 28, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

On motion of Commissioner Amanda Hernandez, seconded by Evelyn K. Rodriguez, there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 9:23