



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES SHERIFF CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT COMMISSION

Improving Public Transparency and Accountability

World Trade Center, 350 South Figueroa St., Ste 288, Los Angeles, CA 90071
(213) 253-5678 ▪ coc.lacounty.gov ▪ cocnotify@coc.lacounty.gov

Sharmaine Moseley
Executive Director

MEMBERS

Sean Kennedy
Chair

Jamon R. Hicks
Vice-Chair

Robert C. Bonner
Commissioner

Irma Hagans Cooper
Commissioner

Luis S. Garcia
Commissioner

Patti Giggans
Commissioner

James P. Harris
Commissioner

Hans Johnson
Commissioner

Vacant
Commissioner

March 19, 2024

Fesia Davenport, Chief Executive Officer
County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Office
500 W. Temple St., Room 713
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: SHERIFF CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS ON LASD BUDGET PRIORITIES FOR FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2024-2025

Dear CEO Davenport:

This communication is to provide you with the Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission's (Commission or COC) recommendations for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Sheriff's Department or LASD) Budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025, the [Commission's staff report](#), and [public input](#) received on the Sheriff's Department FY 2024-2025 Budget.

On January 29, 2024, several Sheriff's Department subject matter experts (SMEs) presented the Sheriff's Department's budget priorities and unmet needs to the Commission's Budget Ad Hoc Committee (Budget Committee). The Budget Committee was advised by SME Commander Hugo Macias (Sheriff's Department Custody Services Division) of the need to replace the boilers at Men's Central Jail (MCJ), which was built in the 1950's and has a daily individual population of over 3,800. The boilers have exceeded its life expectancy for being able to provide primary climate heating and hot water for MCJ and may impact conditions of confinement.

On March 13, 2024, the Commission heard from Chief Financial and Administrative Officer Jill Torres before adopting the following staff report recommendations:

1. LASD continue providing and publicly posting on the LASD website the LASD 5th Month written Budget Status Report by no later than the 2nd week of January of each year and submit copies to the CEO, the Board, and the Commission along with maintaining an on-going listing of the documents on the website.
2. The CEO and Board Approve Select LASD FY2024-25 Budget Priorities and Unmet Needs, including but not limited to the following:
 - a. Boiler Replacement (LASD Priority #I-F) should receive requested funding to maintain adequate climate heating and hot water in the county jail facilities for humane conditions of confinement associated with the [Commission Staff Report on Conditions of Confinement \(February 16, 2024\)](#)¹ and County's Strategic Plan Goal III.3.2-Manage and Maximize County Assets.²

¹ Los Angeles County Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission. (2023). Staff Report: Conditions of Confinement. Retrieved from https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/bos/supdocs/StaffReport-3bLASDConditionsofConfinement2.16.23_FINAL_.pdf

² Chief Executive Office. (2023). Strategic Plan and Goals III.3.2. Retrieved from <https://ceo.lacounty.gov/strategic-plan->

- b. Development of Employee Wellness Center (LASD Priority #II-C) should receive requested funding to develop employee wellness provisions and critical incident interventions for personnel to prevent law enforcement suicides associated with the [Commissions' Law Enforcement Mental Health & Wellness Virtual Conference \(December 7, 2023\)](#)³ and to be consistent with the County's Strategic Plan Goal I.3.4- Enhance Sheriff's Ability to Effectively and Appropriately Respond to Crises Involving the Mentally Ill⁴ and the County's Strategic Plan Goal III.1.1-Develop Staff Through High Quality Multi-Disciplinary Approaches to Training.⁵
- c. Taser Program (LASD Priority #IV-A, B, & C) should receive requested funding to ensure the availability of modern less lethal technology as a prevention and risk reduction measure during public safety activities. Funding this item will align with the [Commission's Technology Ad Hoc Committee adopted report and recommendations \(September 21, 2023\)](#)⁶, the October 3, 2023, Board-adopted motion on [Transparency, Accountability and Oversight of LASD's Taser Policy and Use.](#)^{7,8} and to be consistent with the County's Strategic Plan Goal III.3.2-Manage and Maximize County Assets.⁹
- d. Additional Captain based on COC Recommendation (LASD Priority #IX-A) should receive requested funding to help the Department implement a level of corrective action associated with the Department's past Deputy Gangs/Cliques issue, which is related to the [Commission's adopted Report and Recommendations of the Special Counsel to the Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission Regarding Deputy Gangs and Deputy Cliques in the LASD \(February 2023\)](#).¹⁰ This will hopefully eliminate the fifty plus year existence of Deputy Gangs and Deputy Cliques within the LASD and align with the County's Strategic Plan Goal III.3.2-Manage and Maximize County Assets.¹¹
- e. Mental Evaluation Teams (MET) (LASD Unmet Need #17) should receive funding as requested in LASD FY2024-25 unmet needs and the MET program should additionally be fully funded to achieve the [Commission's adopted recommendations \(February 15, 2018\)](#) for a total of 60 MET teams; and to be consistent with the

[goal-three/](#)

³ YouTube. (2023). Los Angeles County Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission: Law Enforcement Mental Health & Wellness Virtual Conference. Retrieved from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vHOEcpHWdyg>

⁴ Chief Executive Office. (2023). Strategic Plan and Goals I.3.4. Retrieved from [Strategic Plan Goal One – Los Angeles County \(lacounty.gov\)](#)

⁵ Chief Executive Office. (2023). Strategic Plan and Goals III.1.1. Retrieved from <https://ceo.lacounty.gov/strategic-plan-goal-three/>

⁶ Los Angeles County Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission. (2023). Technology Ad Hoc Report and Recommendations on LASD Use of Tasers. Retrieved from https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/bos/commissionpublications/report/1148347_LASDUseofTasers.Approved9-21-2023.pdf

⁷ Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. (2023). *Adopted Board Motion October 3, 2023 Agenda Item #15-Transparency, Accountability, and Oversight of LASD's Taser Policy and Use.* Retrieved from <https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/bos/supdocs/184552.pdf>

⁸ LASD. (2024). October 3, 2023 Agenda #15 Report: Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) Policies and Use.. Retrieved from <https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/bos/supdocs/184768.pdf>

⁹ Chief Executive Office. (2023). Strategic Plan and Goals III.3.2. Retrieved from <https://ceo.lacounty.gov/strategic-plan-goal-three/>

¹⁰ Special Counsel Report. (2023). Report and Recommendations of the Special Counsel to Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission Regarding Deputy Gangs and Deputy Cliques in the LASD. Retrieved from https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/bos/commissionpublications/report/1138014_DeputyGangsSpecialCounselReporttoCOC3.2.2023.PDF.PDF

¹¹ Chief Executive Office. (2023). Strategic Plan and Goals III.3.2. Retrieved from <https://ceo.lacounty.gov/strategic-plan-goal-three/>

Fesia Davenport, Chief Executive Officer

March 19, 2024

Page 3

County's Strategic Plan Goal I.3.4-Enhance Sheriff's Ability to Effectively and Appropriately Respond to Crises Involving the Mentally Ill.¹²

The Commission will continue to monitor LASD's management of their budget as the department continues to annually submit its Budget Status Report¹³ to the Commission, CEO, Board and released to the public in December of each year. The Commission will request additional information and/or make further recommendations when necessary.

The Commission kindly requests that you provide a written response to its recommendations by April 19, 2024. Thank you for your attention to this request. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (213) 253-5678.

Sincerely,

Sharmaine Moseley

Sharmaine Moseley
Executive Director, Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission

SM:tj

CC: Each Supervisor, Board of Supervisors
Jeff Levinson, Interim Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Robert Luna, Sheriff, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
Dawyn Harrison, County Counsel
Each Member of the Budget Ad Hoc Committee, Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission

¹² Chief Executive Office. (2023). Strategic Plan and Goals I.3.4. Retrieved from [Strategic Plan Goal One – Los Angeles County \(lacounty.gov\)](#)

¹³ LASD. (2023). LASD Response to Commission Budget Priorities Recommendation FY23-24. Retrieved from <http://bit.ly/3myX01u>