



Los Angeles County

Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission

Working to oversee & improve public transparency & accountability with respect to the Sheriff's Department.

2023 Annual Report



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Foreword from Executive Director

I am excited to have joined the Los Angeles County Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission (Commission) as the Executive Director in November 2023. I bring my experience from building upon the law enforcement oversight efforts in Albany, New York & San Diego, California, where I worked for more than two decades managing, supporting, & leading civilian oversight of law enforcement agencies as well as building relationships with community members.

When I came on, I learned about the four focus areas the Commission expended their efforts in 2023, which included reports with recommendations on Deputy Gangs, the Sheriff's Department School Resource Deputies, Street Takeovers, & the Sheriff's Department's Use of Tasers. At the December 14 Commission meeting, I assisted the Commission with the development of a list goals & priorities for the Commission in the upcoming year. Staff used the list to create the Commission's first strategic plan with objectives, goals & measurables, with the three goals focused on policy updates, obtaining confidential information, & community engagement. Staff will work to support the commissioners using this strategic plan as a guide, & it will continue to be updated as each goal is met.

In 2024, I plan to evaluate our oversight model & restructure it (if needed) to ensure that it is operating efficiently as a civilian oversight commission. My plan will also include improving internal operations & enhancing community engagement. I look forward to building consensus, promoting transparency, & achieving credibility in police oversight within the community. I also look forward in sharing my expertise as I work collaboratively with everyone to make real change here, in Los Angeles. We have a lot of work ahead of us, but remain hopeful that we will get there, together!

The Commission's ongoing involvement with the National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (NACOLE) remains crucial for continuing educational purposes in keeping up with evolving best practices in law enforcement oversight so we can implement those best practices in Los Angeles County. We will continue identifying training and educational opportunities for our Commissioners.

For their collaboration, as we work toward increasing transparency & accountability within the Sheriff's Department, I would like to thank the Executive Office, the Office of Inspector General (OIG), & the Sheriff's Department. I would like to recognize Commission staff – Starlet Atkins, Daniel Delgadillo, Tracy Jordan, Nune Petrosyan, Jennifer Wicks, & Ingrid Williams – for their efforts to engage in the community & support the Commissioners in evaluating policy change. And, most importantly, community is at the heart of civilian oversight, so I want to thank every member of the public who interact with us.

Sharmaine Moseley

Sharmaine Moseley, Executive Director
Los Angeles County Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission



Board of Supervisors

Per Los Angeles County Code 3.79, the Commission was created by the Board of Supervisors (Board) on November 9, 2016, to improve public transparency and accountability with respect to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, by providing robust opportunities for community engagement, ongoing analysis and oversight of the department's policies, practices, procedures, and advice to the Board of Supervisors, the Sheriff's Department and the public. In 2023, the Board took action to ensure public safety & provide resources to community members through the following motions:

- Addressing In-Custody Overdose Deaths in the L.A. County Jails (Solis & Hahn, December 19)
- Creating an Independent Process for Complaints re: School Law Enforcement Services (Mitchell & Solis, December 19)
- Transparency, Accountability, and Oversight of the Sheriff's Department's Taser Policy & Use (Solis, October 3)
- Addressing Illegal Street Takeovers & Racing in Unincorporated L.A. County (Mitchell, September 12)
- Deputy Gangs: Support for the Commission's Recommendations to Eradicate Deputy Gangs in the Sheriff's Department (Solis, March 7)

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

Left to right: Janice Hahn, Hilda L. Solis., Lindsey Horvath, Kathryn Barger, & Holly Mitchell



A Year in Review

A brief overview of the Commission's work this year.

2023 by the Numbers

Commission Meetings

- 11 meetings
- 952 attendees at the Commission meetings
- 190 public comments made at Commission meetings

Special Hearings on Deputy Gangs

- 1 Special Hearing on Deputy Gangs
- 96 attendees at Special Hearings
- 20 public comments made at Special Hearings

Community Engagement

- 1,459 attendees at the community engagement events
- 10 Virtual Conferences
- 4 In Person Town Halls
- 1 Community Policing Conference
- 10 resource fairs or other community engagement
- 4 sessions hosted at NACOLE conference
- 4,000+ followers on Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, & YouTube

Action Areas

- 4 reports with recommendations regarding: Deputy Gangs, School Resource Deputies, Street Takeovers, & Use of Tasers
- 1 newly appointed Executive Director



Photo: Newly appointed Executive Director Sharmaine Moseley presents to the Public Safety Cluster on December 13.

Commission Members & Executive Directors

The Commission is composed of nine members who are appointed by the Board. Five members are direct Board appointments (one from each Supervisorial District), & four members are nominated by the Commission for Board approval. The diverse backgrounds of the members who served in 2023 include a mental health advocate, a Registered Army Nurse, a nonprofit executive, a retired law enforcement professional, a former federal judge, & attorneys with a broad range of diverse experiences.



2023 Leadership. Photos top to bottom, left to right: **Commissioners:** Chair Sean Kennedy; Vice Chair Jamon R. Hicks; Robert C. Bonner; Irma Hagans Cooper; Patti Giggans; James P. Harris; Luis S. Garcia; Hans Johnson; & Lael Rubin (end of term 6-30-2023). **Executive Directors:** Brian K. Williams (2016-Feb. 2023); Danielle Butler Vappie (interim from March-Oct. 2023); & Sharmaine Moseley (Nov. 2023-present).

Introduction

The evolution of Sheriff Civilian Oversight in Los Angeles County dates back many years. Since 2013, the Board reviewed reports, considered the impact, and heard testimony from community members & stakeholders about establishing a Sheriff's Department Oversight Commission. On December 9, 2014, the Board approved a motion for the creation of the Civilian Oversight Commission for the Sheriff's Department & requested that a work group be convened by County Counsel, the Sheriff, the Inspector General and one appointee of each Supervisor to provide a report back with recommendations on the oversight commission's mission, authority, size, structure, relationship to the Office of the Sheriff and to the Office of Inspector General.

On November 9, 2016, the Board adopted an ordinance amending Title 3 of Los Angeles County Code to create the Commission to take effect as of December 9, 2016, in Chapter 3.79, with the mission to in part improve public transparency and accountability with respect to the Sheriff's Department and to provide opportunities for community engagement among other things. The Commission is a Hybrid Civilian Oversight Model in which Board created the Commission and the OIG with different oversight functions to oversee the Sheriff's Department. The Commission provides oversight of the nation's largest Sheriff's Department with nearly 18,000 employees who provide service to 42 incorporated cities, 141 unincorporated communities, courthouse security, & the county jails.

Civilian Oversight Principals

According to the National Association for Oversight of Law Enforcement (NACOLE) there are Thirteen Principles for Effective Civilian Oversight. The principles consist of but are not limited to: (1) Independence, (2) Clearly defined & adequate jurisdiction & authority, (3) Unfettered access to records & facilities, (4) Access to Law Enforcement Executives & Internal Affairs Staff, (5) Full Cooperation, (6) Sustained Stakeholder Support, (7) Adequate Funding & Operational Resource, (8) Public Reporting & Transparency, (9) Policy & Patterns in practice Analysis, (10) Community Outreach, (11) Community Involvement, (12) Confidential, Anonymity, & Protection from Retaliation, & (13) Procedural Justice & Legitimacy.

The Commission functions based on these principals as we continue to support public safety in our neighborhoods & strive to balance protecting the civil rights of the most

vulnerable populations. Commissioners & staff embrace the many ethnic differences in the County because we understand that diversity, equity, & inclusion in the workplace & community promotes innovation & problem solving. These are essential components of effective oversight.

Commission Mission

The Commission works to facilitate public transparency & accountability with respect to the Sheriff's Department & provides ongoing review, analysis, & oversight of the Sheriff's Department's policies, practices, & procedures. The Commission strives to build bridges between the Sheriff's Department & the public by making recommendations to the Sheriff's Department & the Board. The Commission's work cannot be completed without the public's involvement, which is why the Commission provides many opportunities for robust community engagement.

County Code Chapter 3.79

The County Code of Ordinances Chapter 3.79, provides the Commission with several duties and responsibilities related to the improvement of the Sheriff's Department that include, but are not limited to (not all inclusive):

- Making Recommendations to create additional operational policies and procedures affecting the community and request a response from the Sheriff
- Investigate through the OIG or through its own staff, analyze and make recommendations to the Board & Sheriff on systemic Sheriff -related issues or complaints affecting the community
- Review policy recommendations made by outside entities at the request of the Board or recommendations made in other reports in the judgement of the Commission
- Monitor Settlements only at the request of the Board or the Sheriff
- Serve as Liaison and Mediator at the request of the Board, the Sheriff and/or community groups or organizations involved to help resolve ongoing disputes between the Sheriff's Department and members of the community
- Obtain Community Input and feedback on specific incidents involving the use of force, detention conditions, or other civil rights concerns regarding the Sheriff's Department and where appropriate, make recommendations

(cont.)

- Work with OIG in soliciting community input and feedback on issues being investigated by the Inspector General
- Function as a Bridge between the LASD and the Community by providing the community an additional means of giving input to the Sheriff, obtaining answers from the Sheriff to community concerns about the Sheriff's Department operations, practices and activities
- Seek Sheriff's Input of the Sheriff prior to completing any of its recommendations
- Advise the Board and the Sheriff and without authority to manage or operate the Sheriff's Department or direct the activities of the Sheriff's Department employees, including imposition of discipline

Actions & Recommendations

Deputy Gangs

Since its formation, the Commission has been tracking the issue of deputy gangs, which has a long history of documentation. At the March 3 Special Hearing, the Commission unanimously approved the [Report on Deputy Gangs](#) & adopted all 27 recommendations. This report was the product of an investigation led by Special Counsel Bert Deixler & a team of pro bono attorneys. To support the investigation, the Commission hosted a total of eight special hearings that included witness testimony & public comments. The Special Counsel's team also interviewed nearly eighty anonymous witnesses. The report & recommendations were sent to Sheriff Robert Luna & the Board of Supervisors.

The report included findings that:

- Confirmed the existence of deputy gangs & provided an overview;
- Identified current gangs & illustrated the impact these gangs have on the community & the Sheriff's Department;
- Listed obstacles to eradicating deputy gangs & confirmed that eliminating gangs is constitutionally permissible; &
- Provided 27 recommendations to eradicate deputy gangs, which fell under the categories of leadership & supervision, policies & training, re-deployments & rotations, & accountability.

At the regular Commission meeting on March 16, the topic was discussed again, & throughout the year, the deputy gangs ad hoc committee has continued to collaborate with the Sheriff's Department to encourage that all 27 recommendations are implemented. The Commission will continue to host special hearings in the upcoming year to hear additional testimony & comments from the community to create a supplemental report.

School Resource Deputies

For years, the Commission has heard feedback about the presence of law enforcement on school campuses. Last year, the Board [directed](#) OIG, in part, to analyze the Sheriff's Department's School Resource Deputy (SRD) contacts to determine where disparities exist with Black students. The Commission began more closely tracking the issue & at the April 20 Commission meeting, OIG Chief Deputy Dara Williams discussed [OIG's Report related to deputies in schools](#).

Over the course of several months, the Commission's Quality of Life ad hoc committee dove into the issue. After research & numerous community engagement activities, the committee presented the [School Resource Deputy Program Report](#) at the October 19 Commission meeting. The report, which provided recommendations to:

- Examine and modify SRD program agreements
- Collaborate with the Department of Youth Development and the Department of Public Health's Office of Violence Prevention to establish an SRD policy to promote restorative justice practices
- Collaborate with OIG to develop of an SRD program portal on the Sheriff Department's website
- Coordinate with each assigned school to develop and improve the relationships with parents and students
- Develop an annual SRD report to post on the website

The report was adopted unanimously by the Commission and sent to the Board and the Sheriff's Department.



Photo: On July 29, Commission staff hosted an informational table with the opportunity for local children to illustrate what a School Resource Deputy Means to them. Bethune Park, Parks After Dark.

Street Takeovers

On occasions over the last several years, local streets have been taken over by people recklessly driving vehicles with spectators cheer them on. Commonly referred to as street takeovers, these events have resulted in injuries & deaths in our local communities. In 2022, the Commission began tracking the issue more closely, and at the January 19 Commission meeting, the Sheriff's Department advised they were working to create a task force & database to monitor & track incidents. Representatives from the California Highway Patrol and the community organization, Street Racing Kills, discussed their efforts to share information on street takeover dangers & legal ways to demonstrate their vehicle's performance in a safe environment. The Commission adopted a recommendation in the [staff report on the Sheriff Department's management of Street Takeovers](#) to request quarterly reports to monitor the street takeovers issue.

The June 15 Commission meeting was held in the City of Compton, where street takeovers has been a recurring issue. The Commission discussed the [Sheriff Department's letter](#) and heard from community leaders, local Sheriff's Department officials, and the Mayor of Compton.

On September 12, the Board of Supervisors passed a [motion addressing illegal street takeovers](#). Among many directives to various agencies, the Board directed a street takeovers symposium followed by a comprehensive plan including methods of enhancing the county ordinance & a funding strategy. Commission staff is involved in the workgroup supporting this motion & will report to the Commission as needed.



Photo: On June 15, the monthly Commission meeting was hosted at the Dollarhide Community Center in Compton.

Use of Tasers

Law enforcement's use of tasers against civilians is often shown in the media, especially when taser use results in someone's death. After reviewing media coverage, the Commission requested information from the Sheriff's Department about their use of tasers and received this [letter on April 7](#). At the April 20 Commission meeting, representatives from American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Southern California & the Sheriff's Department's Custody Training & Standards Bureau shared information regarding tasers.

The Commission continued the conversation at their July 20 Commission meeting, where they heard from guest speakers including an attorney, a professor, and an employee from Axon, the company who creates tasers and discussed the Technology ad hoc committee's [Sheriff's Department's Use of Tasers Report](#) and recommendations, which included:

- Review, revise, and combine taser-related policies to enhance readability, understanding, and usefulness.
- Review, revise, and take appropriate action to ensure that policies prohibit the use of the term "Excited Delirium."
- Post monthly reports on the public website that includes the use of tasers by station, facility, and operation with incident type, location, and demographics.
- Provide a written report of the termination or completion of the Taser 10 device pilot program.

The [Sheriff's Department advised their](#) general support on the taser recommendations on August 24. Then, on September 21, the full Commission approved the report & adopted the recommendations. Staff are monitoring the implementation status of the recommendations to the Sheriff's Department related to their use of tasers.



Photo: On April 20, the monthly Commission meeting included presentations on LASD's use of tasers.



Photo: On April 20, the monthly Commission meeting included community feedback and engagement.



Photos: At the April 20 meeting, Commissioners discussed tasers, School Resource Deputies & in custody deaths.

Additional Areas Reviewed

Commission's Access to Information

The Commission requested access to confidential Sheriff's Department information to provide proper oversight. Unfortunately, Commissioners have not gained access to the confidential information or documents, particularly internal investigation documents, that would enable them to provide proper oversight.

Commissioners discussed the need for a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the Sheriff's Department & the Commission allowing ad hoc committees to receive confidential documents, reports & information at the Commission meetings on October 19, November 9, & December 14. The Commission agreed to prioritize access to confidential information in 2024.

Sheriff's Department Jails

The Sheriff's Department is responsible for the care, custody, & security of people incarcerated in L.A. County jails. The Commission continues to receive complaints about jail conditions from the public, community organizations, OIG, & the L.A. County Sybil Brand Commission for Institutional Inspections. Throughout the year, several commissioners visited various County jails and toured locations to observe jail town halls.

At the January 19 Commission meeting, staff presented their [Jail Conditions Report & the Sheriff's Department's response](#). Discussion focused on overcrowding, COVID-19 precautions, in custody deaths, treatment of pregnant people, Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) complaints, & Education Based Incarceration opportunities. At the February 16 meeting, the Commission adopted the [staff report on jail conditions](#), which requests that the Sheriff's Department publish reports on jail conditions (including overcrowding, grievances, vaccinations, communicable diseases, pregnant people, & more); In Custody Deaths (as required by Assembly Bill 2761); & Homicide Investigations reports.

The Commission discussed in custody deaths at the April 20 meeting, with the Los Angeles County Medical Examiner & a professor researching the issue. Conversation focused on [in-custody deaths data](#), autopsy reports, & security holds for

people who have died in the jails or because of an interaction with Sheriff's personnel. The Commission's Conditions of Confinement ad hoc committee will continue to collaborate with the Sheriff's Department, OIG, Correctional Health Services, & the Sybil Brand Commission to better jail conditions.

Harassment of Grieving Families

Over the last several years, there have been several reports of deputies harassing family members of people who were killed by Sheriff's Department personnel. OIG has produced reports addressing the issue, and at the November 9 meeting, commissioners expressed their concern about the Sheriff's Department's lack of policies regarding the treatment of family members who lost loved ones because of use of force by deputies.

Commissioners continue to collaborate with the Sheriff's Department to implement a policy to address the issue.

Sheriff's Department Budget

At the February 16 meeting, a representative discussed the Sheriff's Department's budget priorities & challenges. The commissioners adopted the [Sheriff's Department Budget staff report](#) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024, which requested that the Sheriff's Department develop an annual Budget Mitigation Plan or Budget Status Report. It also recommended a list of priorities and unmet needs the Commission believed should be funded including additional Academy Classes & Recruitment; Computer Aided Dispatch System Replacement; Mental Evaluation Teams; Police Decertification Unit Staffing; and Psychological Services.

The Commission also hosted a virtual conference regarding the Sheriff's Department's budget to educate the community on March 2. The Commission will continue to evaluate the Sheriff's Department's budget requests & funding.



Photo: On February 16, Commissioners hear from Sheriff's D*Town Halls*, & Other Outreach their budget requests.

Peace Officer Records

The Commission has received reports that the Sheriff's Department is not complying with the release of peace officer records, even though Senate Bill 1421 was effective January 2019.

In 2022, the Board directed funding for a County Counsel unit to process SB1421-related requests. At the September 21 meeting, the Commission discussed [OIG's SB1421 obligations report](#); and at the October 19 Commission meeting, a representative [shared County Counsel's progress](#) staffing the division & accessing Sheriff's Department's records. The Commission will support efforts for compliance with SB1421.

Mental Evaluation Teams

Mental Evaluation Teams (MET) are a collaboration between deputy sheriffs & licensed mental health clinicians who provide crisis assessment, intervention, & targeted case management to diffuse potentially violent situations. The Commission adopted the [MET report](#) in 2018 & has been monitoring the issue since.

The Sheriff's Department published a [MET report](#) & [fact sheet](#), & the Department of Mental Health provided [an update](#). At the July 20 Commission meeting, a [MET staff report](#) was discussed, and staff will continue to monitor the program.

Family Assistance Program

The Los Angeles County Family Assistance Program, sparked by the [Commission's 2018 report](#), is designed to provide trauma-informed support to families whose loved ones were killed by or died in the custody of Sheriff's Department personnel.

At the May 18 Commission meeting speakers from the [Department of Mental Health](#), the [Office of Violence Prevention](#), & the Chief Executive Office shared their plans to roll out the permanent program. The [staff report](#) was reviewed, which requested the Sheriff's Department to provide program information on their website. The [OIG shared their report](#) on the program's implementation at the July 20 meeting, and staff will continue to monitor the Family Assistance Program.

Fatal Officer Shooting of Andrés Guardado

In 2020, Andrés Guardado was shot five times by a Sheriff's Department deputy. Concerned with the claims that the killing was deputy gang related & the investigation, the Commission requested the Sheriff's Department and the District Attorney speak about the situation. On July 7, the [District Attorney provided limited answers](#) due to legal privileges. Chair Kennedy stated that case materials were forwarded to an independent body that was established by the District Attorney.

Incidents In Antelope Valley

The Commission regularly hears public complaints from Antelope Valley residents related to law enforcement, despite the [settlement agreement](#) between the Sheriff's Department & the Department of Justice. At the July 20 Commission meeting, Sheriff Luna discussed the highly publicized use of force incidents that took place in [Lancaster on June 24](#) & in [Palmdale in 2022](#). The Commission looks forward to continued updates from the Sheriff's Department when significant events occur.

Deputies In County Health Facilities

In previous years, the Commission heard complaints about the Sheriff's Department security services in County health facilities. As a follow up, a [staff report](#) that discussed force incidents & hospital security operations was presented at the May 18 meeting. Staff will continue to monitor the topic as needed.

Drone Pilot Program

At the May 18 Commission meeting, Sheriff's Department representatives requested to present a [deployment proposal for Unmanned Aircraft Systems](#) (UAS), commonly referred to as drones. They advised the drone pilot program was currently being tested in Malibu, Lancaster, & West Hollywood & would be in effect for approximately one year. Commission staff continue to receive information about the development of the policy & will update the Commission as needed.



Photo: Commission Town Halls, & Other Outreaches during the March 16 Commission meeting.

Community Engagement

Commission Meetings

To boost transparency & accountability, community input is essential to the ongoing analysis of the Sheriff's Department policies, practices, & procedures. Commission meetings provide an opportunity for the public to provide comments about the Sheriff's Department, and this community feedback may provide direction on issues the Commission evaluates. The public is encouraged to attend Commission meetings. In 2023, meetings were held in person, with a virtual component that allowed for remote public comment through a computer or via phone. All meetings continued to be streamed on Facebook Live & videos are posted to YouTube. Commission meetings are publicized through email notifications, social media posts, & on the Commission's website. Regular meetings for 2024 will be held at St. Anne's Conference Center on the third Thursday of each month from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., except for August.

Conferences

3rd Annual Community Policing Conference

The Commission hosted the 3rd Annual Community Policing Conference on October 27 at Cal State Los Angeles. Nearly 200 community members, academics, law enforcement professionals & County employees gathered for a day of discussion on community policing. Attendees had the opportunity to network & learn from others in the areas of community safety, diversion, & law enforcement oversight.

The conference boasted a keynote speaker and four sessions focused on building community trust, diversion efforts, transitions from custody to community, & encouraging safe & secure education. The conference concluded with a facilitated roundtable discussions to recap the sessions. This conference was designed by a joint planning committee of the L.A. County Civilian Oversight Commission, the Probation Oversight Commission, the Human Relations Commission, the Department of Youth Development & the Office of Violence Prevention.

Virtual Conferences

The Commission developed and hosted 10 virtual conferences in 2023. Sessions were chosen and developed based on the needs of the Commission and the community members. Staff coordinated the invitation and preparation of various guest panelists to share their expertise on the given topic. Conferences were free & open to the public. Panelists presentation materials and recordings can be seen by visiting the Commission's website at coc.lacounty.gov. Topics included:

- Law Enforcement Mental Health & Wellness - December 7
- Police Officer Decertification – September 7
- Deputies in School Series:
 - Background & Overview - July 27
 - Balancing Safety & Equity - July 31
 - Outcomes & Accountability - August 3
- Sheriff's Department Jail Series:
 - Life Inside a 6x8 Cell - May 4
 - Can People Get Well in a Cell? - May 22
 - Transitioning Out of Jail - May 31
 - Reducing Recidivism - June 12
- Sheriff's Department Budget, March 2



Town Halls, & Other Outreach

Community Meetings & Town Halls

& to ensure that Commissioners hear directly from the community. Town halls provide a public forum where residents are encouraged to take the microphone to address Commissioners & local leaders. The public is encouraged to share their experiences, thoughts, concerns, compliments, & solutions

The Commission hosted four in person community meetings in 2023. At these meetings, the community is invited to meet Commission leadership & discuss the Sheriff's Department. The community shared their experiences with Sheriff's deputies & how they felt about public safety in their communities. The Commission went to:

- The East LA Service Center on April 15
- Legacy Commons, Palmdale on May 13
- Florence Library, South LA on June 24
- Probation Training Center, Pico Rivera on July 15

Other Community Engagement

Commission staff attended community events or hosted information booths including at Juneteenth, Taste of Soul, Parks After Dark events for Hispanic Heritage & Winter Wonderland celebrations, the Commission of Children & Families, & various Sheriff's Department Community Dialogue events in Palmdale, Lancaster, South Los Angeles, & East Los Angeles.

NACOLE Conference

Several Commissioners & staff attended the 29th annual National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (NACOLE) conference in November in Chicago, IL. This conference brought together civilian oversight practitioners, community members, law enforcement professionals, academics, journalists, & others to exchange information & ideas about issues facing civilian oversight & law enforcement. Commission staff developed four sessions that provided a space for oversight professionals to discuss:

- Protecting the LGBTIQ Community in Correctional Facilities
- Taser: Volts Don't Just Stun, They Can Kill
- The Power of Language: Should We Stop Saying 'Officer-Involved' Shooting?
- Law Enforcement Robots: Who's Responsible When R2-D2 Kills

Photo: C
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Complaints & Commendations

Members of the public make complaints concerning the Sheriff's Department to the Commission via email, telephone, in person, or by mail. The Commission also hears complaints & commendations during public meetings & town halls.

Complaints received by the Commission are forwarded to the OIG, who then forwards them to the Sheriff's Department for investigation. Unless you choose to remain anonymous, your name and complaint will be forwarded to the Sheriff's Department for investigation. If you do not allow OIG to share your complaint, it will not be thoroughly investigated. However, OIG will evaluate your complaint to identify systemic issues within the Sheriff's Department.

The OIG can investigate specific instances only in special circumstances, & they have the authority to undertake an inquiry & audit or monitor the investigation.

Looking forward

As we move into 2024, the Commission continues to focus on improving transparency & accountability within the Sheriff's Department. The Commission has developed a set of goal with three priority areas of policy updates, obtaining information, and community engagement. A tactical plan with objectives and measurable results will be used to guide Commission staff.

For policy update areas, the Commission receives public feedback & conducts research to prepare reports with recommendations to the Sheriff's Department & the Board. Commission staff monitor the Sheriff's Department's progress in implementing the Commission's recommendations.

We look forward to collaborating with the Sheriff's Department & to help build bridges to increase engagement. The values & needs of the public are at the core of effective oversight, & the Commission will continue to offer community engagement opportunities through meetings, conferences, & town halls.



Photos: October 19 Commission meeting.



Acknowledgements

As we work to bring effective oversight to the Sheriff's Department, none of this would be possible without the continued engagement from the dedicated residents of Los Angeles County. We appreciate the calls, emails, one-on-one meetings, & comments at public meetings. We are thankful for the support of the Board of Supervisors, the Executive Office, & many County departments. Moreover, I want to thank each member of the Commission for your dedication, hard work, & constant desire to assist the community.

A special thank you to Los Angeles County Supervisors Hilda Solis, Holly Mitchell, Lindsey Horvath, Janice Hahn, & Kathryn Barger. Thank you to Executive Officer Celia Zavala & the Executive Office staff for their assistance. We appreciate your ongoing support.





COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
SHERIFF CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT COMMISSION

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*"The time is always right
to do what is right"*

Quote on cover by Martin Luther King Jr.