

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

January 23, 2024

Industry Indians: Investigation and Outcome of Deputy Gangs in the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and Status Update on the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Deputy Gang Policy

On January 11, 2024, the Los Angeles Times issued a scathing article on the existence of and misconduct by the Industry Indians¹, a deputy gang stemming out of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's (LASD) Industry Station. The article described LASD deputies picking a fight with teens in the parking lot of a Montclair bowling alley, and allegations of these deputies brandishing their service weapons, yelling obscenities, including homophobic slurs, and physically assaulting one of the teen victims.

The article goes further and notes that members of this group of LASD deputies, a deputy and a sergeant, had tattoos linked to a known deputy gang called the Industry Indians.

¹ <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2024-01-11/a-bowling-alley-a-boozy-fight-and-allegations-of-a-new-deputy-gang-in-los-angeles>

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For experts on deputy gangs, this was an unknown deputy gang, among the litany of known and well-established deputy gangs that continue to exist and persist in LASD², so it is unclear how long they've been in existence. Additionally, it is unclear what other incidents of misconduct can be linked to this deputy gang, impact on community members and the communities within the service area of the Industry Station, how many investigations were conducted as a result of misconduct, the quality of the investigations conducted and what, if any, early warning signs were ignored of deputy gang behavior at the LASD Industry Station.

Our communities deserve better and incidents like these and the perceived lack of response from the Sheriff continues to erode the fragile trust in LASD. Not only do these incidents require immediate investigation, but transparency into the actions taken, including discipline, proactive and reactive steps LASD and Sheriff Luna will be engaging in to ensure that misconduct, criminal activities, and behavior will end, and those who violate policies will be swiftly disciplined.

When Sheriff Luna took office two years ago, he vowed to “eradicate all deputy gangs” from LASD and created a new Constitutional Policy Unit to assist him on this initiative, along with a deputy gang policy. It is high time that the Board and the public get an update on the status of his stance, steps, and leadership on this issue.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors request that the Sheriff of LA County and his Constitutional Policy Advisor provide a report back, in writing, in 14 days, to the Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission’s Deputy Gang Ad Hoc Committee, on:

² <https://lmu.app.box.com/s/ho3rp9qdbmn9aip8fy8dmmukijgw5yyc>

- 1) Their investigation into the Industry Indians and the Industry Station;
 - a. How long the Industry Indians been in existence;
 - b. Other incidents of misconduct that were linked to the Industry Indians deputy gang or to the Industry Station;
 - c. Impact on community members and the communities within the service area of the Industry Station;
 - d. How many investigations were conducted as a result of any misconduct, criminal behavior, and activities;
 - e. Any ongoing investigations;
 - f. Quality of the investigations conducted; and
 - g. What, if any, early warning signs were ignored of deputy gang behavior at the LASD Industry Station.
- 2) Outcome of that investigation;
- 3) Ongoing steps and actions taken to address deputy gangs in the Sheriff's Department;
- 4) Status of the Sheriff's Department's gang policy; and
- 5) Community engagement plan, in conjunction with the Civilian Oversight Commission (COC), to restore faith, trust, and confidence in the impacted communities due to the Industry Indians and Industry Station misconduct.

I, FURTHER, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Office of Inspector General and the Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission's Deputy Gang Ad Hoc Committee to independently review and analyze the Sheriff Department's report back and provide an analysis and recommendations to the Board, in writing, 14 days after

receipt of the Sheriff's Department's report back.

I, FURTHER, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors request and direct that the Sheriff of LA County and his Constitutional Policy Unit Advisor, the Inspector General, and the Executive Director and Chair of the Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission to provide a verbal presentation to the Board on March 12, 2024 and a verbal presentation to the COC, shortly thereafter, on items listed in Directive 1.

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