



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS  
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS  
HOLLY J. MITCHELL  
LINDSEY P. HORVATH  
JANICE HAHN  
KATHRYN BARGER

**Correspondence Received**

The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:				
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
7.		<b>Favor</b>	Karen Eyres	
			Melissa Camacho	In favor with request to add to report information on ADA-accessible vans. See attached letter from ACLU SoCal, Disability Rights California, and Disability Rights Legal Center
		<b>Oppose</b>	B Citizen	
			Monisha Parker	Here is some information on prisoner transport to purchase. 1. Best Bus Sales <a href="http://bestbussales.com/specialty/prisoner-transport/index.html">bestbussales.com/specialty/prisoner-transport/index.html</a>  2. TESCO <a href="http://prisonerbus.com/prison-transport/">prisonerbus.com/prison-transport/</a>
		<b>Item Total</b>	<b>4</b>	
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>4</b>	



March 18, 2024

Via E-Mail

Members of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors  
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Interim Transportation Plan for People Who Are Incarcerated in the  
Los Angeles County Jails

Honorable Members of the Board of Supervisors:

We applaud Supervisor Solis' motion on the March 19, 2024 Board of Supervisors Meeting Agenda, item seven. The transportation problem within LASD has reached a crisis point, and the Department must develop a plan to efficiently and safely bring incarcerated people to court, medical appointments, and state prison. We write to ask you to amend the motion to address the "shortage of buses and other forms of transportation, including ADA-accessible vans."

We are Class Counsel in *Johnson v. Luna*, No. CV 08-03515-DPP (C.D. Cal.). Under the terms of that agreement, all people in LASD custody who require wheelchairs or other mobility aids must be transported in ADA-accessible vans<sup>1</sup>. Because of strains on the entire transportation system, Class Members in *Johnson* are frequently transported in radio cars or are simply not transported at all because an ADA van is not available. Access, including access to transportation, that is not equal or equally effective for people with disabilities including mobility impairments, violates the ADA and the Rehabilitation Act. 28 C.F.R. § 35.149; 49 C.F.R. § 38 *et seq.*; 45 C.F.R. § 84.1 *et seq.*

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<sup>1</sup> While LASD could use buses that are accessible for people who use wheelchairs, the Department currently employs accessible vans for this purpose.

The Office of the Inspector General is the court-appointed monitor in *Johnson* and highlighted this problem in the Seventh Implementation Status Report.

Furthermore, several class members at CRDF reported that they were being transported to medical appointments in radio cars as opposed to wheelchair-accessible vans, in violation of provision K.1 (Transportation Accessible Vans), which was severed from the Agreement in November 2022. The OIG notified Defendants of the concern and requested that an inquiry be conducted. Defendants confirmed Class Members were being transported to medical appointments in radio cars and reported that the Department is working towards resolving this issue.<sup>2</sup>

But despite the court-appointed monitor's identifying this problem, the Department has failed to resolve it. In interviews in CRDF on March 8, 2024, three Class Members who use wheelchairs reported being transported to medical appointments in radio cars. Those Class Members also reported missing medical appointments and court dates because there were no vans accessible to people who use wheelchairs available. One Class Member missed a bail hearing, and one Class Member reported missing six court dates. Class Members at MCJ have also reported missing court dates because there was no accessible transportation available.

In late 2023, we also discovered that people with wheelchairs were stuck in LA County Jails waiting for transportation to state prison. We documented wait times of 3-4 months. While the Department has tried to speed transport over the last few months, people are still waiting for weeks and months, contributing to overcrowding and lack of ADA-accessible housing in MCJ.

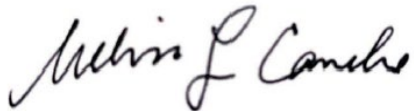
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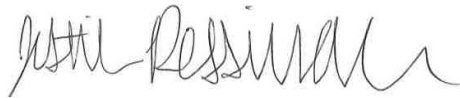
<sup>2</sup> The Office of the Inspector General files implementation status reports annually. The Seventh Report is the most recent report and was filed on May 31, 2023.

Asking the Department to report back on its plan to improve transportation in accessible vans is necessary to bring the Department into compliance with the agreement in *Johnson* and the requirements of the ADA.

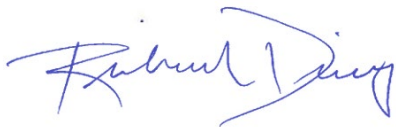
Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Melissa Camacho in black ink.

Melissa Camacho  
ACLU Foundation of Southern California

Handwritten signature of Justin Reissman in black ink.

Justin Reissman  
Disability Rights Legal Center

Handwritten signature of Richard Diaz in blue ink.

Richard Diaz  
Disability Rights California