AND LINDSEY P. HORVATH

# People Over Profit: Fairness and Equity in Commissary Prices for the Los Angeles County Jails

The Los Angeles County (County) Board of Supervisors (Board) have taken a strong stance on equity, fairness, and accessibility for the most marginalized communities and acknowledging the inequities that surround mass incarceration and the tremendous fiscal burden of incarceration on families. Over the course of two years, multiple motions were unanimously supported by the Board, and last year, LA County became one of the largest jail systems in the country to move forward with providing free phone calls in the jails. Alongside these moves, the Board also denounced fiscal inequities with the overpriced commissary items, doing so as far back as May of 2021, which parents and incarcerated people are forced to pay to supplement meals and clothing and access better hygiene items.

Though changes to contracts with Keefe Commissary Network (KCN) were instituted to ensure fairness and no profit mark-ups, the most recent prices listed in the

	<u>MOTION</u>
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"Los Angeles County General Population Housing Menu" from December 2023, which is attached, says otherwise. Examples of the overpriced food and drink items include: 3-ounce, Beef Ramen pack for \$1.60; 12 ounces of Water for \$1.43; 8-ounce package of Flour Tortillas for \$6.05; 4.23-ounce pouch of FC Chunk Light Tuna for \$8.58; 12.5-ounces of Keebler Club Crackers for \$10.95; 8-ounce bag of Cheetos Flamin' Hot for \$6.46. The same for hygiene items, such as: 3.5-ounce bar of Neutrogena Soap for \$5.53; 12-ounce container of Pantene Classic Clean Condition for \$10.28; and 10-ounce container of Vaseline Cocoa Butter Lotion for \$9.50. Alongside the prices, there is a weekly spending limit of \$195, which includes a limit of \$40 in vending cards plus an unknown additional handling fees and the 9.5% tax.

Just as it was the Board's intent to stop profiting from families and incarcerated people when it made phone calls in the jails free, the same should be true of the costs and fees attached to commissary items. Anecdotally, there are numerous complaints about the quality and quantity of foods regularly provided to those in custody, including those with special diets or religious diets, and many need to supplement their meals with commissary items because the meals received in the jails are lacking. This issue has been highlighted as a concern by the Office of Inspector General and other external oversight entities, people who are incarcerated and their families.

#### **WE, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors:

- Request the LA Sheriff's Department to provide the Board with a report back, in writing, in 45 days, with, at minimum:
  - Steps and actions LASD has taken in response to previous motions
     passed by the Board designed to address overpriced commissary

- items in the County jails, including eliminating profit mark-ups on items;
- Updates on how LASD continues, if at all, to ensure commissary prices are not overpriced;
- c. An implementation plan, to ensure all commissary prices, especially food, drinks, and hygiene items are on par with grocers and retailers.
  - In collaboration with the Sybil Brand Commission, identifying items that are culturally competent and inclusive of different hygiene needs, including availability of gender-affirming products.
  - ii. In collaboration with the Chief Executive Office, provide a funding plan by Supplemental Budget Phase, including utilizing AB 109 funds and other available and appropriate funding sources to supplement any additional costs, if needed.
- 2. Direct the Office of Inspector General to review LASD's report back, as requested in Directive 1, within 30 days of issuance, and provide the Board with a report back, in writing, with an assessment and updates on LASD's progress on the removal of the profit mark ups and reduction of prices on commissary items in its quarterly report to the Board, until completion or further notice.
- 3. Request the LA Sheriff's Department and direct the Office of Inspector General, to present to the Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission at the next Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission meeting, following the issuance of the report back from OIG, on the status of removing the profit mark ups and

reducing prices on the commissary items.

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## Los Angeles County General Population Housing Menu

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	Item #	Description	Qty Limit	Price
	2010	Keefe Instant Coffee 4 oz. K	5	\$8.94
Drinks	2041	BC French Vanilla Cappuccino 🎔	1	\$6.34
	2087	SS Non-Dairy Creamer 10 pack 🎔	5	\$0.80
	2198	Swiss Miss 9 oz. K♥	1	\$4.45
	3044	Hawaiian Punch SF Lemon Berry (Box)	1	\$5.47
		Hawaiian Punch SF Berry Blue (Box)	1	\$5.47
		Water 20 oz. ♥	5	\$1.43
	8675	SS Coffee 5 Pack K	5	\$1.75
		Cajun Chicken Ramen 3 oz.	5	\$1.60
Soup	6016	Lime w/Shrimp Chili Ramen 3 oz.	5	\$1.60
		Texas Beef Ramen 3 oz.	5	\$1.60
	6026	Chili Ramen 3 oz.	5	\$1.60
	6046	Chicken Ramen 3 oz.	5	\$1.60
	6048	Beef Ramen 3 oz.	5	\$1.60
	6052	Hot n Spicy Veg Ramen 3 oz.	5	\$1.60
	6053	Cajun Shrimp Ramen 3 oz.	5	\$1.60
		Chili Ramen - 24 Count Case	1	\$32.12
	2615	BC Beef & Chicken Summer Sausage 1.625 oz.	3	\$2.87
	2664	Macaroni and Cheese 3 oz. K	5	\$3.28
	2666	Velveeta Cheesy Rice 2 oz. K ♥	5	\$2.09
		Velveeta Spicy Cheese Rice 2 oz. K♥	5	\$2.07
		Velveeta Cheesy Refried Beans 4 oz. K	5	\$2.80
S		Spicy Velveeta Refried Beans 4 oz. K	5	\$2.93
em	2670	Spicy Velveeta Refried Beans & Rice 4 oz. K	5	\$3.04
d H		Sliced Pepperoni 3.5 oz.	3	\$4.71
Food Items		BC Beef Summer Sausage Hot 5 oz.	3	\$7.51
щ	6047	Spicy Refried Beans 8 oz. 🗡	5	\$3.26
		Chili w/Beans (Hot) 11.25 oz.	3	\$9.37
		Beef Stew 11.25 oz.	3	\$8.03
		Chunk Chicken 4.5 oz.	5	\$7.22
		Flour Tortillas 8 oz. 8-inch K	5	\$6.05
		Thai Noodles 3.7 oz.	5	\$3.03
ns		FC Fillet of Mackerel 3.53 oz. K >	5	\$5.81
Seafood Items		FC Sardines in Hot Tomato Sauce 3.53 oz. K	5	\$2.89
		FC Fish Steaks in Spicy Mustard 3.53 oz. K	5	\$3.14
		FC Fish Steaks in Green Chilies 3.53 oz. K	5	\$3.27
		FC Fish Steaks in Louisiana Hot 3.53 oz. K	5 5	\$3.01
		FC Chunk Light Tuna 4.23 oz. K > Keebler Club Crackers 12.5 oz. >	5	\$8.58 \$10.95
	3161	Saltine Crackers 4 oz. K	3	\$4.30
	_	Austin Cheese - Cheese Cracker	5	\$1.14
		Austin Peanut Butter - Toasted Cracker	5	\$1.14
		Austin Peanut Butter - Cheese Cracker	5	\$1.14
Snacks		Sunflower Kernels Bag 3.25 oz.	5	\$2.42
na		Tropical Blend 4 oz.	5	\$3.44
တ	6220	Chili Picante Cornuts 1.4 oz.	5	\$1.29
	6500	Hot Pickle 9.6 oz.	3	\$1.99
		Mild Pickle 9.6 oz. K♥	5	\$1.88
		Salted Peanuts 1.75 oz. K	5	\$1.43
		Hot Peanuts 1.75 oz. K	5	\$1.64
ıst		Quaker Regular Oatmeal SS K ♥	5	\$0.75
Breakfast		Quaker Maple Brown Sugar - SS	5	\$0.81
3re		Kellogg Strawberry Poptart 2 pack	10	\$1.80
Щ	6540	Strawberry Cereal Bar 1.3 oz. K	3	\$0.68
		Men's Shorts Medium	1	\$14.95
ué		Men's Shorts XI	1	\$14.95
Men		Men's Shorts XL Men's Shorts 2XL	1	\$14.95 \$14.95
		Men's Shorts 3XL	1	\$14.95 \$14.95
		Clear Reading Glasses 1.25 *	1	\$11.92
es		Clear Reading Glasses 1.50 *	1	\$11.92
Glasses		Clear Reading Glasses 1.75 *	1	\$11.92
		Clear Reading Glasses 2.00 *	1	\$11.92
Eye		Clear Reading Glasses 2.25 *	1	\$11.92
ч		Clear Reading Glasses 2.50 *	1	\$11.92
		10 pack Sugar Substitute K	3	\$0.60
	2217	Sweet Mate Pink Packet	5	\$0.06
10		Velveeta Jalapeno Cheese 2 oz.	5	\$2.13
Condiments		Velveeta Cheddar Cheese 2 oz.	5	\$2.12
	6262	Squeeze-Ums Mayonnaise 12 pack K	5	\$5.46
		Squeeze-Ums Mustard 12 pack K >	5	\$3.03
		SS Grape Jelly K	5	\$0.44
	6507	Jalapeno Pepper Slices 1 oz. ♥	5	\$1.22
		Pepper Single Serve	5	\$0.06
	6519	Salt Single Serve	5	\$0.06

	Item #	Description	Qty Limit	Price
	2594	Dolly Madison Chocolate Cupcakes 3.17 oz.	5	\$2.87
Cookies and Pastries	3010	Chocolate Chip Cookie 2.5 oz. ♥	5	\$2.81
		Oatmeal Raisin Cookie 2.5 oz.	5	\$2.81
		Nabisco Oreo Sandwich Cookie 2.4oz	5	\$2.62
		Vanilla Cremes 6 oz.	6	\$4.81
		Chocolate Chip Cookie 6 oz.	6	\$6.02
		Iced Oatmeal Cookie 6 oz.	6	\$6.00
	3045 3083	Duplex Cremes 6 oz. ♥ Strawberry Cremes 14 oz. ♥	3	\$4.81 \$9.74
		Banana Deluxe Moon Pie 2.75 oz.	5	\$1.28
ပိ		PB Wafers 2 pack	5	\$1.22
		Swiss Rolls 2 pack K	3	\$2.03
	3245	Dunkin Sticks (Each)	5	\$1.85
		Monster Iced Bun 4.75 oz.	5	\$2.94
		Hot & Spicy Pork Cracklings 2.375 oz. 🎔	5	\$3.10
		Salsa Tortilla Chips 3 oz.	5	\$2.37
		Guaca Chips 3 oz.	5	\$2.37
		Whole Shabang Chips 1.5 oz. K	5 5	\$1.87
		Regular Chips 1.5 oz.	2	\$1.87 \$6.35
		Barbecue Potato Chips 1.5 oz. K	5	\$1.87
		Cheese Puffs 2 oz.	5	\$1.88
		Cheese Crunch 11 oz. K ♥	2	\$8.64
bs		Hot BBQ Chips 1.5 oz. K♥	5	\$1.87
Chips	6126	Sour Cream & Onion Potato Chips 1.5 oz. K 🎔	5	\$1.87
S		Hot & Spicy Pork Rinds 2 oz. ♥	5	\$2.85
		Nacho Cheese Tortilla Chips 10 oz. K 🎔	2	\$7.95
		Frito Lay Flaming Hot Cheetos 1.75 oz.	5	\$1.40
		Frito Lay Cheese Crunchy 2 oz.	5	\$1.57
	6171 6198	Hot & Spicy Corn Chips 12 oz. Cheetos Flamin' Hot 8 oz.	5 5	\$7.61
		Jalapeno Cheddar Popcorn 5 oz.	2	\$6.46 \$3.08
		Hot Cheese Crunchy 9.5 oz. K♥	2	\$8.06
		Hot Cheese Crunchies 4 oz. ♥	5	\$3.57
		Jelly Belly - SF Sours 2.8 oz.	5	\$3.16
		M&M Plain	5	\$2.91
	4001	M&M Peanut	5	\$2.91
		Baby Ruth	5	\$2.92
		Butterfinger K	5	\$2.92
Candy	4010	Snickers Bar K	5	\$2.91
	4013 4015	Milky Way Candy Bar K Nestle Crunch K♥	5 5	\$2.91 \$2.92
Cal	4013	Twix K	5	\$2.91
	4032	3 Musketeer Bar K	5	\$2.91
Card Candy	4035	Reese's Peanut Butter Cup K	5	\$2.93
	4036	Hershey's Plain Candy Bar	5	\$2.93
	4037	Hershey's Almond K	5	\$2.93
	4043	Snickers Almond Bar 🧡	5	\$2.91
	4155	Sugar Free Wild Fruit 1.75 oz.	5	\$3.07
ard	1393	Vending Card \$10.00	\$40/week +	\$12.50
၁	1394	Vending Card \$20.00	handling fees	\$22.50
	1001	Large Stamped Envelope	5 1	\$0.75
	1013	Standard Envelope 50 pack Manilla Envelope	1	\$2.85 \$0.77
	1050	Stamps - Book of 10	2	\$6.60
		Letter Pad 8 1/2" X 11"	3	\$1.71
	1070	Sketch Pad 8 1/2" X 11"	3	\$6.17
>	1072	Document File	1	\$2.65
ouc	1101	Juvenile Birthday Card	5	\$2.21
atic	1103	Birthday Card	5	\$2.21
Stationery	1109	Friendship Card	5	\$2.21
	1120	Thank You Card	5	\$2.21
	1121	Seasonal Greeting Card	5	\$2.21
	1300	Playing Cards	1	\$3.32
	1305 8687	Pinochle Playing Cards (3) Golf Pencils and (1) Eraser (Kit)	3	\$3.34 \$0.75
	9492	Notebook Paper * (15 Sheets)	5 5	\$0.75
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Items marked ♥ are the Healthy Choice items Items marked K are the Kosher items

### Los Angeles County General Population Housing Menu

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	Item #	Description	Qty Limit	Price
	0001	Shampoo 4 oz.	3	\$2.75
		Conditioner 4 oz.	3	\$3.00
		Dandruff Shampoo 4 oz.	3	\$3.95
		Hairdress and Press Oil	1	\$2.09
		Oraline Flexible Security Toothbrush	1	\$1.25
ne		Freshscent Deodorant Push Up 1.6 oz.	1	\$3.85
		Baby Powder 4 oz.	1	\$1.60
		Baby Oil 4 oz.	1	\$1.59
		Skin Care Lotion 4 oz. Cocoa Butter Lotion 4 oz.	1	\$3.85
			1	\$3.85
Hygiene	0321	Smooth Shave Cream	1	\$5.50
主	0350	After Shave	1	\$4.21
		Sport Gel X-treme Hold Irish Spring Regular Soap 3.2 oz.	1	\$8.66 \$1.45
		Freshscent Soap 1.5 oz.	1	\$0.64
		Dove Soap 3.15 oz.	1	\$2.72
		Neutrogena Soap 3.5 oz.	1	\$5.53
		Percara Mouth Wash	1	\$5.09
		Colgate Toothpaste 1 oz.	1	\$2.25
		Freshmint Toothpaste 2.75 oz.	1	\$4.75
		Effergrip Denture Adhesive	1	\$7.96
		Oraline Razor *	1	\$0.61
		New Day Lip Balm	1	\$1.10
		Benzoyl Peroxide 10% Acne Gel 1 oz.	1	\$4.00
		Hydrocortisone Cream .5% 1 oz.	1	\$3.18
		Tolnaftate Antifungal Cream .5 oz.	1	\$2.52
		Blistex	1	\$3.73
ine	0280	Sunscreen Lotion	1	\$8.51
ğ		Tylenol 2 pack	5	\$1.99
Medicine		Advil 2 pack	5	\$1.99
		Bayer 2 pack	5	\$1.99
		Alka Seltzer 2 pack	1	\$1.99
		Hall's Cough Drops	1	\$1.08
		Multi-Vitamin w/ Iron 60 ct	1	\$7.38
		Pantene Classic Clean Conditioner 12 oz. *	1	\$10.28
	0048	Coconut Oil 5 oz. *	1	\$3.95
	0120	Lady Speed Stick Antiperspirant *	1	\$5.99
		Tone Cocoa Butter Lotion 12 oz. *	1	\$7.09
	0700	Vinegar & Water Douche Twin Pack *	1	\$2.10
	0753	Emery Board *	1	\$0.27
	0773	Tampons 10 pack *	1	\$2.70
		Hair Pick *	1	\$1.09
盲	0855	Ponytail Holder *	2	\$0.38
Female Section Only	0910	Mascara	1	\$4.96
io	1650	Women's Underwear Small - Size 6	1	\$5.60
ec	1651	Women's Underwear Medium - Size 8	1	\$5.60
e S	1652	Women's Underwear Large - Size 10	1	\$5.60
nal	1653	Women's Underwear XLarge - Size 11	1	\$5.60
Fe	4947	Ampro Styling Gel	1	\$3.93
	5312	Eyeliner Pretty On Mink	1	\$2.15
	5314	Wet & Wild Black Orchid Lipstick *	1	\$2.10
	5318	Wet & Wild Light Fushia Lipstick *	1	\$2.15
	5331	Wet & Wild Light Berry Frost Lipstick *	1	\$2.15
	5341	Wet & Wild Just Garnet Lipstick *	1	\$2.15
	5937	Vaseline Cocoa Butter Lotion 10 oz. *	1	\$9.50
	5938	Black Eyeliner	1	\$1.75
	5940	Wet & Wild Breeze Lipstick *	1	\$2.15

	Releases	and	<b>Transfers</b>
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Any inmate released or transferred to another agency, prison, or county jail prior to receiving their order must call KCN at 866-800-0582. Inmates have 14 days to contact KCN with their correct mailing address. KCN will not ship orders to another agency, prison, or county jail.

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	Item #	Description	Qty Limit	Price
	0490	Hinged Soap Dish	1	\$1.16
	0697	Contact Lens Case	1	\$0.50
	0760	Cotton Swabs - 100 count	1	\$3.95
	0821	Palm Brush	1	\$1.00
	1086	Pocket Dictionary	1	\$4.54
	1430	Washcloth	1	\$0.62
	1451	Shower Shoes Medium	1	\$1.96
	1452	Shower Shoes Large	1	\$1.96
	3820	Shower Shoes XLarge	1	\$1.96
	1542	Quarter Socks (pair)	1	\$1.77
	1751	Rawlings Marc II Sz. 7 *	1	\$44.81
	1752	Rawlings Marc II Sz. 7.5 *	1	\$44.81
ns	1753	Rawlings Marc II Sz. 8 *	1	\$44.81
Jeo	1754	Rawlings Marc II Sz. 8.5 *	1	\$44.81
llar	1853	Rawlings Marc II Sz. 9 *	1	\$44.81
Miscellaneous	1757	Rawlings Marc II Sz. 9.5 *	1	\$44.81
Mis	1854	Rawlings Marc II Sz. 10 *	1	\$44.81
	1758	Rawlings Marc II Sz. 10.5 *	1	\$44.81
	1759	Rawlings Marc II Sz. 11 *	1	\$44.81
	1855	Rawlings Marc II Sz.11.5 *	1	\$44.81
	1856	Rawlings Marc II Sz. 12 *	1	\$44.81
	1761	Rawlings Marc II Sz. 13 *	1	\$44.81
	1857	Rawlings Marc II Sz. 14 *	1	\$44.81
	1763	Rawlings Marc II Sz. 15 *	1	\$44.81
	1992	20 oz. Styrofoam Cup	1	\$0.23
	5845	Flex Bowl 10 oz. *	1	\$6.95
	5846	Flex Fork *	1	\$1.35
	5848	Flex Spoon *	1	\$1.35
	9803	Haircut Ticket *	1	\$2.00
	8912	Eyeglasses Indigent 1.25 *	1	\$4.75
	8913	Eyeglasses Indigent 1.50 *	1	\$4.75
	8914	Eyeglasses Indigent 1.75 *	1	\$4.75
ts	8918	Eyeglasses Indigent 2.00 *	1	\$4.75
Ξ	8919	Eyeglasses Indigent 2.25 *	1	\$4.75
Indigent Kits	8920	Eyeglasses Indigent 2.50 *	1	\$4.75
dig		Indigent Kit	1	\$4.81
Ĕ	9804	Haircut Indigent *	1	\$2.00
		Indigent Kit "No Razor"	1	\$4.75
		Hygiene Maintenance Indigent kit	1	\$1.62
		Hygiene Maintenance No Razor Indigent Kit	1	\$1.56

### Items marked with an asterisk\*

If you order an item which is not available for your facility, it will not be delivered.

### ORDERS ARE SUBJECT TO POSTED COMMISSARY RULES

- Weekly Inmate spending limit is \$195.00. This includes a limit of \$40.00 in Vending cards plus handling fees.
- One Web Order allowed per week. Maximum spending limit is \$68.00 This spending limit is separate from commissary.
- Total cost of your order will be deducted from your trust account.
   The current 9.5% Sales Tax will be added to applicable items.
- We reserve the right to limit orders.
- Hygiene Maintenance Kits, Indigent Kits, Indigent eye glasses and Indigent haircuts received from KCN will be charged to your account if and when you have a balance in your trust fund account. Inmates will be considered indigent when their account balance reaches \$2.00 or less.

### Storage of Inmate Personal Effects/County Property

All inmates within any Custody Division Facility <a href="mailto:shall">shall</a> store all personal and county issued property with the exception of a sheet and blanket, in an inmate property bag. <a href="mailto:All property (excluding bedding)">All property (excluding bedding)</a> must fit inside one inmate property bag, any excess property will be considered contraband. The inmate shall be given the choice of which property they wish to dispose of without compensation. The only exception applies to pro per inmates which may request additional bags to store their legal paperwork.