



**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	Comments	
9.		Favor	Kimberly Barraza	
			Maricruz Jimenez	Victim advocates employed by the District Attorney's Office are spread thin and heavily understaffed while continuously being overworked. Staffing Contract Amendments are necessary to avoid any strikes and to improve the efforts provided to victims of crime on a daily basis. Those employed with the Bureau of Victim Services are essential not only to the victims and their families that are served and assisted, but to Los Angeles County as a whole. The inability to enter into and amend contracts for staffing would be a complete disservice to everyone. The approval of Item #9 is vital not only to us victim advocates personally and to our livelihood, but to every victim of crime who is forced into the criminal justice system throughout the county.
			Wendy R Lipin	
		Item Total	3	
Grand Total			3	

Board Members,

My name is Maricruz Jimenez and I am currently employed by the Bureau of Victim Services with the District Attorney's Office. I have been employed as a Victim Services Representative for almost seven (7) years. I ask that you vote in favor of item #9 regarding staffing contract amendments so that new contracts can be negotiated on behalf of my colleagues and myself.

Victim advocacy is not only essential in the criminal justice process, but the role of advocates for these victims of crime is imperative in seeking justice. Victim advocates, like me, recognize that the services provided to victims of crime and their families are crucial and essential. We are heavily understaffed and overworked. Victim Services is spread thin throughout the county, and we urge the Board Members to approve contract negotiations in order to avoid a strike. We cannot continue doing the valuable work that we do for our communities without an updated contract and wage that is reflective of our experience and our efforts.

Those employed with the Bureau of Victim Services are essential not only to the victims and their families that are served and assisted, but to Los Angeles County as a whole. The inability to enter into and amend contracts for staffing would be a complete disservice to everyone. We want to continue fighting the good fight and providing the impactful work that we provide to our communities, but we would be unable to do so without the necessary contract negotiations and a living wage.

The approval of Item #9 is vital not only to us victim advocates personally and to our livelihood, but to every victim of crime who is forced into the criminal justice system throughout the county. This approval would begin the conversations necessary to finally give us the opportunity to obtain a living wage and to continue the immeasurable work that we provide to victims of crime daily.