



**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
17.		Favor	Antione Norman	
			Brenda B Romero	
			Cecilia Zamora	
			Claudia D Vila	
			Daphnee N Rodriguez	<p>Hello, my name is Daphnee, and I am a USC Keck medical student and also a volunteer caseworker with Project HCV Connect.</p> <p>I'm writing to urge your continued support in addressing the public health crisis that is hepatitis C. Each year, tens of thousands of people in the U.S. die from hepatitis C—a disease that is fully curable when diagnosed and treated early. These deaths are not due to a lack of medical innovation, but rather to broken systems that fail to educate, link, and support individuals through treatment.</p> <p>In my role as a volunteer caseworker with Project HCV Connect, I reach out to people in LA County who are living with hepatitis C. Many are ready and motivated to start treatment once they learn about their options—but they still face barriers. These include lack of insurance support, delays in communication, and challenges navigating the healthcare system.</p> <p>As a Keck USC medical student, I volunteer my time to do this work through Project HCV Connect. Despite the dedication of our volunteer team, we are still trying to reach people who tested positive more than a year ago. We simply do not have the staffing or infrastructure to provide timely follow-up and connection to care. We need full-time, paid case managers and a system that can proactively track and support patients through treatment.</p> <p>That is why I strongly support the motion passed in June 2024 directing the Department of Public Health and the Chief Executive Office to assess the feasibility of expanding hepatitis C care coordination by adding 2 full-time paid staff members within the department of public health to focus on Hepatitis C linkage-to-cure. I also urge broader support for expanded treatment assistance and care resources for all residents living with hepatitis C in LA County.</p> <p>We have the tools to cure hepatitis C. Now we need the systems and staff to make that cure accessible to all.</p>
			Jasmine Rodriguez	
			Jazmine Naranjo	
			Jonathan Ormasa	
Lynda Zepeda				

The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:				
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
17.		Favor	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.
			Monica M Nesmith	
			Nadine Teter	The approval of Item #17 is critical not only to us, as victim advocates, but for every victim of crime. The failure to enter into and amend the contract which includes a living wage for The Bureau of Victim Services would be a complete disservice to the entire Los Angeles County.
			Neal Forman	
			Rosio Gomez	
			Stephanie Castro	
		Other	Chief Marcella fain-sims	
			Russell Maycumber	
		Item Total	17	
		Grand Total		17

Board Members,

My name is Jonathan Ormasa. I am currently employed by the Bureau of Victim Services with the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office. I have been employed as a Victim Services Representative for nearly eight (8) years. I ask that you vote in favor of item #17 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 continued 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 #17 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 provide to victims of crime daily.

Respectfully,
Jonathan Ormasa

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.

Board Members,

My name is Nadine Teter 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 since 2019. On behalf of my colleagues and myself, I am requesting you vote in favor of item #17 regarding the staffing contract amendment which will enable new contracts to be negotiated.

The mandated and optional services that we, victim advocates, provide to crime victims, their families, and communities are vital to ensuring their safety and well-being. The support, guidance, and education we bring forth cannot be underscored. We are incredibly understaffed and overworked. Retention is alarmingly low, our compensation is not only inadequate but is also insulting and it's certainly not reflective of the complexities of our daily work. We urge the Board Members to approve contract negotiations in order to avoid a strike.

We are committed to continuing to do our job that we are passionate about, we want to continue to provide the much needed and deserved support and services to victims of crime. However, without the necessary contract negotiations which include a wage that is not only a living wage but one that also reflects our skills, education, and experience, we are unable to continue to do so.

The approval of Item #17 is critical not only to us, as victim advocates, but for every single victim of crime. The failure to enter into and amend the contract which includes a living wage for The Bureau of Victim Services would be a complete disservice to the entire Los Angeles County.

Board Members,

My name is Lynda Zepeda 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 since 2017. I ask that you vote in favor of item #17 regarding the staffing contract amendment so that new contracts can be negotiated on behalf of my colleagues and myself.

Victim advocates provide crucial and essential services to victims of crime, and their families. We are incredibly understaffed, overworked, and significantly underpaid. The Bureau of Victim Services is spread thin throughout the county, retention is low and we urge the Board Members to approve contract negotiations in order to avoid a strike.

Victim Advocates with the Bureau of Victim Services are essential not only to victims and their families, but to the entire Los Angeles County and the inability to enter into and amend contracts for our Bureau would be a utter disservice to all. We want to continue working, we want to continue to provide the much-needed support, guidance, and care, we want to continue to provide the services needed to those who have been victimized, but we are not able to do so without the necessary contract negotiations and without being compensated with 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.

Board Members,

My name is Stephanie Castro 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 over 5 years. I ask that you vote in favor of item #9 regarding the staffing contract amendment so that new contracts can be negotiated on behalf of my colleagues and myself.

Victim advocates provide crucial and essential services to victims of crime and their families. We are incredibly understaffed, overworked, and significantly underpaid. The Bureau of Victim Services is spread thin throughout the county, retention is low and we urge the Board Members to approve contract negotiations in order to avoid a strike.

Victim Advocates with the Bureau of Victim Services are essential not only to victims and their families, but to the entire Los Angeles County and the inability to enter into and amend contracts for our Bureau would be an utter disservice to all. We want to continue working, we want to continue to provide the much needed support, guidance and care, we want to continue to provide the services needed to those who have been victimized, but we are not able to do so without the necessary contract negotiations and without being compensated with 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.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Castro

Hello,, my name is Daphnee, and I am a USC Keck medical student and also a volunteer caseworker with Project HCV Connect.

I'm writing to urge your continued support in addressing the public health crisis that is hepatitis C. Each year, tens of thousands of people in the U.S. die from hepatitis C—a disease that is fully curable when diagnosed and treated early. These deaths are not due to a lack of medical innovation, but rather to broken systems that fail to educate, link, and support individuals through treatment.

In my role as a volunteer caseworker with Project HCV Connect, I reach out to people in LA County who are living with hepatitis C. Many are ready and motivated to start treatment once they learn about their options—but they still face barriers. These include lack of insurance support, delays in communication, and challenges navigating the healthcare system.

As a Keck USC medical student, I volunteer my time to do this work through Project HCV Connect. Despite the dedication of our volunteer team, we are still trying to reach people who tested positive more than a year ago. We simply do not have the staffing or infrastructure to provide timely follow-up and connection to care. We need full-time, paid case managers and a system that can proactively track and support patients through treatment.

That is why I strongly support the motion passed in June 2024 directing the Department of Public Health and the Chief Executive Office to assess the feasibility of expanding hepatitis C care coordination by adding 2 full-time paid staff members within the department of public health to focus on Hepatitis C linkage-to-cure. I also urge broader support for expanded treatment assistance and care resources for all residents living with hepatitis C in LA County.

We have the tools to cure hepatitis C. Now we need the systems and staff to make that cure accessible to all.

Thank you,
Daphnee Rodriguez

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daphnee Rodriguez", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

April 9, 2025

Board Members,

My name is **Jasmine Rodriguez** 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 since 2016. 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. I have worked in various assignments assisting underserved communities, and while victim advocacy is many times viewed as a "work of heart" it fails to humanize the very individuals who put their hearts and souls into humanizing and creating a compassionate environment within the District Attorney's Office. We are heavily understaffed and overworked. I have personally covered an entire portion of Los Angeles County, one person covering two or more victim sites where hundreds of cases are reviewed and filed on a daily basis. Hundreds of cases and even more individuals in need of victim services. Our Bureau is spread thin throughout the county, and we urge the Board Members to approve contract negotiations in order to avoid a strike.

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 our staff and the community we serve, it sends a message that we are not valued and the services we provide are not necessary and life saving to those we touch. 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.

I thank you for your time and attention to this matter,

Jasmine Rodriguez

Board Members,

My name is Cecilia 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 5 years . I ask that you vote in favor of item #17 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.

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. Especially, to those victims who cooperate with law enforcement and the criminal justice system because of the rapport they build with the advocate. 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 #17 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.

Board Members,

My name is Rosio Gomez 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 10 years. I ask that you vote in favor of item #17 regarding staffing contract amendments so that new contracts can be negotiated on behalf of my colleagues and myself.

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Respectfully,

Rosio Gomez

Rosio Gomez

Victim Services Representative II

Board Members,

My name is **Brenda Romero** 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 **5 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 our 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.

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