



Law Offices of the County of Los Angeles  
**ALTERNATE PUBLIC DEFENDER**

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**ERIKA C. ANZOÁTEGUI**  
*Alternate Public Defender*

May 6, 2025

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

**AUTHORIZE ALTERNATE PUBLIC DEFENDER TO EMPLOY A RETIRED COUNTY EMPLOYEE  
ON A TEMPORARY BASIS AND GRANT AN EXCEPTION TO THE 180-DAY WAITING PERIOD  
REQUIRED UNDER THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' PENSION REFORM ACT**

**(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)  
(3 VOTES)**

**SUBJECT**

The Law Offices of the County of Los Angeles Alternate Public Defender (APD) requests the Board's approval to grant an exception to the 180-day waiting period required under the Public Employees' Pension Reform Act (PEPRA) of 2013 before reemploying a retired County employee as a 120-day rehired retiree. APD affirms that the retiree is highly skilled and that the work she will be providing is critical.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:**

1. Waive the 180-day break in service requirement and reemploy retired County employee Terry Ng to a 120-day temporary assignment as a Deputy Alternate Public Defender (DAPD) IV (item # 9257) at APD's Antelope Valley Branch, located in Lancaster at the Michael D. Antonovich Antelope Valley (AV) courthouse.
2. Approve the request for Ms. Ng to receive compensation at the rate of \$107.77 per hour and work no more than 960 work hours within a fiscal year, upon the Board's approval of her temporary reemployment as a DAPD IV.

**PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Collaborative Justice Courts (CJC) at the AV courthouse were created specifically to address widespread social issues. CJC's combine judicial supervision with rehabilitation services that are

rigorously monitored and focused on recovery to reduce recidivism and improve offender outcomes. CJC's have a dedicated calendar and judge for specific types of offenders (e.g., mental health courts for offenders with mental illness, drug courts for offenders with substance abuse issues, Veterans' court for veterans, etc.). Collaborative justice principles include a multidisciplinary, non-adversarial team approach with involvement from the court, attorneys, law enforcement, and community treatment and service agencies to address offenders' complex social and behavioral problems.

Ms. Ng has been a public defender since January 1989 and with the APD since 1994. Since 2015, Ms. Ng has been assigned specifically to the CJC at the AV courthouse. Her 10 years of experience working in the AV courthouse's CJC have allowed her to develop an expertise in managing these APD clients and their complex social and behavioral issues, which enables her to provide excellent advocacy while handling a consistent caseload of over 100 cases.

Additionally, APD faces acute staffing challenges, particularly with regards to the Antelope Valley. Currently, APD does not have any attorneys with Ms. Ng's expertise and experience working in the collaborative courts that are able to be assigned to APD's Lancaster branch.

### **IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS**

Waiving the 180-day break in service requirement and reemploying Ms. Ng on a 120-day temporary assignment as a DAPD IV is consistent with the County's Strategic Plan North Star 1 - Make Investments that Transform Lives, North Star 2 - Foster Vibrant and Resilient Communities; and aligns with the Board's *Care First, Jails Last*, and Homeless Initiative priorities. The populations specifically served by the CJs, as well as the philosophy of the Collaborative Courts of emphasizing rigorously monitored rehabilitation services to focus on recovery, reduce recidivism and improve offender outcomes contributes directly to the County's strategic plan goals.

### **FISCAL IMPACT / FINANCING**

APD will utilize a budgeted vacant position to support this request.

### **FACTS AND PROVISION/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**


The recommended action is consistent with the PEPR of 2013, which allows a person who retires from the County to serve without reinstatement from retirement or loss or interruption of benefits provided by the retirement system before a period of 180 days following the date of retirement if the Board certifies the position is critically needed and the retired person has the skills required to perform work of limited duration.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

The recommended actions will allow APD to continue serving the AV Courthouse's CJC with limited interruption while Ms. Ng's replacement is identified and trained.

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Page 3

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erika Anzoátegui".

ERIKA C. ANZOÁTEGUI  
Alternate Public Defender

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors  
Chief Executive Officer  
County Counsel  
Auditor-Controller  
Human Resources  
Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Association