

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR JANICE HAHN

AGN. NO.
May 5, 2026

Health and Dignity: Providing Hygiene Kits to Incarcerated People in Los Angeles County

When incarcerated people enter the Los Angeles County (County) jails, they do not come in with their own hygiene kits. According to Vera Institute, based on an analysis of County jail data and national trends, a significant majority of the incarcerated population, 80-90%, is considered indigent or low-income.

In July 2024, the Board supported the motion, “People Over Profit: Fairness and Equity in Commissary Prices”¹ fully understanding the hidden costs associated with commissary items, like hygiene items, and the burden on the support network of incarcerated people.

California Code of Regulation Title 15, Minimum Standards for Local Detention Facilities, Section 1265 provides that any person held in custody over 24 hours shall be given certain hygiene items within 12 hours of being assigned housing if they are unable to supply it themselves. The Los Angeles County’s Sheriff’s Department (LASD) Custody Division Manual (CDM) Section 5-12/090.00 *Personal Care Items and Supplies for Inmates* , requires that “[a]ll inmates, regardless of their length of time within a custody facility who are unable to supply themselves with [a toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, comb,

¹ <https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/bos/supdocs/193045.pdf>

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shaving implements, deodorant, or shampoo] will be provided the needed item upon request.”

Currently, LASD does not always have hygiene kits readily available due to “tariff and shipping issues”. Though some incarcerated people may be able to purchase a hygiene kit for \$1.35 with the inclusion of a razor and \$1.04 without the razor; these kits are necessary as they contain the supplies needed for basic hygiene. Purchasing them for the duration of someone’s incarceration can be expensive on them or family and friends who are supporting them by adding funds to their accounts.

If incarcerated people are in the care, custody, and control of the County and are dependent on it for services, having access to hygiene products is basic and should be fulfilled without cost.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors request the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department have adequate supplies of hygiene kits and the ability to provide all incarcerated individuals hygiene kits free of charge by using AB 109 funds and other funding sources.

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