

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

MAY 19, 2026

**Continuing to Strengthen Countywide Strategies to Support Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence**

On September 30, 2025, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors adopted a [motion](#) proclaiming Domestic Violence Awareness Month and strengthening Countywide strategies to support survivors of domestic violence (DV) and intimate partner violence (IPV). The motion recognized that DV/IPV are urgent public health and public safety crises that contribute to homelessness, justice system involvement, and long-term economic instability; and directed County departments to pursue survivor-centered reforms across housing, diversion, employment, and legislative advocacy.

On January 28, 2026, the Department of Public Health submitted its required report detailing progress and remaining structural gaps. The report confirms that survivors continue to face barriers in accessing meaningful vacatur and expungement relief, navigating diversion and probation systems, securing safe and trauma-informed housing, and achieving economic stability. It further highlights administrative gaps that can and should be addressed at the County level.

Specifically, adult vacatur petitions lack standardized filing forms within the Los Angeles County Superior Court system, creating inconsistent access to relief. Service providers have reported that expunged or vacated records are not always destroyed in

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Mitchell \_\_\_\_\_

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a timely manner at the state level, undermining the purpose of post-conviction relief.

Legal services agencies often lack dedicated funding or explicit grant authority to pursue vacatur petitions on behalf of survivors. Intake assessments across healthcare and justice-involved diversion programs do not consistently screen for DV/IPV victimization or provide standardized referral pathways.

Within the homelessness system, providers continue to face administrative and reimbursement barriers that strain survivor-focused housing programs. While the County benefits from Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)-compliant policies and CareConnect coordination, there is still no formalized, senior-level Gender-Based Violence (GBV) subject matter expert position within the Department of Homeless Services and Housing (HSH) to institutionalize survivor-centered system design. Universal trauma-informed training across housing providers is not yet mandated, and financial models continue to disadvantage smaller, community-based DV providers.

The January 28, 2026 report outlines clear administrative and policy steps within the County's authority. This follow-up motion advances those recommendations by directing targeted legislative advocacy, strengthening flexibility in legal services grants, embedding survivor screening and referral protocols in diversion and healthcare settings, institutionalizing trauma-informed housing practices, improving financial

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viability for DV/IPV housing providers, and ensuring continued accountability through quarterly reporting.

Awareness must now translate into durable system change. By adopting these additional actions, Los Angeles County will move from strategy development to implementation, ensuring that survivors can access meaningful legal relief, stable housing, economic opportunity, and coordinated support across County systems.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Direct the Chief Executive Office – Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Affairs (CEO – LAIR) division to:
  - a. Prepare and send a five-signature letter to the California Department of Justice (DOJ) urging compliance with state law requiring the destruction of expunged and vacated records that have already been ordered expunged or vacated by the Los Angeles County Superior Court; and
  - ~~b. Prepare and send a five-signature letter to the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles County Superior Court advocating for the development and implementation of a standardized adult vacatur filing form to promote equitable and consistent access to relief. Work with the Offices of the Public Defender (PD) and Alternate Public Defender~~

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(APD) and the District Attorney's Office (DA) to engage with the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles County Superior Court to advocate for the development and implementation of a standardized adult vacatur filing form and process to promote equitable and consistent access to relief.

2. Direct the Public Defender, in collaboration with the Alternate Public Defender, County Counsel, the Chief Executive Office, the District Attorney's Office, and the Department of Public Health – Office of Women's Health and Domestic Violence Council, to:
  - a. Assess the feasibility and fiscal impact of establishing a dedicated full-time attorney position or a specialized unit within the Public Defender's Office and Alternate Public Defender's Office focused on vacatur and post-conviction relief petitions for survivors of domestic violence, intimate partner violence, and human trafficking whose offenses are directly linked to their victimization.
    - i. Evaluate projected caseload volume, potential eligibility estimates based on existing justice-involved populations, and anticipated impacts of vacaturs on housing, employment, and recidivism outcomes.
    - ii. Identify potential funding sources, including existing justice-

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related funds such as AB 109 funding, state grants, or other available revenue streams.

- b. Assess the feasibility and fiscal impact of the Collaborative Courts being the appropriate place to centralize Primary Caregiver Diversion (PCD).
  - c. Report back in writing within 120 days, and quarterly thereafter, with recommendations, including implementation options and timelines, updates, and budget considerations on directives 2a and 2b.
3. Direct the Department of Public Health – Office of Women’s Health, in collaboration with the County’s Domestic Violence Council and County Counsel, to:
- a. Identify County departments that administer legal services grants to community-based organizations serving Domestic Violence/Intimate Partner Violence survivors.
  - b. Review existing grant agreements to determine where language may be amended or clarified to explicitly authorize the use of existing funds for vacatur and related post-conviction relief on behalf of eligible clients.
  - c. Report back in writing within 120 days, and quarterly thereafter, with findings, implementation timelines, and any recommended funding

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adjustments necessary to support vacatur relief services.

4. Direct the Department of Health Services (including the Office of Diversion and Reentry), the Justice, Care and Opportunities Department (JCOD), the Department of Youth Development (DYD), the Probation Department, and other relevant departments administering diversion or reentry programs to:
  - a. Review and update healthcare and justice-involved diversion program intake assessments to incorporate standardized Domestic Violence/Intimate Partner Violence/Human Trafficking screening questions, trauma-informed protocols, and referral pathways to survivor services.
  - b. Develop cross-departmental referral guidance to ensure survivors are connected to appropriate housing, legal, employment, and behavioral health services.
  - c. Report back in writing within 120 days, and quarterly thereafter, with implementation timelines and any resource needs.
5. Direct the Department of Homeless Services and Housing (HSH) to:
  - a. Develop and implement a plan to mandate universal trauma-informed care training for all HSH personnel and County-funded housing services providers.
  - b. Maintain and reinforce the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)-

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- compliant database requirements for all County-funded housing programs, with support from VAWA subject matter experts.
- c. Assess the feasibility, fiscal impact, and scope of establishing a senior-level Gender-Based Violence (GBV) subject matter expert ~~position~~ function within HSH's existing staffing and resources, to institutionalize survivor-centered system design and coordinate cross-departmental collaboration.
  - d. Explore strategies to improve the financial viability of DV/IPV-focused housing providers, including advanced payment options, reduced reimbursement delays, and streamlined administrative requirements.
  - e. Report back in writing within 120 days, and quarterly thereafter, with recommendations, implementation timelines and any resource needs.
6. Direct the departments referenced in the September 30, 2025, [motion](#) to continue providing written quarterly updates on their respective directives from that motion.

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