LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT · CUSTODY SERVICES DIVISION

Rosas Settlement Agreement

Implementation and Compliance Status

Briefing to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

Presented by Assistant Sheriff Hugo Macias

October 6, 2026 · Reported under Provision 1.4 · Seventeenth Monitoring Panel Report, January 1 to June 30, 2025

WHAT THE AGREEMENT REQUIRES

Rosas sets a measurable standard for use of force, audited every six months by an independent panel

A federal class action

Rosas alleged excessive force in the three Basin jails: Men's Central Jail, Twin Towers and the Inmate Reception Center.

The Court initially approved the agreement on April 21, 2015. Compliance measurement began July 1, 2018.

The Panel reviews policies, records, site visits and the force incidents most likely to involve problematic force, then finds each provision compliant or noncompliant.

105 provisions across seven categories

Use of force practices	25
Force reporting and investigations	24
Inmate grievances	24
Training	11
Restraints	9
Administrative	9
Early warning system	3

RECEIVED AND FILED
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
42 October 6, 2026
Edward Yen
EDWARD YEN
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Provision 1.4 The Department must report publicly to this Board twice a year on its implementation plan and compliance status.

COMPLIANCE ACROSS THE LAST THREE REPORTS

Across each of the last three reports, the Panel found the Department compliant with approximately 80% of the provisions assessed

15th Report

January to June 2024

80%

80 of the 100 provisions assessed

80 compliant

20 not compliant

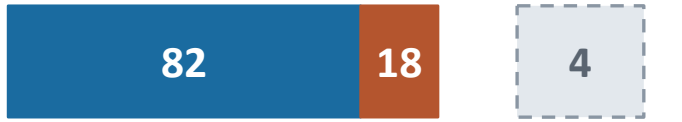
4 not applicable: multi-point restraints

16th Report

July to December 2024

82%

82 of the 100 provisions assessed



82 compliant

18 not compliant

4 not applicable: multi-point restraints

17th Report

January to June 2025

78%

67 of the 86 provisions assessed

67 compliant

19 not compliant

19 to non-reporting, November 2025

Non-compliant force provisions fell from 7 in the 15th Report to 3 in the 17th Report. Noteworthy, Provision 2.6 (head strikes) met the compliance threshold for the first time in Rosas history.

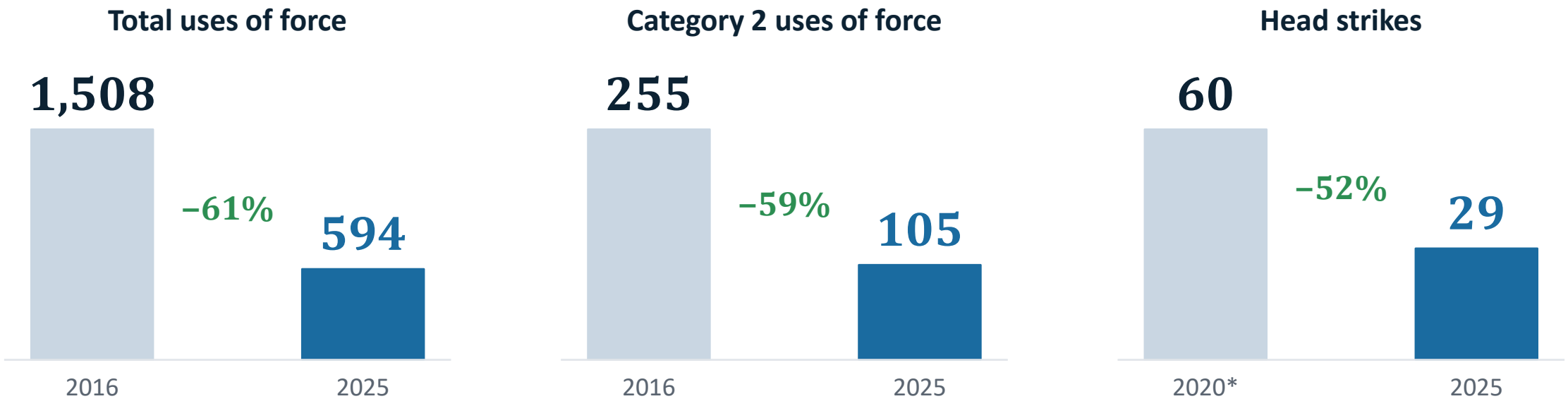
SUSTAINED COMPLIANCE

40 provisions have remained compliant for 3 consecutive years

"Over the past several reporting periods, the Panel has observed an improvement in the thoroughness of force evaluations and the identification of policy violations." 17th Report, p. 3

MEASURED OUTCOMES

Force in the Basin facilities has fallen by more than half over ten years



Basin facilities: Twin Towers, Men's Central Jail and the Inmate Reception Center. * The Department began tracking head strikes in January 2020.

"In recent years, the Department has focused on reducing the number of head strikes used by its staff, and ... those efforts have had a positive impact on the number of head strikes in the Downtown Jail Complex. This progress is encouraging."
Rosas Monitoring Panel, Fifteenth Report, p. 2

ACCOUNTABILITY IN PLACE

Force is now recorded with body-worn cameras, investigated and reviewed in ways that did not exist when the agreement began

Body-worn cameras

All line staff at Men's Central Jail, Twin Towers, IRC, NCCF and Century Regional are equipped; deployment at Pitchess North began in July 2026. Video and audio from the deputy's own vantage point, alongside the fixed cameras throughout the jails.

Custody Force Investigations Team

Investigates every Category 2 use of force. CFIT responds to the scene of every incident and ensures all essential documentation is preserved and gathered promptly.

eForce

Force-tracking web-based platform built in-house and implemented on October 1, 2025. Every captain can see the status of every force case at the facility.

Violations found and corrective action taken

9 administrative investigations opened and 8 founded on force-policy violations at the Basin facilities in the first half of 2025, reported to the Panel under Provision 1.3.

"The Panel acknowledges the progress the Department has made regarding more thorough force reviews and identifying policy violations."
Rosas Monitoring Panel, Seventeenth Report, p. 15

Head strikes are among the most closely reviewed force in custody

Limitations on Force (all three criteria must be met):

- The person is physically assaultive.
- There is imminent danger of serious injury or death.
- Other techniques would be ineffective.

Category 3, the most serious level of force, includes:

- Impact-weapon strikes, kicks or knee strikes to the head.
- Deliberately or recklessly causing a person's head to strike a hard object.
- Skeletal fractures, or force resulting in hospital admission.

Five levels of review

1. **At the scene**
   Supervisor responds; medical evaluation; video secured.
2. **Notification**
   CFIT for any head strike; Internal Affairs for Category 3.
3. **Investigation**
   CFIT (Category 2) or Internal Affairs (Category 3).
4. **Command and executive review**
   Weekly review with command staff and the Inspector General.
5. **Independent review**
   Rosas Monitoring Panel; Office of Inspector General access.

Accountability does not depend on a policy violation

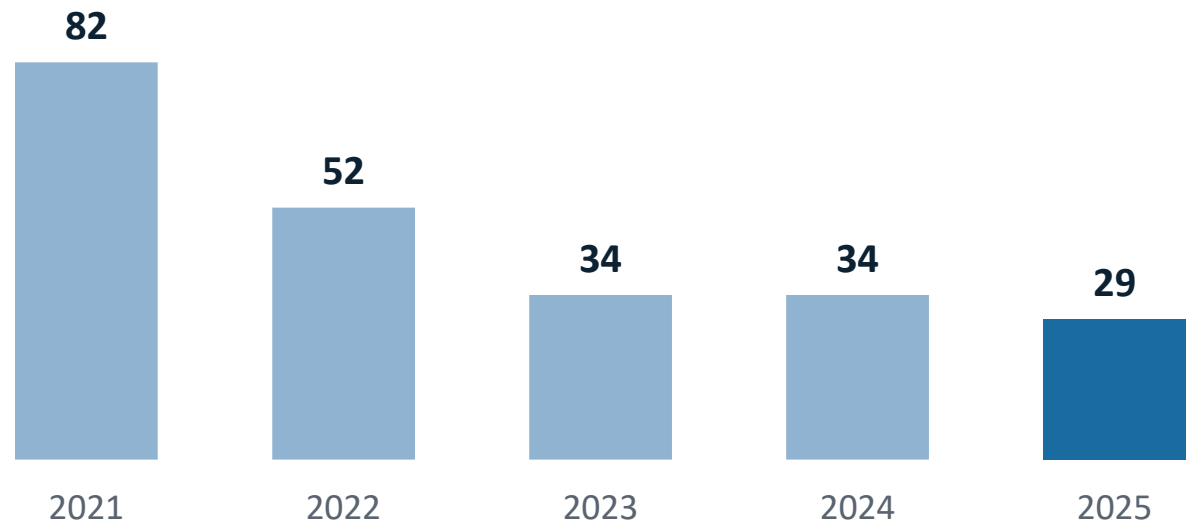
Tactics, supervision, reporting and medical response are reviewed even when the force itself was within policy.
Corrective action follows every finding: retraining, tactical debriefs, facility drills, policy re-briefs and corrective action plans.
Discipline where warranted, including for pre-force tactics and supervision.
Differences with the Rosas Panel are objectively discussed in detail, case by case, and openly with all the respective stakeholders. The Panel reports the gap has narrowed.

Key takeaway: The Panel and the Department may reach different conclusions when reviewing an individual use-of-force incident. Each incident, however, is subject to multiple levels of review, and Department policy establishes specific requirements governing head strikes.

THE PROGRESSION

Head strikes are down 65% since 2021, and the head-strike provision was reached for the first time in the Seventeenth Report

Head strikes in the Basin facilities, by year



25,000+

Prevented uses of force

De-escalations recorded at the Downtown facilities from 2021 through 2025, including 5,716 in 2025 alone.

The monitors agree. *"This marks the first time in Rosas history that the Department has met the compliance threshold for 2.6, up from 82% compliance in the Sixteenth Report and 84% in the Fifteenth Report."* **Seventeenth Report: 90% compliant.**

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

Analysis of 2025 incidents: Revealed the use of personal-weapons invariably corresponded to a response to an assault on staff

90% In 2025, 35 of 39 personal-weapon incidents in the Basin facilities occurred after an inmate assaulted staff.

96% of the head strikes in those incidents came after staff had already been assaulted: 26 of 27.

52% of those head strikes followed a spontaneous assault: 14 of 27.

Spontaneous assault: an inmate attacks staff without warning, provocation, or while staff are handcuffing or escorting an individual.

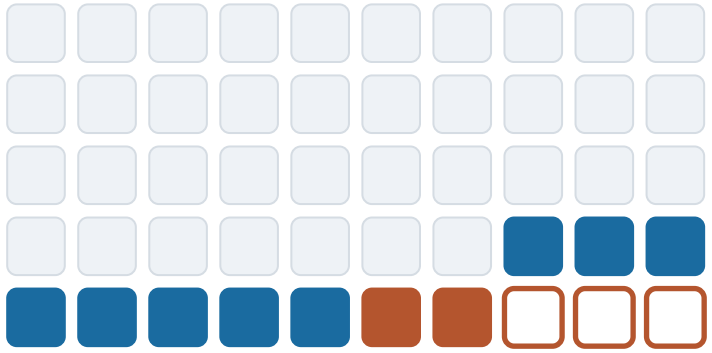
50,380

men were booked and processed through the Inmate Reception Center in 2025. Force measured against average daily population understates how many people staff come into contact daily.

WHERE THE PANEL AND THE DEPARTMENT DIFFER

Within 50 cases selected by the Panel, 13 involved head strikes; the Panel and Department differed in 3 of those 13 cases

The Panel's 50 force packages, Seventeenth Report (January to June 2025)



37	No head strike involved
8	Head strike, within policy; both agree
2	Panel found non-compliant, Department initiated admins and imposed discipline.
3	Out of policy according to the Panel: The gap

The Panel reviewed 50 of the 312 uses of force in the Basin facilities in the period (16%).

How the sample is chosen

"The Panel did not select force packages randomly or in proportion to the frequency with which various categories of force occur. Rather, the Panel selected for review the force incidents most likely to involve problematic uses of force."

Rosas Monitoring Panel, Seventeenth Report, p. 6

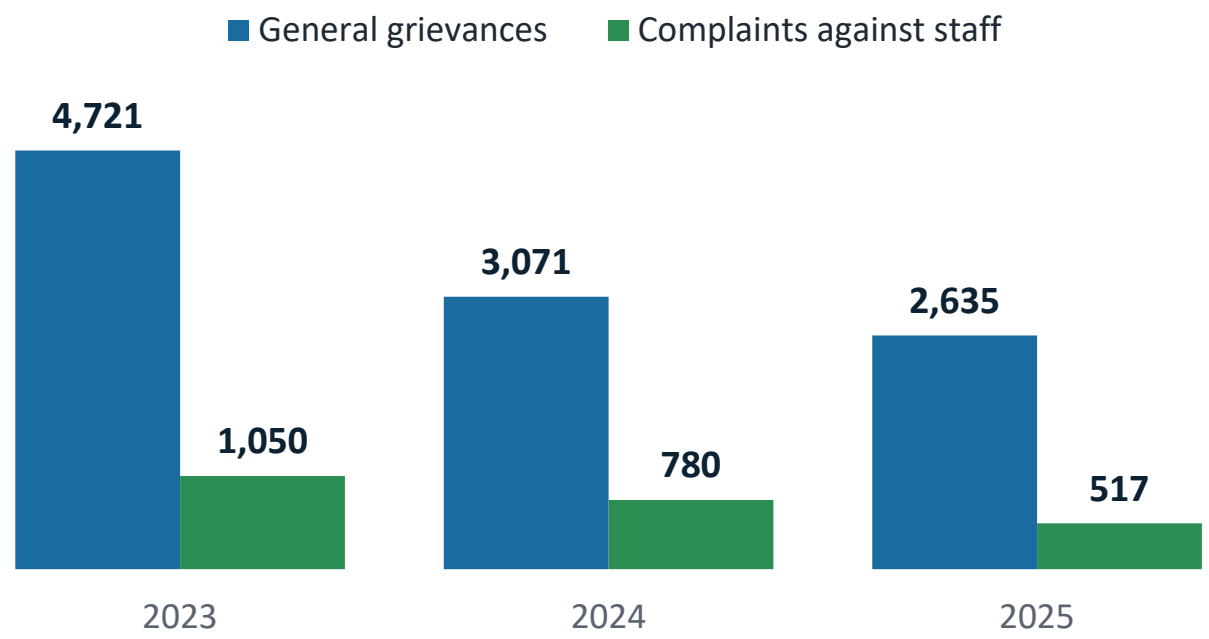
Cases where the findings differ

4 16th Report → 3 17th Report

"The gap between what the Panel finds out of compliance and what the Department finds out of compliance has narrowed. However, there is still work to be done." Seventeenth Report, p. 6

INMATE GRIEVANCES

Division Wide Grievances and complaints against staff are both down sharply



–44%

General grievances since 2023, from 4,721 to 2,635.

–51%

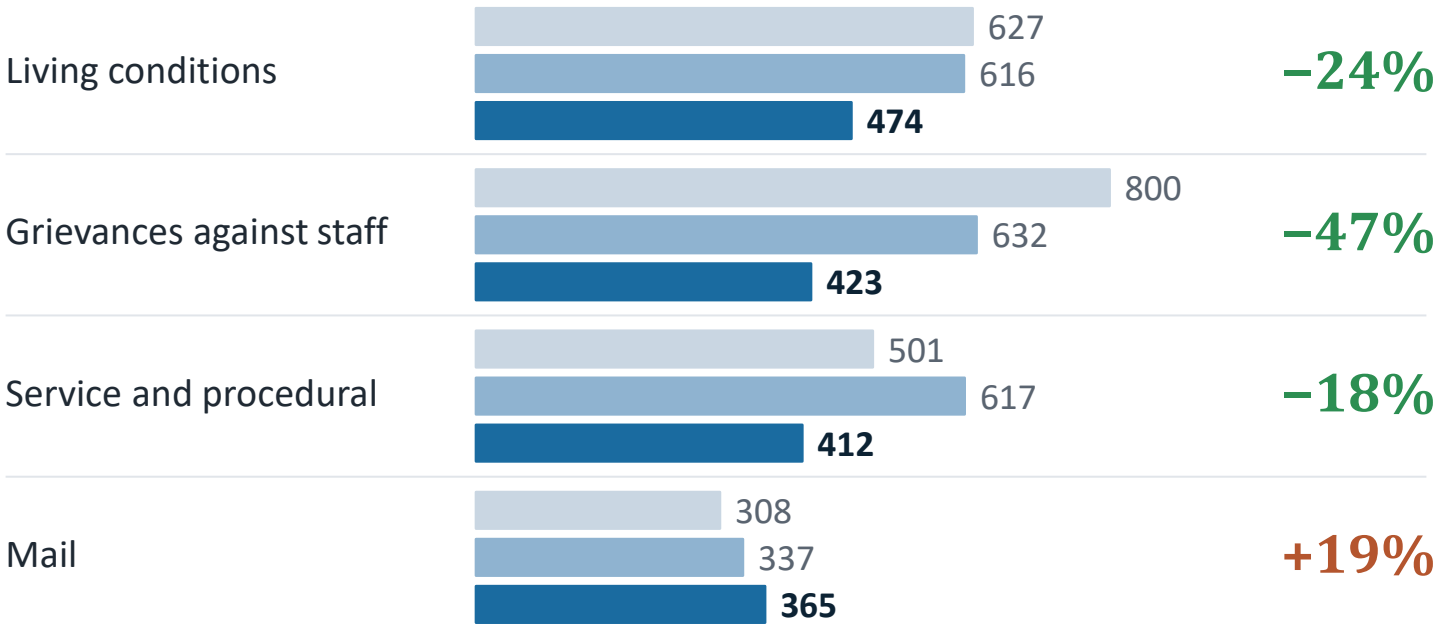
Complaints against staff, from 1,050 to 517.

Improvement effort: The Department is in final negotiations for a phone and tablet contract that would give every incarcerated person a tablet which will have access to inmate applications, including a more streamlined process for filing requests and tracking grievances. Target: first quarter of 2027.

GRIEVANCES BY SUBJECT

Grievances against staff fell 47% since 2023; living conditions are now where grievances concentrate

Top grievance subjects, Basin facilities



Largest facility improvements

2023 to 2025

Twin Towers
Complaints against Staff, 275 to 101 **−63%**

Inmate Reception Center
Complaints against Staff, 51 to 20 **−61%**

Men's Central Jail
Service and procedural, 414 to 300 **−28%**

Men's Central Jail
Living conditions, 564 to 424 **−25%**

Where work continues: Living conditions is now the most common grievance subject, concentrated at Men's Central Jail, and mail is the one subject that is rising.

WHERE WE ARE NOT DONE

Three Department priorities for improvement, and the steps underway

Force review timeliness

WHERE WE FALL SHORT

Force reviews “often take several months to over one year to complete,” and force packages “are not, in the aggregate, being provided as expeditiously as possible” (Seventeenth Report).

WHAT WE ARE DOING

- eForce and creation of a shared tracking site hold every unit to its deadlines.
- A triage tool, built by the compliance bureau, to identify and fast-track Panel requested cases.
- Removal of existing nonessential force review protocols.

Accuracy of force reports

WHERE WE FALL SHORT

Three provisions addressing report quality were out of compliance in the Seventeenth Report: clarification after video (76%), force by other members (82%) and photographs of injuries (89%).

WHAT WE ARE DOING

- Body-worn cameras provide every level of review footage and audio from the deputy’s own vantage point.
- CFIT at the scene of every Category 2 incident.

Grievance process

WHERE WE FALL SHORT

The Panel found the Department out of compliance on six of the 22 grievance provisions, up from three in the Fifteenth Report and five in the Sixteenth.

WHAT WE ARE DOING

- Corrective action plans at Men’s Central Jail for collection and coordinator review.
- Tablets with electronic filing and tracking for every person in custody: contract is being finalized, targeted for early 2027.

CONTINUING CHALLENGES

Compliance is harder to sustain as the population's needs rise, the facilities age and appropriate bed space runs short

Rising acuity since 2021

+24% Moderate observation housing

+35% High observation housing

+77% Disability (ADA)

Growth since 2021, with no matching increase in staffing or infrastructure. The County jail system is California's largest provider of mental health services.

Physical plant

Men's Central Jail is a linear-cell facility that predates current best practices *(direct supervision, out-of-cell programming and specialized housing needs).*

2025 inmate movement

2,183

people moved per month on average within our facilities in search of appropriate bed space.

Custody operations are governed by the Johnson, Rutherford, Rosas and Department of Justice agreements, which drive the housing mandates. Custody also tends to be a transitional assignment, requiring ongoing training on 105 provisions to ensure continuity.

IN SUMMARY

Where we stand

1. **Force is down substantially over ten years.**
   Uses of force in the Basin fell 61% from 2016 to 2025, and head strikes have fallen 52% since tracking began in 2020.

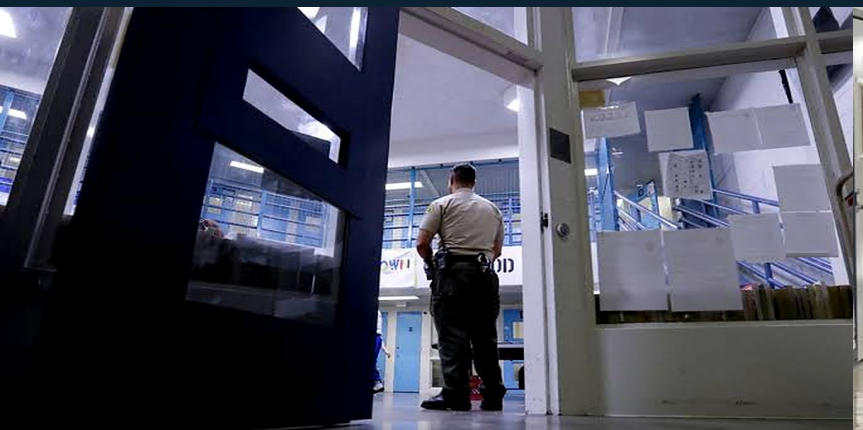
2. **Compliance is deeper than the headline count.**
   67 of 86 provisions are compliant, 40 of them in every report for three consecutive years, and most open provisions are within reach of the threshold.

3. **Accountability is stronger, and the gap with the Panel is narrowing.**
   Three cases of disagreement on the Panel's 50 problematic cases. Body-worn cameras, CFIT at every scene, and eForce are in place.

4. **We acknowledge and accept our process shortfalls.**
   Force review timeliness, the accuracy of force reports and the grievance process each have a proposed solution in progress.

5. **Sustained compliance requires sustained support.**
   Acuity has risen 24% to 77% since 2021 without matching staffing or infrastructure, in a workforce that experiences ongoing turnover.

Thank you

Questions

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