



**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
9.		Favor	Justina Bolden	
			Paloma Bustos	
		Item Total	2	
Grand Total			2	



October 16, 2026

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
500 West Temple St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Reference: Earthquake Preparedness

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors,

The Sunita Jain Anti-Trafficking Initiative supports expanding the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program to strengthen the County's earthquake preparedness.

In April 2025, the Board unanimously passed a motion to prevent trafficking in the wake of natural disasters through public awareness, training for County employees involved in disaster response, and stronger procurement protections.

As the County considers expanding the CERT training, we recommend building on this work by incorporating human trafficking awareness and prevention. CERT volunteers should understand how disasters can increase risks of trafficking and exploitation, recognize potential warning signs, and know how to connect affected individuals with appropriate community services.

CERT training already covers disaster psychology, including trauma and emotional responses. Adding human trafficking awareness would build on this existing curriculum and better prepare volunteers to recognize potential exploitation and connect affected individuals with appropriate support.

Including this training would support the Board's April 2025 motion and strengthen the County's efforts to prevent trafficking during disasters.

Sincerely,

Paloma Bustos

Paloma Bustos, MSW
Policy Associate

[Sunita Jain Anti-Trafficking Initiative](#)

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Referenced motion:

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, April 1, 2025, Item 19 – Preventing Human Trafficking in the Wake of Natural Disasters.

<https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/bos/supdocs/201703.pdf>

