



# LOS ANGELES COUNTY

## Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission



### 2025 MILESTONES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

#### New Commissioner

Commissioner George Newhouse became the newest member of the Los Angeles County Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission ([Commission](#)) in July 2025. Board of Supervisors Chair Kathryn Barger appointed the veteran lawyer after former Commission Chair Robert Bonner's term expired. The Commission is expected to have a full complement of [Commissioners](#) in 2026, when the seat vacated by former Commission Chair Sean Kennedy in March 2025 is filled.

#### Assembly Bill 847

Assembly Bill (AB) 847, which took effect on New Year's Day, 2026, strengthens law enforcement oversight boards and commissions by granting them access to confidential peace officer records and the ability to consider those records in closed session.

The Commission approved a [resolution](#) endorsing AB 847 in April 2025. When Governor Gavin Newsom signed the bill into law in October 2025, Commission Chair Hans Johnson called it "a significant [milestone](#) in advancing civilian oversight of sheriff and police departments in California, reinforcing transparency and accountability while safeguarding confidentiality with respect to law enforcement." In December 2025, the Commission adopted recommendations from the American Civil Liberties Union and other organizations to prevent labor unions within the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) from "[weaponizing](#)" the "meet and confer" labor bargaining process to block the full implementation of AB 847.

#### Chapter 3.79 of the Los Angeles County Code of Ordinances

In February 2025, the Commission completed its draft [proposed revisions](#) to its governing ordinance, Chapter 3.79 of the Los Angeles County Code, which the Executive Officer of the Board, Edward Yen, then submitted to the Board of Supervisors. Former Commission Chair Bonner and Executive Director Sharmaine Moseley presented the draft multiple times to the Board's Public Safety Cluster in March and April 2025. The Commission and County Counsel are in the process of [reconciling](#) their respective recommendations on Chapter 3.79 and determining other potential edits, considering the historic passage of AB 847.

#### Strategic Plan

The Commission added a fourth goal to its [Strategic Plan](#) in February 2025.

- Goal #1: Improve the professionalism of the LASD and its interactions with the public and build public trust in the LASD.
- Goal #2: Restructure/strengthen civilian oversight of the LASD.
- Goal #3: Build relationships with community members by hosting effective community engagement events, attending public meetings, and receiving community feedback.
- Goal #4: Focus on the sustainability of the Commission by improving and/or streamlining its internal processes.

## Community Engagement and Communications

In 2025, the Commission had both a Communications Manager and Community Services Coordinator for the first time in its existence. This enabled the Commission to accomplish Goal #3 of its Strategic Plan, which focused on providing robust opportunities for community engagement as required by LA County Code Chapter 3.79.

Throughout the year, the Commission dramatically expanded its [community engagement](#) efforts, hosting a total of 19 events, from committee meetings to town halls, and having representation in 103 events countywide, including community advisory committee meetings, LASD facility tours and graduation ceremonies, and even cultural celebrations. The Commission was mentioned 124 times in the news media and significantly increased its social media views and website traffic.

## Issuance of Subpoenas

Pursuant to Government Code Section 25303.7 and Measure R, Commissioners issued three subpoenas to the LASD in February 2025, compelling materials related to uses of force against community members [Andres Guardado](#), [Emmett Brock](#), and [Joseph Andrew Perez](#). The LASD declined to provide unredacted records and did not provide any records at all on Emmett Brock, instead filing a [declaratory relief action](#) with the Superior Court in March 2025. Following the passage of AB 847, the LASD asked the Court to [dismiss](#) the declaratory relief action in December 2025.

## Meet and Confer Process

In 2025, at the request of the Commission's Executive Director, the Commission Chair was granted permission, for the first time, to participate along with Commission staff in the meet and confer process on Measure R. The Commission also began receiving updates in 2025 about the estimated 45 other meet and confers between LASD personnel bargaining units and the County.

## Board of Supervisors Motions

The Board of Supervisors issued three motions with directives for the Commission in 2025. These were related to [protecting media during demonstrations](#), safeguarding data from [automated license plate readers](#) to prevent improper immigration enforcement, and preserving Prison Rape Elimination Act ([PREA](#)) standards. The Commission assigned the motions to its Protection of Media in Demonstrations, Technology, and Jail Conditions and Staffing Ad Hoc Committees, respectively. In a separate motion, the Board also acknowledged the Commission's work related to [street takeovers](#).

## Deputy Gangs

In April 2025, the Commission issued its latest [report card](#) tracking the LASD's implementation of its 27 recommendations on deputy gangs and cliques, which found that the LASD has fully implemented four recommendations, partially implemented 16 recommendations, not implemented four recommendations, and rejected two recommendations. One recommendation is the responsibility of the LA County Office of Inspector General. The LASD separately provided a [self-assessment](#) of its progress in implementing the Commission's 27 recommendations.

Acting on a March 2023 directive from the Board of Supervisors, the Commission held a listening session and conducted an online survey in June and July 2025, asking community members to describe their interactions with deputies they believe to be members of deputy gangs within the LASD. They were also invited to provide feedback. The Commission's Deputy Gangs Ad Hoc Committee is in the process of drafting its report, which will be released in 2026.

## Ongoing Training Program for Commissioners

The Commission approved its first [Ongoing Training Program](#) for Commissioners in November 2025, which provides information about LASD operations, policies, procedures, and practices, the Peace Officer Bill of Rights, the Brown Act, relevant state legislation and case law, and many other topics.

## NACOLE

Commission Chair Johnson, Co-Vice Chair Arthur Calloway, Commissioner James P. Harris, and Executive Director Moseley attended the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference of the National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (NACOLE) in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on October 2025. Its theme was *Reckoning and Resilience in the Post-George Floyd Era*. Conference attendees reflected on the urgent need to confront the realities of systemic injustice while building sustainable, community-centered oversight practices.

## Recommendations

The Commission made several recommendations to the LASD and the Board of Supervisors for consideration in 2025.

### FY 2025-26 Budget

In February 2025, the Commission adopted its Budget Ad Hoc Committee's [report](#), which recommended that the Board of Supervisors consider approval of the LASD's fiscal year (FY) 2025-26 Budget Priorities and Unmet Needs. These included funding requests for buses to transport people in custody from jail facilities to court, an updated Computer Aided Dispatch System (CADS), a law enforcement wellness center, the continuation of four Academy classes, and other critical items. The Committee also recommended that the LASD provide budget status reports on its website.

### LASD Suicide Prevention and Employee Wellness

The Commission adopted its Quality of Life Ad Hoc Committee's June 2025 [report](#) listing five recommendations for preventing suicides and fostering wellness among LASD personnel, including examining the feasibility of funding the LASD Employee Wellness Center to provide needed psychological services. Of the five recommendations, the LASD agreed with three, partially agreed with one, and disagreed with one.

### Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)

The Commission fulfilled a Board of Supervisors directive by reviewing the LASD's efforts toward compliance with PREA and issuing a [report](#) with four recommendations in May 2025.

The Commission invited the LASD's PREA coordinator to present at the Commission's public meeting in October 2025 and raised questions about the LASD's statistics on jailer-on-inmate and inmate-on-inmate sexual abuse, which has since become the subject of ongoing news coverage. The Commission, along with several nonprofit organizations, supported the LASD in organizing a virtual town hall in November 2025 to gather community feedback on creating safer reporting environments, practices, and accountability within LASD facilities.

Additional details about these recommendations will be provided in the Commission's [2025 Annual Report](#).