



# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES SHERIFF CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT COMMISSION

*Improving Public Transparency and Accountability*

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Danielle B. Vappie  
*Interim Executive Director*

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March 10, 2023

Fesia Davenport, Chief Executive Officer  
County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Office  
500 W. Temple St., Room 713  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

## LASD BUDGET PRIORITIES FOR FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2023-2024 RECOMMENDATIONS

Dear CEO Davenport,

This communication is to provide the Chief Executive Office (CEO) with the Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission's (Commission) priorities for the [Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department \(Sheriff's Department\) Budget for Fiscal Year \(FY\) 2023-2024](#), the Commission staff report and [public input](#) received on the Sheriff's Department FY 2023-2024 Budget.

On January 4, 2023, several Sheriff's Department subject matter experts (SMEs) presented the Department's budget priorities and unmet needs to the Commission's Budget Ad Hoc Committee (Budget Committee). The Budget Committee was advised by SME Lt. Yelverton of the urgent need to replace the Computer Aided Dispatch System (CAD) which is in over 3,000 Sheriff's Department vehicles with system software that is antiquated - over 30 years old.

On February 16, 2023, the Commission heard from Sheriff Robert Luna and Chief Financial and Administrative Officer Jill Torres before adopting the following staff report recommendations:

1. LASD develop an annual written Budget Mitigation Plan and/or Budget Status Report and submit to the CEO, the Board and the Commission, and publish them on the LASD public website by no later than the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of September of each year, effective 2023. The report should include, but not be limited to a breakdown by LASD division of:
  - a. Brief description of the division and number of staff reporting to the division;
  - b. Brief description of areas where cost may increase and decrease;
  - c. Efforts to mitigate increase in cost;
  - d. Contingencies and the impact of risk;
  - e. Areas where there may be cost avoidance or minimization; and
  - f. Any limitations LASD has identified in addressing budget mitigation efforts.
2. The CEO and Board approve select LASD FY2023-24 Budget Priorities and Unmet Needs, including but not limited to the following:
  - a. Additional Academy Classes & Recruitment Funding (LASD Priority #3) should receive funding to maintain adequate staffing levels and reduce overtime for public safety services, in alignment with the [CEO's Analysis of the Sheriff Academy's Training Needs](#)

[\(December 7, 2022\)](#) and the County's Strategic Plan Goal III.1.1-Develop Staff Through High Quality Multi-Disciplinary Approaches to Training.<sup>1</sup>

- b. Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) System Replacement Project (LASD Priority #7) should receive funding to secure adequate technology replacement provisions and put CAD in alignment with the [Commission's FY2022-23 request to fund \(June 24, 2022\)](#) and to be consistent with the County's Strategic Plan Goal III.2.3-Prioritize and Implement Technology Initiatives That Enhance Service Delivery and Increase Efficiency.<sup>2</sup> Funding this priority is urgently needed because the CAD system is law enforcement agencies' primary data system for tracking patrol-related contacts with the public<sup>3</sup> and the outdated technology currently in operation threatens public safety.
- c. Mental Evaluation Teams (MET) (LASD Priority #12) should receive funding to set the MET program on track with the [Commission's adopted recommendations \(February 15, 2018\)](#); to implement the corrective action referenced in a November 1, 2022 Board approved settlement;<sup>4,5</sup> and to be consistent with the County's Strategic Plan Goal I.3.4-Enhance Sheriff's Ability to Effectively and Appropriately Respond to Crises Involving the Mentally III.<sup>6</sup>
- d. Senate Bill 2 (SB2) Unit Staffing (LASD Unmet Needs #2) should receive funding to help meet the SB2 mandate of submitting allegations of serious misconduct to California Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) for accountability purposes. This will hopefully prevent repetition of fatal use of force; eliminate the existence of deputy gangs;<sup>7,8</sup> and align with the County's Strategic Plan Goal III.3.2-Manage and Maximize County Assets.<sup>9</sup>
- e. Psychological Services Bureau (PSB) (LASD Unlisted Unmet Need presented by SME-Dr. Seetal) should receive funding for Updated Telecommunications Systems to ensure the Department is adequately able to receive, answer, retrieve and respond to LASD personnel and their families in crisis (reducing the likelihood of personnel incidents and community exposure to trauma); to debrief deputies after deputy shootings; and to be

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<sup>1</sup> Chief Executive Office. (2023). Strategic Plan and Goals III.1.1. Retrieved from [Strategic Plan Goal Three – Los Angeles County \(lacounty.gov\)](#)

<sup>2</sup> Chief Executive Office. (2023). Strategic Plan and Goals III.2.3. Retrieved from <https://ceo.lacounty.gov/strategic-plan-goal-three/>

<sup>3</sup> Los Angeles County Office of Inspector General. (2022). The Sheriff's Department's Underreporting of Civilian Stop Data to the California Attorney General. Retrieved from [The Sheriff's Department's Underreporting of Civilian Stop Data to the California Attorney General.pdf \(kc-usercontent.com\)](#)

<sup>4</sup> County of Los Angeles Contract Cities Liability Trust Fund Claims Board. (2022). *Timothy Neal v. County of Los Angeles*. Retrieved from [https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/ceo/claimsboards/1129630\\_ContractCitiesAgenda-WebAttachments9-21-22.pdf](https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/ceo/claimsboards/1129630_ContractCitiesAgenda-WebAttachments9-21-22.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors. (2022). Agenda for the Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors for November 1, 2022. Retrieved from [https://assets-us-01.kc-usercontent.com/0234f496-d2b7-00b6-17a4-b43e949b70a2/12b97fb2-c540-43da-9ca0-db2035615fd3/Agenda110122\\_links.pdf](https://assets-us-01.kc-usercontent.com/0234f496-d2b7-00b6-17a4-b43e949b70a2/12b97fb2-c540-43da-9ca0-db2035615fd3/Agenda110122_links.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> Chief Executive Office. (2023). Strategic Plan and Goals I.3.4. Retrieved from [Strategic Plan Goal One – Los Angeles County \(lacounty.gov\)](#)

<sup>7</sup> Los Angeles County Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission. (2023). Secret Deputy Subgroups. Retrieved from [COC - Deputy Gangs \(lacounty.gov\)](#)

<sup>8</sup> YouTube. (2023). Civilian Oversight Commission Meeting, January 19, 2023. Retrieved from [https://youtu.be/kBVZ\\_oltbbc](https://youtu.be/kBVZ_oltbbc)

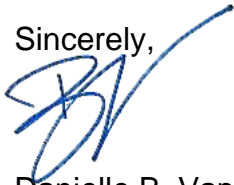
<sup>9</sup> Chief Executive Office. (2023). Strategic Plan and Goals III.3.2. Retrieved from <https://ceo.lacounty.gov/strategic-plan-goal-three/>

consistent with the County of Los Angeles Strategic Plan Goal III.1.1-Develop Staff Through High Quality Multi-Disciplinary Approaches to Training.<sup>10</sup>

The Commission will continue to monitor LASD's management of their budget as the Department has committed to annually submitting its Budget Status Report<sup>11</sup> to the Commission, CEO, Board and to posting it on their public website in December, effective 2023. The Commission will request additional information and/or make further recommendations when necessary.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at (213) 253-5678.

Sincerely,



Danielle B. Vappie  
Interim Executive Director, Civilian Oversight Commission

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CC Each Supervisor, Board of Supervisors  
Celia Zavala, Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
Robert Luna, Sheriff, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department  
County Counsel

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<sup>10</sup> Chief Executive Office. (2023). Strategic Plan and Goals III.1.1. Retrieved from <https://ceo.lacounty.gov/strategic-plan-goal-three/>

<sup>11</sup> LASD. (2023). LASD Response to Commission Budget Priorities Recommendation FY23-24. Retrieved from <http://bit.ly/3myX01u>