



# OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

**HALL OF JUSTICE**

ROBERT G. LUNA, SHERIFF



January 19, 2023

Fesia Davenport, Chief Executive Officer  
County of Los Angeles  
713 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Ms. Davenport:

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT'S  
FISCAL YEAR 2023-24 RECOMMENDED BUDGET REQUEST**

Submitted for your review is the Los Angeles County (County) Sheriff's Department's (Department) Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24 Recommended Budget Request (see attached). The Department's budget submission for FY 2023-24 reflects several critical unmet needs totaling \$238.6 million in net County cost and an increase of 305.0 budgeted positions. It should be noted, however, that many of these requests are multi-year rather than one-year requests and the majority of the requested positions (225.0) are deputy sheriff trainee positions associated with necessary hiring efforts.

It is understood that the Department's critical unmet needs represent just a fraction of the needs throughout the County and the amount of available financial resources within the County is limited. Please be assured that the request before you meets several important criteria.

First and foremost, the Department's critical unmet needs seek to:

- responsibly ensure, to the greatest extent possible, the County's compliance with the various settlement agreement mandates within our custody jail facilities;
- establish an Office of Constitutional Policing and enhance financial accountability and administrative oversight within the Department;

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- maintain the resources to reduce deputy sheriff vacancies throughout the Department and thereby improve the health and wellness of existing staff, as well as reduce the amount of overtime currently being required to fulfill our basic responsibilities;
- conduct an information technology assessment of the Department to ensure we are making informed decisions regarding our information technology and network infrastructure needs, and to ensure the investments being made in these areas are the most cost-effective improvements designed to support required systems into the future; and
- provide the Department with operational resources and equipment that will not only assist Department employees and improve public protection and transparency, but also mitigate future potential liability and adverse costs arising out of avoidable lawsuits/judgments and damages.

Aside from improving the organizational foundation of the Department and ensuring that the Department is sufficiently resourced with the staffing and equipment necessary to serve the community responsibly and expeditiously, note that the Department's critical unmet needs also align with many of the priorities previously expressed by the Board of Supervisors, the Sheriff's Civilian Oversight Commission, and various community advocates/stakeholders. These priorities include, but are not limited to: constitutionally-protected care for the County's incarcerated population, service to the County's unhoused population, body-worn cameras, and less-lethal tactics/equipment.

As I continue to gain a deeper understanding of the emerging needs of the Department, I may identify additional areas of the Department which require stabilization. If so, I will submit additional requests for your consideration during the Final Changes stage of the budget process.

In conclusion, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to you and your staff for the gracious welcome that you have shown me since my arrival to the Los Angeles County family. I am excited for the positive and collaborative relationship that we will share, and I look forward to witnessing and being a part of what I am certain will be countless successes and achievements that we will collectively give rise to both now and in the years to come. This being said, please know that I, along with my team, look forward to working with you and your staff to evaluate all that is encompassed in the Department's FY 2023-24 Recommended Budget Request, and we are committed to doing what is necessary and responsible in terms of effectuating any portion of the Department's request – including addressing these needs in phases over a multi-year period of time.

Ms. Davenport

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January 19, 2023

Should you have any questions, please contact Jill Torres, Assistant Sheriff, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer, at (213) 229-3066.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "R. Luna". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

ROBERT G. LUNA  
SHERIFF