



Civilian Oversight Commission



*Civilian Oversight of Law
Enforcement Conference*
County of Los Angeles
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LA County Oversight Model

LA County Oversight Model

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

- Facilitate **public transparency** and **accountability** with respect to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.
- Provide robust opportunities for **community engagement**.
- Ongoing **analysis and oversight** of LASD's policies, practices, and procedures.
- **Advise** the Board of Supervisors, the Sheriff and the public.
- **Investigate** through the OIG or its own staff and issue subpoenas for production of records and attendance, as needed.
- Function as a **bridge between LASD and the community**.
- **Seek Sheriff's input** prior to completing its recommendations.

LEGAL AUTHORITIES

- Los Angeles County Code Chapter 3.79
- Measure R
- Government Code section 25303.7

Legal Obstacles & Strategies for Effective Oversight



Subpoena Compliance and Enforcement

LEGAL CHALLENGES

- Power to compel production and attendance
- Time consuming
- Labor unions / collective bargaining challenges

STRATEGIES

- Engage labor early

Access to Information

LEGAL CHALLENGES

- Per Los Angeles County Code, the COC:
 - May not access confidential information
 - May direct the OIG to issue a subpoena, but OIG may only share public information with the COC
- Per Measure R:
 - Meet and confer process has delayed its use

STRATEGIES

- Engage LASD
- Streamline oversight, where feasible
- Include safeguards when sharing information

Other Legal Challenges

- Brown Act Compliance
- Concurrent Investigations
- Legal Counsel

BROWN ACT

- Meetings are open and public.
- Closed session is limited.
- Subcommittee meetings.

CONCURRENT INVESTIGATIONS

- Competing priorities.
- Resources spread thin.
- Pending criminal investigations.

LEGAL COUNSEL

- Ethical walls.
- No conflict as a matter of law.

Tips for Future Oversight



Tips for Future Oversight

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Public meetings
- Town Halls
- Complaint referrals

LABOR

- Engage early on in the process.

LEGISLATION

- Seek legislation with clear roles and authorities of oversight bodies