



Written Public Comment

Provided for the May 13, 2023, Community Meeting in Palmdale, CA
of the Los Angeles County Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission.

Name	Comment
Eric Somilleda	<p>To my most commendable group of revered men and women of courage in our Los Angeles County Sheriffs Department. I am a fifty year old man (feel like 30) who has worked in many capacities in my careers. My paramount charge is to live in a sustainable planet in a civil community where people feel safe to take a walk in their local streets and community. Most of my life I have been working, with and as, an educators, teacher, coach, and the public at large. Forty years ago, I remember getting on my bike with my family and riding over to the parks down the San Gabriel Pkwy river bed bike path. The last ten years, I have been riding my bike with the Los Angeles bike coalition in the Metro's CicLaVie series. Safety is a collaborative effort; however knowing that the colors of our Sheriff's tan & green are also visible along the paths puts me at ease. As a former employee in public transit our sheriffs once secured the LA Metro subway system. I had the privilege and opportunity to get to know many of the Deputies in my LACMTA experience.</p> <p>Yesterday, I was in the City of Pico Rivera, CA doing some shopping with mom at the Target. It was senior discount day somewhere in the Pico Rivera shopping centers. Our topic of conversation was how beautiful the community has evolved with the modern times. Yesterday mid day I observed our Sheriffs walking amongst and with our local community members. They were all well groomed and looked sharper than a razor as it got me to look twice. The two female Deputy Sheriffs were in their professional groomed hair dress attire without make up but oh-la-la they were very beautiful. Separate the beauty and put a chango in the mix. Us men in Pico viejo, still have that way of life. You know the good oldies.., that may just act to get attention from the fine "rukas" we are not used to seeing in the Sheriff colors. As I drove home, sheriffs patrol cars were also driving with Deputies in good spirit. One patrol car had the windows down and the Deputies had a smile. They were observing, and reporting. A few miles down the road there was a person laid out on the sidewalk around the Pico Viejo area on the northern end. Two patrol cars were positioned for safety and working to determine if medical attention was necessary. No tasers, no kicking, no punching, no yelling.</p> <p>The point I'm trying to get at is that my local Sheriff Department in most of Los Angeles County are doing a the job to keep our streets safe. There is a lot of, behind the scenes work in logistics, public administration and in the City Halls of leadership. Knowing that the standard of excellence and critical thinking skills of our law enforcement authority for a hail to justice can be seen in our Deputies. A caveat for our courageous Deputies and dispatchers, before your send out or move in to a hazardous element of the job. Anticipating gun violence is a threat. please remember that you are not superhero's, you are human beings and we value your lives. With that said, it is a community effort for business owners, teachers, directors, city employees, bus operators, corporations, and the senior community to be vigilant in identifying undesirable behaviors that lead to gun violence, domestic violence, or conflicts. The time of the ages are shifting towards a safer more sustainable place we call home.</p> <p>The biggest group of thugs and gangsters have rehabilitated to join the calling to hail. Continue to emulate a symbol of justice, morals, values, and the standard of esprit de corp. May the shine of your badge and boots always gleam as your Angel wings in the City of Angels. In the late 80's I would cruise my 64 Nova down Whittier Blvd to East Los. Today, I can walk down Whittier Blvd. like I used to cruise and get some exercise at the same time. Sustainability and feeling safe is key because the presence of our Sheriffs is a good thing today in my City of Champions..,, Órale vatos! - A Pico Boy</p>
Erik rodriguez	<p>I strongly believe there should be a new feature to all police calls in service. A third Party field officer that will take in seperate reports other than the officers for submission. The reports by this third party state or federal agency will only be able to submit information backed by hard evidence. these reports would not only ensure members in community of an additional presence of law enforcement support but would also remind officers and deputies that their actions during</p>

service although not affected by ways of being interfered, are being watched and collected. Rest assured, the idea is for officers to do their jobs without prejudice and that the third party oversight is not there to incriminate them but rather to build trust into communities and that actions will be taken against officers or deputies displaying unlawful conduct.

Other than that, I believe the relationship between communities and law enforcement remain neutral in middle to high income areas but very distrustful in low income communities. I believe officers if given opportunity will act more unprofessional upon those who they see lack any education or risk of being reported. This is where the third party I mentioned above kicks in to full effect. Ensuring trust within Americans in law enforcement and ensuring the safety of officers and deputies.

Cecilia Interesting that you would have a forum to discuss the subject and hold the in-person meeting in PALMDALE. Makes this very hard for those disenfranchised to attend a meeting so far outside of Los Angeles. Makes one wonder about the sincerity of holding such a discussion. Since a large majority of Angelenos who may have been directly affected, by such actions by the Sheriff's department staff, do not have transportation to get there...

Shirley Harriman I do not want to attend these meetings and listen to numerous people who have a never-ending gripe about the Sheriff's Department and who dominate the conversation. If I had an issue, there is a sergeant, a lieutenant or captain to talk to at the stations.

Rebecca Arvizu My name is Rebecca Arvizu, and I live in Agoura Hills, CA. ALADS (Association of LA Deputy Sheriffs) is conducting a racist scheme to lobby the mostly white cities of the Las Virgenes-Malibu Council of Governments ("COGS" for Malibu, Agoura Hills, Calabasas Hidden Hills, and Westlake Village) to convince them of the false allegation that the COC recommended and the BOS approved a mandatory\involuntary five year rotation for deputies. Apparently, ALADS provided a proposed letter in early April for the COGS to sign on behalf of all cities to send it to the BOS to put pressure on them, complaining about the COC's shortsightedness threatening community policing. COGS voted that each city should vote on to approve sending the letter on behalf of their own city. In all cases, none of the COGS cities disclosed on their agendas that the proposed letter was from ALADS. Hidden Hills approved the letter on April 10, Calabasas approved the letter on April 12, and Malibu on May 8. ALADS reps testified at Malibu and Agoura Hills that they want the Supervisors to rescind their entire "blanket approval" motion to approve all of the COC recommendations and remove the rotation requirement.

All smoke and mirrors trying to sabotage both the COC and BOS with lies, but most important, ALAD rep Jeff Monacle (sp) testified to Agoura Hills that ALADS is approaching contract cities because Measure A "changed the game." Malibu Councilmember Doug Stewart said that ALADS rep Rudy Bermudez told him that Measure A requires Sheriff Luna to follow the directions of the COC and BOS. IMHO ALADS is weaponizing Measure A and trying to deflect the focus away from their own role in empowering Deputy Gangs and Cliques as described in the COC report pages 35 to 38. ALADS ginned up A LOT of the local city leaders and their constituents with their cry-wolf BS that they will lose their deputies through involuntary transfers, effectively convincing these cities to turn their backs on the victims of Deputy Gangs and Cliques, mostly POC. These cities are also turning their backs on the good deputies who have to work in hostile work environments with Deputy Gangs and Cliques. Agoura Hills is the only city so far that did not approve sending the ALADS proposed letter to the BOS, and two of our city council members called out ALADS in their 4/26/23 city council meeting for ALADS' conduct referenced in the COC report 🙏

I prepared a public comment for the City of Malibu (which they completely ignored). My public comment for Malibu has a good summary of the history of ALADS lobbying in the Conejo Valley the past couple of months which I will try to email to the COC ahead of this meeting. I have also shared my research so far and Malibu public comment with the Executive Director of the ACLU of Southern California. Democracy is in peril with ALADS trying to erase their complicity in empowering deputy gangs and cliques for decades. Further, ALADS rep Rudy Bermudez emailed

the COGS on May 6 for what appears to be a second attempt to get COGS to send their proposed letter now to Sheriff Luna on behalf of all the cities. I have a copy of this email that I will share with the COC. I am most distressed about their conduct because the City of Calabasas has an agenda item for their 5-10-23 meeting to vote on whether to allow the COGS to sign such letters on their behalf. Former DA and current Calabasas City Councilmember James Bozajian is a strong supporter of ALADS and has repeated their false claims on NextDoor that the COC and BOS are requiring the Sheriff to impose involuntary rotations every 5 years. All of my posts challenging Bozajian on these claims were removed by the community reviewers and my account was even disabled for four days while NextDoor investigated complaints against me from local community members\Bozajian supporters for being “disrespectful” to Bozajian and “publicly shaming” him.

Antoine Johnson My name is Antoine Johnson and I would like to read written comment from myself and my wife Jenese Johnson regarding issues within the AVUSHD High School and the LASD and their lack of working together to keep our children safe.