

3rd Annual

COMMUNITY POLICING CONFERENCE

Building Community to Advance Public Safety



9:00am - 4:00pm

Friday, October 27, 2023

Cal State Los Angeles, Golden Eagle Ballroom

Schedule of Events

8:00 - 9:00 am

Registration & Breakfast

9:00 - 9:20 am

Opening Remarks

- Sean Kennedy, Civilian Oversight Commission Chair
- Max Huntsman, Los Angeles County Inspector General
- David Carroll, Department of Youth Development Director

9:20 - 10:45 am

Session 1: Roundtable Panel

Building Trust to Improve Policing

Too often we read or see news accounts of law enforcement officers using brutality against the community, sometimes with dire outcomes. With each reported use of force, community trust in law enforcement agencies erodes. Community policing with a trauma-informed lens & crisis management training is essential to both prevent escalating incidents & reduce their severity.

By exploring factors that lead to crisis situations, this session will highlight the importance of building public trust in law enforcement agencies to improve policing & public safety. The panel will discuss the changes that must occur before community trust in law enforcement agencies begins to build.

Moderator: Emily Williams, Chief Executive Officer, UCLA/UCSF ACEs Aware Family Resilience Network (UCAAN)

Panel Participants:

- Robert Luna, Los Angeles County Sheriff
- Ana Maria Quintana, City of Bell's Vice Mayor
- Brian K. Williams, City of L.A.'s Deputy Mayor of Public Safety
- Andrea Welsing, L.A. County Department of Public Health's Office of Violence Prevention Director

Diversion & Transitions from Custody to Community

Community policing plays a significant role in diversion by connecting people to social services rather than arrest. Collaboration between law enforcement, non-law enforcement crisis responders & community-based organizations is essential in reducing recidivism for those formerly incarcerated, especially people with substance issues, mental health needs, or suffering from extreme poverty.

Diversion programs are vital to the success of formerly incarcerated people's transition from custody to community. This session will highlight partnerships & programs that have shown promise in stopping the revolving door of recidivism.

Moderator: Paul Smith, Human Relations Commission Senior Human Relations Consultant

Panel Participants:

- Doug Haubert, Long Beach City Prosecutor
- Gina Eachus, Justice, Care & Opportunities Department's Office of Adult Programs Acting Director
- Fernando Rejon, Urban Peace Institute Executive Director
- Lisa Small, Liberty Hill's Youth & Transformative Justice Director

Introduction:

- Wendelyn Julien, Probation Oversight Commission Executive Director

Keynote Speaker: Romarilyn Ralston

Cal State Fullerton's Project Rebound Executive Director

Encouraging Education, Deterring Detention: How to keep kids educated, engaged & away from incarceration.

While safety & security in schools is imperative, students' focus should be on learning. School administrators & educators must ensure that students have the resources & support needed to concentrate on their education.

This session will discuss best practices to promote education as a pathway to success & not a pipeline to prison. The panel will discuss school resources, such as counselors & mental health practitioners, as well as the need for a comprehensive school safety plan, which includes how school resource officers are used.

Moderator: Dara Williams, Office of Inspector General Chief Deputy

Panel Participants:

- Steven Zipperman, Los Angeles School Police Chief
- Jewel Forbes, L.A. County Office of Education Project Director
- Ricardo Ortega Martinez Jr., Youth Commission Member
- Mikalah Rahn, Learning Works Charter Schools Founder & CEO

Looking Ahead: What did we learn today that we can implement tomorrow?

Community safety is a significant & complex aspect of public life, which is why the community must be involved in the discussion. In this final session of the day, attendees will gather for a facilitated conversation to dialogue about what the next steps should be to help build trust between the community & law enforcement, prevent recidivism of formerly incarcerated people & eliminate the school to prison pipeline.

Moderated by Human Relations Commission staff.

Table Facilitators:

- Arpine Amirkanyan, Office of Inspector General
- Miriam Brown, LA County Department of Mental Health
- Helen Chin, Human Relations Commission
- Irma Cooper, Civilian Oversight Commission
- Jeanette Ellis-Royston, Human Relations Commission
- Luis S. Garcia, Civilian Oversight Commission
- Carla Ibarra, City of Los Angeles
- Elliot Kase, Office of Inspector General
- Vanessa Martin, Justice, Care & Opportunities Department
- Guadalupe Montano, Human Relations Commission
- Francisco Ortega, City of Los Angeles
- Rigoberto Reyes, LA County Office of Immigrant Affairs
- Robert Sowell, Human Relations Commission
- Fredrick Sykes, Human Relations Commission
- Gay Yuen, Human Relations Commission
- Raymundo Zacarias, LA County Dept. of Public Health

3:45 - 4:00 pm

Closing Remarks

- Jamon Hicks, Civilian Oversight Commission Vice Chair



Sean Kennedy

L.A. County Civilian Oversight
Commission Chair

Sean Kennedy is the Kaplan Feldman Executive Director & Professor for the Center for Juvenile Law & Policy at Loyola Law School-Los Angeles. Prior to teaching, he served as the Federal Public Defender for the Central District of California from 2006 through 2014 & has also served as Chief of the Federal Public Defender Capital Habeas Unit.

As an adjunct professor for more than 15 years, Kennedy has taught Appellate Advocacy & the Death Penalty Law Seminar at the Law School. He currently serves as the chair on the Civilian Oversight Commission.



Max Huntsman

L.A. County Inspector General

In 2013, the Board appointed public corruption prosecutor Max Huntsman to serve as the county's first inspector general.

He began his public service in 1991 with the District Attorney's office immediately after graduating from Yale Law School. At the D.A.'s office he investigated & prosecuted political corruption scandals in L.A., Vernon & Bell, as

well as police misconduct in Inglewood & was designated a Special Assistant United States Attorney.

Mr. Huntsman advocates for transparency & accountability in government, constitutional policing & professionalism in public service. Under his supervision, the Office of Inspector General has spearheaded efforts to fight the influence of secret gang-like organizations in the Sheriff's Department & issued reports recommending reforms in county mental health, medical care in jails & oversight of skilled nursing homes.



David Carroll

Director, L.A. County Department of Youth Development

Mr. Carroll was appointed as the Department of Youth Development Director on January 10, 2023. He brings 15 years of experience in youth development through his work with community-based organizations in L.A. & across the country.

He has served in direct service provision to young people, in advocacy & in public policy supporting youth development initiatives. He holds a deep personal commitment to youth development & has dedicated his career to creating opportunities for youth to thrive.

At an early age, he was part of the foster care & adoption systems, & he was later impacted by the criminal legal system. He holds a Master of Arts in Nonprofit Management from Washington University in St. Louis & a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration/Accounting from Harris-Stowe State University. He is a Volunteer Board Member & Officer for his fraternity, Kappa Alpha Psi, & he coaches youth sports. David lives in South L.A. with his wife, children & two dogs.



Emily C. Williams

Chief Executive Officer, UCAAN)

Emily Williams is the CEO of the UCLA-UCSF ACEs Aware Family Resilience Network (UCAAN). For six years, she served as a senior adviser for the L.A. County Board of Supervisors, Second District, shaping budget, legislative, equity & human services policy for the largest County in the nation & oversaw child welfare, education, social services & workforce development initiatives.

Prior to joining the County, Emily worked for the City of L.A. as deputy chief of staff to former City Councilmember (now U.S. Representative) Tony Cárdenas (CA-29) & as a civilian commander for the L.A. Fire Department.

Emily earned a B.A. in Political Science from UCLA & an M.P.P. from the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs, where she was recognized as Alumna of the Year & currently serves as a Senior Fellow.



Robert G. Luna

Los Angeles County Sheriff

Robert Luna was elected as the 34th L.A. County Sheriff on November 8, 2022. He commands the largest Sheriff's Department in the nation, with nearly 18,000 budgeted sworn & professional staff. In 2021, Sheriff Luna completed his service as Long Beach Chief of Police, capping a 36-year career at the Long Beach Police Department, the county's second largest police department.

Growing up in unincorporated East L.A., Sheriff Luna's neighborhood was patrolled by the Sheriff's Department. He saw examples of both good & bad policing, which inspired him to become a peace officer & shaped his philosophy on relationship-based policing, specifically in communities of color. Starting as a Long Beach Police Department reserve officer in 1985, Sheriff Luna promoted within every rank of the Department & was appointed Chief of Police in 2014.

Sheriff Luna is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) National Executive Institute & National Academy, Harvard University's program for senior executives in state & local government & the University of Southern California's (USC) Delinquency Control Institute. In addition, Sheriff Luna holds a master's in public administration from California State University Long Beach.

Roundtable Panel: Building Trust to Improve Policing



Ana Maria Quintana

Vice Mayor, City of Bell

Ana Maria Quintana is a proud product of the Southeast community. She attended local public schools before graduating from Yale University, taught & sought a master's degree from the Universidad de Navarra (Pamplona, Spain) & a law degree from Columbia Law School, where she joined the Human Rights Law Journal & Moot Court program.

Ms. Quintana developed an expertise in public law while continuing to work as a real estate broker & serving on the Bell City Council. She first ran for Bell City Council in 2011 to reform & bring transparency to City Hall & was re-elected in 2013, 2017 & 2022. She is currently Of Counsel with a law firm representing public entities like municipalities, school districts & water boards.

Vice-Mayor Quintana has been an ardent advocate of education by organizing town halls on Civil Rights & Immigration. She has led efforts to save Adult Education & has promoted transparent government by hosting live City Council meetings on her website. Her initiative Rebuilding Bell One Block at a Time encourages civic engagement amongst Bell youth & community.



Andrea Welsing

L.A. County Department of Public Health's
Office of Violence Prevention Director

Andrea Welsing is a public health leader with over 25 years of experience working collaboratively with multiple sectors & community partners to develop, implement & evaluate public health programs.

Her work has addressed violence in all forms, starting with oversight of a hospital-based sexual assault & domestic violence program & leading to her role as Director of the Injury & Violence

Prevention Program for the L.A. County Department of Public Health, where she provided oversight & strategic direction for participation in the Violent Death Reporting System & the Trauma Prevention Initiative.

In 2019, she was appointed to serve as the Director of the County Office of Violence Prevention where she is responsible for coordinating a comprehensive approach to violence prevention across multiple sectors & government agencies to ensure an effective countywide response to violence & trauma. Ms. Welsing received her master's degree in public health from UCLA & a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of California Berkeley.



Brian K. Williams

Deputy Mayor of Public Safety, City of L.A.

Brian K. Williams, Esq., serves as the City of L.A.'s Deputy Mayor of Public Safety. He was previously the inaugural Executive Director of the L.A. County Civilian Oversight Commission. Williams also maintains a law practice, the Brian K. Williams Law Group.

During his career, Williams has served as President & CEO of Junior Achievement of Southern California, one of the nation's preeminent educational programs for youth, & he also served as the Executive Director of the

Southern California Leadership Network, one of the nation's premiere leadership development programs. Williams served for eleven years as an Assistant City Attorney in the L.A. City Attorney's office. When L.A. City Attorney James K. Hahn was elected Mayor of L.A., Hahn appointed Williams as his Deputy Mayor for Transportation, Environment & Infrastructure. Upon leaving the Mayor's Office, Williams was appointed Assistant City Manager for the City of Pasadena.

Williams, a two-time UCLA Chancellor's Marshall, earned a B.A. in Political Science at UCLA & a J.D. from the UCLA School of Law. Williams' greatest pride comes from his two sons, Brinton & Braxton.

Panel Discussion: Diversion & Transitions from Custody to Community



Paul David Smith

Senior Human Relations Consultant, L.A. County Commission on Human Relations

Paul Smith is an educator, researcher & community advocate. He currently serves as a Senior Human Relations Consultant at the L.A. County Human Relations Commission, where he brings knowledge & experience to the Transformative Justice Team. His extensive field expertise & portfolio of partners empowers him to advance police legitimacy, reconciliation & trust building.

Paul previously served as the Director of Legitimacy & Reconciliation at the National Network for Safe Communities at John Jay College in New York City. There, Paul led high-profile projects addressing community violence & safety such as the implementation of the City of Chicago's Violence Reduction Strategies. Paul's journey in public safety work began in the City of Chattanooga, TN where he served as the Public Safety Coordinator & before that, as the Executive Principal of The Howard School. He is currently a doctoral candidate in the Leadership Studies program at Johnson University in Knoxville, TN with a dissertation focus on community-based violence prevention, & he is a proud member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.



Doug Haubert

City Prosecutor, City of Long Beach

A skilled attorney with 23 years of experience as a civil & criminal prosecutor, Doug Haubert was elected Long Beach City Prosecutor in 2010 & re-elected in 2014, 2018 & 2022. As City Prosecutor, he started Long Beach's Gang Prevention Strategy, a three-part approach to reducing gang involvement by youth while assisting former gang members with social services. In addition to reducing gang violence, he is recognized as a national leader in court diversion programs & alternative sentencing programs.

Haubert started Priority Access Diversion, a program that provides residential treatment for people suffering from substance abuse & mental illness who agree to services. Later, he partnered with L.A. County to initiate California's first Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) pilot program to provide housing & supportive services to people with severe addiction issues. He also launched the nation's first jobs-based diversion program, called "Promising Adults, Tomorrow's Hope" (PATH), which moves first-time offenders aged 18-24 into jobs & work-readiness programs. City Prosecutor Haubert received a B.A. in Political Science from U.C. Santa Barbara & a J.D. with Distinction from University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law.



Gina Eachus

Acting Director, Office of Adult Programs, Justice, Care & Opportunities Department

At the Justice, Care & Opportunities Department, Ms. Eachus oversees prevention, pretrial, diversion & reentry programs, Care First Community Investment, Incubation Academy & the Jail Closure Implementation Team. Previously, she worked in the Chief Executive Office in the Alternatives to Incarceration Office & on the Jail Closure Implementation Team.

Gina's County career started in the Office of the County Counsel where she advised on pretrial reform efforts as a co-lead of the Bail Reform Team. She also represented the Department of Children & Family Services & served as counsel to the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk on all recording & election matters. Gina advised on Measure J, redistricting & the Public Records Act. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science & English Literature graduating magna cum laude from Seton Hill University & received her J.D., magna cum laude from Duquesne University School of Law, where she was the Research Editor for the Duquesne Law Review. Prior to joining County Counsel, Ms. Eachus worked for an employment law firm representing labor unions.



Fernando Rejón

Executive Director, Urban Peace Institute

Fernando Rejón serves as executive director after building the Urban Peace Institute agenda for over a decade. In 2008, he began his work to build the Urban Peace Academy as a platform to train gang intervention/street outreach workers, law enforcement, community stakeholders & public officials on implementing violence reduction strategies focused on redefining community safety & health.

Over the years, he has trained thousands of leaders nationally on the role of gang intervention & the development of non-traditional community safety strategies. He has trained & advised law enforcement agencies across the country on creating safety through innovative strategies that increase public trust & leverage investment in building neighborhood-level leadership.

He is a current & founding advisory board member of the National Gang Conference in Los Angeles & has presented at number of universities such as UCLA, NYU Law School, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, Cal State Northridge & Claremont McKenna College on gangs, violence reduction & non-adversarial policing strategies. He holds a B.A. in Sociology & Communication Studies from the University of San Diego, M.A. in Chican@ Studies from California State University, Northridge & certificate from the Stanford Graduate School of Business Executive Program for Non-Profit Leaders.



Lisa Small

Director of Youth & Transformative Justice, Liberty Hill

At the Liberty Hill Foundation, Lisa Small directs two initiatives that are reshaping the landscape of youth justice & youth development. At the forefront of the Ready to Rise program, a 3-year, \$40 million public-private partnership, Lisa is committed to advancing positive youth development & supporting the most high-need children. This program has touched the lives of 25,000 children in the past three years, making a significant impact.

Lisa also leads the Liberation Fund, a pioneering effort aimed at ending the incarceration of girls & gender-expansive youth, championing their rights & well-being. Lisa has also held the position of Senior Manager of Smart Justice at the L.A. Area Chamber of Commerce, where she led initiatives to dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline. Lisa Small holds a Master of Social Work & a Master of Public Administration from USC. She also obtained bachelor's degrees in sociology & Chicano studies from the UC Davis.

Introduction to Keynote Speaker



Wendelyn (Wende) Julien

Executive Director, L.A. County Probation Oversight Commission

In 2021 as the Commission's first Executive Director, Wende launched the commission, the first body of its kind in the nation. She oversees the nine-person citizen commission & team of staff tasked with guiding & enforcing reform & culture change in the nation's largest probation department in alignment with the "Care First, Jails Last" vision. She previously served as CEO of Court Appointed Special Advocates of L.A. and the Executive Director of the California Conference for Equality & Justice.

An attorney who worked at Manatt, Phelps & Phillips & as a law clerk with Public Counsel, Wende holds a J.D. from USC, an M.P.A. from Arizona State & a B.A./B.S. from University of Arizona. Wende began her career as a community organizer & remains dedicated to the belief that communities know what they need, & that community safety comes through healing, equity & access to resources. Fluent in Spanish, Wende is a certified mediator & restorative justice practitioner. Her proudest title is that of mom/stepmom/auntie/mentor to an incredible crew.

Keynote Speaker



Romarilyn Ralston

Executive Director, Cal State Fullerton Project Rebound

Romarilyn Ralston is the Executive Director of Project Rebound, a program designed to support the higher education & successful reintegration of formerly incarcerated individuals. After serving 23 years in prison, she earned a bachelor's degree with Honors in Gender & Feminist Studies from Pitzer College. She went on to achieve a master's degree in liberal arts from Washington University in St. Louis.

Romarilyn has also completed several fellowships: CORO Fellowship in Public Affairs, Women's (Solis) Policy Institute, Napier Fellowship for Peace & Justice, Leading with Conviction Fellowship & Galaxy Gives.

Romarilyn is a long-time member & organizer with the California Coalition for Women Prisoners. One of her most significant achievements came in 2022, when she received a full pardon from Governor Gavin Newsom. Her story is a testament to her resilience & commitment to building power, sharing space & transforming lives through education & social justice.



Dara Williams

Chief Deputy, L.A. County Office of Inspector General

Dara Williams is the Chief Deputy, Inspector General at the Los Angeles County Office of Inspector General.

Prior to joining the Inspector General's office, Ms. Williams was a deputy district attorney with the L.A. County District Attorney's Office for 25 years. While assigned as the Deputy-in-Charge of the

District Attorney's Inglewood Juvenile Office, Ms. Williams served on multiple School Attendance Review Boards.

Ms. Williams previously served for multiple terms on the Palisades Charter High School Board of Trustees, where she served as the Chair of the Board from 2021 to 2022.



Jewel Forbes

Project Director II, Community Health & Safe Schools, L.A. County Office of Education (LACOE)

Jewel Forbes has worked in student services & education for over twenty-five years. She serves as the lead for school counseling, school-based mental health & violence prevention. As a part of the Mental Health & School Counseling Unit, Jewel Forbes serves as the co-chair for the following countywide

committees: The L.A. County Suicide Prevention in Schools Workgroup, the L.A. County Network Against Hate Crime & the L.A. vs Hate in Schools Workgroup.

Jewel also serves on the Office of Violence Prevention Leadership Team & the Trauma Prevention Initiative Leadership Team. In her role at LACOE, Jewel provides technical assistance & support to the 80 school districts in L.A. County including the areas of mental health, school counseling & violence prevention. She also supports the human trafficking efforts at the L.A. County Office of Education & oversees the Human Trafficking Youth Prevention Education (HTYPE) Human Trafficking Grant Funding.



Steven Zipperman

Chief of Police, Los Angeles School Police Department

Chief Zipperman is a 43-year law enforcement/public safety veteran who has served 11 years with the Los Angeles Unified School District as Chief of Police. He is responsible for the oversight of 390 staff to provide services covering 710 square miles, serving 1,100 schools, attended by 575,000 K-12 & Adult Education students.

He also served 32 years with the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD). Reaching the rank of Captain III during his tenure at LAPD, he worked numerous assignments including patrol, vice, narcotics, internal affairs & special response units. He held the positions of Officer in Charge of Mounted Platoon, K-9 Platoon & Assistant Officer in Charge of the Special Weapons & Tactics Platoon (SWAT). As an LAPD Command Officer, he also held positions in various police divisions throughout LAPD.

Chief Zipperman holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice & a master's degree in organizational leadership. He remains an active presenter/facilitator of various leadership development programs, critical incident management & response seminars & is a member of various professional public safety organizations.



Mikalah Rahn

Founder & CEO, Learning Works Charter School

Dr. Rahn has always held strongly to the belief that education is one of the things that defines a person & shapes who they become. With that principle in mind, in 2018, she founded Learning Works Charter School, which focuses on the needs of students the mainstream educational system cannot address: dropouts, probation youth & pregnant & parenting teens. Using a core set of principles & unique tools,

Learning Works Charter School has succeeded in stemming the tide of dropouts like few others have. The school serves 350 of the highest risk youth at both the Pasadena main campus & satellite site at Homeboy Industries in Boyle Heights. The school has graduated 999 students to date with a high school diploma & reduced Pasadena Unified School District dropout rate from 24.6% to 9.4%.

She is also the Chief of Research, Evaluation & Strategy at Homeboy Industries & leads all research & evaluation efforts to improve the program internally & report to outside sources. She started the Homeboy Industries Youth Re-entry Center.

Dr. Rahn has a Ph.D. Education-Policy Studies, M.A. Education Administration & M.A. Political Science from University of California, Berkeley & a B.A. Communications, University of California, San Diego.



Ricardo Ortega Martinez Jr.

Youth Commission Member

Ricardo Ortega Martinez Jr. is a Peer Advocate with the Children's Law Center of California. He serves as an inaugural L.A. County Youth Commissioner & on the California Youth Connection Member Executive Commission. He previously served as a member of the Mental Health Board for Transitional Age Youth in California, the Civil Service Commission in the City of Huntington Park & the Immigration Commission.

In 2017, Ricardo was officially recognized as a Young Senator, by State Senator Ricardo Lara for successfully completing the 33rd Senate District Young Senators Program. At the age of 17, Ricardo worked on AB 2247-Place to Call Home, creating stability for foster youth placements across California. At the age of 20, Ricardo worked on AB 46-California Youth Empowerment Commission, which provided a unique opportunity for California's youth to participate in civic engagement.

Ricardo served as California Youth Connection L.A. Chapter President. Through an early employment opportunity, he worked with the Chamber of Commerce in the cities of Florence-Firestone, Walnut Park & Lynwood.



Jamon Hicks

Vice Chair, Civilian Oversight Commission

Jamon R. Hicks is a Partner at Douglas / Hicks Law, APC in Los Angeles, California. He joined the firm as a name partner after spending four years as a Senior Associate with the Cochran Firm. Jamon also worked for six years at the Law Offices of Carl E. Douglas representing both plaintiffs & defendants, in civil & criminal cases, in state & federal courts. He is a trial lawyer extraordinaire.

Mr. Hicks' civil litigation experience involves civil rights, wrongful death, catastrophic personal injury, employment & police misconduct cases. He also has tried numerous felony & misdemeanor criminal cases to verdict including murder, driving under the influence & drug & gun possession charges.

In addition to practicing law, Mr. Hicks was hired as the youngest member of the adjunct faculty at Loyola Law School as a Trial Advocacy Professor. He is also an adjunct professor at West L.A. Law School, where he teaches classes on Evidence. Mr. Hicks also participates on & helps organize numerous panels on criminal law, professional development & other issues relevant to the legal community at various L.A. area law schools & community organizations. Mr. Hicks serves on various professional, educational & community boards.

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Let's talk! #CommunityPolicing #CivilianOversight

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This conference has been designed by a joint planning committee of the L.A. County Civilian Oversight Commission, the Probation Oversight Commission, the Human Relations Commission, the Department of Youth Development & the Department of Public Health.



**PROBATION
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COMMISSION**
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COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
Public Health