



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL**

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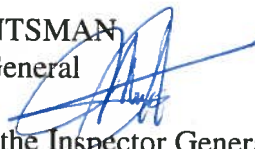
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MAX HUNTSMAN
INSPECTOR GENERAL

June 19, 2015

TO: SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH, Mayor
SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS
SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
SUPERVISOR SHEILA KUEHL
SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

FROM: MAX HUNTSMAN
Inspector General 

RE: Reports by the Inspector General

Enclosed please find the Office of Inspector General's QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL: First Quarter 2015.

If you have any questions concerning this report, please contact me at (213) 974-6100.

Enclosure

c: Jim McDonnell, Sheriff

Sachi A. Hamai
Chief Executive Officer

Patrick Ogawa, Executive Officer
Board of Supervisors

Mary Conway Wickham
County Counsel (Acting)

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL**

**QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL:
First Quarter 2015**

**MAX HUNTSMAN
INSPECTOR GENERAL**

June 19, 2015

Reporting

This quarter, the Office of Inspector General presented the following reports to the Board of Supervisors:

January 20, 2015 2014 Fourth Quarter Status Report: The Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Implementation of The Citizens' Commission on Jail Violence Recommendations

January 20, 2015 Quarterly Report of the Office of Inspector General: Fourth Quarter 2014

Also presented this quarter, but prepared in December of 2014, was the December 31, 2014, Recommendation to Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department for Public Data Disclosure. In response to this report the Department has committed to data transparency and is working toward making meaningful data available on a publicly-accessible web site. The OIG is monitoring the Department's progress in fulfilling this commitment.

The OIG prepared for presentation to the Board of Supervisors and the Department the 2015 First Quarter Status Report: The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Implementation of The Citizens' Commission on Jail Violence Recommendations, subsequently presented to the Board on May 5, 2015.

Oversight Activities

Monitoring of the jails is an OIG priority. Prior to obtaining unescorted access to jail facilities, OIG staff attended and evaluated the Sheriff's Department's jail orientation. As of February 4, all OIG staff had completed this orientation and the OIG now has unescorted access to all Los Angeles County jail facilities.

The OIG has regularly visited each Los Angeles County jail facility. This quarter, OIG staff conducted 18 jail inspections. During inspections OIG staff interviewed

prisoners and inspected housing conditions in general population, administrative segregation, disciplinary and mental health housing. OIG staff continued to conduct regular interviews of deputies, custody assistants, supervisors and commanders throughout the Department's Custody Division.

As part of its jail monitoring program, OIG staff responds to investigations of in-custody deaths, reported uses of significant force and major disturbances. This quarter the OIG responded to the investigation of one murder and one major disturbance, each at Men's Central Jail.

In addition to the OIG's regular monitoring activity, OIG staff responded to jails on eight occasions to look into specific complaints requiring immediate attention which were received from prisoners, prisoners' friends and families, and community organizations regarding conditions of confinement or treatment by custody staff. During these visits, OIG staff interviewed the prisoners, line personnel and command staff.

Monitoring of patrol activities is an important activity of the OIG. OIG staff responds to the investigation of deaths of persons which occur while in the custody of the LASD, all deputy-involved shootings, all uses of force which are the proximate cause of a person's death, and other significant events.

This past quarter, the OIG responded to the investigation of twelve deputy-involved shootings. In seven of those shootings no one was struck by the gunshots. Five of the shootings resulted in injuries and, in two cases, the injuries caused death. The persons at whom the shots were fired were all male, four were Hispanic or Latino, three were African American, two were white and three were of undetermined race and ethnicity.

Deputy-involved shootings in the first quarter of 2015 trended higher than the same quarter in 2014, which saw eight deputy-involved shootings. However, in 2014 there were 36 deputy-involved shootings, down from 44 shootings in 2013 and 50 shootings in 2012. Of the eight shootings in the first quarter of 2014, six resulted in injury or death and, in two of these shootings, no one was struck by the gunfire.

This quarter the OIG expanded its community liaison activities. OIG staff attended Patrol Division staff meetings at the Temple and the Malibu/Lost Hills stations, and the Community/Law Enforcement Partnership Program. OIG staff also accompanied patrol deputies from the Compton, Temple City and Lancaster stations on patrol.

As part of the OIG's oversight of Sheriff Department operations OIG attended the Department's Critical Incident Reviews and meetings of the Executive Force Review Committee, Custody Force Review Committee and Death Review Committee. OIG staff have also been working with Department personnel to implement the Sheriff's Department data transparency program and to evaluate the efficacy of body worn cameras by deputies.

The OIG received 99 new complaints this quarter from members of the public, prisoners, prisoners' family members and friends and community organizations. Each complaint was reviewed by OIG staff. During this quarter, 68 complaints were referred to the appropriate Sheriff Department bureau or division, 22 were resolved by the OIG and nine were referred to other agencies.

Fifty-nine of these complaints were related to the conditions of confinement within the Department's custody facilities:

Complaint/Incident Classification	Totals
Personnel Issue	13
<i>Use of Force</i>	3
<i>Other complaints</i>	10
Medical Issue	17
Housing Issue	4
Immediate Safety Need	3
Mental Health Issue	4
Physical Plant Issue	3
Dietary Issue	2
Other Service Issue	13
TOTAL	59

Twenty six complaints were related to civilian contacts with Department personnel by persons who were not in custody:

Complaint/Incident Classification	Totals
Personnel Issue	12
<i>Use of Force</i>	3
<i>Other complaints</i>	9
Other Service Issue	14
TOTAL	26

Five complaints were not categorized: four because the complainants would not state the nature of the complaint because they did not want the complaint referred to the Department and one because the nature of the complaint was not discernable and the OIG was unable to contact the complainant. Nine complaints were not about the Department and were referred to other agencies.

Community outreach is an important part of the OIG's activities. OIG staff attended meetings of the Public Safety & Justice Committee of the Empowerment Congress. OIG staff members met twice with the lead organizers of the Coalition to End Sheriff Violence in LA Jails and spoke at local community organization meetings and

individually to community members and heard concerns about Department personnel and practices. OIG staff attended monthly meetings of the National Association of Equal Justice in America in Compton and the monthly meetings of the Countywide Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee.

The Inspector General is a member of the Civilian Oversight Commission Working Group, established by the Board of Supervisors to make recommendations for the oversight commission's mission, authority, size, structure and relationship to the offices of the Sheriff and Inspector General. The Inspector General assisted in coordinating nine community meetings of the Working Group, and provided interpreter services at a number of those community meetings.

The Inspector General also hosted monthly meetings with the Youth Justice Coalition at which members of the Coalition aired the concerns of their community to the Inspector General personally.

Implementation Activities

Personnel recruitment and selection has almost been completed. After engaging in an aggressive campaign to identify and recruit high quality candidates for the investigative positions within the OIG, the OIG hired as Inspectors Jose Soltero, a forensic auditor who joined the OIG on January 5, 2015, from the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, Bureau of Investigation; Lili Surber, a former Chief of Police with the City of Baldwin Park who joined the office on January 5, 2015; John Torres, who joined the office on January 20, 2015, from his retirement as Deputy Assistant Director, Office of Strategic Intelligence and Information from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

A desirable candidate for the vacant monitoring position (Investigator II) was identified and upon successful completion of the OIG's rigorous background check was offered a position. LaDonna Jackson subsequently accepted the OIG offer and joined the office on April 22. Ms. Jackson was recruited from the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services.

Personnel training and development is critical to the ongoing efficacy of the OIG. The OIG was certified by the State Bar as a provider of continuing legal education for four internal training programs developed for OIG attorneys, Inspectors and Investigators: Ethical Issues in Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement Agencies; California Legal Authority for Civilian Oversight of Sheriff's Departments in California; The Law Involved in Use of Deadly Force; and Video and Photographic Evidence.

Database design and development continued this quarter. OIG staff has developed with the assistance of the Executive Office's Information Resource Management team a database for tracking Department and OIG activity. The IRM team demonstrated and installed a test version of the data base in January, and testing continued through the quarter. The target date for full implementation is June 15, 2015.