



## COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS

### LOS ANGELES COUNTY

*"Enriching lives through effective and caring service"*

#### Human Relations Commissioners

Guadalupe G. Montañó, Ed.D.  
**President**

Ilan Davidson  
**Vice President/Secretary**

Derric Johnson  
Fredrick Sykes  
Sandra E. Thomas, Ph.D.  
**Vice Presidents**

Michael Gi-Hao Cheung  
Helen L. Chin  
Adrian Dove  
Porter Gilbert  
Isabelle Gunning, Esq.  
Kevork Keushkerian  
Preeti P. Kulkarni  
Jeanette Ellis-Royston  
Gay Q. Yuen, Ph.D.

**Honorary Member**  
Philip R. Valera  
-----

**Human Relations Staff**  
Robin S. Toma, Esq.  
**Executive Director**  
  
Robert Sowell  
**Assistant Executive Director**

**Intergroup Relations  
Specialists**  
Pierre Arreola  
Roland Gilbert  
April Johnson  
Monica Lomeli  
Josh Parr  
Gustavo Partida  
Fidel Rodriguez  
Terri Villa-McDowell  
Marshall Wong

**Administrative Staff**  
Grace Löwenberg  
Siranush Vardanyan  
Sharon Williams

**Board of Supervisors**  
Holly J. Mitchell, Chair

*Second District*

**Hilda Solis**

*First District*

*Second District*

**Sheila Kuehl**

*Third District*

**Janice Hahn**

*Fourth District*

**Kathryn Barger**

*Fifth District*

**Fesia Davenport**

**Chief Executive Officer**

March 4, 2022

### MEMORANDUM TO THE COMMISSIONERS

FROM: Guadalupe Montañó, President

SUBJECT: Commission Meeting- **Monday**, March 7, 2022

Our Commission will meet **virtually** on Monday, March 7, 2022 at 12:30 p.m., Via Microsoft Teams Video and Audio Conferencing call. To participate in the meeting, **please open your Teams Calendar Invitation and [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)**. If you are unable to do so, you may Dial: **(323) 776-6996; ID#: 706 244 576#**.

Attached is the Agenda, Draft Minutes of February 7, 2022 and other pertinent information for your review and approval.

If you are unable to join the meeting, please call Grace Löwenberg at (213) 639-6089 no later than 9:00 a.m., Monday, March 7th.

**Ad Hoc Committee on Policing and Human Relations** will meet prior to Commission meeting, via Teams Conference Call Jan. 3rd from 10:00-11:30 am.

**Members:** Commissioner Isabelle Gunning, Chair, Preeti Kulkarni, Derric Johnson, Jeanette Ellis-Royston, Fredrick Sykes, and Sandra Thomas.  
**Staff:** Robert Sowell, Joshua Parr, and Pierre Arreola

### **Join Microsoft Teams Meeting**

<https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3a735b6f58efac421e973dfc6dfbd0635c%40thread.skype/1585173368151?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2207597248-ea38-451b-8abe-a638eddbac81%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%2201fc131f-f486-4848-9bf5-ffffbedfd706%22%7d>

1 323-776-6996 Conference ID: 706 244 576#



Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations 510 W. Vermont Avenue,  
Los Angeles, CA 90020 (213) 738-2788

## AGENDA MEETING OF THE COMMISSION/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Monday, March 7, 2022 – 12:30-2:00 pm

Via MS Teams Video and Audio Conferencing (323) 776-6996; ID#: 706-244-576

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

Our mission: to transform prejudice into acceptance, inequity into justice, and hostility into peace

1. **Call to Order** (12:30)
2. **Motion** finding a state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person, and/or state or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.
3. **Review & Approval of February 7, 2022 Meeting Minutes\*** (12:33)
4. **President's Report** (12:35)
  - 4.1. Spotlight on a Commissioner
5. **Executive Director's Report** (12:45)
  - 5.1. Update on IT, hiring and staff transition to the Executive Office
  - 5.2. Vaccination, scanning and Form 700 requirements
6. **Committee Reports** (12:55)
  - 6.1. Ad Hoc Committee on Policing and Human Relations
  - 6.2. Ad Hoc Committee on Strategic Planning
  - 6.3. Policy and Advocacy Committee
  - 6.4. John Anson Fords (JAF) Awards Committee
  - 6.5. IAOHRA Conference in LA Committee
7. **Public Comment** (3 minutes per person) (1:05)
8. **Action/Discussion Items** (1:10)
  - 8.1. Strategic Planning
  - 8.2. *LA vs. Hate* Update: ARPA milestone, Action Committee and other items\*
  - 8.3. Accountability in policing
  - 8.4. IAOHRA national conference in LA Summer 2022
  - 8.5. Committee membership changes
  - 8.6. Facebook and Instagram algorithms and impact on intergroup relations
  - 8.7. Growing incivility in social interactions
9. **Commissioner Announcements** (2 minutes per Commissioner) (1:55)
10. **Adjournment** (2:00)

*For translation to other languages o para más información en español, call: (213) 738-2788.*

\* Denotes that this agenda packet includes written material regarding the agenda item.

Meetings are held in English. If interpretation in other languages or accommodations for persons with disabilities are needed, please contact the Commission at (213) 738-7288 at least 3 business days before the meeting. The meetings of the Human Relations Commission are accessible to persons with disabilities.

[PROPOSED] MINUTES  
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS  
Meeting of February 7, 2022  
Via Microsoft Teams Video & Audio Conferencing

PRESENT: Michael Cheung  
Helen Chin  
Ilan Davidson  
Adrian Dove  
Jeanette Ellis-Royston  
Porter Gilberg  
Isabelle Gunning  
Derric Johnson

Kevork Keushkerian  
Preeti Kulkarni  
Guadalupe Montaña  
Fredrick Sykes  
Sandra Thomas  
Gay Q. Yuen

STAFF: Robin Toma  
Robert Sowell

Grace Löwenberg  
Siranush Vardanyan

1. **Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement of Indigenous Peoples:** Commission President Guadalupe Montaña called the meeting to order at 12:44 p.m. with a quorum in attendance. She acknowledged the indigenous peoples who were the first stewards of the lands on which we reside in our county.
2. **Motion:** The Commission finds that a state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person, and/or state or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing. Commissioner Preeti Kulkarni made the motion as stated, and Commissioner Isabelle Gunning seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
3. **Review & Approval of January 3, 2022 Meeting Minutes:** It was moved by Commissioner Kulkarni and seconded by Vice-President/Secretary (VP Sec.) Ilan Davidson to approve the minutes of the Commission meeting of January 3, 2022, as presented by VP Sec. Davidson. The motion passed unanimously.
4. **President's Report**

**4.1 Spotlight on Commissioner/Staff:** LACCHR manager Theresa "Terri" Villa-McDowell shared updates on the American Program Recovery Act (ARP) program that are part of *LA vs Hate*, known as "Increasing Capacity to Address Pandemic Related Hate." We applied and received \$1 million, after several calls were made to the Board offices asking for help in neighborhoods. Ms. Villa-McDowell shared that a key component of the allocation is going to create Dream Resource Centers. The Asian Youth Center has six of these centers and with an allocation from the ARP funds, a seventh center will be started in El Monte. The school and community control these centers and these centers act as a safe space, providing peer-to-peer support. She shared that the key partner in these centers is the Helpline Youth Counseling, which was started over 50 years ago by parents whose children had emotional disturbances and has served the most vulnerable populations since. The ARP Project designs, peer counseling and peer mediation is going to be piloted working with some of the partnered agencies. Ms. Villa-McDowell stated that the partners are going to come in with volunteers and will have a youth leadership component, a health and wellness component, an art program to heal, peer mediation, peer counseling, bullying prevention, restorative justice, academic support- to name a few. She stated that hopefully, there will be cross training between the 7 new Dream Resource Centers that will launch, and many concerns were discussed with the teachers, who reported what they are seeing with students returning to school since the pandemic. She stated that the teacher's responses seemed to describe the classic symptoms of social isolation, and that the impact that COVID has had on these students can be seen by the increase in mental health referrals. She also shared that there will

also be a launch for law enforcement training because it seems as though some law enforcement and first responders are not responding appropriately to acts of hate. Executive Director (ED) Toma added that the CEO provided the plans for these projects to the Board and the Board approved these projects, and they are going through processes to ensure equity and that all federal requirements and guidelines are met. Commissioner Jeannette Ellis Royston shared that the public school system covers emotional learning and mental illness currently but recommended it to cover ethnic studies and life skills as part of the curriculum. ED Toma shared that this is one of the key parts of the policy work to have more inclusive curriculum in our schools.

**4.2 Commission member update:** President Montañó shared that due to redistricting, Commissioner Tonya McKenzie is no longer eligible to serve on the Commission as she no longer lives in the district. ED Toma shared that there was a letter sent to her by Supervisor Hahn informing her, and he suggested that the Commission invite her back to a meeting so that the Commission can thank her for her service and properly wish her farewell.

**5. Executive Director's Report:** ED Toma introduced Lorayne Lingat, the Assistant Executive Officer (AEO) from the Board of Supervisors. All individuals in the meeting briefly introduced themselves and welcomed AEO Lingat to the meeting.

**5.1 Next LA vs Hate Action Committee meeting:** ED Toma shared that the LA vs Hate Action Committee meeting is coming up and they are a great way to link to the community. He encouraged everyone to join in the virtual meetings.

**5.2 Update on Commission's budget, staffing, and new location in County Organizational Structure:** ED Toma moved on to briefly share that currently, we are working on determining the budget for the next fiscal year, July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. ED Toma stated that in terms of staffing, the Human Relations Commission (HRC) was at last successful in getting Staff McDowell re-hired as a former retiree. Additionally, with the movement from WDACS to the Board office, HRC was able to recover some positions and promote Marshall Wong to the HSA I position, shift Dr. Monica Lomeli to the Policing and Human Relations work, in addition to moving to replace manager Ray Regalado, who has just retired. There will be 2-3 vacancies to be filled. ED Toma continued to share that HRC staff will continue to remain working from home; however, the decision of the CEO is to physically have HRC remain in the current office location at least until the end of the fiscal year. Once it has been determined that physical meetings can be held, meetings will take place at 510 South Vermont. Commissioner Kulkarni asked whether county Commissions are able to meet online instead or a hybrid situation since there is a larger turnout with online meetings. ED Toma shared that under the current state laws on open meetings, when the emergency ceases to exist, commissions can continue to meet remotely as long as they make their offsite location accessible to the public. AEO Lingat agreed with ED Toma and stated that once we return to the office, many of the Commissions will continue to give the ability to join remotely, however Commissioners will be required to post their location address and allow for members of the public to join those locations if they choose to do so, according to the Brown Act. AEO Lingat shared that there may be satellite sites for Commissioners, but that the Board Office is still working on potential locations with the library and legislative teams.

**5.3 Dream Resource Centers and Challenges:** Item was discussed in 5.1 previously by Ms. McDowell.

## **6. Committee Reports**

**6.1 Ad Hoc Committee on Policing & Human Relations:** Committee Chair Commissioner Isabelle Gunning began by stating that hopefully everyone had an opportunity to look at the Racial Identity Profiling Act (RIPA) letter to the Deputy Attorney General about changes in rulemaking in the RIPA. The main goal is to make sure that our Commission's Policing and Human Relations report

lives on, so we have worked hard to be heard. The letter mentions and discusses RIPA and recommends an increase of the amount of data and information that the public can access. Commissioner Gunning shared that the Civilian Oversight Commission (COC) has asked the public to comment on the Sheriff's budgetary priorities. The Sheriff has three top budgetary priorities, which are the Homeless Outreach/Service Teams (HOT), Mental Evaluation Teams (MET), and the Youth Activity League (YAL) programs. The COC was asked to say yes, no, or unsure to each of these teams. After discussion about our budgetary items, the COC said "yes" to the HOT and MET, and "unsure" on YAL. Commissioner Gunning shared that the goal is not to allow the YAL program to be used as an excuse to criminalize this population, and there will be comments made on what the expectations are. The intent will be to share why the committee is "unsure" of YAL- there is pressure to say yes because these programs are in areas where there are no other afterschool programs. Commissioner Gunning explained that the request is that the COC wants to know how effective these programs are. As for the public comment, we would like to add the other budget priorities that the COC had not listed. We disagreed with the Sheriff's desire to get back some money that has been put on hold, and we ask for transparency about what they will be using the money for. Additionally, we need to discuss the use of body cameras and our feeling that the MET program is being underfunded. Lastly, we request that there be additional staffing to respond to Public Records Act requests.

**6.2 Ad Hoc Committee on Strategic Planning:** Commissioner Kulkarni shared that two meetings were held in January, and both had great attendance. The first meeting was about the SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) analysis, and the second meeting was about our Vision, Mission, Values, the Ordinance, and what our current Strategic Plan holds. We are currently scheduling a third session for the Strategic Plan session. ED Toma joined to share that based on commissioner availability, the third session will be held on Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup> from 11am to 1pm.

**6.3 John Anson Ford (JAF) Awards Committee:** Committee Chair Ilan Davidson enthusiastically thanked everyone for participation and their work on this event, which he and other commissioners viewed as a success.

**6.4 IAOHRA 2022 Conference Committee:** Item was tabled to the next meeting without objection.

**7. Public Comment:** None

**8. Action/Discussion Items**

**8.1 Strategic Planning Issues and Timeline:** Previously discussed in item 6.2.

**8.2 LA vs. Hate Update:** ED Toma referenced the earlier presentation by Ms. Villa-McDowell and said there will be documents shared on this.

**8.3 Racial Profiling Submission ratification or approval** President Montaña invited that a motion be made for approval and ratification of the Racial Profiling submission. Commissioner Kulkarni made the motion as stated, and Commissioner Davidson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**8.4 Federal ARP funding for Addressing Pandemic-caused Harms via LA vs Hate-** Item was tabled to the next meeting without objection.

**8.5 Facebook and Instagram impact on hate activity and human relations** ED Toma mentioned that an article on this was previously shared, and asked commissioners to consider how we are going to combat this. The item was tabled to the next meeting without objection.

- 9. Commissioner Announcements:** Commissioner Gay Yuen wished everyone a happy Lunar New Year. President Montañó stated that she will be calling for a meeting for the Policy and Advocacy Committee and to look for an invitation.
- 10. Adjournment:** President Montañó adjourned the meeting in memory of Sidney Poitier, first Black to receive an Oscar for Best Actor; and Lusia Harris, first Black woman to be inducted into NBA Hall of Fame. Without objection, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ilan Davidson  
Commission Vice President-Secretary

## *LA vs Hate* Accomplishments 2019-2021

- Over 1,600 reports of hate were called into 211-LA during the 29 months it has been in operation\*
- Everyone (over 1,300) who requests help, gets free help in healing from trauma. Services can include referrals to counseling; housing; legal assistance; crime victims services; support during civil remedies procedures
- LA vs Hate Action Committee has 4 working groups: Strategic Partnerships; Policy; Education; Online Hate
- From June 2020 – June 2021, digital art of 500+ GIFS and digital stickers were created -- the LA vs Hate artwork has been **viewed 460 million times**, and **shared 88 million+ times** (e.g., via FaceBook, Instagram, etc.)
- 5 solidarity events launched – from sandcastle intervention to four public murals countywide
- United Against Hate Week is now a countywide annual event promoting education, healing, and solidarity
- Policy accomplishments include: sending 211-LA data to policymakers noting children are often witnesses to hate; working with business leaders to improve business practices, such as offering bystander training or posting LA vs Hate signage; placing anti-hate murals in different SDs; helping city governments to prevent hate
- QPC grant funds community-led interventions as a way to heal from hate. So far, API/Black Youth Intergroup Solidarity; Tataviam Mission Indian families' histories; No Easy Props, workshop on use of hip hop to heal.
- Upcoming ARPA-funded projects include: 7 Dream Resource Centers; first responder trainings; sustaining  
211-LA case management services plus adding 6 Asian languages, and  
evaluating all ARPA-funded projects



The background is a solid blue gradient. Overlaid on this are several thin, white, curved lines that flow from the left side towards the right, creating a sense of movement and depth. These lines are more densely packed in some areas, forming peaks and valleys.

# ARPA FUNDED PROJECTS COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS LA VS HATE



# WHAT WILL THE ARPA FUNDED LACCHR PROGRAMS DO?

## **Seven Dream Resource Centers.**

Dream Resource Centers serve as safe spaces within schools, providing academic supports, social emotional wellness strategies, peer counseling or peer mediation, community cupboards with food, school supplies, hygiene supplies. Teacher allies help youth operate the Centers, and serve as models for developing culturally competent teaching moments that develop social justice leaders.

Fedd Middle School in Hawaiian Gardens; La Puente High; El Monte High; Norwalk High; Vail High in Norwalk; Firebaugh High in Lynwood; Diamond Bar High—all but Diamond Bar High are in Highest to High COVID Needs Tier Index.

Subrecipients for contracts to operationalize these Centers: Helpline Youth

211LA contract, to provide two fulltime bilingual case managers & a fulltime program coordinator for case management continues. Asian Americans Advancing Justice LA contract provides 6 bilingual care coordinators, trained to work with 2-11 LA case managers, providing assistance-in language as healing from the trauma of hate continues.





# Law Enforcement, Security Forces Outreach & Training

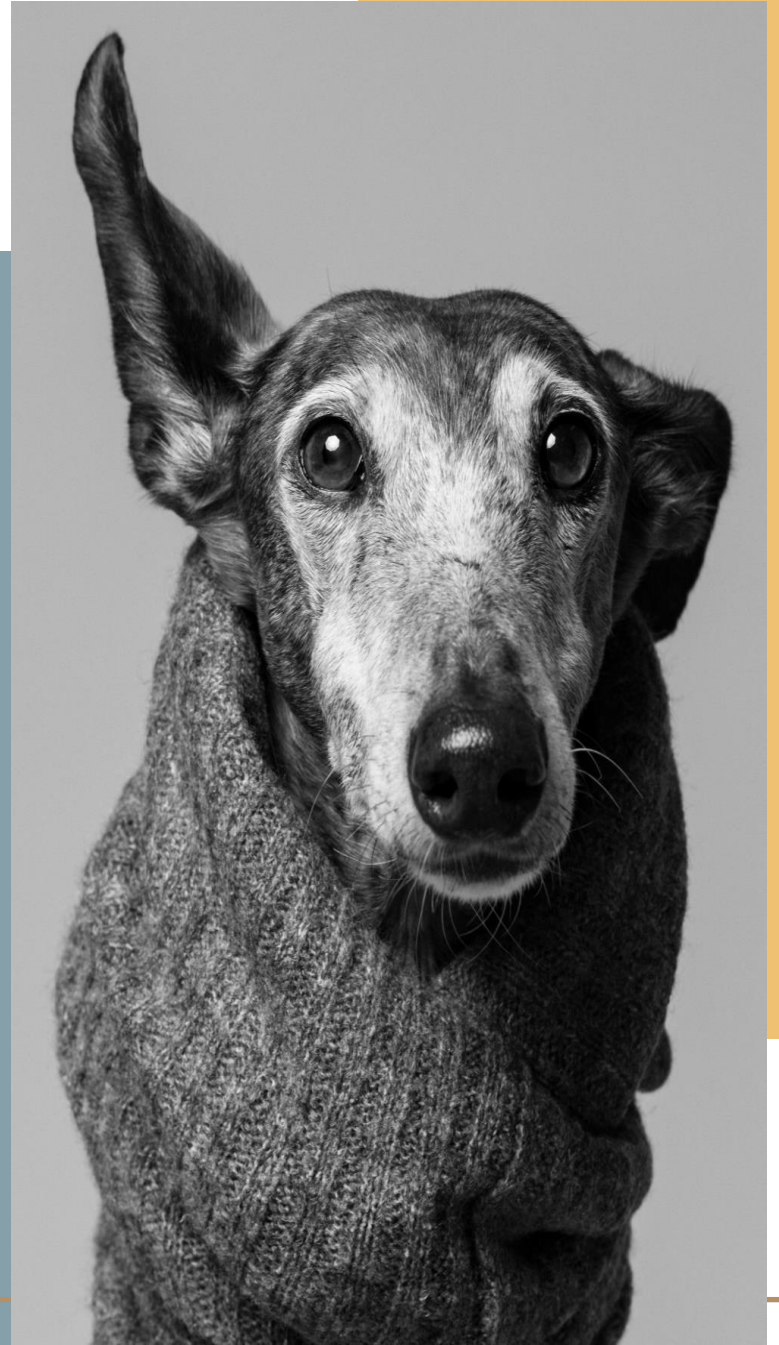
Data from 211 calls indicate that law enforcement or first responders sometimes treat victims of hate with little compassion or empathy. A series of short “reminder” trainings, led by a celebrity, will be produced and promoted through law enforcement partners. Contract with TaskForceLC to create, distribute trainings.



# OUTSIDE EVALUATION

A contract with Vital Research, LLC, will provide a detailed analysis of the efficacy of these programs. Also, one of the key components of the Dream Resource Centers is a sign in system that asks students why they are visiting the Center and what services they need. The evaluation will use this sign in system to determine number and types of students served; services provided and additional services needed.







Los Angeles County

# Commission on Human Relations

Department of Workforce Development, Aging Community Services

3175 West Sixth Street, Suite 406

(213) 738-2788

Los Angeles, CA 90020

---

## **Ad Hoc Committee on Policing & Human Relations**

Meeting Notice

Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Microsoft Teams

Teleconference Meeting

Los Angeles County, CA

**Members:** Commissioners Isabelle Gunning, Sandra Thomas, Preeti Kulkarni,  
Fredrick Sykes, Derric Johnson, Jeanette Ellis-Royston

**Staff:** Robin Toma, Robert Sowell, Monica Lomeli, Pierre Arreola,  
Joshua Parr

## **AGENDA**

1. Topics of Interest – **60 Minutes**
  - a. LASD Budget Comments
  - b. Check the Sheriff Coalition
  - c. Coalition for a Better LA
2. County Updates – **10 Minutes**
  - a. Public Safety Cluster
  - b. Alternative Crisis Response Convenings
  - c. Care First Community Investment Initiative



- d. Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee

3. Project Updates – **15 Minutes**

- a. My Tribe Rise
- b. Care First South Pasadena
- c. City of Long Beach
- d. CAT 911 SFV

4. Future Business – **5 Minutes**

- a. Current Events