



Written Public Comment

Provided for the July 25, 2022 Meeting
of the Los Angeles County Sheriff Civilian Oversight
Commission as of 7/25/2022 at 5:00pm.

To submit written public comment for the official meeting
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Name	Provide your public comment below. Please do not share any sensitive personally identifiable information because this comment will be made public as part of the official meeting record.
Greg Allan	Coc accuses law enforcement of having gangs in their ranks proving that statement is so far un realized where's the statement s from law enforcement that gang members exist and their roll as a gang member 3 years of accuse ing law enforcement with no results is a abuse to law enforcement Coc established less than 5 years ago acquired supeona power and is useing that power to abuse law enforcement mr huntsmen has yet to prove anything. And mr Bonner wants to threaten men who protect and serve this Citizens threats to put people in jail that go to work every day and protect citizens is a outrageous abuse of your new found power let's remember all commissioner's are appointed and have a left wing bias that is against law enforcement enough is enough find some one to testify or close the door on this matter put up mr huntsmen or shut up and stop slandering the men and women of law enforcement
STEVE HILL	STEVE HILL I WOULD LIKE MY TWO MINUTES TO SPEAK ABOUT THE SHOT CALLER FOR THE LASD
Ryan Gierach	Sheriff Villanueva, you have consistently downplayed the reported existence of games operating inside your department. We know that you are up for election, so I would like to know what political benefit you see from stonewalling the public about the thugs in your employee.
	Anyone who is in American law enforcement is participating in an organization that comes from, and still conducts itself in the same manner as, "slave patrollers" and union busters. So, how can anyone with a conscience be a cop? If you are a cop, you are advancing a white supremacist imperial agenda, which explicitly does not include protecting citizens. Now that we have ample evidence of the LASD's participation in such activities, every refusal to be held accountable further confirms that you willfully uphold an inherently violent system. We've know for 93 years, when the first report came out on Chicago, that police are a problem. If you double down on this violence by also becoming part of an especially violent group within an inherently violent organization, you are surely among the most vile humans on the face of this planet, causing untold levels of harm. Maybe you thought you were doing the right thing, but there's no song called "F#ck the Fire Department" or "EMS Killer" for a good reason; you only join something like this torment and oppress others, presumably because you've got some serious emotional issues for which you do not yet have the tools to address with anything other than projection & violence. It's never too late to do the right thing and join the abolitionist movement; or, you can go down in history as being a variation of the KKK. Which will you chose, officers?
	It is disgusting that our taxes go to pay these employees to join gangs. What is even the point of these gangs? For them to feel superior to others? They already have the law backing them up even when they abuse those they supposedly serve and protect. I have heard police supporters, bootlickers, use the excuse that they are fighting fire with fire by fighting the gangs on the street with their own police gangs. How does that make any sense? LASD needs to be held to the same standard any other government employee would. Allowing them to have gangs, cliques, social clubs or whatever other term they want to use is ridiculous. They are supposed to serve a function of the government, not hang around intimidating and murdering people.
	We need an injunction on LASD gang members.
	Members of deputy gangs should be considered domestic terrorists. Law enforcement officers should be prohibited from joining deputy gangs, and any current gang members wanting to keep their tax-funded LEO jobs must pass a recertification process, affirm that they renounce gang membership, and remain in a probationary status for 2 years. A community oversight board must periodically audit each precinct to ensure that appropriate & equitable policing decisions are made, and that policy and chain of command are adhered to withhold undue influence from deputy gangs or other nefarious sources. Any LEO who already has identifying gang tattoos should have this information registered with LAPD/community oversight board, and these LEOs should be offered a reimbursement stipend for laser tattoo removal. Any LEOs who get gang tattoos in the future shall be terminated for affirming/promoting their gang affiliation.

In my lifetime, policing in Los Angeles has had many, many scandals. Now, with knowledge of the Sheriff Department's complicity and involvement in widespread gang activity I've lost faith in the institution of policing in this town entirely. I'm unconvinced that there's a single good apple in the whole bunch, because if there were, that officer would be speaking out against the lawless actions of their fellow deputies. The wall of silence and refusal to comply with legal oversight condemns them all. One thing Los Angeles does not need are unaccountable and lawless gangs terrorizing our community with impunity, all on our dime as taxpayers. Members of Canoga Park Alabama are my neighbors, no threat at all to me and my family living in the west valley. The greatest harm they cause is some graffiti. The LASD gangs, on the other hand, are a constant and persistent threat to me and my family's safety. If I saw a drug deal on my corner the last thing I'd do is call the police, because I don't need a rival gang member showing up armed with a firearm, legal immunity, and a chip on their shoulder; ready to turn my street into their warzone firing wildly and uncontrollably as is their tendency. I would never call 911 in this town for fear of getting myself or my daughter killed by the gangbanging agents of the state who might respond. In the words of Brendan Behan, "I have never seen a situation so dismal that a policeman couldn't make it worse." It's time to end this Sheriff's reign of impunity, get access to all body cams and evidence legally allowed to this committee, and for heaven's sake get rid of these corrupt and dangerous deputies with known gang affiliations. That's a bare minimum to restore faith in the institution. From there, they can begin rebuilding our trust. Until then, this is a lawless place where we must protect our own communities with vigilante action, because the state has abandoned that responsibility. To allow this to continue is to invite anarchy. Thank you.

There needs to be more retribution for officers affiliated with gangs and more regulation preventing this. These affiliations leave Angelenos at higher risk of violence and murder by officers hands.

Lionel Mares Hello, I am taking action to demand structural and organizational reform of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD). Law Enforcement is NO place for cliques, sub-groups, and street like gangs. Law Enforcement should be free of any gang influence at all levels. I am anti-gang! I don't like gang-members, either in law enforcement and or street gangs. LASD deputy "gangs" are only a symptom of a pervasive culture in LASD of lawlessness, secrecy, and brutality. And Villanueva is also a product of this deep-rooted culture. When placed in the context of the administrations that preceded him, Villanueva's hostility to oversight, transparency, and accountability, and his disinterest in stemming deputy violence and misconduct, including deputy gangs, is no outlier. The current administration is only the most recent illustration of the ways the county's oversight structures come up seriously short and are largely powerless when a sheriff refuses to cooperate voluntarily. The county can no longer tinker around the edges of significant structural reform of LASD. What we need instead are structural changes that provide the civilian bodies with oversight responsibility over LASD — including the elected Board of Supervisors, the Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission, and the Office of the Inspector General — with the authority to ensure LASD is transparent and accountable, complies with oversight authority and local, state, and federal laws, and is subject to meaningful checks and balances.

Michelle King Thank you for holding this special hearing. Villanueva's Chief of Staff and Grim Reaper Lawrence Del Mese's testimony was illuminating today, it's too bad that he couldn't recall so much. We all know that Villanueva fearing for his safety at this meeting is bs. He's threatened you, the OIG, the board of supervisors. We paid \$1.5 million dollars alone plus private security to the LA County CEO for his harrassment. Are your continual motions for the county council to expeditiously enforce Villanueva's subpoena falling on deaf ears? Chief April Tardy's testimony on the strict criteria re: courts in order to label deputies as gang members is interesting considering that it only takes a zip code to label our community members as gang members on their suspect cards. Interested to hear the rest of her testimony at the next hearing. You know the names of all of the community members whose lives were stolen by LASD, you've heard from their families. How many more lives must be stolen before there's accountability in the Sheriff's dept?

Garonzick Hall Deputy Gang member Desoto (529461) falsely arrested me on 2/16/2022 in what was obviously a politically motivated planned arrest. Since then, I've been a victim of harassment, and intimidation. 3 of my Instagram accounts were hacked and used to conduct bitcoin scams. The government continues to gaslight the public. This is a government psyop that's an attempt to cover up criminal behavior by the special operation task force that operates our Pico Rivera and Norwalk sheriff's department. Note: The complaint that was filed in the Downey court was not signed. It should have been signed by Domenic J

Castanon but it in fact does not have any signature. If there is no signature then the case should have never been in front of the judge. Case Number: 2DN00441 URN: 921-05960-1514-144 Citation: AC102416

Lionel Mares Dear Commissioners, Regarding Deputy Gangs in the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, I have read and watched this issue for many months, and I feel strongly that the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) needs a major overhaul. I believe that the State of California, Department of Justice should take control of the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department because it cannot function as its current leadership under Sheriff Alejandro Villanueva has not cooperated and has resisted numerous times to come before the Los Angeles County Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission when Inspector General Max Huntsmen has repeatedly told him to show up but has refused. Sheriff Villanueva has proven to be an embarrassment to the Cal State Northridge community with his behavior online and in person. Activists, like myself, have called upon Villanueva to resign his post. I don't advocate for violence and/or confrontation like some individuals. I am someone who likes to think, analyze and take action on issues that concern me and my community. I feel that Sheriff Alejandro 'Alex' Villanueva has changed dramatically ever since he has been facing internal and external pressure to resign from other 'activists' and from the Board of Supervisors. His behavior is concerning and I strongly believe he can NO longer function as Sheriff. Alex Villanueva should step down!!! Respectively

David Baeza I was born in 1975 to a Black father and Mexican mother in the Lynwood/Paramount Area. When I turned 16 the Los Angeles County Sheriff began to harass me. Pulling me over randomly just to ask me if my car was stolen, was I in a gang, did I sell drugs or have a gun on me. No American child should be hunted by law enforcement like they are baby cows in a rodeo being chased and hogtied. I have been handcuffed, had a gun pointed in my face, and also had a deputy threaten to shoot me for talking. Gang enforcement should target both civilian and deputy gangs. Don't be an accomplice to evil. You took an Oath to humanity and your God. Don't be a disgrace. End the racism and disgusting and evil behavior. Whatever you do as a deputy, imagine that being done to your mother; father, son or daughter. We have protested police in the 60's, 90's and now the 20's. Fix yourselves or burn in hell for your sins. Right is right and wrong is wrong. You already know what wrong has been done. Admit, Apologize and don't do it anymore.

Name	Public Comment
Steve Hill	Why do we have gangs in the LASD?? Alex should expose his tattoos. I WANT JUSTICE. Why was I arrested.
Ryondell Bourne	Where to begin, it doesn't even sound right talking about because it shouldn't be happening. Gangs inside of a police department is clearly a R.I.C.O case. These are individuals who partake in criminal activity in our neighborhoods. These are folks who are responsible for the safety of the people of the city and communities and these very people take part in criminal activity on a daily. They're constantly harassing civilians and falsely accusing folks of malicious crimes they need to stopped.
Marlene Flores	West Covina PD conducts themselves this way also
Cece Woods	Watching closely to see if the Sheriff's continuous refusal to testify, including last minute requests for a neutral moderator and the ability to cross examine witnesses, will finally result in the COC successfully holding the Sheriff legally responsible and in contempt - with actual consequences.
Kareen Gillespie	Until there are facts proven about "Deputy Gangs" and crimes they committed and have been held accountable for, I believe this type of name calling and distractions need to end . We need 21st century equipment to report "All" illegal actions preformed by any and everyone who breaks the laws. The deputies have their plates full and their hands tied. How about allowing ex public servants to input all stats. The old way will no longer be tolerated.
Raymond Ronquillo	This Sheriff needs to know he is not supposed to run the Dept. As if he is authority is sacred He needs to know he has a council to answer to
Christina Vazquez	This has been an ongoing issue for decades. We are pushing for change and the charter amendment to keep them accountable. Something needs to be done now!

Peter Ramirez	There are no deputy ganfs
mo cardona	alex villanueva is callous and dangerous and needs to be removed. he has ties to the deputy gangs being discussed and allows his rogue officers to terrorize and harm the communities they claim to be serving. this culture of corruption, intimidation, and witness tampering must stop and CANNOT be reformed. alex needs to go and the department needs an auditing. alex's employee relatives are also complicit in his corruption and should no longer be allowed to collect a salary from the county.
Alexandria Urias Lo T	Individuals who have particular tattoos are classified to be Gang Associated, why is the same profiling method not applied to the deputies under your supervision? If this is so how did they pass back ground? Never going to stop gang affiliation no matter who they are!
Jerrin Mcghee	If the purpose of policing is fulfilled, deputy "gangs" will not be focal point topic. The police are to engage with the communities they patrol daily in protection and service, instead of policing only. As men police should be more accountable for the well being of the communities they are paid to positively cultivate. The police have to be servants. First and foremost.
Carolyn Nelson	I would like to know whether there are deputy gangs or not.
David Baeza	I was born in 1975 to a Black father and Mexican mother in the Lynwood/Paramount Area. When I turned 16 the Los Angeles County Sheriff began to harass me, Pulling me over randomly just to ask me if my car was stolen, was I in a gang, did I sell drugs or have a gun. No American child should be hunted by law enforcement like they are baby cows in a rodeo being chased and hogtied. I have been handcuffed, had a gun pointed in my face, and also had a Deputy threaten to shoot me for talking.
Andrew White	I had some complaintson file with I.a. oig and C.O.C. regarding deputy harassment. How do work with C.O.C. and/or O.I.G. on a subpoena for potentia deputy gang members... Sargent Zeko and Deputy Hanes? I have a ticket number and paper trail.
Beach Kitty	Alex Villanueva has proven time & time again that the everyday citizens of LA County are *NOT* his primary concern—which makes him a threat to the public. His repeated ignoring of measures put in place to ensure one individual doesn't have too much power, & defying subpoenas for his appearance at a hearing created for him, shows he is not to be trusted because he truly believes he is "above the law". Alex Villanueva has denied any attempt to recognize LASD gangs and is a threat to all citizens.
Humberto Guizar	I am a gang expert and a civil rights lawyer. I was a hard core street gang member when I was a juvenile. I was escaped the gang lifestyle and became an attorney. My gang background gave me the foundation to truly understand what gang culture is. I have testified in court regarding the deputy gangs both from an academic perspective and from my gathering of information in the litigation of multiple civil rights cases for over 30 years. There is a lot of information on deputy gangs that is kept away from the public through the use of protective orders. I believe this emboldens the sheriffs in deputy gangs to act with impunity. This also fosters systemic inequality.
Pedro Ramirez	I think there are no deputy gangs at LASD
David Baeza	I was born in 1975 to a Black father and Mexican mother and I grew up in the Lynwood/Paramount Area. When I turned 16 and started driving, the Los Angeles County Sheriff began to harass me. Pulling me over randomly just to ask me if my car was stolen, was I in a gang, did I sell drugs or have a gun on me. No American child should be hunted by law enforcement like they are baby cows in a rodeo being chased and hogtied. I have been handcuffed, had a gun pointed in my face, and also had a Los Angeles County Sheriff officer threaten to shoot me for talking. Imagine that, a supposed "peace officer" threatening to kill an American for exercising their first amendment right. The Los Angeles County Sheriff has a history of hiring evil people. Or allowing good people to be influenced by evil people. Looking the other way makes you an accomplice to evil. We should not have peace officers encouraging each other to shoot citizens. It is not legal to execute citizens without a trial. The Sheriff department engages in abuse and murder. Why do law enforcement gang task forces only target civilian gang members and not law enforcement gang members? You people are a disgrace. To your fellow humans and to your God. I thought you took an oath...