



# Los Angeles County Commission on Local Governmental Services

B-50-B Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012  
(213) 974-1431 Fax (213) 633-5102

**Chairperson**  
Johncito Peraza

**Vice Chair**  
Brenda Olmos

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair**  
Buffany N. Hunter

Jules S. Bagneris, III, Ph.D.  
Anthony J. Braswell  
Mark Earl Burman  
Emmanuel Estrada  
Linda Freedman  
Robert Gin  
Thuy T. Huynh  
Tamar Poladian Perron  
Ana Ponce  
Artin Sodaify  
Charles Trevino  
Barry Waite

December 23, 2025

**TO:** Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, Chair  
Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell, Chair Pro Tem  
Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath  
Supervisor Janice Hahn  
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

**FROM:** Johncito Peraza, Chair  
Los Angeles County Commission on Local Governmental Services

**SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION ON MAJOR FEDERAL AND LOCAL IMMIGRATION  
POLICY TRENDS, ENFORCEMENT DYNAMICS, FRAUD PREVENTION  
INITIATIVES, AND RESOURCES CURRENTLY AVAILABLE TO IMMIGRANT  
COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE COUNTY**

The Commission extends its appreciation for the leadership and commitment demonstrated by the Office of Immigrant Affairs as it continues to support, protect, and empower some of the most vulnerable populations in Los Angeles County. The information provided during the presentation prompted extensive discussion among Commissioners regarding existing service gaps, resource constraints, and emerging opportunities to strengthen Countywide support for immigrant residents, especially during a time of heightened national uncertainty and increased community need.

Based on the presentation and the Commission's subsequent deliberations, the following recommendations are offered for the Board's consideration:

## **1. Expand Communications and Public Outreach Capacity for the Office of Immigrant Affairs**

During the presentation, it became evident that the Office of Immigrant Affairs (OIA) currently operates with limited communications capacity, as its outreach infrastructure is embedded within the broader Department of Consumer and Business Affairs (DCBA). OIA's public awareness efforts, particularly those involving flyers, multilingual digital content, community alerts, and web-based resources are constrained by the department's reliance on a largely centralized and capacity-limited communications team.

Given the scale of immigrant needs across Los Angeles County and the rapidly evolving immigration landscape, the Commission believes that OIA requires a substantial enhancement of communications support. Strengthening communications functions would:

- Increase public awareness of critical County programs
- Improve community trust and visibility
- Expand access to reliable, multilingual information
- Enhance partnerships with cities, schools, community-based organizations, and immigrant-serving nonprofits

Accordingly, the Commission recommends that the Board direct DCBA to augment its communications and marketing personnel or create additional positions dedicated exclusively to the Office of Immigrant Affairs, ensuring that outreach materials can be developed quickly, professionally, and at the scale necessary to meet the community's needs.

## **2. Increase Support for Organizations Assisting Veterans Facing Deportation**

The Commission was particularly concerned to learn of the increasing number of U.S. military veterans subjected to deportation proceedings, a trend that raises significant moral, legal, and humanitarian concerns. Many of these veterans face complex legal barriers, limited access to representation, and profound challenges reintegrating into civilian life.

In alignment with the County's longstanding commitment to supporting veterans, the Commission recommends that the Board explore opportunities to increase funding to qualified nonprofit organizations specializing in:

- Deportation defense and intervention
- Legal assistance and case navigation
- Advocacy and resource coordination
- Repatriation and reunification efforts when necessary

Providing additional County support to these organizations would strengthen the safety net available to veterans who have served their country and now require assistance navigating immigration complexities.

## **3. Develop a County Position on Federal Immigration Reform**

The Commission noted that Los Angeles County does not currently maintain a formal position on broader federal immigration reform, despite serving the largest immigrant population in the nation. Given the direct impact of federal actions on County operations, budgets, and services, developing a clear policy platform would enable the County to proactively advocate for reforms that align with its values and public service mission.

The Commission therefore recommends that the Board direct the Chief Executive Office's Legislative Affairs & Intergovernmental Relations Division to conduct research, engage with relevant County departments, and present options for establishing a Countywide legislative position on federal immigration reform, which would include, but not be limited to consideration of amnesty not deportation. Such a framework would enhance the County's ability to advocate for improved protections, resources, and pathways for immigrant residents.

#### **4. Expand OIA's Service Capacity Using the Bar Panel Model**

The Commission strongly supports identifying scalable strategies for increasing OIA's reach and service delivery capacity. One promising avenue is to adopt, where appropriate, elements of the Bar Panel Model, which leverages partnerships with qualified nonprofit legal organizations and vetted private attorneys to expand access to specialized legal and advisory services.

Implementing this model would:

- Significantly expand the volume of cases the Office can support
- Increase specialized legal capacity without extensive overhead
- Allow more services to be safely and securely offered online
- Strengthen coordination with community-based partners
- Improve equitable access to immigration assistance

The Commission recommends the Board explore options to expand OIA's partnerships and service offerings using this model, ensuring more residents can receive high-quality, timely assistance.

#### **5. Commission a Comprehensive Operational Review of the Office of Immigrant Affairs**

To strengthen long-term efficiency, accountability, and strategic direction, the Commission recommends that the Board authorize a Comprehensive Operational Review of the Office of Immigrant Affairs. This review, conducted by the Executive Office, CEO, or another appropriate entity, would assess:

- Opportunities to streamline and modernize internal processes
- Staffing and resource needs
- Technology enhancements, including digital service expansion
- Coordination with incorporated cities
- The effectiveness of current fraud prevention and community education efforts
- Partnerships with community-based organizations and legal service providers
- Potential improvements that maintain cost-effectiveness while maximizing impact

This review would give the Board a clear, data-informed foundation upon which to build future policy decisions and resource allocations.

**Conclusion:**

The Commission thanks the Office of Immigrant Affairs and Chief Daniel Sharp for their continued leadership and partnership. The Commission also affirms its strong support for County efforts that protect immigrant families, strengthen public trust, and ensure equitable access to essential services.

We respectfully submit these recommendations for the Board's consideration and stand ready to participate in future discussions, studies, or collaborative efforts that may help advance these goals.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Johncito Peraza". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Johncito "John" Peraza  
Chair (2025)  
Los Angeles Commission on Local Governmental  
Services

cc: Daniel Sharp, Chief, Office of Immigrant Affairs  
Edward Yen, Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
Department of Consumer and Business Affairs  
Chief Executive Office, Legislative Affairs & Intergovernmental Relations