



**Office of Inspector General
County of Los Angeles**

**Office of
Inspector General**

**Reform and Oversight Efforts:
Los Angeles County Sheriff's
Department**

October 2018

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INTRODUCTION

This report encompasses the monitoring, auditing and review of activities related to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) that occurred from July 1, 2018 until September 30, 2018. The Office of Inspector General (OIG) has four primary functions as follows:

- Monitoring the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department's (LASD) operations and conditions in the jail facilities, including the Department's response to prisoner and public complaints.
- Periodically reviewing data on the Department's use of force, the Department's investigations of force incidents and allegations of misconduct and the Department's disciplinary decisions.
- Conducting periodic audits and inspections of Department operations and reviewing the quality of the Department's audits and inspections.
- Regularly communicating with the public, the Board of Supervisors, the Civilian Oversight commission and the Sheriff's Department regarding the Department's operations.

In the last Quarterly Report published and available to the public in August 2018, the OIG sought to expand the amount of data that it provides the public. This Report will continue to work towards that goal as we seek to provide additional data as it becomes available thereby ensuring that the public, the Board of Supervisors and the Civilian Oversight Commission are aware of any recent trends or changes in recent practices at the Department.

ACCESS

The Department has not denied any request for access.

MONITORING

Department Use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems

The Department's Unmanned Aircraft System was deployed once this quarter, on August 21, 2018. The West Hollywood Station requested assistance with an armed, barricaded suspect. West Hollywood deputies had responded to a residence regarding a dispute. When deputies approached, they heard gun shots. The deputies established a containment. The suspect had barricaded himself within the location and refused to surrender. The tactical team used the Unmanned Aircraft System to see the suspect and safely deploy a chemical agent to assist them in making entry into the residence. By using the UAS system, the deputies accomplished their mission without unnecessarily exposing them or the suspect to gunfire. The suspect was eventually taken into custody. The OIG reviewed the usage of the system and found it to be within department policy.

Deputy Involved Shootings

Shootings: July 1, 2018, through September 30, 2018

The OIG categorizes a Deputy Involved Shooting as any shooting in which: 1) a person was intentionally shot at by a Department member, whether injured by the gunfire or not; 2) a person was injured, including fatally, by the Department member's gunfire, whether intentionally or not; or 3) the Department member shot at a vehicle occupied by a person, unless it is clear from the circumstances that the purpose of the use of the firearm was to disable the vehicle (i.e. shoot tires).

The Department's definitions of shootings can be found in the Manual of Policies and Procedures, 3-10/300.00. The accidental shootings of persons are categorized by the Department by the tactical nature of the shooting itself. The Department has added to its data sharing web site a "Persons Accidentally Struck by Gunfire" table to identify those shootings in which a person was accidentally struck by a Department member's gunfire in tactical situations or in situations in which the gun was discharged unintentionally.

The Department's Homicide Bureau investigates all Deputy Involved Shootings in which a person is injured, regardless of the shooting's category.¹

From July 1, 2018, to September 30, 2018, the OIG responded to eight investigations of Deputy Involved Shootings. Five people were killed and four people were injured (not including deputies.) One of the persons was injured not from the bullet itself but from debris when the bullet hit a windshield. These shootings are described below. The OIG recommends that similar narrative descriptions should be provided on the Department's website for all Deputy Involved Shootings. These descriptions are offered to provide an understanding of situations that commonly lead to Deputy Involved Shootings.

Pico Rivera The Department reported that on July 19, 2018, at about 1:39 a.m., deputies were in a vehicle pursuit of a Hispanic male driving recklessly. The driver lost control of his car and collided into a light pole and an unoccupied vehicle. The driver, whom deputies believed to be armed with a handgun, fled on foot. Deputies followed the driver and shot at him at two separate locations. It was unknown if the driver had been hit by gunfire at the first location, but at the second location he collapsed from a gunshot wound. The driver was pronounced dead at the scene.

A gun was recovered from the backyard of a residence along the route of the pursuit, and evidence in the driver's car tied that gun to the driver.

Lakewood The Department reported that on August 10, 2018, at about 12:50 p.m., a female custody assistant was trying to fingerprint a suspect of Polynesian descent in the lockup area of the Lakewood Station. The suspect assaulted the custody assistant and took the custody assistant's TASER and jail keys. The custody assistant was able to push the panic button to signal that she needed help. The suspect then dragged the injured custody assistant into the jail cell and closed the door behind them. Deputies responded immediately. The suspect was not complying with commands; he pointed the custody assistant's TASER at the deputies and maintained his grip on the injured custody assistant. The deputies opened the cell door and

¹ See *Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Manual of Policies and Procedures 3-10/440.00*.

the suspect pointed his TASER at the deputies. Two deputies fired a combined four shots at the suspect. The suspect let go of the custody assistant, who was able to crawl to safety.

The custody assistant sustained several injuries from the assault and was treated at a hospital. The suspect was taken into custody. He sustained three gunshot wounds, but survived his wounds.

The suspect's race was listed as "other" in the police reports.

East Los Angeles The Department reported that on August 12, 2018, at about 2:06 a.m., deputies responded to a call about a robbery that had just occurred. They were directed to a group of six to ten individuals standing near the location of the robbery. As the deputies approached the group, the individuals fled in different directions. Deputies gave chase. Two deputies spotted a Hispanic male who was part of the original group. The deputies became involved in a fight with this individual. When the male removed a handgun from his waist, the deputies shot him.

The suspect was hit and was pronounced dead at the scene.

Lennox The Department reported that on August 17, 2018, at about 1:14 a.m., deputies were in a vehicle pursuit of an armed suspect. While attempting to evade the deputies, the male African American suspect's vehicle crashed into a pole and a fence. The two deputies on scene approached the suspect vehicle. The deputies saw the suspect reach and grab a gun. One of the deputies shot at the suspect. The suspect was able to exit out of the front passenger seat of the vehicle and attempted to flee. At that time, both deputies shot several more times at the suspect. The suspect stopped and was arrested.

The suspect sustained two gunshot wounds and was transported to the hospital for further treatment. A gun was recovered from inside the vehicle.

Compton The Department reported that on August 17, 2018, at about 11:19 p.m., deputies were in pursuit of a reckless driving suspect. While attempting to evade the deputies, the suspect's vehicle crashed into a planter on a front lawn. The African American driver got out of the vehicle.

One of the deputies stated that he saw the driver reach for a gun on his waistband, so the deputy shot two shots at the driver. Neither shot struck the driver. The driver and the front passenger fled the location on foot. Both the driver and front passenger were eventually located. No one was struck by the bullets and no gun was found on the suspect.

East Los Angeles The Department reported that on September 19, 2018, at about 6:17 p.m., deputies responded to a call regarding gang members brandishing a firearm. The deputies pursued the suspect vehicle, which came to a stop in a field located within a park. The front passenger exited the suspect car and ran. The male Hispanic driver exited the vehicle and began shooting at the deputies. Two deputies were struck by the bullets. Deputies returned fire and struck the driver. One of the deputies believed a male Hispanic in the rear seat of the suspect-vehicle pointed a handgun at the deputies. The deputy fired and struck the rear seat passenger.

The driver was pronounced dead on the scene. The rear seat passenger was transported to the hospital and died a few days later.

The two deputies who sustained gunshot wounds were also transported to the hospital and are recovering from their injuries.

Compton The Department reported that on September 24, 2018, at about 9:24 a.m. the Compton Sheriff's Department was notified of a robbery. Two deputies responded to the location and found the two male African American suspects and their vehicle. One of the suspects pointed a firearm, later recovered, at the deputies. One of the deputies fired his gun at the suspect. The suspects fled but the same suspect who had previously pointed the firearm at the deputies pointed his firearm again at the deputies and a second shooting occurred. Both suspects continued to flee and were soon thereafter apprehended by assisting deputies.

The suspect who had pointed his firearm and was struck by gunfire was transported to the hospital and is expected to recover. The second suspect was not injured.

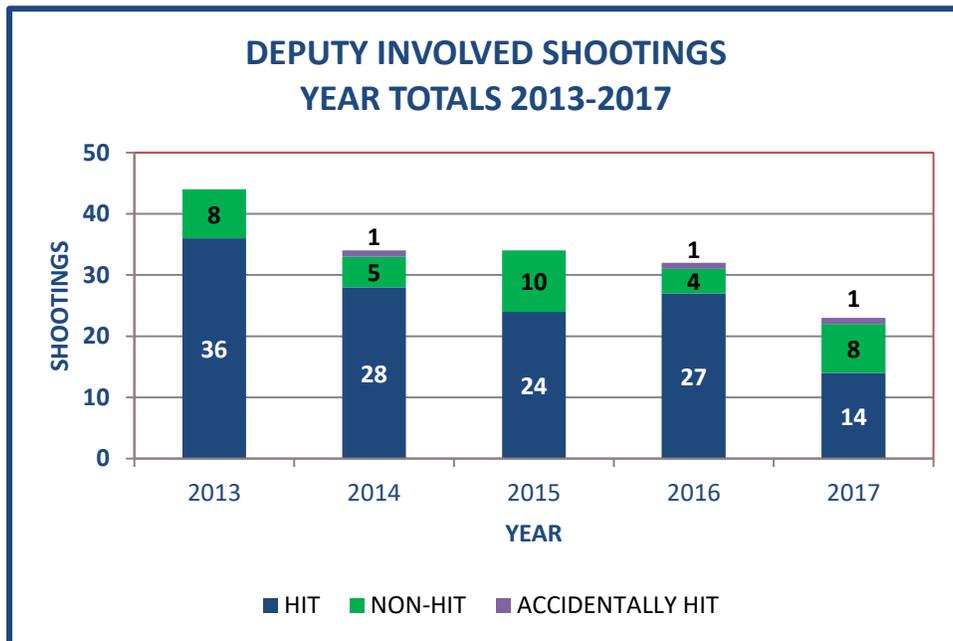
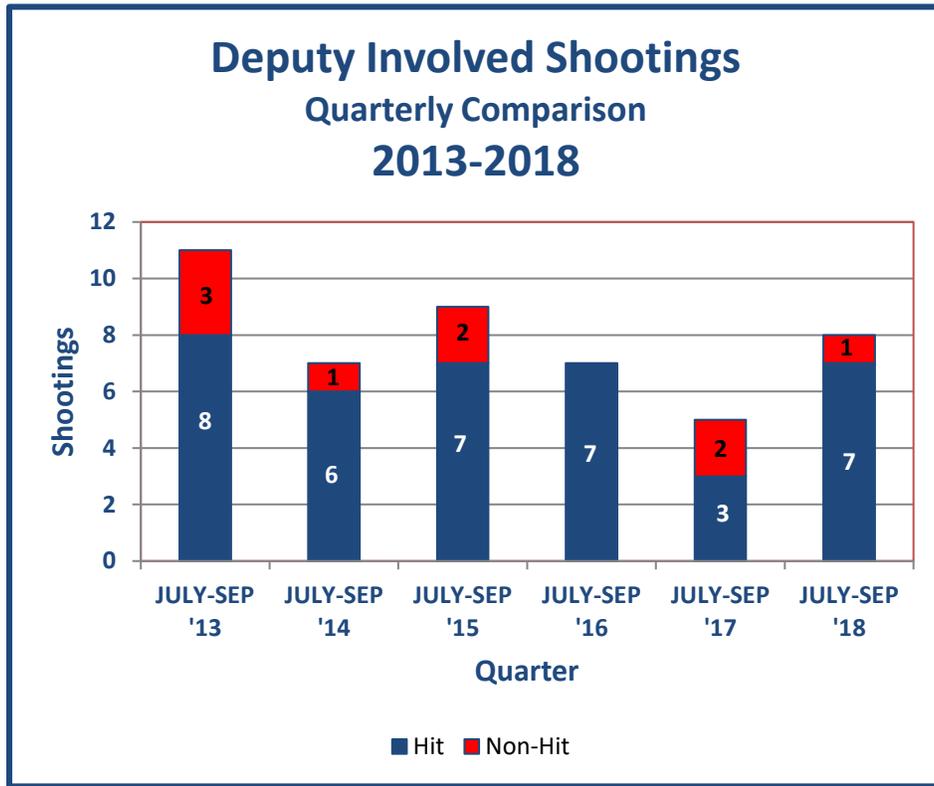
East Los Angeles The Department reported that on September 24, 2018 at about 11:26 p.m., two deputies ordered three occupants out of a stopped

vehicle. Once out of the vehicle, one of the individuals, a Hispanic male Hispanic, physically assaulted one of the deputies. The male Hispanic produced a firearm and discharged one round. The partner deputy fired three rounds at the male. Both the deputy who was being assaulted and the male Hispanic were struck by gunfire.

The male Hispanic sustained two gunshot wounds and was pronounced dead at the scene. The deputy sustained a gunshot wound as well. The deputy was transported to the hospital and is recovering from his injuries.

A comparison to prior years appears on the following page.

Comparison to prior years



District Attorney Review of Deputy Involved Shootings

The Sheriff's Department Homicide Bureau submits the investigation of each Deputy Involved Shooting which occurred in the County of Los Angeles and in which a person has been injured for review and possible filing of criminal charges by the District Attorney's Office.

Between July 1, 2018, and September 30, 2018, the Los Angeles County District Attorney issued findings in five Deputy Involved Shooting cases.

- In the June 11, 2016 fatal shooting of Jesus Duran, the District Attorney opined in a memorandum dated July 9, 2018, that the deputy acted lawfully in self-defense and the defense of others.
- In the March 5, 2016 non-fatal shooting of Norvell Fobi, the District Attorney opined in a memorandum dated July 9, 2018, that there was insufficient evidence to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the shooting was unlawful.
- In the March 14, 2017 non-fatal shooting of Bobby Escobar, the District Attorney opined in a memorandum dated July 10, 2018, that the deputy acted lawfully in self-defense.
- In the December 17, 2016 fatal shooting of Fidel Barrios, the District Attorney opined in a memorandum dated July 27, 2018, that the deputies acted lawfully in self-defense and the defense of others.
- In the November 22, 2016 fatal shooting of Mark Sly, the District Attorney opined in a memorandum dated August 29, 2018, that the deputies acted lawfully in self-defense and the defense of others.

The District Attorney's findings may be found at the District Attorney's web site, <http://da.lacounty.gov/reports/ois>.

Internal Criminal Investigations Bureau

Internal Criminal Investigations Bureau (ICIB) reports to the Chief of the Professional Standards and Training Division, who in turn reports directly to the Sheriff and the Undersheriff. This Bureau is responsible for investigating allegations of criminal misconduct in which members of the Department may be involved.

For this present quarter, the Department reports that ICIB has 68 pending cases. Out of those 68 cases, 20 have been sent to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office for consideration of filing of criminal charges. The District Attorney filed one ICIB case between July 1, 2018, to September 30, 2018. Since July 2018 the District Attorney has notified the Department it has declined to prosecute two ICIB cases. There are six ICIB criminal cases that have been filed in court and are pending criminal trials. The oldest open case that ICIB has on its books is from 2012 and it is pending trial.

Internal Affairs Bureau

The Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) is responsible for conducting administrative investigations of policy violations and/or policy of equality violations by Department members, and responding and investigating policy violations in Deputy involved shootings and significant uses of force cases.

For this present quarter, the Department reports that IAB opened 133² new cases. In the same period, the IAB closed 149 cases. There are 447 pending cases on IAB's caseload.

Executive Force Review Committee

The Department outlines in its Manual of Policies and Procedures, 3-10/140.00 the tasks and duties of the Executive Force Review Committee (EFRC). The Committee evaluates every shooting and force incident to which the IAB Force/Shooting Response Team is required to respond.³

This quarter, the Department held three EFRC meetings. In those meetings six cases involving force were reviewed: four hit shooting cases, one non-hit shooting case and one other use of force case. The cases stemmed from incidents that occurred as far back as 2015 to as recently as 2017. In all six

² These numbers reflect the aggregate number of cases that the individual Units within the Department are investigating as well as the number of cases that IAB is investigating.

³ For detailed description of how EFRC is conducted, please refer to the OIG's June 2018 Report.

Office of Inspector General, "Reform and Oversight Efforts: Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department June 2018." Accessed September 12, 2018.

<https://oig.lacounty.gov/Portals/OIG/Reports/June%202018%20Reform%20and%20Oversight%20Efforts.pdf?ver=2018-08-18-161006-867>

cases reviewed, the Committee found that the employees' use of force was within policy. In one of the cases, the Committee found that deputies had not followed proper tactics. In two of the cases, the Committee recommended discipline of individuals involved in the incidents.

Civil Service Commission Dispositions

This quarter, the Commission issued a final decision in nine cases. Of these nine cases, the Commission sustained the Department's discipline in eight cases and reduced the Department's discipline in one of the cases.

Service Comment Reports

Per Department policies, LASD accepts and reviews any and all comments from members of the public that are germane to the Departmental service or individual performances.⁴ The Department categorizes these comments into three categories:

- "External Commendation: an external communication of appreciation for and/or approval of service provided by Department members;
- Service Complaint: an external communication of dissatisfaction with Department service, procedure or practice, not involving employee misconduct; and
- Personnel Complaint: an external allegation of misconduct, either a violation of law or Department policy, against any member of the Department."

The chart below lists the number and types of complaints received by each station and/or unit this quarter.⁵

⁴ See Manual of Policies and Procedure section 3-04/10.00 "Department Service Reviews."

⁵ The data on the chart reflects all service comments received between July 1, 2018, and September 30, 2018, along with the corresponding Bureau/Station/or Unit that is reviewing or investigating either the commendation or the complaint. The information documented in this Report was current as of October 2, 2018.

Station/Bureau⁶	Commendation	Personnel⁷ Complaint	Service Complaint
Administration	4	1	0
Aero Bureau	5	0	0
Altadena Station	9	8	3
Avalon Station	2	1	0
Century Station	9	8	2
Cerritos	6	7	3
Civil Management Bureau	5	8	2
Compton	4	2	0
Community Partnership Bureau	3	0	0
Century Regional Detention Facility	1	0	0
Crescenta Valley Station	4	1	1
County Services Bureau	6	4	1
Carson	8	5	3
Court Services Transportation	0	1	0
Custody Compliance and Sustainability Bureau	7	1	0
Custody Training Bureau	0	0	1
East – Court Services	3	2	1
East Los Angeles Station	9	12	3
Emergency Operations Bureau	1	0	0
Fraud and Cyber Crimes Bureau	1	0	0
Homicide	3	0	0
Human Trafficking Bureau	1	0	0
Internal Affairs Bureau	1	7	1
Industry	9	5	3
Station/Bureau			
Inmate Reception Center	0	4	0
Inmate Services Bureau	1	0	0
Lancaster	15	23	4
Lakewood	6	7	2
Lomita	14	7	2
Marina Del Rey	5	3	0
Men’s Central Jail	0	1	0
Metrolink	0	1	0
Malibu/Lost Hills Station	7	4	4
North County Correctional Facility	0	2	0
Norwalk	19	10	8
Operation Safe Streets	1	0	0
Personnel Administration	1	0	0
Parks and County Services Admin. HQ	0	1	0
Parks Bureau	1	1	1
Palmdale	26	18	4
Pico Rivera Station	6	6	5
Reserve Forces Bureau	0	1	0

⁶ If a Station or Bureau does not appear on this chart, the Station or Bureau did not receive any Service Comment Reports between July 1, 2018, and September 30, 2018.

⁷ It is possible for there to be a Service Complaint Report and Personnel Complaint Report based on the same incident in question.

Station/Bureau ⁶	Commendation	Personnel ⁷ Complaint	Service Complaint
Records and Identification	1	0	0
RTB: Training Bureau	1	0	0
Santa Clarita Valley Station	27	13	2
San Dimas	11	7	0
Special Enforcement Bureau	4	3	0
South Los Angeles Station	6	3	0
Scientific Services Bureau	0	1	0
Special Victims Bureau	1	1	0
Training Bureau	0	1	0
Temple City Station	14	5	1
TRAP	1	0	0
Transit Services Bureau	5	5	1
Twin Towers Correctional Facility	1	0	0
Walnut	15	7	2
West Hollywood Station	9	9	1
Court Services West	11	5	0

In Custody Deaths

Between July 1 and September 30, 2018, eight individuals died while in the custody of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

Deaths of Persons in the Custody of the Los Angeles County Jails

Seven of these deaths were of persons incarcerated in the Los Angeles County jails.

On July 1, 2018, an individual died at Twin Towers Correctional Facility. The individual was reportedly found unresponsive in a cell. Sheriff's deputies and medical personnel rendered emergency aid until paramedics arrived and pronounced the individual dead at the scene.

On July 13, 2018, a patient died at Los Angeles County/USC Medical Center (LCMC). The patient was under evaluation in the Correctional Treatment Center inside of the Twin Towers Correctional Facility for several weeks prior to being admitted to LCMC on July 4, 2018. The patient died from natural causes.

On July 17, 2018, a patient died at the Henry Mayo Newhall Hospital. The individual suffered a medical emergency on June 24, 2018, while housed at the North County Correctional Facility. The individual was transported to the hospital by paramedics, where the patient died 23 days later.

On August 5, 2018, a patient died at LCMC. The patient was under evaluation in the Correctional Treatment Center inside of the Twin Towers Correctional Facility for two days prior to being admitted to LCMC on July 14, 2018, after suffering a medical emergency. The patient died from natural causes.

On August 8, 2018, a patient died at LCMC. The individual suffered a medical emergency on August 2, 2018, while housed at the Twin Towers Correctional Facility. The individual was transported to the hospital by paramedics, where the patient died six days later. The patient died from natural causes.

On August 9, 2018, a patient died at LCMC. Sheriff's deputies were alerted to an individual in distress in a cell at Men's Central Jail. Emergency aid was rendered, paramedics were called, and the patient was transported to LCMC where the patient died seven hours later.

On August 22, 2018, an individual died at Men's Central Jail. The individual was discovered unresponsive in a cell during a Title-15 safety check. Emergency aid was rendered, paramedics were called, and they pronounced the individual dead at the scene.

The Office of Inspector General attended the Custody Services Division administrative death reviews for each of these seven individuals. The OIG remains concerned about the quality of medical and mental health care provided, poor coordination and communication between Correctional Health Services and Custody Services personnel, sufficiency of the safety checks and the timeliness and quality of life saving efforts. In the above custody deaths where the cause of death was reportedly not immediately apparent, there was no evidence of a use of force preceding the death which might have contributed. The Office of Inspector General continues to monitor the quality and thoroughness of the administrative death reviews as well as ongoing efforts of the Department and Correctional Health Services to improve prisoner/patient care.

Other Deaths While in the Custody of the Sheriff's Department

One person died while in the custody of Sheriff's Department personnel in the field. The Office of Inspector General was present at the Critical Incident Review by the Department of this death.

On July 4, 2018, the Department reported that deputies responded to an attempted burglary. Upon their arrival the individual fled the scene but was later located by a Department helicopter. When contacted by the deputies on the ground, the individual surrendered. Handcuffs and a hobble were used to restrain the individual. Deputies then saw that the individual had stopped breathing. The deputies removed the restraints and administered CPR until paramedics arrived. Paramedics transported the individual to Whittier Presbyterian Hospital where the individual was pronounced dead.

CUSTODY OPERATIONS

Office of Inspector General Site Assessments

Office of Inspector General personnel regularly conduct site visits and inspections to identify matters requiring attention. All site visits result in extensive follow up. OIG personnel completed 100 site assessments and logged 164 monitoring hours inside the seven LASD jail and lockup facilities in the third quarter of 2018. Typically during these visits, OIG staff meet with Department personnel at all ranks, from security and custody assistants to facility captains and commanders, and with civilian staff, clergy, and volunteers. As part of the OIG's jail monitoring, OIG personnel attended 112 Custody Services Division executive and administrative meetings and met with division executives for 156 monitoring hours.

Office of Inspector General personnel also continued to meet with individuals in the general population, administrative segregation units, disciplinary units, medical, and mental health housing. Monitors met with and received input from individuals at cell front, during recreation and treatment group time, and in private interview rooms when necessary to ensure confidentiality. The following chart represents facilities visited from July 1, 2018, through September 30, 2018.

Facility	Site Visits
Century Regional Detention Facility (CRDF)	12
Inmate Reception Center (IRC)	20
Men’s Central Jail (MCJ)	26
North County Correctional Facility (NCCF)	8
Pitchess Detention Center North (PDC North)	6
Pitchess Detention Center South (PDC South)	5
Twin Towers Correctional Facility (TTCF)	23
Total:	100

Citizen’s Commission on Jail Violence Updates

CCJV Recommendation 3.12: The Department should purchase additional body scanners.

The Department continues to operate body scanners at the Inmate Reception Center, Century Regional Detention Facility, Pitchess Detention Center – North, Pitchess Detention Center – South, Pitchess Detention Center – East, and now at the North County Correctional Facility. The Department reports that prisoners who refuse to go through the scanner are subject to strip searches.

Scanner “Operation” and “Train the Trainer” training was purchased and provided to eight key Department personnel in March of 2018. This training was provided to give each facility the ability to train as many personnel as necessary to effectively operate the scanning equipment. Additional advanced image evaluation training is planned for personnel in the very near future. This enhanced image training will provide designated image evaluators additional skills in anomaly detection.

It was previously reported that the Department installed three body scanners in the Inmate Processing Area (IPA) and one scanner near the

vocational shops at North County Correctional Facility (NCCF), and that personnel still required training on scanner operation. Office of Inspector General personnel observed the use of one scanner in the IPA and spoke with NCCF personnel. Procedures for use of the body scanners have been established in the IPA; however, NCCF personnel report that, due to the lack of available trained personnel, they are only able to run one of the three body scanners at any given time. According to NCCF personnel, this limitation has significantly slowed the processing of individuals into the facility. Supervising staff stated that the addition of trained personnel to staff one additional scanner in the IPA would enhance their ability to process individuals more efficiently. Additionally, the scanner installed near the vocational shops is fully operational; however, security based installation enhancements are required and will be completed in the immediate future.

On August 7, 2018, Los Angeles County supervisors Hilda L. Solis and Mark Ridley-Thomas requested that the Department report back to the Board in 90 days regarding the implementation of the body scanners. The Supervisors also requested that the Department consult with the Inspector General and other relevant stakeholders.

Citizen Commission on Jail Violence (CCJV) Recommendation 6.5: Supervision of Deputies

Office of Inspector General (OIG) staff met with Sheriff's Department (Department) custody staff to continue the discussion of the Board of Supervisors' motion asking for a shared understanding of the intentions of the CCJV staffing recommendations and a review of the implementation status of those recommendations.

The shared understanding of the CCJV staffing recommendations is two-fold. One, the objective was to achieve a decrease in jail violence, and two, increase supervision ratios in order to improve supervision of deputy and custody assistant staff. Recommendation 6.5 specifically identified that the ratio of sergeants to deputies be increased in order to improve the supervision of deputies. The direct supervision by sergeants was identified by CCJV as being essential to ensuring that deputies and custody assistants adhered to policies and procedures.

In its first report, "Status of Recommendations regarding the Jail Systems," December 4, 2012, the Department stated, "[a]ctive supervision, in

appropriate ratios, can make a significant impact on incidents of jail violence.” To that end, the Department proposed the following ratios: sergeant to deputy 1:8 and sergeant to deputy and custody assistant (CA) 1:11.

In 2013, the Department proposed the following estimate for increasing custody staffing:

- FY2013-2014 Phase I – 44 new positions
- FY2014-2015 Phase II – 47 new positions
- FY2015-2016 Phase III – No new positions

On October 8, 2013, the Board of Supervisors authorized \$29.3 million to fund Phase I of the Department’s implementation of the CCJV recommendations. On April 15, 2014, and September 30, 2014, in two separately approved motions, the Board authorized approximately \$34.7 million to fund Phase II of the Department’s implementation of the CCJV recommendations. The budget authorized for the recommendations listed was to provide increased staffing.

Our review of custody staffing levels included the lieutenant, sergeant, deputy and custody assistant staff⁸ working the seven custody facilities⁹ who are in contact with prisoners. The CCJV positions we reviewed concentrated on the lieutenant (LT) and sergeant (SGT) positions supervising deputies and custody assistants in those seven facilities. These supervisory positions were identified by the Department as “...critically necessary...active supervision, in the appropriate ratios, [which] can make a significant impact on incidents of jail violence.”¹⁰ The current ratio of sergeant to deputy is 1:9 and sergeant to deputy and CA is 1:13.

⁸ Staff in the following units were not included: Population Management Bureau/Inmate Services/Medical Services/Food Services/Education Based Incarceration Bureau /Compliance & Sustainability Bureau/Custody Support Services Bureau/Custody Administration Services Bureau.

⁹ Men’s Central Jail(MCJ), Inmate Reception Center(IRC), Century Regional Detention Facility(CRDF), Twin Towers Correctional Facility(TTCF), North County Correctional Facility(NCCF), Pitchess North(North), and Pitchess South(South)

¹⁰ Status of Recommendations regarding the Jail System, December 4, 2012

As of April 8, 2018, there are a total of 148 CCJV ordinance positions allocated to the custody facilities, 139 of which are budgeted (ordinance and budget). This number includes all CCJV positions at the custody facilities.

The table below reflects the lieutenant and sergeant CCJV positions apportioned to the seven custody facilities. Currently, there are 96 authorized CCJV positions, 9 which are vacant.

Table 1 – ‘CCJV’ Positions

Year	Position	Ordinanced	Budgeted	Authorized	Frozen	Filled	Vacant
2018	LT	8	8	8	0	8	0
2018	SGT	88	87	88	5	77	9
2017	LT	8	8	8	11	7	1
2017	SGT	88	88	88	11	81	7
2016	LT	8	8	8	11	7	1
2016	SGT	88	88	88	11	78	10
2015	LT	8	8	8	11	8	0
2015	SGT	88	41	41	217	84	8
2014	LT	0	0	8	218	8	0
2014	SGT	0	0	42	149	39	3

Custody staff reported that the vacant positions are filled daily on an overtime basis in order to fulfill the recommendations of CCJV. The Department reports it strives to keep all sergeant positions filled; however, it is a difficult undertaking because of the department-wide shortage of available sergeants.

As of June 19, 2018, (adopted FY 17/18 budget), there were 1,511 ordinanced sergeant positions; 1,508 of these positions are budgeted. One thousand one hundred ninety four positions are filled and eighteen are frozen. This leaves a net adjusted vacancy count of 296 or a 26% percent vacancy rate.

The environment within the custody facilities differs significantly today from that which existed at the time the CCJV recommendations were made. There have been significant demographic and operational changes which occurred due to propositions 47 and 57, and an increase in population of prisoners with mental health issues. For example, in 2013, the mental health population was 569; today that same population is 1,201.

Table 2 – Custody Staffing

Year	Position	Ordinanced	Budgeted	Authorized Incumbent	Authorized FTE	Frozen	Filled Incumbent	Vacant Incumbent	Vacancy %
2018	LT	71	66	71	66	5	63	8	12.1%
2017	LT	71	66	71	66	5	62	9	13.6%
2016	LT	71	66	70	70	5	63	7	10.6%
2015	LT	64	59	67	67	5	63	7	11.9%
2014	LT	56	51	59	54	5	54	5	9.8%
2018	SGT	284	284	283	283	11	244	39	13.7%
2017	SGT	280	280	279	278	11	244	34	12.1%
2016	SGT	280	280	274	274	11	241	33	11.8%
2015	SGT	264	271	250	203	11	236	14	5.2%
2014	SGT	181	181	201	201	11	170	31	17.1%
2018	DPTY	2,475	2,429	2,471	2,426	217	2,234	232	9.6%
2017	DPTY	2,511	2,396	2,433	2,387	218	2,146	287	12.0%
2016	DPTY	2,486	2,371	2,415	2,313	149	1,990	400	16.9%
2015	DPTY	2,330	2,215	2,228	2,152	194	1,943	283	12.8%
2014	DPTY	2,368	2,253	2,320	2,205	223	1,956	379	16.8%
2018	CA	1,105	1,029	1,104	1,028	57	998	106	10.3%
2017	CA	1,117	1,041	1,106	1,030	57	951	155	14.9%
2016	CA	1,106	1,030	1,085	1,009	57	910	175	17.0%
2015	CA	1,020	944	997	921	57	910	87	9.2%
2014	CA	1,088	1,012	1,065	989	57	1,020	45	4.4%

The above table reflects the Department’s eHR Position Report on April 4, 2018. The eHR Position Report is run once a week. It is a snapshot of staffing numbers at the particular time the report was run. Numbers change as retirements are processed, promotions are assigned and personnel transfer in and out of assignments.

CCJV Recommendation 7.14: The grievance process should be improved to include added checks and oversight

The Department is still in the process of implementing iPads in all LASD facilities to capture information related to prisoner requests and, eventually, grievances. The Department reports that it will deploy additional iPads after the completed Wi-Fi upgrades, currently there are 119 iPads deployed; 62 at CRDF, 45 at MCJ and 12 at TTCF. The Department reports that it has completed the Wi-Fi upgrades at CRDF and TTCF, and upgrades at MCJ will be completed in October 2018.

Between June 28 and September 30, 2018, the Department reports that iPads have automatically responded to 788,630 requests for information. As

previously reported, the Department has expanded the types of information that can be accessed from the iPads and will continue to add information as feasible.

As reported in the Office of Inspector General's Reform and Oversight Efforts January 2018, the Department initiated a "Duplicate or Excessive Filings of Grievances and Appeals and Restriction of Filing Privileges Policy." The Department reports that between June 30, 2018, and September 30, 2018, 27 individuals were restricted from filing 82 grievances according to this policy. During this time period, the Department stated that the implementation of this policy has been briefed with the grievance teams at each facility and as a result, the number of individuals effected doubled. The Department reports that it anticipates the number to continue to increase as the grievance teams become more familiar with enforcing the policy. The Office of Inspector General reviews the restricted grievances to ensure that restrictions comply with Department policy. The Office of Inspector General will continue to monitor the restrictions on access to the grievance system and the implementation of this policy.

CCJV Recommendation 7.15: The use of lapel cameras as an investigative tool should be broadened

As previously reported, the Department opted for an alternative implementation of this recommendation and embarked on a five-year program to install fixed cameras in the jail facilities. The Department continues to implement Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras at the Pitchess Detention Center. At Pitchess Detention Center – South, the Department installed 190 total cameras, 176 of which are high definition units throughout the compound and all cameras are fully operational. There are still some areas of Pitchess Detention Center – South, including the classrooms, vocational shops, and the laundry areas that do not have cameras fully installed. The Department is working hard to have the cameras installed and fully operational by December 2018. Pitchess Detention Center – South reports that they have already had several instances where the cameras have been utilized to identify suspects, recover jail made weapons, and identify narcotics activity.

As previously reported, the Department has installed 190 cameras at Pitchess Detention Center – North and all staff stations are equipped with display screens that show multiple camera angles inside the dorm and the

outdoor recreation areas. Office of Inspector General personnel viewed the cameras via several staff stations and all appeared to be in working order and each had a live and clear picture of the dorms, recreation areas, and classroom.

HANDLING OF COMMENTS REGARDING DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS AND JAILS

The OIG received eighty two new complaints in the third quarter of 2018 from members of the public, prisoners, prisoners’ family members and friends, community organizations and County agencies.¹¹ Each complaint was reviewed by OIG staff. Sixty three of these complaints were related to conditions of confinement within the Department’s custody facilities, as shown below:

Table 3

Complaint/ Incident Classification	Totals
Personnel Issue	
Use of Force	1
Rude/Abusive Behavior	2
Failed to Take Action	2
Discrimination	1
No Discernible subject	1
Medical/Dental Issue	7
Mental Health Services	8
Housing	6
Dietary	3
No Discernible Issue	4
Other Service Issue	28
Total	63

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

¹¹ When complaints raise multiple issues, the OIG tracks and monitors the Department’s response to each issue. As such, a single complaint may receive more than one classification as reflected in the referenced tables.

Table 4

Complaint/ Incident Classification	Totals
Personnel Issue	
Use of Force	1
Rude/Abusive Behavior	2
Discrimination	4
Unlawful Search	3
Unlawful Detention	3
Failed to Take Action	3
Off Duty Conduct	1
Commendation	1
No Discernible Issue	1
Other Service Issue	10
Total	29

Six complaints were not about the Department or department personnel and were referred to the appropriate agency or the complainant was directed to seek legal advice.