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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

"Enriching lives through effective and caring service"

February 2, 2026

MEMORANDUM TO THE COMMISSIONERS

FROM: Helen Chin, President

SUBJECT: Meeting of the Commission/Executive Committee on Human Relations, February 2, 2026

Our Commission will meet on Monday, February 2, 2026 at 12:30 p.m.,

at 510 S. Vermont Ave., 9th Floor, Room TK05, Los Angeles.

You may also join meeting **Via Teams Calendar Invitation** [Click here to join the meeting](#). If you are unable to do so, you may Dial: [+1 213-204-2512](tel:+1213-204-2512), [477739579#](tel:+1477739579#)
Please Post Agenda in your location.

Parking is located at 523 Shatto Place. Please pull a ticket when entering the parking structure. Please take the elevator to the 9th floor and walk through the bridge, which is located towards the northwest corner of the parking structure, to reach Terrace (T) Level of the building. Call 323-719-9187 when you are in the lobby, (unless you have a key card to enter the elevators going up to the 15th floor). Prior to leaving the facility, please take your ticket to either security desk (Ground Level or Terrace Level) for validation. **Do not park at the 510 South Vermont Avenue structure. Violators may be towed at vehicle owner's expense.**

Please review and let me know if you have any questions.

If you are unable to join the meeting, please call me at (323) 719-9187 no later than 9:00 a.m., Friday, January 30, 2026.

*Brittany Martinez
L.A. County Commission on Human Relations
Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors
510 S. Vermont Ave., 15th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90020
(323) 719-9187*

Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations, 510 S. Vermont Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90020 – (323) 719-9187



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

AGENDA

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RELATIONS

Monday, February 2, 2026 – 12:30-2:00 pm

LA County Vermont Corridor Bldg. - 510 S. Vermont Ave. - LA, CA 90020
9th Floor Terrace Conference Room TK05

Also via MS Teams Video and Audio Conferencing [213-204 2512, 980587174# Click here to join the meeting](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3a213-204-2512-980587174#0?context=%7b%7d)

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

- 1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgment** (12:30)
- 2. Review & Approval of January 5, 2026 Meeting Minutes***
- 3. President's Report** (12:33)
 - 3.1. Spotlight on a Partner: Shantanice Vaxter, Esq.
 - 3.2. 'Get well' gift for Commissioner Gunning
 - 3.3. Thoughts about continuing ICE actions in LA County
- 4. Executive Director's Report** (12:45)
 - 4.1. Budget, Admin and Program Updates
 - i HRC Human Rights Award Presentation on January 27th Board meeting*
 - ii Program Updates – Growth in hate crimes in CA, and CA vs Hate not in current proposed state budget, and its potential impact on our programs
 - iii Budget and admin. actions and impact on HRC programs and services
 - iv Commission staff changes and known departmental organizational changes
 - 4.2. Communications Update (Robert Sowell)
- 5. Committee Reports** (12:55)
 - 5.1. John Anson Ford (JAF) Awards Event Committee – Commissioner Ilan Davidson, Chair
- 6. Public Comment (3 minutes per person)** (1:05)
- 7. Action/Discussion Items** (1:10)
 - 7.1. JAF Awards Nominations
 - 7.2. LA County Human Rights Award update
 - 7.3. Impact of Sept 30th budget actions on HRC staff and services
 - 7.4. Federal immigration activities in LA County and County/Commission/Community responses*
 - 7.5. Nonviolent Direct Action Training
- 8. Commissioner Announcements (2 minutes per Commissioner)** (1:55)

9. Adjournment in memory of LA County resident [Keith Porter Jr.](#), and human rights activists [Renée Good](#) and [Alex Pretti](#) who were shot to death by federal immigration agents on December 31st, January 17th and 24th, respectively; and all lives lost in ICE detention.

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

* Denotes that this agenda packet includes written material regarding this 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.

Note: The following Commissioners will be participating by teleconference communication from the following corresponding locations: Azusena Favela, 700 S. Flower Street, Los Angeles, California, 90017, Kevork Keushkerian, 1115 Valley View Avenue, Pasadena, California 91107, Jeanette Ellis-Royston, 1460 East Holt Ave. Room 6, Pomona, California, 91767

PUBLIC COMMENT

When prompted by staff, members of the public sector may request to provide public comment after each item:

- If joining in person, staff will call upon individuals who signed up to speak on an item.
- If joining remotely via Teams, please use the “raise your hand” feature then unmute microphone once enabled.
- Callers by phone, dial *5 to raise hand, once called upon dial *6 to unmute.



Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations

510 South Vermont Avenue, 15th floor
Los Angeles, California, 90020
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(213) 738-2788

DRAFT MINUTES

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS

Meeting of January 5, 2026

PRESENT:	Helen Chin Azusena Favela* Kevork Keushkerian* Derrick J. Johnson* Jason Moss	Jeanette Ellis-Royston* Fredrick Sykes Serena Oberstein Gay Yuen
ABSENT:	Lisa Dabbs Dandy De Paula Ilan Davidson	Michael Gi-Hao Cheung Isabelle Gunning Preeti Kulkarni
STAFF:	Brittany Martinez Robert Sowell	Robin Toma
GUEST:	Reena Hajat Carroll	

- 1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgment of Indigenous Peoples:** Commission President Helen Chin called to order the meeting of the Executive Committee at 12:39 p.m. President Chin began by reading the LA County Land Acknowledgment, which can be found at the following link: [Land Acknowledgment – \(lacounty.gov\)](http://lacounty.gov). She recognized the Tongva, Tataviam, Serrano, Kizh, and Chumash Peoples as original inhabitants of these lands, honoring and paying respect to their elders and descendants; acknowledged that settler colonization resulted in land seizure, disease, subjugation, slavery, relocation, broken promises, genocide, and multi-generational trauma; and reminded us of our responsibility and commitment to truth, healing, and reconciliation, and to elevating the stories, culture, and community of the original inhabitants of Los Angeles County.
- 2. Review & Approval of December 1, 2025 Meeting Minutes:** The proposed minutes of the Commission meeting of December 1, 2025 as submitted by VP/Sec. Davidson were presented to the Commission. A motion to approve the December 1, 2025 meeting minutes was made by Commissioner Sykes and seconded by Commissioner Moss. The motion passed with no opposition or abstentions.

* This commissioner, and others marked by an asterisk, attended the meeting via internet video (MS Teams link), providing their location address for inclusion on the posted agenda, in compliance with applicable open meeting laws and policies.

3. President's Report

3.1 Spotlight on a Partner: Reena Hajat Carroll, Executive Director, Confluence Rising: Reena Hajat Carroll, Executive Director of Confluence Rising (formerly the California Conference for Equality and Justice), presented an overview of the organization's history, mission, and programming. She described the recent name change as a reflection of the organization's focus on bringing people together across identities and lived experiences to advance equity, justice, and inclusion. Carroll noted the organization's nearly four-year partnership with the Commission, which provides approximately \$40,000 annually to support its work. These funds support training and coaching for nearly 2,000 individuals each year across approximately 70 schools and organizations, addressing topics such as microaggressions, racism, LGBTQ+ issues, sexism, and immigration. She highlighted the impact of Confluence Rising's youth programs, including the Building Bridges Camp, where participants consistently report life-changing experiences through relationship-building across racial and cultural differences. Additional programs include school-based, grade-level dialogue and training, as well as a large annual convening that brings together community members, nonprofits, and organizations for values-based dialogue. Carroll expressed appreciation for the Commission's support of these activities. President Chin invited Commissioners to introduce themselves and all attendees took turns to do so.

3.2 Dec 7th Press Conference for Our Annual Report on Hate Crimes: President Chin reported on the recent annual press conference for the Los Angeles County Hate Crimes Report, noting that the event extended beyond a traditional press briefing and became a space for meaningful public dialogue. Community members expressed pain, frustration, and a sense of disconnection, creating an opportunity for more authentic engagement. While the discussion was at times messy, it was described as generative and productive. She highlighted that the conference led to tangible outcomes, including strengthened partnerships and subsequent action in the City of Compton, where public remarks by a city official resulted in mayoral involvement and the official's resignation. President Chin emphasized that this "press conference plus" demonstrated the importance of centering community voices and fostering open dialogue to achieve real-world impact.

3.3 New Year Message: President Chin thanked Reena Hajat Carroll for her remarks on relationships and values, noting how they informed reflections on the uncertainty of the year ahead. She also acknowledged the challenges of moving into 2026 amid uncertainty and emphasized the importance of remaining grounded in shared values, commitment, and connection. Drawing on a quotation about embracing uncertainty, President Chin highlighted the need to "live the questions" while continuing the work. Her remarks underscored the importance of nurturing relationships, collective flourishing, and sustaining joy and care, and concluded with an invitation for Commissioners and staff to engage more intentionally in connection and dialogue throughout the year.

4. Executive Director's Report

4.1 Budget, Admin and Program Updates

- i. **Release of Annual Report on Hate Crime in LA County:** Executive Director Robin Toma (ED Toma) reflected on hopes for the new year, referencing a quotation by Eduardo Galeano that emphasized the importance of conscience, common sense, and moral courage during uncertain times. ED Toma provided additional context on the recent Hate Crimes Report press conference, noting factors that may have affected attendance, including scheduling conflicts and the report's findings, which indicated that hate crime levels remain high but did not surpass prior records, as in the previous year. ED Toma recognized the extensive work of staff, including Dr. Monica Lomeli and the Hate Documentation team, and noted challenges related to incomplete data resulting from changes in LAPD reporting methods, which may have led to

understated findings in certain categories. It was emphasized that the report reflects data through 2024 and may not fully capture the current climate, which is expected to be more fully represented in future reports. Printed copies of the report were made available to attendees.

- ii. **Board of Supervisors' motion for human rights:** ED Toma reported on a recent development following a trip to Geneva with Supervisor Mitchell. ED Toma explained that Supervisor Mitchell advanced a motion directing the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to send a five-signature letter to the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the U.S. Council, expressing the County's support for their work in holding governments accountable to human rights commitments. The motion also requests a follow-up report, with our Commission designated as the lead agency, to identify opportunities to strengthen coordination with state and local jurisdictions engaged in similar efforts, particularly in light of limited federal participation. ED Toma noted that a report to the Board is scheduled within 90 days and described the development as a positive step forward for the County's human rights work.
- iii. **Commission staff service awards:** ED Toma continued acknowledging Commission staff who received County service awards in recognition of long-term service. Recipients included Commission staff Robert Sowell, Oscar Hernandez, Joshua Parr, Monica Lomeli, and ED Toma, with awards ranging from pins to commemorative items reflecting years of service, including 30-year and 35-year milestones. In total, approximately 20–30 Executive Office employees were recognized.
- iv. **Budget actions and impact on HRC programs and services:** ED Toma provided an update on budget actions, noting ongoing uncertainties. Departments have been asked to propose an additional 5% reduction for the current fiscal year, on top of prior cuts. The timeline for final decisions remains unclear, pending guidance from the Board's Executive Officer, but updates are expected over the next several months. ED Toma highlighted these continuing budget challenges for awareness.
- v. **Staff changes and known departmental organizational changes:** ED Toma provided an update on staffing changes. The secretary position previously held by Grace Lowenberg and the senior human relations staff position Roland Gilbert occupied have been deleted. Additionally, an HSA manager position previously held by Aneisa Bolton has been eliminated. Two other senior staff positions remain uncertain, and the updated organizational chart is not yet available. ED Toma noted that once final decisions are made and the chart is updated, it will be shared with the Commission for awareness.

4.2 Communications Update: Assistant Executive Director (AED) Robert Sowell reported that before his reassignment, former Commission PIO Tony Cowser assisted the Commission in producing brochures, including materials previously discussed regarding public communication. Cowser also coordinated the establishment of a new "Newsroom" section on the Commission's website. This section, now accessible through the top navigation bar, houses videos, public press releases, media coverage, and related communications materials. AED Sowell noted that although Cowser is no longer able to support the Commission directly due to staffing changes, Cowser has ensured that the Newsroom infrastructure is in place, and he will continue to provide limited support to help maintain updated content on the page.

5 Committee Reports

5.1 Transformative Justice Committee (Gunning): President Chin recommended discussing in agenda item 7.1 as Chair Isabelle Gunning is unavailable to report.

6. **Public Comment:** No requests were received from members of the public for comment.

7. **Action/Discussion Items**

7.1 **Transformative Justice Committee's Recommendation to sunset:** ED Toma reported that the Transformative Justice Committee, at its last meeting, reached a unanimous recommendation to sunset the committee. While the manager position for this area has been eliminated, two staff members remain to assist with ongoing projects. ED Toma noted that the recommendation reflects current staffing constraints and the absence of a stated need for the committee at this time. Commissioner Ellis Royston raised questions regarding alternatives to sunset the committee and the absence of Commissioner Gunning on the call. ED Toma acknowledged that Gunning's input would be valuable and suggested that the discussion could be carried over to the next meeting to allow for her perspective. Commissioner Johnson clarified that the committee had already voted unanimously to transition or limit the committee's work, which explains why no alternative suggestions were included in the agenda. He added that Commissioner Gunning abstained from the vote due to her role in establishing the committee and the difficulty in voting on its sunset. Pres. Chin directed Commissioners to page 18 of the agenda packet for detailed notes from the last Transformative Justice Committee meeting and reiterated that the purpose of this agenda item was for the full Commission to consider the committee's recommendation to sunset. The motion was made by Commissioner Favela and seconded by Commissioner Moss to sunset the Transformative Justice Committee. The motion passed unanimously with no opposition or abstentions.

7.2 **LA County Human Rights Award update:** ED Toma spoke on planning to recognize 21 organizations and individuals who were part of the collective effort behind the federal court lawsuit Vasquez Perdomo v. Noem that achieved an end to what is known as the ICE raids and sweeps in Los Angeles County in June and July last year. This effort led to a shift in the federal immigration strategy, and although the Supreme Court later reversed the decision, it marked an important moment in the history of immigration advocacy. The Commission voted to honor these organizations and individuals with the Human Rights Award. ED Toma noted that the Human Rights Awards ceremony is currently scheduled to take place on January 27th. ED Toma explained that the recipients have already been notified and are excited to receive this recognition. The Human Rights Commission believes it is essential to acknowledge the hard work and dedication that went into this effort, as it was a significant victory in the fight for human rights. ED Toma expressed that despite the constant stream of crises and executive orders, the Human Relations Commission sees this as an important time to honor the individuals and organizations who made this achievement possible.

7.3 **Impact of Sept 30th budget actions on HRC staff and services:** Agenda item was already addressed in item 4.1. iv.

7.4 **Federal Immigration activities in LA County and County/Commission responses:** ED Toma discussed LA County's response to federal immigration enforcement. Concerns were raised about racial profiling and the disproportionate impact on the Latino communities and individuals with limited English proficiency, as well as the broader implication for civil rights and community trust. ED Toma also highlighted challenges related to oversight and accountability, noting ICE

agents have acted without sufficient training, transparency, or safeguards, increasing risk of rights violations. ED Toma noted the County's recent efforts, with the Office of Immigration Affairs and the adoptions of motions to protect residents from illegal conduct by federal agents. ED Toma emphasized that while these steps were recognized as progress, ED Toma noted that ongoing challenges remain and emphasized the need for continuing attention and action.

7.5 Nonviolent Direct-Action Training: ED Toma spoke about Kent Wong's legacy as a testament to the power of nonviolent resistance and community organizing. ED Toma emphasized that Kent Wong's work in establishing the nonviolent training program alongside UCLA Labor Center and Reverend James Lawson, Jr. has had a lasting impact on social justice movements, empowering individuals and communities to challenge systemic injustice and promote positive change. ED Toma encouraged that the continuation of the nonviolent direct action training program is a crucial aspect of carrying on Kent Wong's legacy, ensuring that future generations learn from his experiences and build upon his work. ED Toma noted that continuing efforts to promote nonviolent direct-action training helps us advance our mission and values.

8. Commissioner Announcements: President Chin opened up the space for any Commissioners that had announcements that they would like to share with the commission. Commissioner Moss announced that the Jewish Federation of the Greater San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys is hosting the "*Every Person Has a Name*" event honoring individuals murdered during the Holocaust, taking place on January 24th at 7 p.m. through January 25th at 8p.m. in Pasadena City Hall. The event will begin with a commemoration ceremony, offering an in-person and virtual opportunities to read names, and is held in recognition of the UN International Holocaust Remembrance Day on January 27th. Commissioner Moss noted that ED Toma spoke at the event last year and expressed hope that elected officials will also attend. The Jewish Federation is also partnering with Yad Vashem to provide an educational exhibition. Commissioner Yuen inquired about a previous reading of names, and Commissioner Moss clarified that it likely occurred last year, noting this is the event's eight year.

Commissioner Moss also highlighted the importance of recognizing the anniversary of the Palisades Fires, noting that commemoration and vigils are being held. Commissioner Moss emphasized the community's resilience and unity in response to the devastation and acknowledged District 5 leadership, particularly Supervisor Barger, for her role during the fires as Chair of the Board of Supervisors.

President Chin shared information regarding the 2026 Commissioner Networking Summit scheduled for February 13th at 8 a.m. President Chin noted that the invitation was sent out by Adela Guzman from the Board of Supervisors and encouraged Commissioners to ensure they received the emails and to RSVP if able. She also shared that she and Commissioner Keushkerian attended the summit last year, which was not well attended, and emphasized the importance of participation given ongoing budget discussions and engagement with key decision-makers.

ED Toma added to President Chin's remarks by encouraging Commissioners to RSVP and join if they can. ED Toma also informed that if any Commissioners did not receive the information, we would send it out to them so that they can move forward with RSVPs.

9. Adjournment: The meeting was proposed to be adjourned at 1:15 p.m. in memory of human rights activist, actor, movie director, and producer Rob Reiner; and the fifteen people killed in the December 18th anti-Jewish hate shooting in Bondi Beach, Australia. The motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Oberstein, and seconded by Commissioner Ellis-Royston, and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ilan Davidson
Commission Vice President-Secretary

Solis Honors Those Who Challenged Unlawful Immigration Enforcement in Vasquez-Perdomo v. Noem

The plaintiffs and legal teams in Vasquez-Perdomo v. Noem were honored for bravely challenging unlawful immigration enforcement and federal raids that targeted communities across Los Angeles County starting in June 2025.



Board Chair Hilda L. Solis delivers remarks, standing alongside plaintiffs, legal teams of Vasquez-Perdomo v. Noem.

LOS ANGELES, Calif. – Los Angeles County Board Chair and First District Supervisor Hilda L. Solis today recognized the plaintiffs and legal teams behind *Vasquez Perdomo v. Noem* for defending constitutional and human rights and challenging immigration raids that began in June 2025 in Los Angeles County.

“Today, we honor the extraordinary courage of the plaintiffs and legal teams who took a stand to defend the rights of our communities,” said **Chair Solis**. “By challenging unlawful arrests, racial profiling, and the aggressive enforcement policies being carried out by the Trump administration, they have shown remarkable bravery and a steadfast commitment to the rule of law. In the face of ongoing fear and uncertainty for the wellbeing of our communities, these honorees remind us of the power we hold when we come together to stand for our values.”

The lawsuit, filed July 2, 2025, by five individual workers and four organizations—the Los Angeles Worker Center Network, United Farm Workers, the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights, and Immigrant Defenders Law Center—alleged that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security conducted unconstitutional stops, and detentions to meet arbitrary enforcement quotas under the Trump administration, while denying individuals held in detention access to legal counsel.

"Our Commission is excited to lift up this amazing group behind the Vasquez Perdomo lawsuit for our Human Rights Award, for how timely and important they were in protecting Los Angeles County's residents' most basic rights under our constitution and global human rights standards," said **Robin S. Toma, Esq., Executive Director of the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations.** "The victory they won on July 11, 2025 stopped one of the largest mass violations of rights our county has ever seen, and for that reason, our Commission voted unanimously to honor them, and we deeply appreciate Chair Hilda L. Solis and our Board of Supervisors for supporting this vital recognition."

The complaint argued that immigration agencies violated the Fourth and Fifth Amendments by racially profiling individuals, conducting suspicionless stops and warrantless arrests without assessing probable cause or flight risk, and denying due process protections.

In July 2025, a federal district judge issued an order protecting Los Angeles County residents from unlawful arrests and access to counsel while in detention. Although the U.S. Supreme Court later overturned the preliminary injunction addressing the suspicionless stops, the plaintiffs continue to seek a permanent injunction to safeguard constitutional rights and prevent discriminatory enforcement practices.



Board Chair Hilda L. Solis stands with plaintiffs, legal teams of Vasquez Perdomo v. Noem.

"The brave plaintiffs in this lawsuit have risked their livelihoods, and their families' privacy and safety for the cause of justice and equality. No member of our community should be targeted by the government because of their skin color, their accent, or their place of employment," said **Chandra Bhatnagar, Executive Director of the ACLU Foundation of Southern California**. "Without the courage of these plaintiffs, the protections borne from this case for communities across the southland would not exist."

Each plaintiff and legal team received a certificate of recognition. Honorees included Pedro Vasquez Perdomo, Carlos Alexander Osorio, Isaac Villegas Molina, Jorge Hernandez Viramontes, and Jason Brian Gavidia, along with organizations and legal partners: Los Angeles Worker Center Network, United Farm Workers, Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights, Immigrant Defenders Law Center, ACLU Foundation of Southern California, UC Irvine School of Law Immigrant and Racial Justice Solidarity Clinic, Law Offices of Stacy Tolchin, Public Counsel, Munger, Tolles & Olson, National Day Laborer Organizing Network, Hecker Fink LLP, ACLU Foundation of Northern California, ACLU Foundation of San Diego & Imperial Counties, and Martinez Aguilascho Law Inc.

"The County of Los Angeles has stood up with its residents to fight the battle of our time against the violent assault on people of color being waged by the Trump administration to breed fear and terror. It's clear that the brutal immigration enforcement isn't about going after murderers, rapists, and drug dealers as Trump stated, but rather all Latinos in our county," said **Mark Rosenbaum, Senior Special Counsel for Strategic Litigation at Public Counsel**. "It's a special honor to be recognized for the part the Vasquez Perdomo case is playing in this resistance, but the real heroes are the Board of Supervisors and other community leaders who support those brave residents who are coming forward to narrate the inhumanity of a federal government who revel in cruelty, lies, and racism."

Chair Solis has led several County initiatives to support immigrant communities, including the Small Business Resiliency Fund, the Los Angeles County Renters Relief Program, and more than 18 motions related to immigration enforcement impacts.

###

About Los Angeles County Board Chair and First District Supervisor Hilda L. Solis

Los Angeles County Board Chair and First District Supervisor Hilda L. Solis is a lifelong San Gabriel Valley resident and the daughter of immigrant parents from Nicaragua and Mexico. She is a graduate of La Puente High School, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, and the University of Southern California. Chair Solis has dedicated her career to public service, beginning on the Rio Hondo Community College Board of Trustees and later serving in the California State Assembly, State Senate and U.S. House of Representatives. In 2009, she became the first Latina to serve in a U.S. Presidential Cabinet when President Barack Obama appointed her Secretary of Labor. She represents Los Angeles County's

County Workers 'Accosted And Questioned' By ICE At Park: Supervisor | Los Angeles, CA Patch

County Workers 'Accosted And Questioned' By ICE At Park: Supervisor

The county supervisor said the workers were "racially profiled and physically assaulted" by ICE agents.



City News Service, News Partner

Posted Wed, Jan 14, 2026 at 5:15 pm PT

LOS ANGELES, CA — Two Los Angeles County park workers were "accosted and questioned" by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents at Whittier Narrows Recreation Area, a county supervisor said Wednesday, denouncing the action as a case of racial profiling.

According to a statement by Supervisor Hilda Solis, ICE agents "allegedly racially profiled and physically assaulted two Latino Los Angeles County Parks staff at Whittier Narrows Recreation Area — employees wearing county uniforms, driving county vehicles, and clearly identifying themselves as county personnel — and questioned them about their citizenship status. This action is completely unacceptable and violates the constitutional rights of U.S. citizens."

It was unclear if the workers were detained during the confrontation Wednesday morning.

Representatives for ICE did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The allegation came one day after the Board of Supervisors directed its attorneys to draft an ordinance creating "ICE-Free Zones" to prevent county facilities — such as parks — from being used as staging areas or processing centers by federal immigration-enforcement authorities.

The ordinance, which is expected to come before the board for a final vote in the next 30 days, would prevent any county property "from being used for other than county purposes." It would specify that no county-owned property can be used "as a staging area, processing location or operations base for unauthorized civil law enforcement actions, including civil immigration enforcement."

Federal officials quickly denounced the county's action as illegal and unenforceable.

"Local jurisdictions cannot target and exclude federal agents from public spaces," First Assistant U.S. Attorney Bill Essayli for the Central District of California, which includes Los Angeles County, wrote on social media. "We will use any public spaces necessary to enforce federal law," Essayli wrote. "Anyone who attempts to impede our agents will be arrested and charged, including

similar conduct. Instead of making these meaningless motions, you should cooperate with federal law enforcement to help us target and remove criminal illegal immigrants."

In her statement Wednesday assailing the alleged questioning of the county workers at Whittier Narrows, Solis called it another case of the federal government using "fear and intimidation to target our communities of color and working families."

"Make no mistake: Los Angeles County will continue to protect all our employees, our residents, and our public spaces," Solis said. "I will continue to act to hold this administration accountable for its complete disregard of our Constitution and our Democracy."

City News Service

Human Rights Awards Presentation

January 27, 2026



Click [here](#) to watch the Human Rights Award Presentation by Chair/Supervisor Solis.

ICE 'wrongfully detained' L.A. County D.A.'s office employee, Hochman says - Los Angeles Times

CALIFORNIA

ICE 'wrongfully detained' L.A. County D.A.'s office employee, Hochman says



Los Angeles County Dist. Atty. Nathan Hochman at the Hall of Justice in downtown Los Angeles on June 25. (Christina House/Los Angeles Times)



By James Queally
Staff Writer | [Follow](#)

Published Jan. 17, 2026 | Updated Jan. 18, 2026 2:50 PM PT

- An employee of the Los Angeles County D.A.'s office was "wrongfully detained" by federal immigration agents on Friday,

according to an internal e-mail obtained by The Times.

- In the e-mail, Dist. Atty. Nathan Hochman called the incident “unacceptable.”
- ICE and other federal agencies have been accused of making indiscriminate stops throughout the country based on race as part of President Trump’s sweeping immigration raids.

A Los Angeles County district attorney’s office employee was “wrongfully detained” by federal immigration agents on Friday, according to an internal e-mail obtained by The Times.

L.A. County Dist. Atty. Nathan Hochman called the incident “unacceptable” in an office-wide memo sent out on Friday evening.

“A member of our Office was wrongfully detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). I can thankfully report that, shortly after, our employee was released and is safe,” Hochman wrote. “This incident is unacceptable. Our employee is a dedicated public servant who serves the people of Los Angeles County with professionalism and integrity. This troubling situation caused great distress to our colleague, our co-worker’s family, and our entire Office family.”

The reason for the person's detention was not immediately clear. A spokesman for Hochman declined to comment further and referred questions to ICE.

"Neither ICE nor [U.S. Customs and Border Protection] have any record of any employee of the L.A. County D.A.'s office being detained," a Department of Homeland Security spokesperson said Sunday.

Two law enforcement officials with knowledge of the incident, speaking on the condition of anonymity in order to talk candidly, said the employee was not a prosecutor. The employee was also not engaged in protest activity, the officials said.

In the e-mail, Hochman said he personally reached out to federal authorities on Friday to make them aware of the situation and “urge them to be more respectful of the rights of those who reside in our community and ensure this wrongful conduct does not occur again.”

In the months since ICE and Border Patrol agents began carrying out President Trump’s sweeping immigration raids in U.S. cities, civil liberties groups have repeatedly sued the Department of Justice alleging agents are making stops based on race rather than reasonable suspicion.

After ICE and Border Patrol agents spent months raiding car washes and Home Depot parking lots around L.A. County, a federal judge in October found sufficient evidence that agents were violating the 4th Amendment by relying on the race, language and vocation of targeted individuals to form “reasonable suspicion” for arrest.

The American Civil Liberties Union recently lodged a lawsuit against federal authorities on similar grounds over their behavior during chaotic and tense raids in Minneapolis. The Trump administration has maintained it is conducting tightly targeted operations and only going after the “worst of the worst,” but data show many of those arrested in Los Angeles during the raids had no criminal record.

Board Unanimously Approves Horvath Motion to Initiate ICE-Free Zones in LA Count - Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath



LINDSEY
Horvath

BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVES HORVATH MOTION TO INITIATE ICE- FREE ZONES IN LA COUNTY

January 13th, 2025

LOS ANGELES, CA – The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a motion by Supervisors Lindsey P. Horvath and Chair Hilda L. Solis initiating the development of an ordinance to establish ICE-Free Zones across County-owned and County-controlled properties. The Board action directs County Counsel to draft and return an ordinance for Board consideration within 30 days.

As federal civil immigration enforcement increasingly occurs in public spaces nationwide, the approved motion begins the formal legislative process to ensure County property is used solely for its intended public purposes and is not used as staging areas, processing locations, or operations bases for unauthorized civil immigration enforcement. Coming on the heels of the killings of Renee Nicole Good and Keith Porter Jr., the motion responds to a national climate in which civil immigration enforcement has turned deadly and fear has spread into public spaces meant to serve the community.

“Los Angeles County will not allow our public property to be used by ICE to cause harm and to frighten people away from receiving services and support,” said **Supervisor Lindsey P.**

Horvath. “Across this country, civil immigration enforcement has too often turned deadly, and that fear follows people into parks, clinics, and public buildings. When residents are scared to seek care or show up in public spaces, something is deeply wrong. We may not control federal enforcement everywhere, but we do control our own property. That is why we are taking action to

ensure our public spaces remain safe, accessible, and free from fear.”

The motion follows a federal immigration enforcement action conducted in October 2025 at Deane Dana Friendship Park and Nature Center, a Los Angeles County park in San Pedro, which disrupted public access and interfered with County operations.

“Our communities continue to navigate uncertainty, danger, and trauma as the Trump administration’s immigration raids target Angeleno families,” said **Hilda L. Solis, Los Angeles County Board Chair and First District Supervisor.** “As actions escalate across the country, here in Los Angeles County, we remain committed to exploring every option available to safeguard our communities. Fear, danger, and recklessness have no place here.”

If adopted by the Board, the proposed ordinance would prohibit County-owned and County-controlled property from being used for unauthorized civil law enforcement activities, require clear signage on County properties, establish a permit process for civil enforcement operations, and preserve lawful criminal law enforcement and the execution of valid judicial warrants.

Los Angeles Times

California is feeling Minnesota's pain on immigration raids



Protesters at a vigil outside the federal building in downtown Los Angeles observe a moment of silence Saturday for those killed by federal immigration agents. (Gina Ferazzi / Los Angeles Times)

Your morning catch-up: California feels Minnesota's ICE pain, why Trump is skipping the Super Bowl and more big stories.



By James Rainey
Staff Writer | [Follow](#)

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The nation's focus understandably locked on Minnesota after federal agents shot and killed intensive care nurse Alex Pretti. But the sense of unease hardly felt distant here in California.

A day earlier, just blocks from my home in the San Gabriel Valley, a Latino worker watched apprehensively as another set of uniformed agents tried to open the door at the Mexican restaurant where he works. The place hadn't opened and the worker observed from a distance as the men gave up and drove away.

"All the cooks were nervous. They wanted to go home early," said the counterman, an American citizen whom I have seen on many late-night dinner runs. "Everyone was kind of shaken up by them just showing up. The owners agreed and they closed up early. It was kind of scary."

Even as the Trump administration hinted it might be decreasing its presence in Minneapolis and moved out Gregory Bovino, the controversial head of the operation, Californians continue to worry about what will come next.

"Unchecked federal power threatens people in cities across the country," Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass said in a mass email Monday afternoon, "and we must all stand up against these authoritarian tactics."

The restaurant worker, who asked not to be named for fear of retaliation, noted that the restaurant lost half a day of business. “We are trying to be extra cautious now,” he said. “You see these things and they appear on the internet. But you never think it’s going to happen to you.” Until it does.

Trump and his aides have insisted their immigration enforcement targets only the “worst of the worst criminal illegal aliens.” Independent reviews have concluded that a large majority of those detained have not been convicted of violent or serious crimes.

In a region as vast as Southern California, it would be easy to miss the still-significant presence of immigration operatives at work here. But the L.A. Taco website continues to report the [presence of federal agents in granular detail](#). On Friday it detailed instances of uniformed forces operating in South Pasadena, South Gate, Lynwood, Santa Barbara, Oxnard, Thousand Oaks and at multiple locations in Anaheim, Fullerton, Santa Ana and San Bernardino.

“You might not see them out there, but they’re out there somewhere, hitting it hard,” said Memo Torres, a producer and director at L.A. Taco, which has been maintaining a running account of immigration actions in Southern California. He said the site counted about 15 raids a day in the new year.

“Like yesterday, the agents were everywhere, it seemed like, but we had like only four people reportedly taken,” Torres said. “I think that’s the [community] responders

having an effect. It's a constant cat-and-mouse game now between them, trying to outmaneuver each other."

The anti-Trump No Kings coalition held a video training session Monday evening "to equip community members with the skills to document enforcement actions, legally and as safely as possible, providing a critical layer of defense for each other."

Nearly 75,000 people nationally appeared on the video chat. They were taught to keep a safe distance from agents and follow orders but keep filming as long as they're in a public space. Participants said they believed pressure from the public helped force Bovino's exit from the Minnesota operation. Organizers encouraged more people to join peaceful protests and write to their senators to demand a cut in funding for the aggressive actions by Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

[Pablo Alvarado of the National Day Laborer Organizing Network](#) asked activists to go to places where immigrant workers gather, such as day labor centers and car washes, and keep watch over them.

"The victims of this violence are not abstract numbers. They are our relatives, our neighbors, our colleagues, our friends," Alvarado said. "We cannot look away. This moment demands that we move from indignation to action. ... Only the people can save the people."

Anti-ICE protests across U.S. demand justice for Renee Good's death : NPR

NATIONAL

Nationwide anti-ICE protests call for accountability after Renee Good's death

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By Chadelis Duster, Sergio Martínez-Beltrán



Thousands of people participate in a protest against the policies, both foreign and domestic, of the Trump administration on Sunday in New York City.

Spencer Platt/Getty Images

People took to the streets in cities across the country this weekend to protest the Trump administration's immigration enforcement tactics following the death of Renee Good in Minneapolis, a 37-year-old woman who was shot and killed by a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officer last week.

At least 1,000 events across the U.S. were planned for Saturday and Sunday, according to Indivisible, a progressive grassroots coalition of activists helping coordinate the movement it calls "ICE Out For Good Weekend of Action."

Leah Greenberg, a co-executive director of Indivisible, said people are coming together to "grieve, honor those we've lost, and demand accountability from a system that has operated with impunity for far too long."

NATIONAL

The latest updates on the Minneapolis ICE shooting

"Renee Nicole Good was a wife, a mother of three, and a member of her community. She, and the dozens of other sons, daughters, friends, siblings, parents, and community members who have been killed by ICE, should be alive today," Greenberg said in a statement on Friday. "ICE's violence is not a statistic, it has names, families, and futures attached to it, and we refuse to look away or stay silent."

Large crowds of demonstrators carried signs and shouted "ICE out now!" during protests across Minneapolis on Saturday. One of those protesters, Cameron Kritikos, told NPR that he is worried that the presence of more ICE agents in the city could lead to more violence or another death.

"If more ICE officers are deployed to the streets, especially a place here where there's very clear public opposition to the terrorizing of our neighborhoods, I'm nervous that there's going to be more violence," the 31-year grocery store worker said. "I'm nervous that there are going to be more clashes with law enforcement officials, and at the end of the day I think that's not what anyone wants."



Demonstrators in Minneapolis on Saturday.

Sergio Martínez-Beltrán/NPR

The night before, hundreds of city and state police officers responded to a "noise protest" in downtown Minneapolis. An estimated 1,000 people gathered Friday night, according to Minneapolis Police Chief Brian O'Hara, and 29 people were arrested.

NATIONAL

ICE shootings are a 'direct byproduct' of tactic shift, ex-ICE acting director says

People demonstrated outside of hotels where ICE agents were believed to be staying. They chanted, played drums and banged pots. O'Hara said that a group of people split from the main protest and began damaging hotel windows. One police officer was injured from a chunk of ice that was hurled at officers, he added.

Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey condemned acts of violence but praised what he said were the "vast majority" of protesters who remained peaceful, during a morning news conference.

"To anyone who causes property damage or puts others in danger: you will be arrested. We are standing up to Donald Trump's chaos not with our own brand of chaos, but with care and unity," Frey wrote on social media.

Commenting on the protests, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) spokesperson Tricia McLaughlin told NPR in a statement, "the First Amendment protects speech and peaceful assembly — not rioting, assault and destruction," adding, "DHS is taking measures to uphold the rule of law and protect public safety and our officers."

Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem on Sunday said the agency was sending "hundreds more" federal agents to Minneapolis Sunday and Monday to protect ICE agents.

"If they [protesters] conduct violent activities against law enforcement, if they impede our operations, that's a crime, and we will hold them accountable to those consequences," Noem told Fox News.

Good was killed the day after DHS launched a large-scale immigration enforcement operation in Minnesota set to deploy 2,000 immigration officers to the state.



THE PICTURE SHOW

Photos: Protests grow over the fatal ICE shooting in Minneapolis

In Philadelphia, police estimated about 500 demonstrators "were cooperative and peaceful" at a march that began Saturday morning at City Hall, Philadelphia Police Department spokesperson Tanya Little told NPR in a statement. No arrests were made.

In Portland, Ore., demonstrators rallied and lined the streets outside of a hospital on Saturday afternoon, where immigration enforcement agents bring detainees who are injured during an arrest, reported Oregon Public Broadcasting.

A man and woman were shot and injured by U.S. Border Patrol agents on Thursday in the city. DHS said the shooting happened during a targeted vehicle stop and identified the driver as Luis David Nino-Moncada, and the passenger as Yorlenys Betzabeth Zambrano-Contreras, both from Venezuela. As was the case in their assertion about Good's fatal shooting, Homeland Security officials claimed the federal agent acted in self-defense after Nino-Moncada and Zambrano-Contreras "weaponized their vehicle."



Activists participate in a protest prior to a march to the headquarters of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) on Sunday in Washington, D.C.

Alex Wong/Getty Images

Protests also continued Sunday, including in Atlanta, Washington, D.C., and New York City.

Crowds gathered across the metro Atlanta area, including on the 17th Street bridge, where demonstrators held signs that read "Stop ICE Terror Now" and "ICE out 4 good," according to local media reports.

In Washington, D.C., a day after protesters gathered in front of the White House on Saturday, demonstrators marched to ICE headquarters on Sunday. There were no arrests during the protests, a spokesperson for the Metropolitan Police Department told NPR on Sunday.

A large crowd of demonstrators also marched in New York City on Sunday, according to PIX11.