



Written Public Comment as of 06/10/2022 at 5:00pm.
Provided for the June 10, 2022 Special Meeting of the Los
Angeles County Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission,

Special Hearing on Deputy Gangs in the Sheriff's Department

To submit written public comment for the official meeting
record, complete the form at <https://bit.ly/39QQIC8>. For any
questions, please email cocnotify@coc.lacounty.gov or call (213)
253-5678.

League of Women Voters LA County Letter to the LA County Citizens Oversight Commission on Deputy Gangs

The League of Women Voters (LWV) in California established a position on criminal justice. The position includes support for “a criminal justice system that is just, effective, equitable, transparent, and that fosters public trust at all stages.” In addition, LWV CA supports “collaboration between government and community throughout every stage of the criminal justice system.” This includes “building public trust and positive community relationships through police engagement with community members.”

There have been a number of studies and reports that state the LA County Sheriff’s Department has not met these stances. The LA County Citizens Oversight Commission has recently presented a report that identifies many cases of deputy gang actions. In their 2012 Citizen’s Commission on Jail Violence, they detected deputy gang activity in the jails. At that time the Sheriff denied the existence of deputy gangs.

In a Loyola Law School report on deputy gangs, “50 Years of Deputy Gangs in the LA County Sheriff’s Department: Identifying Root Causes and Effects to Advocate for Meaningful Reforms”, identifies many instances of deputy gang activities. The report, published in January 2021, was a year in development and describes misconduct at multiple division houses. The lead author states, “The evidence that deputy gangs exist, when viewed in its totality in a single report, is overwhelming.”

A recent article in *The New Yorker* magazine (June 6, 2022,) “The LA County Sheriff’s Deputy Gang Crisis” identified instances of deputy gang violence as ‘frequent.’ The Sheriff stated that there are no deputy gangs in the Sheriff’s Department and that it is racist to call them gangs.

The *Daily Journal* reported on April 12, 2022 that the Sheriff’s Department was not complying with subpoenas, had refused to produce records, or to testify. This is in direct violation of the recently enacted Penal Code 13670 which requires law enforcement to develop written policies prohibiting Deputy gang participation. There is no evidence that such a policy has been enacted. In the past 30 years, LA County has paid over \$100 million for lawsuits regarding deputy gang abuses (“A Tradition of Violence: history of Deputy Gangs in the LA County Sheriff’s Department, KnockLA.)

It is for these reasons that that LWV LA County Board recommends that the LA County Sheriff’s Department publicly and openly addresses the significant problem of its deputy gangs. This is inconsistent with law, community needs, public ideals, and our democratic principles. We support the efforts of the LA County Civilian Oversight Commission on these efforts.

Name	Comment
Mary	<p>I live in Los Angeles my whole life.</p> <p>I feel our safety is not priority. Officers need to work with the public and 1st get the homeless help. 2nd get Parents more involved in the protection of public schools. 3rd. Hold THEMSELVES accountable. Lets stop making this a Politically motivated... Do something about it. Thank you</p>
Erick Jason Medal	<p>I know for a fact that that they were gangs since the 3rd grade! 1982 my third oldest brother is being put into a black and white because of an offense he committed, understandable. What was mind boggling and confusing to me at that age was why did these wanna be police, acted exactly like gangs?! Hey why are you hitting my brother and arresting him? what was next was like watching a gangster movie! these gang members sheriff punch my second oldest brother so many times and also arrested for simply asking why where they are hitting and arresting our brother!! We did hold these gang members sheriff accountable even in the 1980's. My second oldest brother after this incident met Pelosi in San Francisco and everything else is history!</p> <p>What I am saying is that yes! there has been gang member tactics used since the 1980's or before! because I witness that myself in the third grade!</p> <p>I am requesting that this body actually passes measure that will prevent this brutality anymore! the money that will be given to this gang member organization is to make sure that they are focusing on actual crime not the people walking on sidewalks or people riding or bicycles and no more targeting people on traffic stops! write the ticket politely respectfully and honestly and let me be!</p> <p>1992 during the Rodney King riots! I was surrounded by 12 gang member sheriffs who were ready to execute me because I was in my Nissan Sentra with a short fade cut! They pulled me out of my car, searched it and pointed their power guns at me! not only did they violated my constitutional rights but threaten to kill me! that what you call gang member tactics!</p> <p>Oh, they didn't get away with it, 5 munities later I walked to the Norwalk gang member station and made a report but the higher ups in that station refused to answer questions and I never from that incident never received a follow up!</p> <p>This is why I am requesting that a more visible easy access body to intervene when it comes to filling complaints with any gang member sheriff station because they will not investigate themselves! they will lie like we see Bandito Villanueva doing all the time and they will cover up just like Bandito Villanueva and intimidate and target plus harass! this is why we must make sure that any budget given to this organization is to target only crime and this organization is to exercise public safety at all times!</p> <p>People are tired and they are not afraid anymore; they will doxed and shut down gang member station, you are the last wall between civility and a real uprising!</p> <p>The last and most important thing I will never forget about this gang member organization, here I am like I always have done trying to contribute to my community and society by making sure that everyone stays safe! well guess what this organization did!? I witness a robbery in progress in 2008. I am on the phone with the 911 operator who tells a male gang member sheriff where I was and so she is telling me is ok , you can stay on the phone. Once the gang member sheriff get to my door he deliberately put his gun to my head as to already trying to execute me! the gang member female sheriff entered my apartment without a warrant!</p> <p>End of story is this the guy who I was helping secure his tools and belongings had to interfere and tell gang member male sheriff who already had me on had cuff; the same one who took my phone of my hands and pointed his service gun at my head was told by the man I was helping that I was</p>

the one who called 911 to help him and if it was not for me all of his tools and belongings would have been stolen!

I will never forget this incident which is recorded if not already erased! so that they could not get caught for their inability to police correctly! I got my justice on this one too! I will share with your body that from that day forward I decide that I would never help a gang member nor any law enforcement for anything!

Erick Jason Medal

According to the agenda. I want to make it clear that this gang member organization has and still using the same inhumane tactics and gang member tactics to harass, intimidate, target, and threaten just like Bandito sheriff Villanueva has done and continue to do!!! if this Bandito Villanueva does know but if it would have been Luna and only Bandito Villanueva, he would have lost re-election, just look at the numbers!

I am requesting that every single stop and every single minute and money is spent on public safety only! not intimidating, targeting, harassing, driving around like chickens with no heads! focus only on public safety, public safety, public safety! stop using our resources for threatening and intimidation!!!!

this gang member organization targeted my brothers in 1982 while I attended elementary school, 1992, In Norwalk this gang member organization targeted me by surrounded my Nissan Sentra pointed their power gun because they taught, I was a gang member like them!

1998 I witness an inmate beating at the twin towers facility because he got out of line! they surrounded this human being and 8 gang member sheriff beat this inmate to death!

2008 I am calling 911 for assistance and a male and female gang member violated my human right, the male gang member sheriff actually snatched my phone off my hand while talking to the 911 operated pointed his gut at my hand and handcuffed me just to release two minutes later when the individual I was helping stated that I was the one helping!

After that incident I will never in my life support any gang member law enforcement for any matter! I will make sure that this organization is held accountable for every little thing they do!

This is why I am requesting that you as the oversight commission must put measures in place to make sure that when people file complaints that these complaints are investigated away from this gang member organization! when violating the constitution on my any stop these gang members are held accountable.

All that you have seen is a product of all the families and victims to gang member sheriff organization brutality!

Tuesday the message was sent to Bandito Villanueva that the people are not afraid anymore! they will shut down gang member stations and doxed any gang member killer sheriff!

Finally, if the election would have been held between these two individual Luna and Bandito Villanueva, he would have been booted out look at the number 400,000 votes for Luna and 200,000 for Bandito Villanueva!!!

As an oversight commission body we are asking for 100% accountability of where our resources go! and stop making illegal stops, that not fighting crime that allowing crime to go up! because this gang member organization waste our public safety resources on stopping people on bicycles, and people walking the streets, and pointless minor traffic stops! we need to hold this gang member organization accountable stop giving them an excuse to un focus on keeping us safe and respect

humanity! We don't want a shameful Uvalde incident and how they pepper sprayed, hand cuffed, and detain parents from saving their babies while they planned or took precaution! crime is up because our resources and their gang member tactics are being used properly!

The brave mother who is now being targeted and threaten by police does that sound familiar? just the same tactics Gang member Villanueva and all law enforcement use to try and control people! we must do better here in this county and hold this gang member organization accountable!

Michelle King

Honestly, I was a little shocked at how quickly the meeting ended today. It's pretty demoralizing that none of the witnesses showed today. I appreciate your motion to support the charter amendment and I'd like to know what the next steps are to ensure this comes a reality. This commission has demonstrated meeting after meeting that you're fully versed in the corruption of LASD under the current sheriff. No one honors their subpoena which is a blatant reminder that LASD is above the law. In November voters will decide between keeping the current Bandito as Sheriff or electing Robert Luna who has his own history of scandal including racism, misconduct & using a self-deleting texting app to avoid California laws. What, in fact, will change if another Sheriff is elected? If Luna's staff were hiding and deleting communication in the past, what will change if he's elected Sheriff? What suggests that would Luna cooperate with the SCOC any more than Villanueva currently is?

On July 1 we're going to try this all over again. Will it be any different? Or will we leave at 10am again because no one has honored their subpoena?

Joshua F Sanchez

It has been 637 per as per THE GREGORIAN AND YOUR MAJESTYS Calendar

The Los Angeles County Sheriffs's' Civilian Oversight Commission:

I write to the Commission this morning for The LASD. Sheriff Alex Villanueva himself makes this Public Comment and the communications are done so here and now with permission. This mornings absence was totally a no show with many contributing factors. This morning once the meeting had started the no shows were discussed and as requested or as promised here is what the rationale is "Officer safety comes First to Los Angeles County sheriff's Department Sheriff Alex Villanueva specifically that's LASD, LAPD and any law enforcement entity inside of Los Angeles County and Specifically those who Are incarcerated and those who are in pretrial services."

Sheriff Alex Villanueva would like to extend his Thanks for the issue of this no show secondary to another separate but important issue.

Thank you for this time

REIGNINGJoshua#####Sanchez™

THE REIGNING KING OF EDINBURH Constituent LETTER

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Steve Hill

I was arrested March 7th. I have not been I formed why. DOJ says see the sheriffs..... the sheriffs says see the DOJ. DO SOMETHING!!!

Eric Strong	While at Internal Affairs in LASD I was lead investigator in a large case involving a deputy gang (3000 boys). Many issues identified in this case were disregarded and swept away by Paul Tanaka.
Tamara K	We need to implement charter amendment & hold sheriff department accountable for the murders of numerous Black & Brown LA residents, eradicate sheriff gangs, Defund the sheriff and fund Black & Brown communities with care, resources & services.& Abolish the Sheriff.
Randy McMurray	We have represented clients who have been subjected to racial profiling, wrongful arrests, excessive force and murder by tattooed LA County Deputy Sheriffs. These gangs have had the Chief's support for decades.
Janet Campos	This issue is of great concern and I am glad to know the Commission is still looking into this. The power held by the sheriffs should not go unchecked, especially considering they walk around with guns, which is an extra layer of power in every community. I've experience the loss of friend due sheriff's inability to utilize alternate methods to de-escalate an unarmed person and its disgusting that sheriffs are taxpayer paid to go through trainings that they don't implement & cause harm instead.
Steve Hill	<p>There are indeed gangs in the department. That would make Alex Villanueva one of the biggest gang leaders in Southern California. The chair of the committee instructed someone to get in contact with me after the LAST meeting on gangs. No one contacted me. The sheriff had me arrested for retaliation.</p> <p>My guns were confiscated. The DOJ instructs me to talk to the sheriff the sheriff tells me to talk to the DOJ. Could someone PLEASE look in to this! This is typical GANG activity!</p> <p>i can not find out why i was arrested and the oversight committee appear to be Absolutely no assistance in finding out.....i want to talk to V. JESSIE. SMITH again.....the church pastor from the AV. THE COMMITTEE CHAIR INSTRUCTED SOMEONE TO CONTACT ME AFTER THE LASTING MEETING.....TO THIS DAY NO ONE HAS CONTACTED ME.....I CANT BELIEVE I HAVE TO GO THROUGH THIS!!!!</p>
GARONZICK HALL	The Pico Rivera Sheriff department used a mentally ill paid informant (felon) to blackmail and extort me. The Sheriff falsely arrested me then fabricated audio and video evidence. The 911 call was made months later after the fact inside Downey court and then submitted as evidence. The Sheriff department recreated the arrest video after the fact in an attempt to cover-up their mistakes.
Ernest Moore	Sheriff's deputy gangs are operating in the Los Angeles County Superior courts! Specifically the Stanly Mosk Courthouse. I am a victim of their corruption. I have filed complaints about these crimes to the Sheriff's department and to the LA County Inspector general. They have not responded to my complaints yet. I have been demanding to make citizen's arrest of some of the litigants, lawyers, and judges in my probate case but Sheriff's deputies refuse any actions. Stating we have no jurisdiction!
SOLEDAD RAMIREZ	It is unacceptable that there are existing gangs within the sheriff's department since they are supposed to be a deterrent for gang violence. Any officer proven to be part of a gang should be fired and never allowed to continue in any capacity with law enforcement. It is disgraceful and unnerving to have to even consider that officers who are supposed to

protect us are behaving in such an appalling manner. How can we trust them to do their job?

Scott Rushing	Is there an ongoing covert infiltration plan to expose violent gangs within the department? If not, why not.
general dogon	IM LOOKING FORWARD 2 SEEING HOW MUCH COMES OUT, I WAS IN THE COUNTY JAIL IN 1980 WHEN THE FLASHLIGHT THEORAPHY WAS GOING ON, COPS BEATING INMATES WITH FLASHLIGHT, BUSTING HEADS WIDE OPEN LEAVING THE PERSON WITH HEAD FULL OF STITCHES, I BELIEVE WHATS WORSER THAN COP GANGS IS THE OLE RACIST PROTOCOLS THAT HAUNTED THE JAIL FOR DECADES
Franki Jacobs	I have been violated by it and still sm with false penal codes jacked up false arrests and total abuse inside without a proper hearing, dept of justice  violations. I qork with licensed government trainer, imvestigator wjo is Sheriff post-certified in credentials and he assessed alot of LASD CAUCASIAN DETECTIVE violations to all of us in DIVERSITY. We need a FUND....
Latia Suttle	Gangs within the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department is a Public Safety Crisis. There is an issue with Judges also in Los Angeles County that needs to be investigated. 1. http://www.therobingroom.com/california/Judge.aspx?id=2718 2. https://courtvictim.com/abusers/judges/corrupt-california-judges-2/corrupt-los-angeles-judges/judge-luna-ana-maria/
Jewell Shaw-Bowen	Gangs within our County law enforcement agencies are unacceptable. Ethics come from the top and this is not a new problem.
Shannon Diaz	Gangs should no longer have to face gang enhancements to include higher nails more time served and higher charged while the LASD also has active gang members. How is this equal under the law when LASD is allowed to have criminal gangs but members of the community are not.