



“To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service”

**ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION
FOR INSTITUTIONAL
INSPECTION**

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MEET THE COMMISSIONERS

2011

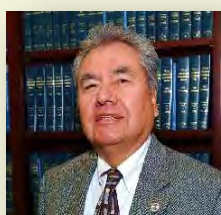


Front Center: Chairperson Eleanor R. Montañó, 1st District
Left to right: Vice Chairperson Frank S. Bacio, 1st District, Commissioner Rita Hall, 2nd District,
Commissioner John Hammargren, 4th District, Commissioner Barbara Bigby, 5th District,
Commissioner Carl Moore, 2nd District, (not pictured) Commissioner Anne S. Hill, 5th District

2012



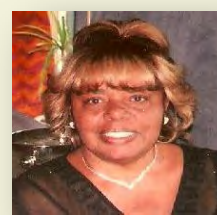
Chairperson
Eleanor R. Montañó
4th District



Vice Chairperson
Frank S. Bacio
1st District



Commissioner
Anne S. Hill
5th District



Commissioner
Barbara Bigby
5th District



Commissioner
Donald S. Andrews
4th District



Commissioner
Cheryl Grills, Ph.D.
2nd District



Commissioner
Susan Burton
2nd District



Los Angeles County

MISSION:

“To Enrich Lives through Effective Caring Service.”

VISION:

“Our purpose is to improve the quality of life in Los Angeles County by providing responsive, efficient and high quality public services that promote the self sufficiency, well being, and prosperity of individuals, families, businesses and communities.”

AUTHORITY

The Sybil Brand Commission for Institutional Inspections (Commission) is authorized by Chapter 2.82 of the Los Angeles County Code and consists of ten members; two from each Supervisorial District, with the Sheriff and the Chief Probation Officer serving as ex-officio members. The Commission meets weekly on Wednesday at 10:00 a.m., in Room 372 of the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

OBJECTIVE

The activities of the Commission are aligned with the County’s Strategic Goal #1 and #3.

- Los Angeles County Strategic Goal #1:
OPERATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS: Maximize the effectiveness of processes, structure, and operations to support timely delivery of customer-oriented and efficient public services.
- Los Angeles County Strategic Goal #3:
INTEGRATED SERVICES DELIVERY: Maximize opportunities to measurably improve client and community outcomes and leverage resources through the continuous integration of health, community, and public safety services.

DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION

At the direction of the Board of Supervisors or as directed by a judge of the Superior Court, the Commission conducts inspections of each jail or lockup in the County, County probation and correctional facilities and group homes under contract with the County that provide residential placements to minors who are under the jurisdiction of the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and/or the Probation Officer. The Commissioners examine each institution to ascertain its condition as to effective administration, cleanliness, discipline and comfort of the youth and inmates and advise on industrial and educational programs.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

☐ INSPECTIONS CONDUCTED BY COMMISSIONERS

- The Commission conducted over 900 inspections of group homes, probation camps and jail/lock-ups (facilities) in 2011 and 2012, respectively. The Commissioners inspected both the exterior and interior of the facilities, including the bathrooms, bedrooms, kitchens and common areas. They also inspected vehicles used to transport the youth, medical emergency kits and staff credentials. The unannounced inspections helped the Commissioners identify issues relative to cleanliness, discipline, effective administration and the safety and comfort of the individuals, some of which necessitated the issuance of corrective action for the service providers to correct the identified deficiencies.

☐ COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS WITH COUNTY DEPARTMENTS

- The Commission held 44 weekly meetings, including 11 monthly business meetings during 2011; and 44 meetings plus 12 monthly business meetings in 2012. Attendees of the business meetings included representatives from DCFS, Probation, Department of Mental Health (DMH), Auditor-Controller (A-C), Sheriff's Department (Sheriff) and Internal Services Department (ISD). The business meetings were dedicated to collaboration and roundtable discussions to address the concerns and the deficiencies that were observed during the Commissioners' inspections, resulting in implementation of many recommendations and corrective measures that focus on the well-being of the individuals in the facilities.
- In March 2011, the Commission participated in the DCFS and Probation's System Improvement Plan's (SIP) collaborative meeting, to offer recommendations to enhance the SIP program. The SIP program is one of California's Outcomes and Accountability Systems used to monitor and assess the quality of care provided by DCFS and Probation.



Monthly business meeting with representatives from DCFS, Probation, Sheriff, A-C and ISD.

Collaborative Efforts Continued

- During calendar years 2011 and 2012, the Commission collaborated with Department representatives to identify and recruit potential candidates from group homes to apply for the Commission's Annual Scholarship Program, established in 2009 to enhance the quality of lives for those incarcerated, and/or living under strict supervision, or residing in a group home. The Commission awarded three \$300 scholarships to three youth in 2011 and two \$300 scholarships to youth in 2012. Since 2007, the Commission has awarded scholarships to a total of 17 deserving youth.

Board of Supervisors Scholarship Awards Presentation Highlights



2011 Scholarship Recipients and the Commissioners

Front Row: Commissioners Rita Hall, Barbara Bigby, Chairperson Montaño, Scholarship Recipients Judeana Velasquez, Sephora Abui, and Talitha James.

Second Row: Fifth District Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Vice Chairperson Frank S. Bacio and Commissioner Carl Moore



2012 Scholarship Awards Presentation

Chairman of the Board, Zev Yaroslavsky, pictured here with the Commissioners and the 2012 scholarship recipients Olivia Clark and Reyan'na Milsap

Collaborative Efforts Continued

- Reaver Bingham, Deputy Chief, Adult Field/Juvenile Placement Services, Probation Department, attended the June 20, 2012 Commission Business Meeting to present and discuss the California legislation that passed the Public Safety Realignment Act (AB 109), which transferred responsibility for supervising specific low-level inmates and parolees from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to the Counties.
- The Commission met with representatives of the Citizens' Commission on Jail Violence (CCJV) Honorable Lourdes G. Baird, Chair Miriam Aroni Krinsky, Executive Director and Richard E. Drooyan, General Counsel, to discuss and commend the CCJV Commissioners for their outstanding work and due diligence in preparing the September 2012 report and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding the excessive use of force in Los Angeles County jails. They also discussed CCJV recommendations that would assist the Commission in conducting its inspections.
- The Commissioners listened intently at the June 20, 2012 Commission Business Meeting as Ms. Hania Cardenas of the Probation Department reported on the steps the Probation Department is taking to provide assistance to the youth that are victims of sex trafficking.



- The Commission sent representatives to the Men's Central Jail (MCJ) in November 2012 to observe and help facilitate the voting process for the inmates. This visit allowed the Commission representatives to observe the processes that enabled the 1,269 registered voter inmates to vote.
- During calendar year 2012, the Commission acknowledged and sent a letter of commendation to Sergeant Roel D. Garcia of the Sheriff's Department, EBI/Community Transition Unit, for his excellent performance in coordinating the voting process for the inmates at the MCJ on November 6, 2012. Also, in 2012, the Commission awarded a Certificate of Commendation to Mr. Bill Bermudez of Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall for his excellent teaching methods that foster a learning environment that broadens the experiences of the students.

Commission Holiday Luncheon Highlights



Left to right: Commissioners Barbara Bigby and Cheryl Grills



Left to right: Vice Chairperson Frank S. Bacio, Chairperson Eleanor R. Montaño and Commissioner Donald S. Andrews



Commissioner Donald S. Andrews and Staff Nyla Jefferson



Left to right: Commissioners Barbara Bigby, Cheryl Grills, and Staff Bolaji Famuyiwa and Jenny Kimbell



2013 Goals and Objectives

- Inspect all of the youth facilities and jail/lockups throughout Los Angeles County by the end of year
- Inspect the larger Probation camps and jails every six months
- Continue to collaborate with the Department of Children Families, Probation, Sheriff, Auditor-Controller, Department of Mental Health and Internal Services Division to ensure the safety of the Youth in group homes, probation camps and the inmates in the jail/lockups facilities
- Continue to network with group homes to recruit potential scholarship recipients

Administrative Support

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Commission Services Division
500 W. Temple Street, Room B-50
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Phone: (213) 974-1431
Fax: (213) 633-5102
Email: sbc@bos.lacounty.gov

The Commission acknowledges and extends gratitude to the following County departments and their representatives who worked diligently and collaboratively with the Commission to continue to fulfill its objectives:

Department of Auditor-Controller

Michele Day
Carla Carr
Cassandra Youngblood
Robert Smythe

Citizens' Commission on Jail Violence

Honorable Lourdes G. Baird
Miriam Aroni Krinsky
Richard E. Drooyan

Department of Children and Family Services

Elizabeth A. Howard
Patricia Bolanos-Gonzalez
La Sonya Gibbs
Eric Ball

Internal Services Department

William Kiriyaama
Brian Lear
Luis Enriquez

Department of Mental Health

Paul McIver
Elizabeth Fitzgerald
Gia Crecelius

Probation Department

Lisa Campbell-Motton
Michael Varela
Reaver E. Bingham
Hania Cardenas
Pamela Pease

Sheriff's Department

Commander Gerald Cooper
Commander Warren Asmus
Captain Orleanas
Lieutenant Jason Skeen
Lieutenant John Hunter
Karen Dalton
Steve Biagine

Department of Public Health

Lisa Sorensen



Los Angeles County

"Enriching Lives through Effective and Caring Service"



Sybil Brand Commission for Institutional Inspections

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