



Written Public Comment

Provided for the April 21, 2022 Meeting
of the Los Angeles County Sheriff Civilian Oversight
Commission as of 04/21/2022 at 5:00pm.

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Agenda Item	Public Comment	Name
New commission for investigation cases for misconduct or abuse of power	We need this office to take care of abuse and misconduct. We need this right away.	Reynaldo
Request for 3/17/22 meeting minutes	How can I acquire the minutes for the 3/17/22 meeting?	Andrew white
County jail facility programs	<p>1.Worker program for inmates fighting cases against officers...i.e.148.1(A)G.B.I.on officer.</p> <p>Inmate mail is open season, but you can't earn as a worker?</p> <p>2.Upgrade on mail system?</p>	A.ndrew J.ames White
3b	<p>I work as an Intensive Case Manager in Permanent Supportive Housing. My job is all about helping our formally unhoused neighbors become successful and to help them thrive in their community. In my experience, the trauma my clients discuss most often as affecting them and holding them back from success is the trauma they have experienced while in the LA County Jails. They tell me physical abuse is common. They tell me food is moldy often. I'm told that inappropriate strip searches often took place in public and humiliating ways. The amount of In-Custody deaths happening in LA county jails is absolutely unacceptable. The brutality at the hands of law enforcement officers and the conditions inside the jails in is a slow genocide in this County. Even before the pandemic, deaths in the lockups have gone up in recent years, from 20 in 2016 to 32 in 2019, according to statistics released by the Sheriff's Department. The fact that the Sheriffs can keep getting away with their behavior is disgusting and embarrassing and inappropriate. And the City needs to take these comments and concerns seriously. You already know there are legitimate concerns. I have clients who have received settlement from the City for violation of strip search procedures and the amount awarded was laughable -- 3 200 dollar payments over 3 years. Is that really reasonable compensation for trauma suffered at the hands of the State?? Stop beating people up. Stop molesting people. Give them edible food without mold. And please, for the love of God, please stop killing people. We have jails that the City itself had said need to be shut down and after 13 months, no plans to close the centers have been announced. Find your humanity and stop these inhumane practices of abusing and disappearing people. Please, Commission. Just do your damn job. Let our community thrive and give them a chance to live. Thank you.</p>	

2c, 3b,
general
public
comment

Agenda item 2c: The IG's report on Body Worn Cameras notes that an unarmed civilian died at the hands of LASD. The report identifies the inconsistencies of LASD's stated objective for the operation which LASD used as an excuse for not wearing BWC's. On October 5, 2021, at your recommendation, the Board Of Supervisors approved the Supplemental Budget Recommendations for FY 2021-22 including the Body-Worn Camera (BWC) Project — Adding \$9 million to LASD for the completion of the BWC project roll-out. \$9 million?! Take that money back & stop funding LASD until there is accountability. Those funds would be better spent in the community on ATI.

Michelle King

Agenda item 3b: I appreciate Dr Kelley acknowledging the aging infrastructure & lack of expertise to be able to support those incarcerated at CRDF. Women and other folks incarcerated in CRDF would be better cared for in the community. Women are commonly heads of families & incarcerating them are unnecessarily causing ripple effects across our communities. As you know in November 2018, the Board of Supervisors agreed to pay \$3.9 million to settle claims against the county, for Sheriff James McDonnell and Deputy Giancarlo Scotti for sexual assault and rape of at least 6 women. This abuse had been going on for years previous. That year Commissioner Giggans said that it's a bit shocking to see that after the independent audit of CRDF that they didn't pass anything & said that the jail system is going slower than anybody wants, but we just have to keep up the pressure. How about now in 2022, have the appropriate changes been made? Women, gender non-conforming, and queer folks are particularly vulnerable to abuse and assault. Close CRDF & treat those people in the community.

It's interesting to note the discrepancy in reporting of in-custody deaths of the Sheriff vs the OIG. The Sheriff's Dept manipulates the definition of in-custody deaths to make their death toll appear lower. We see through the attempted disguise. 55 deaths last year, 41 deaths the year before. Take out the 9 covid deaths & we are still seeing record level deaths in custody and higher than every year going back to at least 2013, under former Sheriff Baca, when 34 people died in the jails. So you can't blame covid. And 9 people wouldn't even have died of covid if sheriff deputies didn't refuse to get vaccinated, wear ppe, or follow guidelines. The OIG reporting that incarcerated folks who died of covid were denied vaccination themselves is disgusting. As for the fentanyl excuse, Where's the fentanyl coming from? Sheriff deputies are bringing it in. What if those experiencing addiction issues were receiving treatment in a facility that provided compassionate care from trained professionals? Jail's are not that.

Belavich reported over 6400 in mental health programs (a 100% increase since his hire) LA county jails are not a mental healthcare system- why do we continue to treat them as such? The solution is NOT more jobs in county jails. The answer is real treatment in actual mental health facilities and community based treatment programs. The most effective way to respond to people dying in jails is to drastically reduce the number of people in custody. Medical crises, drug overdose, COVID-19, and suicide all can be directly attributed to overcrowding in the jails. As Ms Beltz noted our carceral system was designed this way. And all of which can & should be treated through Alternatives to Incarceration in our community. Everything else Ms Beltz reported is constant neglect & misconduct. LASD is killing people. When will we stop them? Close MCJ, close CRDF- fund Alternatives to Incarceration that treat our community members for the root cause of their issues instead of incarcerating them. Incarceration does not solve mental health crises, drug addiction, housing, hunger, or poverty, incarceration only exacerbates it.

General public comment: When will you support a Charter amendment to keep the sheriff accountable?