# ANNUAL REPORT TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS





# LOS ANGELES COUNTY BUSINESS LICENSE COMMISSION 2019

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**APPOINTED MEMBERS** 

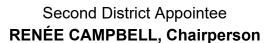
First District Appointee VIVIAN ROMERO



Third District Appointee

GENEVIEVE MORRILL, Secretary







Fourth District Appointee
ROCHELLE A. GONZALEZ



Fifth District Appointee
SARA VASQUEZ, Vice Chairperson



## MISSION STATEMENT

To determine whether to grant, deny, modify, suspend or revoke licenses, including charitable solicitation information cards within Los Angeles County.

### **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

The Commission is governed by Title 7 of the Los Angeles County Code - Business License with authority in all unincorporated areas of the County, and also provides business licensing for Los Angeles County contract cities such as Malibu, Santa Clarita and Westlake Village. Responsibilities include investigating and taking action on matters connected with the public health, safety and welfare of County residents. Licensing matters for a hearing are referred to the Commission by the Board of Supervisors or other County Departments. Business licenses requiring Commission action include, but are not limited to: taxicab franchises, taxi cab licenses, adult entertainment licenses, dance licenses, bookstores, billiard rooms, medical marijuana dispensaries, restaurants, salvage dealers, recycling centers, bingo operators, exhibitions, carnivals, circuses, health spas, massage parlors/technician, pictures arcades, rifle ranges, and private schools.

The Commission also encourages the formation of new and private charities to meet the needs of the public, and licenses and regulates all worthy enterprises of philanthropic nature.

### HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Board of Supervisors formed the Commission in 1942 to determine whether to grant, deny, modify, suspend or revoke licenses and monitor charitable organizations that solicit within the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County. The Commission holds its hearing on Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. in Room 374-A, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration.

### **FOCUS IN THE PAST YEAR**

Since January 1, 2019, a total of 51 business license applications were reviewed and approved by the Commission as shown below:

- 10 Annual Dance
- 1 Billiard Room
- 1 Bookstore
- 1 Corporate Officer Change
- 4 Entertainment General
- 8 Entertainment with Dance
- 1 Exhibition
- 1 Game Arcade

- 3 Health Spa
- 9 Massage Parlor
- 2 Outdoor Festival
- 4 Water Taxi Operator

There were six denial recommendations from various Departments and one accusation to revoke a business license that were upheld by the Commission.

- 1 Entertainment General (Denial
- 4 Massage Parlor (Denial)
- 1 Auto Repair Denial
- 1 Cabaret (Revocation)

# **HUMAN TRAFFICKING / CODE OF CONDUCT DISCUSSION**

On September 2019, the Commission discussed steps to address the recently adopted State of California Civil Code Section 52.6 on Human Trafficking. Section 52.6 states, upon the availability of the model notice described in subdivision (d), post a notice that complies with the requirements of this section in a conspicuous place near the public entrance of the establishment or in another conspicuous location in clear view of the public and employees where similar notices are customarily posted. To ensure compliance from each establishment and safety for all, the Commission will amend their Bylaws in 2020 to add Section 20 to coincide with this requirement for all Massage Establishments. The Commission was later notified by the Office of the Treasurer and Tax Collector that language that reflected Section 52.6 would also be included to the proposed ordinance changes within Title 7 for Massage Establishments.

### MASSAGE ESTABLISHMENT

At the request of the Board of Supervisors, TTC will provide Business License Commission with an update of changes to the Title 7 ordinance regarding massage parlors (Massage Establishments) in January 2020. Their report will also include the Department of Public Health's role to ensure compliance from the various Massage Establishments and what will be expected of the Business License Commission in their review of Massage Establishments.

### CONCLUSION

The Commission's scope of work continues to be a challenge as the types and increase of business license applications changes. The Commission has taken preliminary steps to ensure licenses and Notice of Intention to Solicit requests that come before the Commission is fair and satisfactory to all parties involved. The Commission looks forward to the proposed changes to Title 7, that may allow for additional clarity to continue its charge to review, approve, deny and revoke licenses in the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County and continue to serve the Board of Supervisors and the citizens of Los Angeles County.

Sincerely,

Renée Campbell, President Business License Commission

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c: Board of Supervisors