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**COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS**

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY**

*"Enriching lives through effective and caring service"*

September 4, 2024

**MEMORANDUM TO THE COMMISSIONERS**

FROM: Helen Chin, President

SUBJECT: Commission Meeting- Monday, September 9, 2024

Our Commission will meet on Monday, September 9, 2023 at 12:30 p.m.,  
at 510 S. Vermont Ave., 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, NK02 , Los Angeles, California.

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,,980587174#](tel:+12132042512980587174)  
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 9<sup>th</sup> floor and walk through the bridge, which is located towards the northwest corner of the parking structure, to reach Terrace (T) Level of the designated candidate waiting area. 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 (213) 639-6089 no later than 9:00 a.m., Monday, Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>.

The Ad Hoc Committee on Policing will meet from 10:45-12:15pm, in person or [Via Microsoft Teams](#)

*Grace Löwenberg*  
*L.A. County Commission on Human Relations*  
*Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors*  
*510 S. Vermont Ave., 15<sup>th</sup> Floor*  
*Los Angeles, CA 90020*  
*(213) 705-6304*



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

## AGENDA

### MEETING OF THE COMMISSION

Monday, September 9, 2024 – 12:30-2:00 pm

LA County Vermont Corridor 1 Bldg.- 510 S. Vermont Ave.- LA, CA 90020

Conference Room on the Terrace Level, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor

Also via MS Teams Video and Audio Conferencing [213-204 2512,,980587174#](https://teams.microsoft.com/join/213-204-2512-980587174) [Click here to join the meeting](#)

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 August 5, 2024 Meeting Minutes\***
- 3. President's Report (12:33)**
  - 3.1. Spotlight on Partners: Ejim Dike and Jordan Long
  - 3.2. IAOHRA Conference 2024 in St. Louis, MO
  - 3.3. Culver City/LA County Schools Anti-Hate Press Conference\*
- 4. Executive Director's Report (12:45)**
  - 4.1. IAOHRA Conference
  - 4.2. Top Ten Productivity and Quality Award for 'LA vs Hate'
  - 4.3. Communications Update - PIO Tony Cowser
  - 4.4. Other Program and Administrative Updates (Culver City and DA press conferences)\*
- 5. Committee Reports (12:55)**
  - 5.1. Transformative Justice Committee (Gunning)\*
  - 5.2. Policy and Advocacy (Legislation) Committee (Montaño)
  - 5.3. LA vs Hate Committee (Montaño)
  - 5.4. Human Rights Education/Culture (Yuen)
  - 5.5. Ad Hoc Committee for Five Year Strategic Plan (Kulkarni)
- 6. Public Comment (3 minutes per person) (1:05)**
- 7. Action/Discussion Items (1:10)**
  - 7.1. Commission Committees for FY 2024-25\*
  - 7.2. Collaboration with County Office of Anti-Racism, Diversity and Inclusion (ARDI)
  - 7.3. Commission Recommendation re: State Proposition 3\*
  - 7.4. LA County Government's purpose and services, and Human Rights\*
  - 7.5. LA vs. Hate United Against Hate Week (UAHW) Sept 20<sup>th</sup> launch\*
- 8. Commissioner Announcements (2 minutes per Commissioner) (1:55)**
- 9. Adjournment**

*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: Dandy De Paula, 21815 Pioneer Blvd., Hawaiian Gardens, CA 90716, Lisa M. Dabbs, 6528 Greenleaf Ave., Whittier, CA 90601; Kevork Keushkerian, 1115 Valley View Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91107.



# Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations

510 South Vermont Avenue, 11<sup>th</sup> floor  
Los Angeles, California, 90020  
www.lahumanrelations.org  
(213) 738-2788

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[PROPOSED] MINUTES  
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS  
Meeting of August 5, 2024  
Via Microsoft Teams Video & Audio Conferencing

PRESENT:	Helen L. Chin	Kevork Keushkerian*
	Ilan Davidson	Preeti Kulkarni
	Dandy De Paula*	Guadalupe Montaña
	Jeanette Ellis-Royston	Jason Moss*
	Isabelle Gunning	Fredrick Sykes
		Gay Yuen
STAFF:	Tony Cowser	Robert Sowell
	Jacqueline Gordon	Robin Toma

- 1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgment of Indigenous Peoples:** Commission President Helen Chin called the meeting to order at 12:50 p.m. with a quorum in attendance. President Chin began by reading the L.A. County Land Acknowledgment – which can be found at the following link: [Land Acknowledgment – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES \(lacounty.gov\)](https://www.lacounty.gov/land-acknowledgment) - and 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; 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 July 1, 2024 Meeting Minutes:** The motion to approve the minutes of the Commission meeting of July 1, 2024, as presented by Vice-President/Secretary (VP-Sec) Ilan Davidson was made by Commissioner Montano and seconded by Commissioner Kulkarni. The motion passed unanimously, without abstentions.
- 3. President's Report**

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\* 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.

**3.1 Spotlight on Community Partner: Ms. Sunitha Menon, new Executive Director of LA County LGBTQ+ Commission:** President Chin welcomed Sunitha Menon, the Executive Director of the LA County LGBTQ+ Commission. ED Menon introduced herself and explained that the LGBTQ+ Commission was formed as a response to the increasing hate, bias, prejudice and increase in anti-LGBTQ+ legislation. She explained that there are 12 Commissioners currently and have openings for 3 more, so they will be doing outreach and selection interviews. The LGBTQ+ Commission is reviewing all 38 LA County departments' policies, protocols, budgets, budgetary processes, trainings, and programs that support the LGBTQ+ community to create safe spaces for the community. ED Menon shared that the Commission has tables on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Hall of Administration with information on how to be an ally, with support resources. In the world and in the United States, some organizations want to separate the acronyms LGBTQ+ and TGI (Trans Gender Diverse, and Intersex) and is being discussed within the Commission. ED Menon explained that there are many ways to be a better ally to the Trans Community and everyone needs a basic level of respect and protection. The Commissioners and meeting participants introduced themselves to ED Menon and used their pronouns. She recommended the book "He/She/They: How We Talk About Gender and Why It Matters" by Schuyler Bailar.

**3.2. Upcoming Delegation to IAOHRA Conference:** President Chin announced that there were 5 Commissioners going to the upcoming IAOHRA Conference – Commissioners Montano, Favela, Davidson, Keushkerian, and herself. She emphasized that they would be sure to attend all the meetings at the conference and bring back anything that was useful for our work here in LA County. Commissioner Kulkarni noticed how many staff members from HRC were presenting and she recognized and congratulated the staff and the Commissioners for being in a space where we are experts in that field. President Chin will report back at the next meeting on what she and the other Commissioners learned.

## **4 Executive Director's Report**

**4.1. The Carter Center and UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR):** ED Toma presented his report on his attendance in the meeting in Atlanta of the national expert advisory body for the The Carter Center and the UN High Commissioner, a partnership working to to build a human rights education and culture in the U.S. He suggested that we create a Human Rights Education Committee and have leadership by a commissioner along with other experts on applying human rights to the United States.

**4.2. Announcement of LA vs Hate Unity Coalition:** ED Toma announced the formal launch of the Unity Coalition, a coalition of celebrities that have agreed to be part of our LA vs Hate initiative and particularly our United Against Hate Week (UAHW), which has been moved up to September 21-28 this year. UAHW will be launched with a press conference on September 20<sup>th</sup> and will have Supervisorial representation and many partners there.

**4.3. Communications Update - PIO Tony Cowser:** PIO Tony Cowser gave a PowerPoint presentation on the status of the Strategic Priority 4 Goals the Commission is governed by, which includes Goal 1, to develop and implement systems and procedures to address priority requests, including establishing criteria and procedures to prioritize requests to improve the quality of Commission's response to requests for assistance from constituents-including the Board of Supervisors, CEO and Commissioners and other stakeholders. PIO Cowser showed a workflow chart of the request intake process. Next, PIO Cowser talked about Goal 2: Increase Communication Frequency. He explained how the Commission would increase the scope and frequency of communications with a weekly report to strengthen stakeholder

engagement. Finally, PIO Cowser discussed Goal 3: Establish Metrics and Track Responses, and explained how the commission will establish a metrics system to streamline communications and track responses by strengthening relationships with all the communication teams in all 5 Supervisorial Districts. He also mentioned how collaborative projects with each district, other commissions, and ARDI were ways to elevate the Commission on Human Relations' work. PIO Cowser discussed metrics tools used to measure and track response, i.e., Gov Delivery, Meltwater, Automation tools, and Consumer Resource Management (CRM) software.

**4.4 Other Program and Administrative Updates:** ED Toma reported that we were contacted by Supervisor Horvath's office about a hate crime that happened at an elementary school in her district, involving two 12- and 13-year-olds who did the anti-Black and anti-Gay graffiti (neither were of the Culver City school district and of Culver City). A press conference is being organized by Culver City school district, Commission staff, and Supervisors' staff. School district leadership, our Commission, Supervisor Mitchell, whose district the hate crime was in, will speak at the conference, whose purpose is to call for united action against hate in schools in LA County, as we start the new school year.

## 5. Committee Reports

**5.1. Transformative Justice Committee:** Commissioner Gunning, chair, indicated that the committee did not meet since the last Commission meeting.

**5.2. Policy and Advocacy (Legislation) Committee:** Commissioner Montaña, Chair, said there was no report at this time.

**5.3. LA vs Hate Committee:** Commissioner Montaña, Chair, said there was no report for this committee.

6. Public Comment: (3 minutes per person): None was offered.

## 7. Action/Discussion Items:

**7.1 Creation of Ad Hoc Committee for Five Year Strategic Plan:** After discussion by commissioners and staff, a motion to create an Ad Hoc Committee was made by Commissioner Montaña and seconded by Commissioner Sykes. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

**7.2 Committees for FY 2024-25:** After presentation of this item by Pres. Chin, and review of the proposed committees for FY 2024-25, the proposed chairs and members, a motion was made by Commissioner Kulkarni, seconded by Commissioner Montaña, to approve the following committees, their chairs and their members as follows: JAF Awards Event Committee: Commissioners Davidson (Chair), Keushkerian, Montaña, and Yuen. Transformative Justice Committee: Commissioners Gunning (Chair), Ellis-Royston, Johnson, Kulkarni, Favela, and Sykes. Policy and Advocacy Committee: Commissioners Dabbs, Ellis-Royston, Gunning, Johnson, Montaña (Chair), and Moss. LA vs Hate Committee: Commissioners Chin, Gunning, Montaña (Chair), Moss, Yuen, and Davidson. Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Committee: Commissioners Kulkarni (Chair), Johnson, and Montaña. It was noted that the responsibility of the Chair is to work with staff to create the agenda, attend the meetings, work with the staff on calendaring and any upcoming meetings and facilitate those meetings. The motion passed unanimously.

**7.3 Collaboration with County Office of Anti-Racism, Diversity and Inclusion (ARDI):** This item was tabled due to time without objection at the request of the Chair.

**7.4 Establishing a Human Rights Education/Culture Committee:** President Chin and ED Toma began by explaining that the purpose of the committee would be to examine how we as the Commission can play a role in bringing human rights, education, and culture into LA County. It is to be chaired by a commissioner, but our bylaws allow non-commissioner committee members, who could be experts in this county that are academics and activists. It was moved by Commissioner Montaña, seconded by Commissioner Davidson, to create a Human Rights Education/Culture Committee, with members being Commissioners Davidson, Yuen (Chair), Montaña, and Sykes. The motion passed unanimously.

**8 Commissioner Announcements:** Commissioner Montaña requested information regarding a probable expansion of the Board of Supervisors and how that might affect the work of this Commission. ED Toma shared the limited information known at this time, but would be monitoring the proposal. Commissioner Keushkerian had questions regarding reimbursement concerning the IAOHRA Conference.

**9 Adjournment:** The motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Sykes and seconded by Commissioner Montaña. The motion passed unanimously, and President Chin adjourned the meeting at 2:04pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ilan Davidson  
Commission Vice President-Secretary



For Agenda Item 3.3

**MEDIA ADVISORY –FOR PLANNING PURPOSES**

Wednesday, August 7, 2024

**MEDIA CONTACT**

Tony Cowser  
213-440-2945  
ACowser@hrc.lacounty.gov

**LA COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES, SCHOOL OFFICIALS, AND RESIDENTS UNITE TO ANNOUNCE ACTIONS TO COMBAT HATE AS SCHOOL YEAR APPROACHES**

**What: Culver City, Calif.** - The Culver City Unified School District and the LA County Commission on Human Relations will hold a press conference to address recent racial and homophobic hate crimes at a Culver City school by standing up to hate and galvanizing support for schools and their communities to join in a countywide effort to end hate as the start of the new school year approaches. Elected and community leaders will join Los Angeles County’s LA vs Hate initiative and its many partners to discuss resources and programs available to the public and all 80 school districts throughout Los Angeles County.

**When:** Thursday, August 8, 2024, at 1:00 p.m.

**Where:** El Marino Language School (handball courts on campus),  
11450 Port Rd., Culver City, CA 90230

**Who:**

- Tony Thurmond, California Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Holly J. Mitchell, LA County Supervisor, Second District
- Freddy Puza, Culver City Councilmember
- Triston Ezidore, VP of Culver City Unified School District (CCUSD)
- Robin Toma, Executive Director LA County Commission on Human Relations
- Culver City Police Chief, Jason Sims
- Paul Kim, Hate Crimes Prosecutor, representing the LADA's Office
- Supt Debra Duardo, LA County Office of Education (LACOE)
- Nancy Barba, Resident and CCUSD parent
- Benicio Mora-Fattorini, CCUSD Student Culver City Equity and Human Relations Advisory Committee and CCUSD Student Board Member at Large
- Representatives of multiple LA vs Hate network partner community organizations that offer anti-hate resources to schools will also be present.

**RSVP:** News media are encouraged to RSVP by contacting Tony Cowser, [ACowser@hrc.lacounty.gov](mailto:ACowser@hrc.lacounty.gov), or 213-440-2945.

###





For Agenda Item 4.4

Media

News Releases & Advisories

Media Resources

Media FAQs

Open Letters

News Releases

SEARCH

August 29, 2024: DA Gascón Announces LADA’s Efforts to Take Strong Stand Against Hate Crimes in Los Angeles County

Contact: Media Relations Division (213) 257-2000 Media@da.lacounty.gov

LADA’s comprehensive approach to combatting hate crimes combines prosecution, education, and community service

Media Relations

211 West Temple Street Suite 1200 Los Angeles, CA 90012 Phone: (213) 257-2000

LOS ANGELES, CA — The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office is proud to announce a significant step forward in addressing and combating hate crimes throughout Los Angeles County. With hate crimes on the rise, the office is not only committed to holding perpetrators accountable but also to addressing the root causes of bias and fostering community reconciliation.

In a news conference today, District Attorney George Gascón was joined by Robin Toma, executive director, Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations; and members of LADA’s Hate Crimes Unit to address the office and county’s work to prosecute and assist in preventing hate crimes in Los Angeles County.

News Releases

2024

- January February March April May June July August September

Years

- 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024

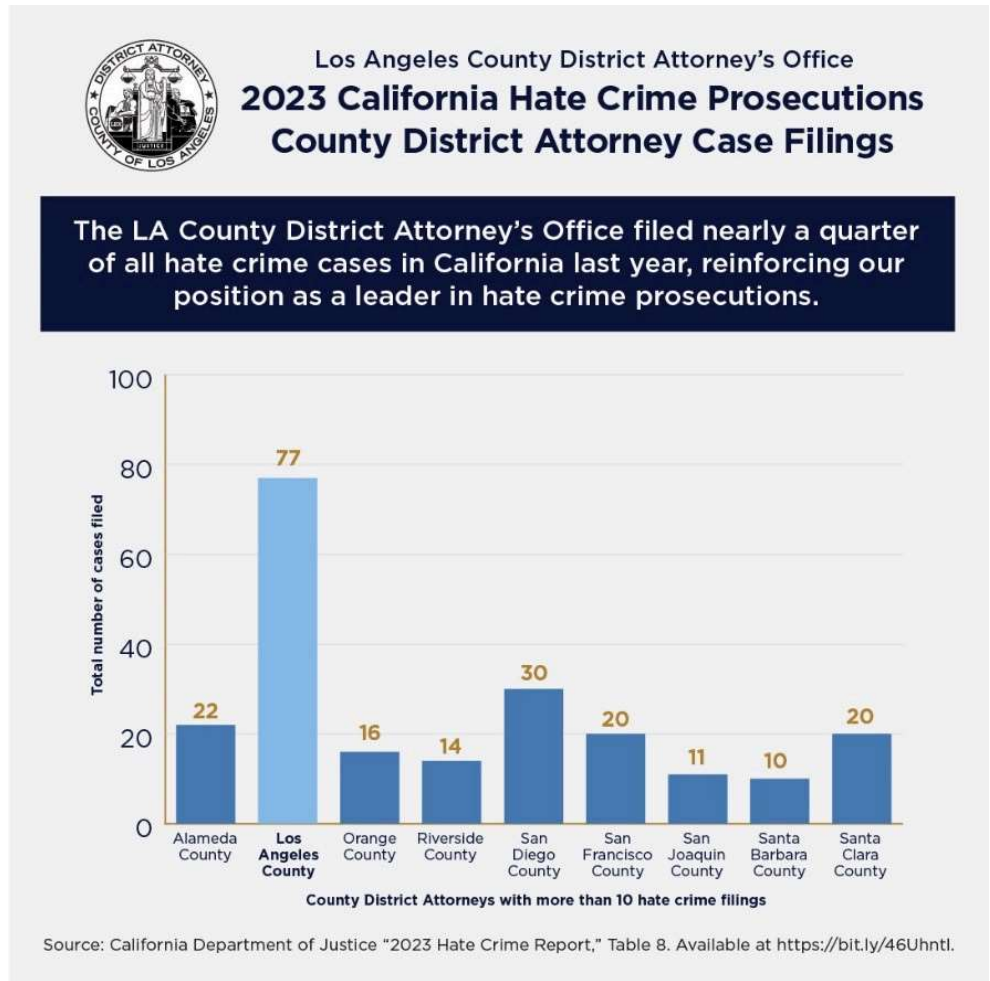
“Hate has no place in Los Angeles County. We have seen a troubling rise in hate crimes, and we are determined to fight back with a multifaceted approach, which includes concerted efforts to encourage tolerance and understanding through my office’s groundbreaking outreach efforts,” said District Attorney Gascón. “Our office not only prosecutes hate crimes aggressively but also works tirelessly to educate the community and inspire the sort of understanding that can prevent future incidents. We understand the pain these crimes inflict on our communities, and we are dedicated to both justice and healing.”

Recent statistics underscore the alarming trend of hate crimes in California. Statewide, reported hate crime cases have more than doubled from 307 in 2016 to 679 in 2023. These heinous acts have infiltrated our schools, public spaces, and communities, threatening the sense of safety in our diverse state. Los Angeles County, which files more hate crime cases than any other county in California, remains resolute in its commitment to prosecuting these crimes and addressing their root causes.

“Meaningful consequences for those who commit hate crimes in our communities are a necessary part of the strategy for ensuring safety and a sense of belonging for all of us in a diverse LA County, so I applaud these hate crime convictions,” said Robin Toma, Executive Director of the L.A. County Commission on Human Relations, the agency that leads the countywide anti-hate program known as LA vs. Hate. “But I also applaud DA George Gascón for going farther: he joins our Commission and LA vs. Hate in supporting more programs that aim to use transformative educational experiences to change the thinking of those who have committed hate crimes, so they don’t continue to carry hate.”

LA vs. Hate provides many crucial services and has made valuable commitments to our communities, including: education to show bystanders how to interrupt hate when they see it; free legal and other healing assistance confidentially via tele-help partners at 2-1-1 in LA; and free art, memes, and gifs to spread anti-hate messages on social media. Toma added: “Of course, we can only address hate if people take the time to report it – to the police, or confidentially, and in multiple languages, to www.LAvsHate.org or by calling 211. Together we can eradicate hate in LA County.”

Under District Attorney Gascón’s leadership, the commitment to prosecuting hate crimes has strengthened significantly. From 2021 to 2023, 84% of hate crime cases referred to the District Attorney’s Office were filed as such, marking a notable increase from the previous administration’s record. In 2023 alone, the office prosecuted 79% of hate crime cases referred by law enforcement —one of the highest rates in the state and representing nearly a quarter of all hate crime prosecutions in California.



Recent examples of this commitment include the cases of:

- **Kevin Mumin**, who was sentenced on August 21, 2024, to 23 years and eight months in state prison for a series of violent hate crimes. In August 2023, Mumin targeted Latino males in three separate incidents based on their nationality/race/ethnicity, and aggressively confronted them, ultimately resulting in three violent assaults. In February 2023, Mumin also sexually assaulted a young high school student while she was riding the bus on the way to school. Mumin was found guilty by a jury on three counts of assault with a deadly weapon, and one count of sexual battery by restraint. Both the great bodily injury and hate crime allegations were found true. His conviction and sentencing reflect the office’s resolve to bring perpetrators to justice and send a clear message that hate crimes will not be tolerated.
- Another case involved **Israel Hernandez**, who in December 2023, approached an African American man who was unhoused and vulnerable, at a bus stop. When the man refused Hernandez’s demand for money, he was brutally attacked, punched repeatedly in the face while being subjected to vile racial slurs. Hernandez was charged with assault with a deadly weapon, with the aggravating circumstance of hate. He was found guilty by a jury on April 11, 2024, and sentenced to four years in state prison.
- And there are others, like the case of **Klinton Dion** whose hateful antisemitic vandalization of multiple locations throughout Burbank and Glendale caused horrific fear in our Jewish community

at a particularly vulnerable time. On August 23, 2024, he pleaded guilty to one count of vandalism of a place of worship and one count of placing a symbol of hate on private property. He was sentenced to 2 years and 8 months in state prison.

In addition to rigorous prosecution, LADA introduced the Reconciliation Education and Counseling Crimes of Hate Program (REACCH) in October 2021. This innovative program pairs anti-bias education with mental health support and victim reconciliation, aiming to foster understanding and prevent recidivism. The program has expanded to include a substantial portion of the more than 50 felony hate crime cases filed annually.

“We are committed to not just punishing but also preventing hate,” said DA Gascón. “Through REACCH and other initiatives, we are addressing the underlying issues of bias and fostering a more inclusive community. This comprehensive approach is essential to creating lasting change.”

Community members are encouraged to report hate, discrimination, or bullying and seek support services by calling LA vs. Hate at 2-1-1.

**Links:**    [Employment](#) | [Public Data](#)

[Site Map](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) |

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

**AGENDA FOR MEETING OF THE  
TRANSFORMATIVE JUSTICE COMMITTEE  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS**

**Monday, September 9, 2024 | 10:45AM – 12:15PM**

510 S. Vermont Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90020  
9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Press Room

[Via Microsoft Teams](#)  
Or Call In at +1 (213) 204-2512  
Phone Conference ID: 333 921 796#

**Chair:** Commissioner Isabelle Gunning | **Secretary:** Commissioner Azusena Favela

**Members:** Commissioners Preeti Kulkarni, Fredrick Sykes, Derric Johnson,  
Jeanette Ellis-Royston

**Staff:** Robin Toma, Robert Sowell, Pierre Arreola, Joshua Parr, Paul Smith

- 1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement of Indigenous Peoples (10:45)**
- 2. Review & Approval of July 1, 2024 Meeting Minutes (10:47)**
- 3. Discussion: Sheriff Accountability (10:50)**
  - 3.1. LA County Custody Facilities Visits**
- 4. Discussion: Staff & County Updates (11:40)**
  - 4.1. Regional Projects**
- 5. Public Comment (3 Minutes Per Person) (12:00)**
- 6. Action Items (12:05)**
  - 6.1. LA County Custody Facilities Visits**
- 7. Commissioner & Staff Announcements (12:10)**
- 8. Adjournment (12:15)**

*Note: The following Commissioners will be participating by conference telephone communication from the following locations: Preeti Kulkarni, 3419 Federal Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90066.*

*For translation to other languages o para más información en Español, call (213) 738-2788 or email us at [PArreola@hrc.lacounty.gov](mailto:PArreola@hrc.lacounty.gov). An asterisk (\*) denotes that this agenda packet includes written material regarding this agenda item.*

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<b>JAF AWARDS EVENT COMMITTEE</b>	<b>TRANSFORMATIVE JUSTICE COMMITTEE</b>	<b>POLICY AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEE</b>	<b>LA VS. HATE COMMITTEE</b>	<b>AD HOC STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE</b>	<b>Human Relations Education/Cultural Committee</b>
<i>Ilan Davidson (Chair)</i>	<i>Isabelle Gunning (Chair)</i>	<i>Guadalupe Montaña (Chair)</i>	<i>Guadalupe Montaña (Chair)</i>	<i>Preeti Kulkarni (Chair)</i>	<i>Ilan Davidson (Chair)</i>
Kevork Keushkerian	Jeanette EllisRoyston	Lisa Dabbs	Helen Chin**	Derric Johnson	Guadalupe Montaña
Guadalupe Montaña	Derric Johnson	Jeanette EllisRoyston	Isabelle Gunning	Guadalupe Montaña	Fredrick Sykes
Gay Q. Yuen	Preeti Kulkarni	Isabelle Gunning	Jason Moss		Gay Yuen
	Azusena Favela	Derric Johnson	Gay Q. Yuen		Helen Chin**
	Fredrick Sykes	Jason Moss	Ilan Davidson		
Staff: Robert Sowell	Staff: Robert Sowell Pierre Arreola Joshua Parr Paul Smith	Staff: Robin Toma	Staff: Robin Toma Fidel Rodriguez Valentina D'Alessandro	Staff: Robin Toma Robert Sowell	Staff: Robin Toma Robert Sowell

(\*) Our Commission Bylaws (Article IX) require that each year, our Commission ratify the committees and its members.

(\*\*) The Commission President is an ex-officio member of all committees, per the Commission's Bylaws.

September 3, 2024

TO: COMMISSIONERS

FR: ROBIN TOMA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RE: AGENDA ITEM 7.3. - COMMISSION MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2024

Proposition 3, put on the ballot by the state legislature, and which the Calif Secretary of State has summarized as follows:

CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO MARRIAGE. LEGISLATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

**Summary:** Amends California Constitution to recognize fundamental right to marry, regardless of sex or race. Removes language in California Constitution stating that marriage is only between a man and a woman. **Fiscal Impact:** No change in revenues or costs for state and local governments. **Supporters:** Sierra Pacific Synod of The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; Dolores Huerta Foundation; Equality California **Opponents:** Jonathan Keller, California Family Council; Rev. Tanner DiBella

The LA County CEO Intergovernmental Relations manager asked me to confirm a response I had given her some time ago regarding the state ballot initiative.

*ARDI, County Counsel, and the Executive Director of the Commission on Human Relations agree that it is discriminatory and inequitable to deny the ability of one person to marry another based on sex or perceived same-gender identity.*

It is worth noting that the U.S. Supreme Court has already decided that marriage is a fundamental right that cannot be denied to same sex couples.

She informed me it was for a report to the Board of Supervisors regarding ballot measures, and she could not wait until the next commission meeting.

So, I contacted Pres. Helen Chin, and asked her if she was in agreement or had any concerns, with the statement. She said she had no objections or concerns.

This is presented for discussion and ratification by the Commission.



## Hate Crime and Human Rights

Hate crimes are not only illegal under state and federal laws, they also violate human rights as defined by the international community.

In the aftermath of World War II, leaders from many nations came together in 1948 to establish the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). Among the principles included in this declaration are affirmations that all human beings are equal in dignity and rights and no one is to be subject to torture or to cruel, inhumane, or degrading treatment. Groups and nations around the world continue to work diligently to turn the UDHR's powerful principles into action.

Since 1965, the U.S. and 176 other nations have signed the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD), which compels signatory nations to combat racial and national origin discrimination. Under this treaty, hate crimes are considered serious human rights abuses. The CERD Committee has stressed that government action as well as inaction can violate CERD, and there is no excuse for complacency or indifference by a government toward either public or private discrimination, particularly when it involves violence.

When the U.S. and 167 other nations signed the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), they committed to respect and fulfill the right to life and the security of the person regardless of race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth, or other status.

The U.S. Constitution states that the Constitution and treaties are the supreme law of the land. Thus, all levels of government in the U.S. – including counties, cities, and school districts – and individuals have a duty to uphold these treaty obligations to address discrimination in any form, including hate crime.

Human Rights First ([www.humanrightsfirst.org/discrimination](http://www.humanrightsfirst.org/discrimination)) suggests the following strategies for responding to hate crime:

- Acknowledge and condemn hate crimes whenever they occur. Senior leaders should send immediate, strong, public, and consistent messages that violent hate crimes—including against migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers—will be investigated thoroughly and prosecuted to the full extent of the law.
- Strengthen enforcement and prosecute offenders. Governments should ensure that those responsible for hate crimes are held accountable under the law and that the prosecution of hate crimes against any individuals regardless of their legal status in the country is a priority for the criminal justice system.
- Develop educational and transformative approaches, particularly restorative justice mechanisms, for hate crime offenders. Governments need to use effective methods to heal communities and reduce recidivism.
- Monitor and report on hate crimes. Governments should maintain official systems of monitoring and public reporting to provide accurate data for informed policy decisions to combat hate crimes.
- Reach out to community groups. Governments should conduct outreach and education to communities to reduce fear and assist victims, advance police-community relations, encourage improved reporting of hate crimes to the police, and improve the quality of data collection by law enforcement bodies.

## CONNECTION BETWEEN HUMAN RIGHTS AND OUR COMMISSION MANDATE

We invest our time, expertise, creativity, and resources in advocacy and action for the full effectuation of the human rights of all persons and peoples in LA County in fulfillment of the County law's mandate to our Commission and staff to:

- work for the elimination in our County of injustices and inequities resulting from prejudice, intolerance, and discrimination;
- advance public welfare and security;
- cultivate good will and better relations among all people;
- foster civic peace and intergroup understanding; and
- promote equal opportunity and full acceptance of all community members in all aspects of community life.

In compliance with the Board's explicitly assigned duties for accomplishing our mandate from them, we:

- Engage in research and education;
- Design, deliver, and manage programs;
- Collaborate with and help coordinate throughout the County the work of partner agencies and groups;
- Collaborate with County departments; and
- Recommend to the Board needed policies, including legislation.



# LA vs HATE UNITED AGAINST HATE WEEK CITY TOOLKIT

September 21st–27th, 2024



Use this toolkit to provide your city, staff, and residents with Easy-to-Operationalize Ideas For Joining Us for United Against Hate Week.

The dangers of hate, racism, and bigotry grow more apparent every day and the need for local action could not be more urgent. LA vs Hate is a program of the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations, one of the oldest civil rights organizations in the nation. This anti-hate program was created in direct response to the rise in hate crimes and bias incidents that pose a dangerous threat to the safety and civility of our neighborhoods.

Local governments, public servants, and politicians have a unique opportunity and responsibility to uplift messages of hope and unity in these difficult times. [LA vs Hate](#) is committed to supporting residents of LA County with in-community support and materials and to that end, we would love to partner with you during United Against Hate Week. This event is an important way to ensure your residents feel included, welcome and safe.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO GET INVOLVED:

- Issue a Proclamation recognizing the importance of LA vs Hate United Against Hate Week in your community. [A sample draft is available here.](#)
- Commit to printing and distributing LAVsHate [posters](#) in your civic buildings and local small businesses. These designs are ready to print on 11 x 17” paper stock. We suggest organizing volunteers, students or street teams to share several [talking points about LA vs Hate](#) while helping brick-and-mortar locations put up the posters in their windows or community boards. Take pictures of these posters and tag @lavshate.
- Promote before and during United Against Hate Week on your [social media channels, newsletters,](#) and other digital communications with residents. We have [neighborhood specific content](#) available. If you do not see your neighborhood, feel free to write to us at [info@lavshate.org](mailto:info@lavshate.org). Again, don't forget to tag @lavshate in your social media posts.
- Ask your City Mayor to record a 30-60 second video expressing the need to unite against hate. Don't forget to drive residents to [lavshate.org](http://lavshate.org) or 211LA to report hate. Find examples [here](#).
- Encourage your public servant team to save the 211LA number on their phone. Scan this QR code and have them share the number with at least 3 contacts that could be a victim of hate.
- Does your city have digital signage or a broadcast channel? We can work with you to develop digital signage content to build awareness of United Against Hate week with your residents.



At a time when our country is deeply divided and intolerance is spreading, LA vs Hate UNITED AGAINST HATE WEEK will provide an opportunity to build inclusive communities, businesses and schools that reject bias, bullying, hate and bigotry. Join us!

LA vs Hate United Against Hate Week is open to all County residents and we encourage you to be involved in any way that you can.

**LEARN MORE ABOUT  
REPORTING HATE WITH 211**

**SIGN THE PLEDGE AGAINST HATE  
TO BE PART OF OUR MOVEMENT**

**DOWNLOAD LA vs HATE  
COLLATERAL**

**SHARE LA vs HATE  
DIGITAL CONTENT**

**REVIEW THE FULL UNITED AGAINST  
HATE WEEK EVENT CALENDAR**

**ADD YOUR EVENT TO THE  
UNITED AGAINST HATE WEEK EVENT CALENDAR**



Please do not hesitate to reach out to [info@lavshate.org](mailto:info@lavshate.org) with questions!

## ABOUT LA VS HATE

LA vs Hate is a community-centered system designed to support all residents of Los Angeles County. Led by the Human Relations Commission, LA vs Hate partners with community partners from all five County districts, representing a diverse coalition of voices committed to ending hate. The system aims to address the normalization of hate and inspire people to stand up to it, build understanding about what constitutes a hate act and how to report it, as well as support individuals and communities as they heal from the trauma of hate and work to end systemic discrimination. By tracking and reporting hate, we can ensure that resources are allocated appropriately, that those targeted by hate receive the support they need, and that together, we can build respectful and resilient communities in solidarity with one another.

