



Written Public Comment

Provided for the May 19, 2022 Meeting
of the Los Angeles County Sheriff Civilian Oversight
Commission as of 05/19/2022 at 5:00pm.

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.

Item	Public Comment	Name
3b	<p>3b LA County Charter Amendment for Real Sheriff Accountability - LA County has reached a breaking point in a long-term crisis which has placed us in the national spotlight. It is time that the Commission agenda and discuss the community's recommendation urging the Board to refer to voters an amendment to the LA County Charter to maximize civilian oversight and common sense checks and balances over the sheriff and LASD. The Commission should recommend the Board of Supervisors refer to voters a ballot measure that would amend the L.A. County Charter to maximize civilian oversight and common sense checks and balances over the sheriff and LASD.</p>	Gabriela Rojas
3.b - L.A. County Charter Amendment for Real Sheriff Accountability [Resolution in support of amending the Los Angeles County Charter]	<p>The Commission should recommend the Board of Supervisors refer to voters a ballot measure that would amend the L.A. County Charter to maximize civilian oversight and common sense checks and balances over the sheriff and LASD. I support the Commission agenda and discussing the community's recommendation urging the Board to refer to voters an amendment to the LA County Charter to maximize civilian oversight and common sense checks and balances over the sheriff and LASD. L.A. County has reached a crisis point under its sheriff yet again: Villanueva and LASD are the single greatest threat to the civil liberties and lives and safety of Angelenos, especially Black and brown community members. The Board of Supervisors—which is responsible for the health and safety of the public, including supervision of the sheriff—has not implemented policies and structures necessary to protect against the sheriff's abuse of power, including repeated violations of the law and complete obstruction of oversight, his misuse of county funds to pursue his personal political agenda, his secret police unit and politically-motivated investigations intended to intimidate and harass oversight officials, the unchecked scourge of deputy gang violence that he has actively enabled, and the dramatic increase in deputy shootings and record-level unnecessary deaths in the jails under his watch. This goes beyond and deeper than Villanueva. Deputy gangs, for example, are a symptom of a pervasive culture in LASD of lawlessness, secrecy, and unbridled brutality. And Villanueva is a product of this culture. Deputy gangs and other forms of deputy violence have persisted because one sheriff's administration after the next has failed to enact and enforce policies that provide meaningful and consistent discipline when deputies harass, abuse, and kill. Among them, former Sheriff Baca oversaw rampant and extreme violence in the jails—much of it perpetuated by deputy gangs—and went to federal prison for obstructing civil rights intervention. Now, Villanueva has gone from denying the existence of deputy gangs to claiming that they are harmless fraternities and adopting a meaningless policy—all the while defying lawful subpoenas and violating laws on transparency and oversight. Villanueva's disinterest in stemming deputy violence, including deputy gangs, is the most recent illustration of how existing County structures are insufficient to guard against sheriffs who refuse to cooperate voluntarily and are hostile to civilian oversight. Sheriffs have tremendous power, and a sheriff who abuses it has the potential to do tremendous harm. But no sheriff is above the law and we must act now to hold them accountable. In fact, what we've desperately needed is significant structural change—and creating meaningful checks and balances for the sheriff's office is long overdue. We need a charter amendment that will strengthen sheriff accountability and create a common-sense checks and balances of the sheriff and LASD. I urge the COC to support an amendment to the County Charter that will strengthen sheriff accountability and create a common sense structure of checks and balances, once and for all. The COC should recommend to the Board that it propose to the voters a charter amendment that will: (1) establish an impeachment process to allow removal of the Sheriff for serious misconduct, (2) reinforce the Board's policy-making authority over the Sheriff's Department, and (3) establish permanent and independent civilian oversight.</p>	Valerie Morishige

Resolution in support of amending the Los Angeles County Charter	I am in favor of placing a charter amendment on the November ballot to have more oversight and rules for misconduct of the sheriff and his/her department.	Gertrude Anderson, ACLU member
3.b	<p>Esteemed members of the Civilian Oversight Commission, we write to you this morning as the three co-presidents of UNITE HERE Local 11. We are a labor union representing 32,000 members in the hospitality and tourism industries, comprising workers from many immigrant communities and who are overwhelmingly Black, Latinx, or Asian American. On June 18, 2020, Sheriff's deputies shot Andres Guardado five times in the back, killing him, while he was working at his part time job as a security guard in Gardena. Andres had gotten the job to help provide for his family after his father, Cristobal, a UNITE HERE Local 11 member and cook at the LA Grand Downtown Hotel, was laid off due to COVID-19. As a union, we gathered around the grieving Guardado family and began to organize to demand the resignation of Sheriff Alex Villanueva. We successfully unseated Sheriff Arpaio in Arizona in 2016 and so we know an abusive and unjust sheriff when we see one. In our original letter to say Adios to Villanueva, we began: "For decades, the Los Angeles, County Sheriff's Department has been rife with corruption, abuse of power, and impunity...[Sheriff Villanueva] has dramatically exacerbated its problems by undermining basic mechanisms of accountability and civilian oversight at every turn." In our attempts to get justice for the Guardado family, we have subsequently seen LASD officials refuse to cooperate with an independent investigation, stonewalling the Inspector General. The deputy who shot Andres and two other LASD detectives involved refused to testify in the coroner's inquest into Guardado's killing, the first of its kind in 30 years, stating they would invoke the Fifth Amendment. Sheriff Villanueva himself consistently refused to appear at Civilian Oversight Commission meetings, even when lawfully subpoenaed to do so by the Commission. In the last 23 months since the LASD killed Andres, we have learned that the existing mechanisms to bring long overdue and urgently needed accountability to the Sheriff's Department are simply too weak. As leaders in the labor movement, we know that an injury to one is an injury to all. The Sheriff's Department has never demonstrated a commitment or even an understanding of this basic principle of justice. So we call today on the Commission to act now to recommend the Board of Supervisors refer to the voters a ballot measure that would amend the L.A. County Charter to maximize civilian oversight over the Sheriff and LASD because we can no longer wait to hold the Sheriff accountable. This measure creates common sense checks and balances. The Board of Supervisors needs the ability to remove a Sheriff that endangers the lives of the voters they are elected to serve. Just like Congress can impeach a President, the Board of Supervisors should have the power to protect us by removing a Sheriff when necessary. No Sheriff is above the law and we are committed to making this so in LA County, for all of our members and the Guardado family especially. Thank you. Sincerely, Ada Briceño, Kurt Petersen, & Susan Minato Co-Presidents, UNITE HERE Local 11</p>	UNITE HERE Local 11

L.A. County
Charter
Amendment
for Real
Sheriff
Accountability
[Resolution in
support of
amending the
Los Angeles
County
Charter]

Topline Demand: The Commission should recommend the Board of Supervisors refer to voters a ballot measure that would amend the L.A. County Charter to maximize civilian oversight and common sense checks and balances over the sheriff and LASD. I support the Commission agenda and discussing the community's recommendation urging the Board to refer to voters an amendment to the LA County Charter to maximize civilian oversight and common sense checks and balances over the sheriff and LASD. L.A. County has reached a crisis point under its sheriff yet again: Villanueva and LASD are the single greatest threat to the civil liberties and lives and safety of Angelenos, especially Black and brown community members. The Board of Supervisors—which is responsible for the health and safety of the public, including supervision of the sheriff—has not implemented policies and structures necessary to protect against the sheriff's abuse of power, including repeated violations of the law and complete obstruction of oversight, his misuse of county funds to pursue his personal political agenda, his secret police unit and politically-motivated investigations intended to intimidate and harass oversight officials, the unchecked scourge of deputy gang violence that he has actively enabled, and the dramatic increase in deputy shootings and record-level unnecessary deaths in the jails under his watch. This goes beyond and deeper than Villanueva. Deputy gangs, for example, are a symptom of a pervasive culture in LASD of lawlessness, secrecy, and unbridled brutality. And Villanueva is a product of this culture. Deputy gangs and other forms of deputy violence have persisted because one sheriff's administration after the next has failed to enact and enforce policies that provide meaningful and consistent discipline when deputies harass, abuse, and kill. Among them, former Sheriff Baca oversaw rampant and extreme violence in the jails—much of it perpetuated by deputy gangs—and went to federal prison for obstructing civil rights intervention. Now, Villanueva has gone from denying the existence of deputy gangs to claiming that they are harmless fraternities and adopting a meaningless policy—all the while defying lawful subpoenas and violating laws on transparency and oversight. Villanueva's disinterest in stemming deputy violence, including deputy gangs, is the most recent illustration of how existing County structures are insufficient to guard against sheriffs who refuse to cooperate voluntarily and are hostile to civilian oversight. Sheriffs have tremendous power, and a sheriff who abuses it has the potential to do tremendous harm. But no sheriff is above the law and we must act now to hold them accountable. In fact, what we've desperately needed is significant structural change—and creating meaningful checks and balances for the sheriff's office is long overdue. We need a charter amendment that will strengthen sheriff accountability and create a common-sense checks and balances of the sheriff and LASD.

<p>L.A. County Charter Amendment for Real Sheriff Accountability [Resolution in support of amending the Los Angeles County Charter</p>	<p>Sheriffs have tremendous power, and a sheriff who abuses it has the potential to do tremendous harm. But no sheriff is above the law and we must act now to hold them accountable. In fact, what we've desperately needed is significant structural change—and creating meaningful checks and balances for the sheriff's office is long overdue. We need a charter amendment that will strengthen sheriff accountability and create a common-sense checks and balances of the sheriff and LASD. I urge the COC to support an amendment to the County Charter that will strengthen sheriff accountability and create a common sense structure of checks and balances, once and for all. The COC should recommend to the Board that it propose to the voters a charter amendment that will: (1) establish an impeachment process to allow removal of the Sheriff for serious misconduct, (2) reinforce the Board's policy-making authority over the Sheriff's Department, and (3) establish permanent and independent civilian oversight. First, the threat of removal would provide the civilian Board with a more direct means to protect the public from serious misconduct by the sheriff, a paramilitary official comparable to an elected general. Neither elections every four years nor the theoretical possibility of an expensive recall can produce timely accountability and correction when the power of the sheriff's office is abused. Second, the proposal should clarify the authority of the Board to set policies for LASD that do not interfere with the statutory authority of the sheriff or otherwise conflict with state law. The Board has the duty under state law to supervise its sheriffs "in order to ensure that they faithfully perform their duties," and local law recognizes that this responsibility includes the authority to direct and approve the development of policy for LASD. Yet, the Board has rarely exercised this authority and, as a result, sheriffs have adopted and maintained policies that directly violate the letter and spirit of various local, state, and federal laws. Clarifying in the Charter that the Board retains authority over the sheriff within the limit of the constitution would help clarify the Board's role and ensure sheriffs faithfully perform their duties, including compliance with laws relating to transparency, use of force, and deputy gangs, among other areas. Finally, to ensure that future boards less committed to civilian oversight cannot undermine the existing oversight bodies, the proposal should explicitly incorporate both the Office of the Inspector General and the Civilian Oversight Commission into the county charter, including their subpoena authority and resources to fulfill their functions.</p>	<p>Camerina P.S. Davidson, California National Organization for Women President</p>
<p>3.b</p>	<p>These people need to be investigated thoroughly and held accountable for their actions.</p>	
<p>Family Assistant Program</p>	<p>I understand I will get in trouble if I disclose information to the public I may learn about an ex LASD deputy who (did fraud, arson and extortion against me) was allowed to resign as a deputy without being charged for felony Does this rule about getting in trouble for disclosing the info still true if the ex-deputy has died since then?</p>	<p>Richard Strickland, American Legion Member</p>
<p>Homeless and public safety</p>	<p>How are you dealing with this issue and more homes for all. Also Safety in our neighborhood</p>	<p>Jack Deman</p>

3b/ 3C

EJ Medal. I am in support of reducing the gang member LASD organization budget!!! decade in and decade this gang member organization has targeted, intimidated, abused, harassed, kill, cheat, lie, and cover to many criminal activities that the people are fed up with!!! Example, Bandito Villanueva shows us how his position as a gang member leader works! intimidate, threaten, and harass Our budget should focus on this, it has to focus on only one thing public safety!!! So, this brings me to agenda # 3B what is it that you will do as an independent body to assure us that the deputy gang investigation will actually bring results to make sure that our communities are finally safe from this gang member organization! tactics, federal violation in every local, and state level must cease!!! the gang member who are among this organization in the county of L.A. must be held accountable. These gang members must be identified, prosecuted, and fired! There is no trust every within any gang member sheriff or their station until this oversight committee understands that measures are taken to swiftly remove gang member sheriff and hold the higher rank accountable too! This is what we mean by reimagine policing!! this gang member organization must be held accountable to maximum! We cannot go back to any previous decade. I am requesting that this oversight committee passes community-based measures to ensure that no one gang member deputy gets away with anything! I am asking that the investigation continues because I have to constantly be watching for my brother or sister on the streets who are stopped by gang member sheriffs! This should and will not be the way! this gang member organization should be held to the highest of everything along with every gang member that works for this gang member organization!!! I am tired of seeing Bandito Villanueva on the news! about who he is targeting, threatening, and harassing! Item 3C I support amending the L.A. County Charter because when you have rogue leaders like Bandito Villanueva or any tattooed gang member sheriff we can swiftly go after them, or anyone involve and prosecute. fire, and sue! We must amend swiftly to send the message that public safety will not be compromise because the leader wants to do his own thing when he wants and how he wants! In addition, you oversight committee must send the message that illegal activity, racism, targeting, mis used of money/equipment will never be tolerated!

2c 2e 3a 3b.

2c In order to understand and decipher what the Inspector general is doing we must understand that the information must be fundamental and straight to the point regarding the behavior every in California has recently witnessed with Gang member Bandito Villanueva! I urge the Inspector General to give a clear indication into the consequences that not only Bandito Villanueva will face but its entire L.A. County gang member organization. We cannot afford to stand by and let this gang organization just continue to do what criminals do! there has to be a line drawn to distinguish the difference. We must look to accountability and higher standards. I am requesting that the Inspector General shares the findings with consequences in place. 2e the update on the Los Angeles gang member sheriff department has to reflect that this gang member organization has to 100% focus on public safety! nothing more. We as a community must not be put in harm's way because the leader of this gang member organization wants it his way or no way at all!!! I you are following the news this gang member organization just lost its bid from Metro which is something that we should take into account. More and more people like Bandito Villanueva says all the time "woke" some of us have been woke since the Rodney King incident. I am an individual and call myself a warrior not a victim of this corrupt organization of gang members. I still remember in 1992 I was in a parking lot waiting for my African America friend to come out of this office he had enter in the city of Norwalk! 8 gang member sheriff surrounded my Nissan Sentra ready to open fire if I did not open my door. Everything is just the same gang member tactics, inhumane mentality, and violation of constitutional rights!!! After that incident occur with me, I proceeded to file a complaint with the Norwalk gang member station at the time! was it ever process or answered no! we are talking about 1992. So, my request is that you hold this organization accountable for anything everything if it does not relate to public safety. At the same time this gang organization must have legal authority and back it with evidence as to why these tactics are still being used. We must look to the future to clean and strengthen this corrupts, lying, killer, cover up organization. So I hope you are going to give an update of any changes this gang member organization is even trying to accomplish in order for them to focus solely on public safety. 3a As the Civilian Oversight Commission over this corrupt sheriff gang member organization in L.A. County you must secure a way to flush and clean this organization out. I and many other people I know not only worry about real actual criminals but we have questions this organization for decades about their procedures and tactics! As an oversight committee we must make the necessary change to make this gang member organization will not continue to mis use our resources by driving around, parking around, intimidating, targeting, lying, covering up, and killing. This is a pivotal point where as a community we demand the professionalism and dignity of every single sheriff if they want to continue to work for our communities!! let's not forget that mother whose sons and daughter have been killed for calling gang member sheriffs to help them with mental issue/breakdown These gangstas just kill disrespect not only to humanity but themselves and the organization! I stand with all the mother who continue to remind any and all police stations that marches/ protest/doxing/ etc., is a tool that can and I used to send the message that people are tired of the same tactics/targeting/harassment/intimidating etc., We must do better to send the message that our resources will not be used for that purpose only for the purpose of public safety. The standard must be the ultimate level of professionalism. consequences/accountability/ and swift action must be taken to clean this gang member organization.

E J Medal, activist, BLM, Centro CSO, PSL, and many others

3b	<p>I am in support of amending the charter for the county of Los Angeles against the gang member sheriff organization. This is extremely personal to me. At the age of 8 or 9 which was in the 1980's I witness the first ever gang member activity and tactics used against my older brothers for supporting and standing with each other in their constitutional/civil/human rights! (Beating in brought day light in the city of Lynwood! That I will never forget! This is why this resolution must go forward. It must continue to move forward because this gang member organization from Bandito Villanueva to all its gang member deputies' activities! The budget we give access to this gang member organization is used mainly to intimidate, harass, target, follow, threaten, lie, cheat, cover up, and kill!!! We have seen this since the 1980s! What is making this more apparent; the abuse of this gang member organization is the threatening of public office holders and reporters who are simply doing their diligence for a better community support and for the safety of this gang member organization! I will never forget that in the 1990's with everything I had to go through and endure I am still fighting for the countless mothers who have lost their sons and daughters to the police violence/brutality this gang member organization has carry since the 1980s when people started waking up as Bandito Villanueva puts it! Well i woke up in 1992 when this gang member organization overreacted during the Rodney King uprising and targeted anyone they could see or get to! I remember being in a parking lot in the city of Norwalk waiting for my African American friend who had entered a governmental building. Next thing I see is 8 to 12 gang member sheriff surround my Nissan Sentra with high powered weapons pointed at me and telling me to get out of my car because I looked suspicious! I slowly exited my car which took me about 1 minute or two. Once i unlock my door they literally snatched me out of my car! pointed their high-powered weapons and this gang member tactics just took me back to a country where war exist withing the civilians(community) and their corrupt gang member police force! I immediately crossed the street and filed a complaint against the excessive force and over reaction that had occur. Well like always the Norwalk police station never did respond to my complaint nor was it ever filed or taken, but i did go and filed it! this is why we must pass this resolution to keep accountability alive and to make sure that our money and resources are used for true honest public safety not harassment, targeting, threatening, lying, cover ups, and killings! I could go no with endless run ins and complaints against this gang member organization, but you have seen it yourselves and I am not overreacting making my own experiences up with this corrupt organization. We have seen this in the 1990s with Rodney Kind and Now with George Floyd and the difference is that people are not afraid anymore! Doxing, protest, marches, and anything that will make this gang member organization think twice about them using the same old tactics and force is out of the normal behavior of what a community safety public organization looks like!!! I urge for your body to pass the amended charter in the honor and remembrance of all the mothers who year in and year out march and protest for accountability!It is time to hold this gang member organization accountable for all that they have done! Use our resources to only combat real crime, use alternatives to support and respect life! humanity should be respected, and this gang organization has never done this! Therefore, we need accountability of every single thing that any gang member deputy does, and we need accountability of every penny spent use only on public safety. In addition, there is always data on supposedly how crime is climbing up! but there is no data on how many illegal stops are made. Pass the amended resolution!</p>	Erick Jason Medal, activist Centro CSO, BLM, Reform jails, and many others
sheriff accountability in LA County.	Keep the powerful position of Sheriff responsible to the people who give him/her that power.	Oren Sachs, ACLU volunteer

<p>Resolution in support of amending the LA County Charter</p>	<p>I urge the COC to support an amendment to the County Charter that will strengthen sheriff accountability and create a common sense structure of checks and balances, once and for all. The COC should recommend to the Board that it propose to the voters a charter amendment that will: (1) establish an impeachment process to allow removal of the Sheriff for serious misconduct, (2) reinforce the Board’s policy-making authority over the Sheriff’s Department, and (3) establish permanent and independent civilian oversight. First, the threat of removal would provide the civilian Board with a more direct means to protect the public from serious misconduct by the sheriff, a paramilitary official comparable to an elected general. Neither elections every four years nor the theoretical possibility of an expensive recall can produce timely accountability and correction when the power of the sheriff’s office is abused. Second, the proposal should clarify the authority of the Board to set policies for LASD that do not interfere with the statutory authority of the sheriff or otherwise conflict with state law. The Board has the duty under state law to supervise its sheriffs “in order to ensure that they faithfully perform their duties,” and local law recognizes that this responsibility includes the authority to direct and approve the development of policy for LASD. Yet, the Board has rarely exercised this authority and, as a result, sheriffs have adopted and maintained policies that directly violate the letter and spirit of various local, state, and federal laws. Clarifying in the Charter that the Board retains authority over the sheriff within the limit of the constitution would help clarify the Board’s role and ensure sheriffs faithfully perform their duties, including compliance with laws relating to transparency, use of force, and deputy gangs, among other areas. Finally, to ensure that future boards less committed to civilian oversight cannot undermine the existing oversight bodies, the proposal should explicitly incorporate both the Office of the Inspector General and the Civilian Oversight Commission into the county charter, including their subpoena authority and resources to fulfill their functions. We don’t need yet another study or blue-ribbon commission, nor can the Board wait for state law changes that may or may not come or another election cycle. Now is the time to act and advance charter amendments that can strengthen the county’s structure of checks and balances.</p>	<p>Carlos M. Montes, Centro CSO Community Service Organization, volunteer member/organizer</p>
<p>3.b, 3.c, & 3.d</p>	<p>I am writing to urge the Commission to recommend that the Board of Supervisors put a measure on the November Ballot to let the voters amend the LA County Charter. LASD is once again nationally recognized for misconduct and bias, and it is shocking that County has done nothing to eliminate White Nationalist Deputy Gangs from our law enforcement system. The illegal and racist actions of the gangs within LASD has been confirmed by multiple credible research outlets, yet the Sheriff denies and enables this lawless behavior that undermines the legitimacy of all public safety.</p> <p>Villanueva is actively hostile to many Los Angeles’ communities that he is hired to protect, but the Charter Amendment is NOT a response to Villanueva’s misconduct. LASD has a history of lawlessness, bias and brutality that predates the current Sheriff, this violence and abuse of power is pervasive in LASD culture. Villanueva misled voters, running as a progressive in 2018, and we voters no longer have confidence in the campaign promises of any candidates that came up through LASD—the idea that voters exercise control every 4 years over LASD is simply not true when the Sheriff can mislead voters and then be insubordinate to the BOS and Civilian Oversight Commission once elected. We need a charter amendment that will strengthen sheriff accountability and create a common-sense checks and balances of the sheriff and LASD.</p>	<p>Deborah Aschheim</p>

3.b,3.c,&3.d 5/19/22	AGENDA ITEMS: 3.b,3.c,&3.d 5/19/22Hello good morning. My name is Cristal Haro and I am member of the Chicano-led organization out of East LA and Boyle Heights Centro CSO. I am speaking in favor of the charter amendment and am happy the item is on the COC agenda. The Charter Amendment would give you all the Civilian Oversight Commission more power over the LA Sheriffs and Sheriff Villanueva.Since Villanueva took power, he has become the face of deputy gangs, and a national scandal to a very common issue –the unpunished killings by killer cops and sheriffs. His deputies have been able to and encouraged to harass, stalk, and even kidnap surviving family members of the people they kill. This has been done to the families of Paul Rea and Anthony Vargas to name a few, families from East Los Angeles.Much like what has been done in Chicago, our mission is to fully take power over the deputies who currently go unpunished after they kill us. No matter who wins the Sheriff election, this amendment would ensure that more checks and balances are placed on deputies and the new sheriff. Longstanding gangs within the LA County Sheriff's Department total to at least 18 deputy gangs. Enough is enough! It's time to BOOT THE BANDITO VILLANUEVA!We hope that you all will join us in supporting the amendment and that you all recommend to the Board of Supervisors that they also be in favor. The BOS holds the power to place the charter amendment on the November ballot. This would allow the LA public to vote in favor of it. Thank you for your time.	Cristal Haro, CSO member
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3B	I am demanding that the Civilian Oversight Committee support this charter amendment. Abuses within police and sheriffs departments must be thoroughly investigated and held accountable.	Alejandro Orellana, Centro CSO member
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3.a, 3.b & 3.c	<p>meeting date (5/19/22):3a: I don't know what more there is to say. Every meeting that I have attended has discussed the tattooed white supremacist, neo-nazi deputy gangs that have ruled the department for more than five decades- costing county taxpayers at least \$100 million since the 90s. Sheriff Villaenuva has actively covered up and enabled these deputy gangs. Villanueva must go. You have reports from Loyola Law that the majority of shootings come out of the stations most riddled by deputy gangs. The Rand report. Reports from ODR. Extensive reports from the OIG. What more do you need? Whose loved one is next?3b:Last year, LASD pocketed \$44.9 million off commissary fees, telephone tolls, vocational services, and barbershop visits charged to people in LA County jails. These profits come from low-income residents, including the one in three folks held in custody simply because they cannot afford bail. The revenue from these charges goes to the Inmate Welfare Fund which California law requires is used to benefit the welfare of incarcerated people — not to line the pockets of LASD. LASD's Inmate Welfare Fund Earns \$15 Million a Year from Telephone Fees despite the Board of supervisor's motion to reduce or eliminate fees paid by incarcerated folks. LASD repeatedly claims staff shortages despite hiring or promoting 1900 new employees under the county's "hiring freeze." Record level in-custody deaths highlighted at last months meeting. Deputy gangs that terrorize the department and our communities. A family assistance program because LASD can NOT stop killing our neighbors or terrorizing their family members after they steal the lives of their loved ones.mA Sheriff that ignores subpoenas & is insubordinate at best when he appears. There is nothing left for the commission but to recommend the Board of Supervisors refer to voters a ballot measure that would amend the L.A. County Charter to maximize civilian oversight and common sense checks and balances over the sheriff and LASD. The safety of Angelenos depends on it.3c: The budget the OIG report proposed and the COC adopted doesn't sufficiently account for the funds needed for burial costs. The OIG estimates that 50 families will need these services every year, but in 2021, 55 people died in custody, and LASD fatally shot 11 more & there is no basis to estimate a lower number for 2022. The OIG should recommended the budget to account for 70 burials (\$7,500 per family x 70 families), service estimates of \$5,000 per incident x 70 incidents, and \$150,000 in flexible funds for practical needs. The OIG report also notes that money for burial services ran out some time in 2021. The COC should request funds to cover all eligible expenses for families who needed support in 2021. It's pretty sick that we are allocating money for the LASD to kill community members this year.</p>	Michelle King
3.b - L.A. County Charter Amendment for Real Sheriff Accountability	<p>The sheriff's department has shown itself again and again as unable to serve or protect it's community. They answer only to themselves, rather than the public. Your community urges you to (1) establish an impeachment process to allow removal of the Sheriff for serious misconduct, (2) reinforce the Board's policy-making authority over the Sheriff's Department, and (3) establish permanent and independent civilian oversight.</p> <p>LASD has terrorized these neighborhoods for far too long without serious repercussions. We need change now. Our lives are at stake.</p>	The People

<p>3.b - L.A. County Charter Amendment for Real Sheriff Accountability - Resolution in support of amending the Los Angeles County Charter</p>	<p>5/19/22 My name is Evelyn, and I urge the COC to support an amendment to the County Charter that will strengthen sheriff accountability and create a common sense structure of checks and balances, once and for all. The COC should recommend to the Board that it propose to the voters a charter amendment that will: (1) establish an impeachment process to allow removal of the Sheriff for serious misconduct, (2) reinforce the Board’s policy-making authority over the Sheriff’s Department, and (3) establish permanent and independent civilian oversight. Now is the time to act and advance charter amendments that can strengthen the county’s structure of checks and balances.</p>	<p>Evelyn</p>
<p>3b</p>	<p>Sheriff Alex Villanueva has enabled deputy gangs and problem deputies to engage in greater misconduct and excessive force. It’s indisputable that at least 18 deputy gangs that have existed in various stations and units. The crisis of deputy gangs has garnered national attention. In early March 2021, after a Loyola Law School 50-page report on deputy gangs, CBS News published a half-hour investigative report on deputy gangs, focusing on the “Banditos” in East L.A and the families of Andres Guardado, Anthony Vargas, and Paul Rea. Al Jazeera Fault Lines and the Gravel Institute released short documentaries. The charter amendment would allow for us to exact accountability in a very basic manner of checks and balances. To not support the charter amendment would be to ignore the ongoing harassment of impacted families and further enable LASD to act without consequence and above the law.</p>	<p>Check the sherif coalition</p>

From: [LETICIA VAZQUEZ](#)
To: [cocnotify](#)
Subject: Charter Amendment
Date: Thursday, May 19, 2022 9:43:34 AM

Good morning,

As an impacted mother and witness of my son's murder. I fully sure and ask for consideration be given to such Charter Amendment. Seeing how a Sheriff can do and get away with violating laws, subpoenas, harassment to victims of police violence, support gangs in his organization etc.

We the people should have the power to vote him/her in as well as recalling them out. Especially when their best interest is not for everyone in the communities and only for those that support them.

If we can recall a president, Governor and other political officials. There is no reason why we can't have the same power a sheriff who is not the best fit for the needs in our communities.

Thank you all for recognizing us, our pain and trauma. We appreciate you all.

Excuse any errors due to mobile device.

Thank you,

Leticia Vazquez
Mother of Marco A Vazquez Jr.

Sent from my iPhone



May 16, 2022

To: Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

Re: L.A. County Charter Amendment for Accountability, Oversight, and Checks and Balances of the Sheriff and the Sheriff’s Department

Yet again, Los Angeles County has reached a crisis point with its sheriff and Sheriff’s Department (LASD). The most recent spate of deputy gang violence has thrown a spotlight on this crisis that has gone unchecked for decades and demands an immediate and proportionate response by the Board of Supervisors (Board). Deputy gangs and other forms of deputy violence have persisted because one sheriff’s administration after the next has failed to enact and enforce policies that provide meaningful and consistent discipline when deputies harass, abuse, and kill. Among them, Sheriff Baca oversaw rampant and extreme violence in the jails—much of it perpetuated by deputy gangs—and now sits in federal prison for obstructing civil rights intervention; current Sheriff Villanueva has gone from denying the existence of deputy gangs to claiming that they are harmless fraternities, all the while defying subpoenas and violating laws on transparency and oversight. Villanueva’s disinterest in stemming deputy violence, including deputy gangs, is the most recent illustration of how existing County structures are insufficient to guard against sheriffs who are hostile to civilian oversight, transparency, and accountability.

The Board must seize this moment and take decisive actions to protect the public from the scourge of deputy gangs, sheriffs’ violations of the law and obstruction of oversight, and the underlying conditions leading to unchecked deputy misconduct and violence particularly towards Black and brown communities policed by LASD. The undersigned stakeholders urge the Board to propose to the voters an amendment to the L.A. County Charter that will create an impeachment and removal process to provide common sense checks and balances over the sheriff, reinforce its policy-making authority over LASD, and strengthen civilian oversight.

1. Create a procedure to allow impeachment and removal of the sheriff by a four-fifths vote of the Board for serious violations of the public trust, including serious crimes, unconstitutional conduct, and abuse of power.¹ While the Board has a duty to supervise the conduct of the sheriff under state and local laws, and it bears the ultimate responsibility for

¹ Consistent with California Government Code section 25303, cause for removal should include: (1) the knowing violation of any law related to the performance of the sheriff’s duties; (2) falsification of an official statement or document; (3) obstruction of any investigation into the conduct of the sheriff or Sheriff’s Department (LASD) employees by the Civilian Oversight Commission, the Office of Inspector General, or other government agencies with jurisdiction to conduct such an investigation; (4) criminal conduct that would be grounds for termination of LASD employees; and (5) failure in supervision, discipline, or hiring of LASD employees that results in a pattern of violations of standards of conduct for LASD employees or the rights of members of the public, or the obstruction by such employees of any investigation into the conduct of the sheriff or LASD employees.

the safety of the public, the Board currently has no meaningful mechanism to enforce this authority, or even to take action against a sheriff who directly violates the law.² A “don’t elect me” system of sheriff accountability every four years has proven wholly inadequate.³ The threat of removal would finally provide the Board with a more direct means to protect the public from serious sheriff misconduct. The U.S. Congress has the duty and authority to impeach and remove an elected president when necessary; even more so should the *civilian* Board have the power to impeach and remove an elected sheriff, a *paramilitary* official akin to an elected general.⁴ Besides the limited circumstances for removal grounds, to further guard against concerns that this removal authority places too much power in the Board, the procedure should direct the Civilian Oversight Commission (COC) to create a list from which the Board may select an interim replacement in the event of a sheriff’s removal.

2. ***Reinforce the Board’s authority to create policies for LASD and delegate initial policy development to the COC.*** The Board has the duty under state law to supervise its sheriffs “in order to ensure that they faithfully perform their duties,”⁵ and local law recognizes that this responsibility includes the authority to direct and approve the development of policy for LASD.⁶ Yet, the Board has rarely exercised this authority and, as a result, sheriffs have adopted and maintained policies that directly contravene the letter and spirit of various local, state, and federal laws.⁷ The proposed L.A. County Charter amendment should further codify the authority of the Board to oversee and set policies for LASD that do not interfere with the statutory authority of the sheriff or otherwise conflict with state law. Moreover, the proposal should include a process for the COC—the civilian body established to “improve transparency and accountability with respect to [LASD]”⁸—to develop and propose policies for the Board’s consideration and action.
3. ***Establish permanent, independent, and more robust civilian oversight of LASD.*** To make sure that future Boards less committed to civilian oversight cannot undermine the existing oversight bodies, the proposed measure should explicitly incorporate the COC and the Office of Inspector General into the L.A. County Charter, including their ability to subpoena records and testimony as needed to fulfill their functions.⁹ The proposal should provide the COC with independent counsel and funding commensurate with its duties, and ensure membership of community members directly impacted by LASD and the criminal legal system.

² California statutes establish that the board of supervisors “shall supervise the official conduct of all county officers . . . particularly insofar as the functions and duties of such county officers . . . relate to the assessing, collecting, safekeeping, management, or disbursement of public funds.” Cal. Gov. Code § 25303. The board “shall see that [county officers],” including the sheriff, “faithfully perform their duties . . .” *Id.*

³ See Robert Greene, *Opinion: When the Board of Supervisors last threw out the sheriff*, L.A. TIMES (Oct. 15, 2020), available at <https://www.latimes.com/opinion/story/2020-10-15/firing-the-sheriff>.

⁴ See *Editorial: Sheriffs should not be elected*, L.A. TIMES (Oct. 27, 2020), available at <https://www.latimes.com/opinion/story/2020-10-27/sheriffs-should-be-appointed>.

⁵ *Dibb v. Cnty. of San Diego*, 8 Cal.4th 1200, 1208-09 (Cal. 1994); Cal. Gov. Code § 25303.

⁶ See L.A. Cnty. Code § 2.06.130.

⁷ See, e.g., Letter from Inspector Gen. to L.A. Cnty. Sheriff Civilian Oversight Comm’n re Report Back on Unlawful Conduct of the Los Angeles Cnty. Sheriff’s Dep’t (Dec. 14, 2020), <https://oig.lacounty.gov/Portals/OIG/Reports/UnlawfulConductOfLASD.pdf>.

⁸ L.A. Cnty. Ord. 2020-0006 § 1, 2020; L.A. Cnty. Ord. 2016-0048 § 1, 2016.

⁹ See Cal. Gov. Code § 25303.7.

Sincerely,

Check the Sheriff Coalition
ACLU of Southern California
Black Lives Matter – Los Angeles
Centro Community Service Organization
National Lawyers Guild – Los Angeles

Alliance for Community Transit – Los Angeles (ACT-LA)	Ktown For All
American Indian Movement Southern California	LA CAN
Anti-Recidivism Coalition	La Defensa
Arts for Healing and Justice Network	LA Forward
Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Los Angeles	LA Pays Attention
Bend the Arc: Jewish Action	LA Progressive
Black Jewish Justice Alliance	LA Voice
Black Lives Matter - Long Beach	Labor Community Strategy Center
Brothers, Sons, Selves Coalition	LatinxFaculty4BLM
California Faculty Association LA Chapter	Long Beach Forward
California Immigrant Policy Center	Long Beach Gray Panthers
California Latinas for Reproductive Justice	Long Beach Immigrants Right Coalition
California League of United Latin American Citizens (CA LULAC)	Los Angeles County Public Defenders Union Local 148
Californians for Safety and Justice	Me Too Survivors' March International
Central American Resource Center (CARECEN) - Los Angeles	Mental Health Advocacy Services
Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice (CLUE)	Miracle Mile Democratic Club
Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA)	Nefesh
Community Coalition	National Association for the Advancement of Colored People – Beverly Hills/Hollywood; Compton; Los Angeles; San Fernando Valley; Santa Monica/Venice
Courage California	NoHo Home Alliance
Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice	NOlympics LA
Creating Justice LA	Occupy ICE LA
Crenshaw Subway Coalition	People Organized for Westside Renewal
Debt Collective	People's City Council
Democratic Party of the San Fernando Valley	Reform LA Jails
Democratic Socialists of America – Los Angeles	San Fernando Valley Young Democrats
Dignity and Power Now	Secure Justice
Disability Rights California	Service Employees International Union – United
Disability Voices United	Healthcare Workers West
Essie Justice Group	Shtibl Minyan
Feel the Bern San Fernando Valley	Social Justice Learning Institute
Feminists of Speech	Southern Christian Leadership Conference of Southern California
Gente Organizada	Stonewall Democratic Club
Glendale Democratic Club	Street Watch LA
Ground Game LA	Time Done
Heart of LA Democratic Club	Translatin@ Coalition
IKAR	UNITE HERE Local 11
Immigrant Defenders Law Center	United Teachers Los Angeles
Indivisible Northridge	Unrig LA
InnerCity Struggle	Valley Grassroots for Democracy
J-Town Action and Solidarity	White People for Black Lives
JusticeLA	Women's March Action
Khmer Girls in Action	Youth Justice Coalition
Koreatown Immigrant Workers Alliance	

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SHERIFF**

ACLU
AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION
Southern California



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Housing Jobs & Transit for All



ARC
Anti-Recidivism Coalition
ARTS FOR HEALING AND JUSTICE NETWORK

ASIAN AMERICANS
ADVANCING JUSTICE
LOS ANGELES

BEND THE ARC
jewish action
southern california

BLACK JEWISH JUSTICE ALLIANCE



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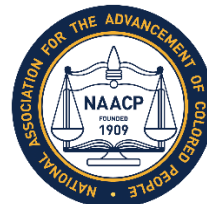
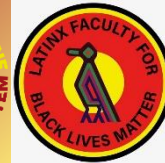
CRIME SURVIVORS FOR SAFETY AND JUSTICE



CRENSHAW COALITION **DEBT COLLECTIVE**

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Democratic Socialists of America Los Angeles

Dignity & Power **NOW drc** Disability Rights California **DISABILITY VOICES UNITED**
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MARCH
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COALITION**