



COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

"Enriching lives through effective and caring service"

April 29, 2022

Human Relations Commissioners

Guadalupe G. Montaña, Ed.D.
President

Ilan Davidson
Vice President/Secretary

Derric Johnson
Fredrick Sykes
Sandra E. Thomas, Ph.D.
Vice Presidents

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Helen L. Chin
Adrian Dove
Isabelle Gunning, Esq.
Kevork Keushkerian
Preeti P. Kulkarni
Jeanette Ellis-Royston
Gay Q. Yuen, Ph.D.

Honorary Member
Philip R. Valera

Human Relations Staff
Robin S. Toma, Esq.
Executive Director

Robert Sowell
Assistant Executive Director

Intergroup Relations
Specialists
Pierre Arreola
Roland Gilbert
April Johnson
Monica Lomeli
Josh Parr
Gustavo Partida
Fidel Rodriguez
Terri Villa-McDowell
Marshall Wong

Administrative Staff
Grace Löwenberg
Siranush Vardanyan
Sharon Williams

Board of Supervisors
Holly J. Mitchell, Chair

Second District
Hilda Solis

First District
Second District

Sheila Kuehl
Third District

Janice Hahn
Fourth District

Kathryn Barger
Fifth District

Fesia Davenport
Chief Executive Officer

MEMORANDUM TO THE COMMISSIONERS

FROM: Guadalupe Montaña, President

SUBJECT: Commission Meeting- **Monday**, May 2, 2022

Our Commission will meet on Monday, May 2, 2022 at 12:30 p.m.,
If you wish to join Via **Teams Calendar Invitation** [Click here to join the meeting](#)
If you are unable to do so, you may Dial: [+1 213-204-2512](tel:+12132042512), [980587174#](tel:+1980587174)

Attached is the Agenda, Draft Minutes of April 4, 2022 and other pertinent information for your review and approval.

If you are unable to join the meeting, please call Grace Löwenberg at (213) 639-6089 no later than 9:00 a.m., Monday, May 2nd.

Grace

Grace Löwenberg
L.A. County Commission on Human Relations
510 S. Vermont Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90020
(213) 639-6089

Ad Hoc Committee on Policing and Human Relations will meet prior to Commission meeting, via Teams Conference Call May 2d from 10:00-11:30 am.

Members: Commissioner Isabelle Gunning, Chair, Preeti Kulkarni, Derric Johnson, Jeanette Ellis-Royston, Fredrick Sykes, and Sandra Thomas.
Staff: Robert Sowell, Joshua Parr, and Pierre Arreola



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

AGENDA

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Monday, May 2, 2022 – 12:30-2:00 pm

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** (12:30)
2. **Motion** finding a state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person, and/or state or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.
3. **Review & Approval of April 4, 2022 Meeting Minutes*** (12:33)
4. **President's Report** (12:35)
 - 4.1. Spotlight on a Commissioner: Jeanette Ellis-Royston
 - 4.2. Visit of Associate U.S. Attorney General for Civil Rights, Vanita Gupta
5. **Executive Director's Report** (12:45)
 - 5.1. Report on meeting with Snapchat VP and England's Minister for Equalities
 - 5.2. Update on IT, budget, and admin. transition to the Executive Office
6. **Committee Reports** (12:55)
 - 6.1. Ad Hoc Committee on Policing and Human Relations
 - 6.2. Ad Hoc Committee on Strategic Planning
 - 6.3. IAOHRA 2022 Conference in LA Committee
 - 6.4. Nominations Committee
7. **Public Comment** (3 minutes per person) (1:05)
8. **Action/Discussion Items** (1:10)
 - 8.1. Presentation of Slate of Nominations, and Ballot Finalization
 - 8.2. Policing Committee Action
 - 8.3. Proposed Strategic Plan, Priorities and Goals*
 - 8.4. IAOHRA 2022 Conference in LA
 - 8.5. Update on 40th Anniversary of hate murder of Vincent Chin in June
9. **Commissioner Announcements** (2 minutes per Commissioner) (1:55)
10. **Adjournment** (2:00)

For translation to other languages o para más información en español, call: (213) 738-2788.

* Denotes that this agenda packet includes written material regarding the 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.

AGENDA FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA *TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2022, 9:30*
A.M.

KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

Holly J. Mitchell Chair

Second District

Hilda L. Solis Sheila

Supervisor Chair Pro

First District Third

Janice Hahn Kathryn

Supervisor Supervisor

Fourth District Fifth



Kuehl

Tem

District

Barger

District

Executive Officer

Celia Zavala

AGENDA POSTED: April 22, 2022

To listen by telephone please call (877) 873-8017 and enter the access code when prompted:

Access Code for English: **111111** Access Code for Spanish: **222222**

To address the Board on the following matters please call **(877) 692-8955** and enter participant code **1336503** during the live virtual meeting (**Press 1 then 0 to address the Board**):

I. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS 1

1. Findings to Continue Teleconference Meetings Under Assembly Bill 361 and Related Actions

Recommendation: Acting on behalf of the Board of Supervisors, and on behalf of entities for which the Board members serve as governing members (Governing Members), and for commissions, task forces, etc., which were, or are, created either by the Board or Governing Members or at their direction, and are subject to the Brown Act: (1) find in accordance with Assembly Bill (AB) 361 Section 3(e)(3), California Government Code Section 54953(e)(3), that the Board has reconsidered the circumstances of the State of Emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic and that the State of Emergency remains active and (2) find, in accordance with AB 361 Section 3(e)(3), California Government Code Section 54953(e)(3), that local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing. (As requested at the Board meeting of November 2, 2021.) (21-4261)

Attachments: [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

Board of Supervisors

Agenda

TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2022

II. NOTICES OF CLOSED SESSION FOR APRIL 26, 2022

CS-1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

(Paragraph (1) of Subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9)

Brenda Jimenez v. County of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County
Superior Court Case No. 21STCV19160

This medical malpractice lawsuit alleges that plaintiff suffered injuries and the wrongful death of her newborn baby due to inadequate care and treatment at Los Angeles County + University of Southern California Medical Center.

(22-1733)

Attachments: [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

CS-2. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS

(Government Code Section 54957.6)

Agency designated representatives: Fesia Davenport, Chief Executive Officer and designated staff

Employee Organization(s) for represented employees: All individual member unions of the Coalition of County Unions, AFL-CIO; Local 721, SEIU; All affiliated member unions of AFSCME Council 36; Association of Deputy District Attorneys; Los Angeles County Association of Environmental Health

Specialists; Los Angeles County Public Defenders; and

Unrepresented employees (all). (17-0363)

Attachments: [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

END

[PROPOSED] MINUTES
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS
Meeting of April 4, 2022
Via Microsoft Teams Video & Audio Conferencing

PRESENT:	Helen Chin	Preeti Kulkarni
	Ilan Davidson	Guadalupe Montaña
	Jeanette Ellis-Royston	Fredrick Sykes
	Porter Gilberg	Sandra Thomas
	Derric Johnson	Gay Q. Yuen
	Kevork Keushkerian	

STAFF:	Robert Sowell	Grace Löwenberg
		Siranush Vardanyan

- 1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement of Indigenous Peoples:** Commission President Guadalupe Montaña called the meeting to order at 12:34 p.m. with a quorum in attendance. She acknowledged the indigenous peoples who were the first stewards of the lands on which we reside in our county.
- 2. Motion:** The Commission finds that a state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person, and/or state or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing. Vice-President/Secretary (VP Sec.) Ilan Davidson made the motion as stated, and Commissioner Preeti Kulkarni seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- 3. Review & Approval of March 7, 2022 Meeting Minutes:** It was moved by VP Sec. Davidson and seconded by Commissioner Fredrick Sykes to approve the minutes of the Commission meeting of February 7, 2022, as presented by VP Sec. Davidson. The motion passed unanimously.

4. President's Report

4.1 Spotlight on Commissioner/Staff: President Montano introduced Commissioner Sykes who shared the following: He is 70 years old, born in 1951 in Virginia. He said that in the year that he was born, 7 males who looked like him were executed after being accused of raping a white woman. His mother had to give birth to him in the hallway of a hospital because she was not allowed to be admitted in the same hospital as Caucasian women in Louisiana. His father was serving in the Korean war and came to California, thinking it would be a better place. His father had 7 children and went from living in Louisiana on a farm, to Watts (Palm Lane Housing) in California until 1966, when the Watts Riot happened. The County decided to build the Martin Luther King hospital where he was living at the time, so his family moved to Compton, which is where he grew up. Commissioner Sykes had a dedicated student counselor who got him a small scholarship and encouraged him to go to Compton Community College. He had been working since the age of 12, washing dishes, delivering papers, and worked full-time in the evening through high school. His counselor encouraged him to go to college, so he got a part-time job at Sears. In 1971, the Compton Police Department got a federal grant to recruit and get minorities into law enforcement, so Commissioner Sykes got the opportunity to work as a Community Service Officer, and by 1973 he had transferred to Cal State Los Angeles. Commissioner Sykes explained that at this time, LAPD and the Sheriff's Department was recruiting, so he took the test and got hired as a Deputy Sheriff. He held several positions at the Sheriff's Department during the 33 years he worked there. In 2006, after retirement, Commissioner Sykes' mother passed away and that is when he became involved in politics. He finally got elected in 2011 as the Mayor of West Covina in 2015. Commissioner Sykes shared that he met Supervisor Hilda Solis while she was in

Congress. So when she came back to Southern California from Washington, D.C., she became part of the Board of Supervisors and appointed him as the Oversight Commissioner at the City of West Covina, and subsequently to the Human Relations Commission.

4.2 Recognition in Media of Commission's role in L.A. County's CEDAW Ordinance: President Montano shared that the CEDAW efforts were highlighted in an online magazine ("Ms."). The link to the article by Mary Hansel, called "Local Implementation of CEDAW is at an Inflection" is available in the agenda packet.

5. Executive Director's Report:

5.1 Update on IT, hiring and staff transition to the Executive Office: VP Robert Sowell shared that ED Toma is not able to join the meeting today due to a special luncheon event with Snapchat's Executive Vice President and United Kingdom's Minister of Equality to increase support of LA vs Hate work and the IAOHRA Conference coming up. VP Sowell shared updates on IT and stated that we are still waiting on our contacts and calendar to be transferred to the new department. VP Sowell continued to share that we have requested almost 3 million dollars of the second (American Rescue Plan) tranche and we're pursuing the 2022-23 budget needs at this time. Additionally, staff member Gustavo Partida has been promoted to a Senior (Human Relations) Consultant position after being with us for over 10 years. VP Sowell introduced guest speaker Reena Hajat Carroll, the Executive Director (ED Carroll) of California Conference for Equality and Justice (CCEJ).

5.2 Guest Speaker- Reena Hajat Carroll: ED Carroll showed a slide presentation and shared the following: She is originally from Chicago and moved to California to attend Occidental College, where she obtained her MA in Social Work. She lived in St. Louis in 2014 through the killing of Michael Brown by the Ferguson Police Department. She spent lots of time talking to the community to see how we can do better, and heal our community. After years, she became exhausted, and then chose to move her family to Los Angeles 4 years ago and took a break from social justice work. She then ran an organization in early childhood for 2 years and realized she was not living out her passion. So she applied for the CCEJ Executive Director position and began the work. ED Carroll stated the mission for CCEJ is to eliminate biases, bigotry, and racism. CCEJ started in 1927 as the National Conference of Christians and Jews, and has transformed to what we are today. She stated CCEJ uses a restorative practice and lens to center relationships, focus on getting to know one another, creating a judgement free zone, and then we get to the psychology and behavior around racism to transform our culture and accountability. NCCJ started a program in 1985 called the Brotherhood Sisterhood Camp, which is now known as Building Bridges Camp to bring young people together to talk about racism and how they can become advocates. Additionally, CCEJ is providing 10 training courses in racial justice, 7 training courses in restorative justice, customized trainings, and has served over 60 organizations and 1,200 individuals in 2021-2022 alone. ED Carroll shared that CCEJ also has the Restorative Justice Youth Diversion Program to work with young people to understand why they have created the crime and if they successfully go through the program, they can move on with their lives. Commissioners thanked ED Carroll for her time and the work that they are doing. Commissioner Kulkarni stated she may have a student interested in the program and ED Carroll informed her that there is no charge for students being referred by a school, and that there may be funding available for others so money should not be an issue for anyone wanting to participate.

6. Committee Reports

6.1 Ad Hoc Committee on Policing & Human Relations: No report.

6.2 Ad Hoc Committee on Strategic Planning: Commissioner Kulkarni stated that there was a 3rd session, which was successful, however another session is needed. Commissioner Kulkarni stated she is not able to attend on the dates Grace Lowenberg and sent out. AD Sowell stated Grace received the message and will be scheduling other dates. Commissioner Kulkarni stated the next step in the process is to meet one more time to create a draft of the strategic plan and send it out for review.

6.3 IAOHRA 2022 Conference Committee: No report.

7. **Public Comment:** None.

8. **Action/Discussion Items**

8.1 Formation of Nominations Committee: President Montano stated that there is a need for the Nominations Committee with a member from each district. Commissioner Montano volunteered to chair the Committee and requested for volunteers. Commissioner Sykes and Commissioner Chin volunteered.

8.2 Policing Committee Action: No updates.

8.3 Review of Proposed Strategic Plan, Priorities, and Goals: No updates.

8.4 IAOHRA 2022 Conference in LA: No updates.

8.5 Event: 40th Anniversary of hate murder of Vincent Chin in June: Commissioner Gay Yuen stated she reached out to the Chinese American Museum in District One to ask if there can be a commemoration for the 40th anniversary of the killing of Vincent Chin. Commissioner Yuen shared that 40 years ago, in Detroit, two males bashed and killed Vincent Chin as he was celebrating his bachelor party the night before his wedding. He was assaulted on June 19th after he got out of a bar and was attacked by 2 males with a baseball bat- and died 4 days later on June 23rd. The two men had been laid off from their jobs in the auto industry and blamed him, assuming he was Japanese and in the industry. This was the incident that triggered the activism of Asian Americans against hate throughout the nation. So, for the 40th Anniversary there can be an event to remember and to talk about what happened. Commissioner Yuen shared she thanks the County for their prompt response to hate and had asked ED Toma if this can be held as a County event and ED Toma had recommended to also invite several of the 18 (LA vs Hate) organizations to participate. Commissioner Yuen shared the vision is to be an in-person, multicultural event with speakers, and culture, and spurring folks to take action against hate, with a possible event target date of Thursday, June 23rd, at 6:30 p.m. Commissioner Yuen stated that the goal would be to educate our communities about Vincent Chin's hate murder, how to deal with anti-Asian hate violence and hate in general, and asked to see if the Commission will take on this event. Commissioner Yuen asked for a motion to take on this event for June 23rd in commemoration of 40 years since Vincent Chin's death. Commissioner Kulkarni made the motion, Commissioner Jeannette Ellis-Royston seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8.6 Social Media implications for intergroup relations No update.

9. **Commissioner Announcements:** Commissioner Kevork Keushkerian shared that April 24th is the 107th year since the genocide and that he will be going to Montebello to commemorate. Commissioner Keushkerian also shared that the groundbreaking was held last week for the Armenian American Museum in the heart of Glendale, and they are looking to raise money.

10. **Adjournment:** President Montaña suggested adjourning the meeting in memory of Madeleine Albright, first woman to serve as the U.S. Secretary of State. VP Davidson made the motion as presented; Commissioner Keushkerian seconded the motion. Without objection, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ilan Davidson
Commission Vice President-Secretary



Los Angeles County

Commission on Human Relations

Department of Workforce Development, Aging Community Services
3175 West Sixth Street, Suite 406
(213) 738-2788
Los Angeles, CA 90020

Ad Hoc Committee on Policing & Human Relations

Meeting Notice
Monday, May 2, 2022
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

[Microsoft Teams](#)

Or Call In at **+1 (213) 204-2512**
Phone Conference ID: **103 055 401#**
Los Angeles County, CA

Members: Commissioners Isabelle Gunning, Sandra Thomas, Preeti Kulkarni,
Fredrick Sykes, Derric Johnson, Jeanette Ellis-Royston

Guests: Commissioner Gay Yuen, Tonya McKenzie

Staff: Robin Toma, Robert Sowell, Monica Lomeli, Pierre Arreola,
Joshua Parr

AGENDA

1. Topics of Interest – **45 Minutes**
 - a. Updates on Commission Letter re: Sheriff Accountability
2. Project Updates – **30 Minutes**
 - a. Statement of Work – Research Partner I & II
 - b. Police Misconduct/Complaint Reports
 - c. Altadena/Pasadena
 - d. City of Long Beach
3. County Updates – **10 Minutes**
 - a. Public Safety Cluster
 - b. Alternative Crisis Response Convenings
 - c. Care First Community Investment Initiative
 - d. Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee
4. Future Business – **5 Minutes**
 - a. Current Events