



County of Los Angeles CIVIL GRAND JURY

222 South Hill Street • Sixth Floor • Suite 670 • Los Angeles, California 90012

Telephone (213) 893-0411 • Fax (213) 893-0425

www.grandjury.co.la.ca.us

April 3, 2023

Honorable Samantha P. Jessner, Presiding Judge
Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles
111 N. Hill Street, Room 204
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Judge Jessner,

Pursuant to California Penal Code §933 and 933.05, all agencies and elected officials are required to respond to the recommendations documented in the 2021-2022 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury final report, published on June 30, 2022.

The 2022-2023 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury captured these responses and they are provided herein for review.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "LeRoy R. Titus". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

LeRoy R. Titus, Chairperson, Continuity Committee
2022-2023 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

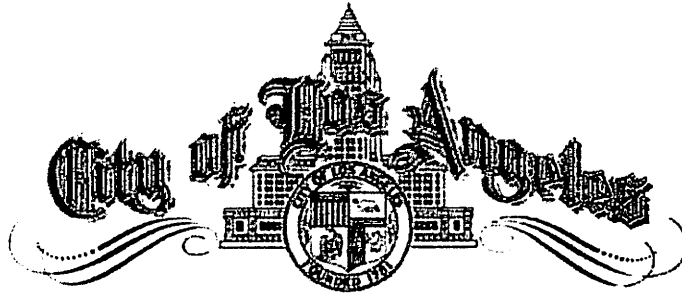
A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Shirley Zaragoza". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Shirley Zaragoza, Foreperson
2022-2023 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury

AT-WILL EMPLOYEES...UNMASKED



**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CIVIL GRAND JURY
2021-2022**



ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

September 27, 2022
Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street
13th Floor, Room 13-303
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Civil Grand Jury Report – “At-Will Employees... Unmasked”

Your Honor:

The Office of the Mayor of the City of Los Angeles hereby responds to the Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury Report, entitled “*At-Will Employees... Unmasked*” dated June 30, 2022. According to the Civil Grand Jury Report, the deadline for responding to the “Recommendations” is September 30, 2022.

RESPONSES TO RECOMMENDATIONS

- City 1.1 This recommendation cannot be implemented by the Mayor’s Office.
- City 1.2 This recommendation cannot be implemented by the Mayor’s Office.
- City 1.3 This recommendation has been implemented.
- City 1.4 This recommendation cannot be implemented by the Mayor’s Office.
- City 1.5 This recommendation has been implemented.
- City 1.6 This recommendation cannot be implemented by the Mayor’s Office.
- City 1.7 This recommendation cannot be implemented by the Mayor’s Office.

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
September 27, 2022
Page 2

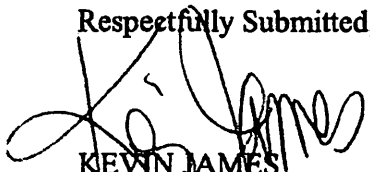
City 1.8 This recommendation cannot be implemented by the Mayor's Office.

City 1.9 This recommendation has been implemented.

City 1.10 This recommendation has been implemented.

City 1.11 This recommendation cannot be implemented by the Mayor's Office.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin James', is written over the typed name and title.

KEVIN JAMES
Legal Counsel
Office of Los Angeles Mayor
Eric Garcetti

EXECUTIVE OFFICE



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**CELIA ZAVALA
EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**KENNETH MAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 303
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
(213) 974-1411 • www.bos.lacounty.gov**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

**HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
SHEILA KUEHL
JANICE MAHN
KATHRYN BARGER**

July 27, 2022

**TO: Fesia A. Davenport
Chief Executive Officer**

FROM: Celia Zavala 
Executive Officer

Lisa Garrett 
Director of Personnel

Dawyn Harrison 
Acting County Counsel

**SUBJECT: RESPONSES TO THE 2021-2022 LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT**

Attached please find the responses to the Civil Grand Jury's final report from the Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors, Department of Human Resources, Chief Executive Office, Chief Executive Office on behalf of the Board of Supervisors, and County Counsel. The responses have been prepared for the audit section titled, "At-Will Employees... Unmasked."

If you have any questions or need additional information, please let me know or your staff may contact Jeff Levinson, Chief Deputy, at (213) 974-1419, or Susan Huff, Acting Administrative Deputy, at (213) 893-2509.

CZ:sh

Attachment

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, CHIEF EXECUTIVE
OFFICE FOR THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
COUNTY COUNSEL, AND DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES,**

2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AT-WILL EMPLOYEES...UNMASKED

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.12

Create an electronic database showing the history of Board Office staff transfers to other County unclassified and classified positions.

RESPONSE

The respondents agree and the recommendation has been implemented. It is not uncommon for employees to transition between County departments throughout their public service career and systems are already in place to make sure that the individual's record of County employment is retained through any transfer.

The County currently has an electronic database, "e-HR," for all personnel transactions. Employee personnel data in e-HR includes historical and current job changes across all departments, such as promotions, demotions, and transfers. This centralized database allows the County to track transfers of employees and run reports; this may include reports on transfers of employees holding specific job titles or employed in the same department or unit as this recommendation states. Creating an additional database for only tracking Board Office staff transfers would be redundant.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.13

Determine if a policy should be developed to ensure ratings of Board Office staff for positions in other County departments are fair.

RESPONSE

The respondents agree, and the recommendation has been implemented. Since rules and procedures are currently in place, a policy does not need to be developed.

A strict set of Countywide standards and procedures have been established for all civil service examinations to ensure their uniform application across all employees, including those who work for the Board. In the civil service examination process, it is the candidate's qualifications that are being appraised, not the office in which they worked, and all applicants would be evaluated on the same set of criteria. Furthermore, ratings in civil service examinations are based on documented work performance and reviewed at multiple levels before finalized.

Additionally, the County established the "Raters Handbook," which includes, guidelines for standardized performance evaluation ratings. Civil Service Rule 20.04 establishes uniform rating standards for County performance evaluations. Performance evaluation ratings are reviewed at multiple levels before being issued to the employee to confirm appropriateness and adherence to County standards.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.14

Polices regarding raises for Board staff should be created to limit the amount of Board staff raises per year excluding COLA.

RESPONSE

The respondents agree, and the recommendation has been implemented. Board positions have salary ranges, established by County Code 6.44.200 Board of Supervisors Performance-Based Plan. This plan includes a "Merit Increase Guideline Matrix," the purpose of which is to set limits for distributing Merit Salary Adjustments to Eligible Employees that in the aggregate do not exceed the Merit Salary Adjustment Budget.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.15

When Board Office staff transition to a classified County position, the probation period should commence when they assume the position and not before then. The County should approve a policy to not utilize current classified County employees to any unclassified job in a Supervisor's office.

RESPONSE

The respondents partially agree, except for the recommendation regarding the use of classified employees to fill unclassified jobs. The recommendation that the probation period should commence when they assume the position has not been implemented but will be implemented in the future, approximately November 2022. In addition, the recommendation to approve a policy to not utilize current classified County employees to any unclassified job in a Supervisor's office is addressed through the County Charter.

Probation commences when Board staff are appointed to a classified position, pursuant to Civil Service Rule 12.01. To maximize the probationary period within a County position, appointments to classified positions should be made closer to the anticipated transition date.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.16

There should be an orientation package and seminar for outgoing staffers, created by The Department of Human Resources (DHR) and Executive Office (EO).

RESPONSE

The respondents agree, and the recommendation has been implemented. DHR and EO currently conduct seminars for outgoing staff of Supervisors who are nearing the end of their last term of office. This includes workshops in the areas of resume preparation for internal (County) and external jobs, how to apply for Civil Service job bulletins, interview preparation, and working with LACERA on steps for separating from County service.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.17

County should approve a policy that family members or friends of Supervisors, or current staff members, should not be hired in the County Supervisor's office.

RESPONSE

The respondents partially agree, the recommendation has not been implemented but may be considered for implementation in the future. While many departments have developed their own nepotism policies given their specific lines of business and hiring circumstances, preventing any conflict of interest, real or perceived, is a high priority for the County, there may be situations where it is appropriate for individuals who have a personal relationship to work in the same department. These instances should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, and measures should be taken or put in place to prevent potential corruption and undue influence, conflicts of interest, or an appearance of impropriety.

While the County does not have a countywide nepotism policy, each department is encouraged to develop their own nepotism and conflict of interest policies given their specific lines of business and hiring circumstances. Additionally, the County's Fiscal Manual instructs Departments to take every step to eliminate an actual or apparent conflict of interest by separating the functions of related individuals and reassign such individuals to other responsibilities, if needed, to ensure the integrity of the County's system of checks and balances.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.18

The Probationary period should start when the employee 'physically' arrives at the newly classified County position job, not before leaving the Supervisor's payroll.

RESPONSE

The respondents partially agree, except for the probationary period starting when the employee 'physically' arrives at the newly classified County position job. The recommendation has not been implemented but will be implemented in the future, approximately November 2022. Probation commences when Board staff are appointed to a classified position, pursuant to Civil Service Rule 12.01. To maximize the probationary period within a County position, appointments to classified positions should be made closer to the anticipated transition date.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.19

Supervisor's staff do not pledge to an oath, just the Supervisor. All staff members should pledge an oath of office.

RESPONSE

The respondents agree, and the recommendation has already been implemented.

It is County policy that *"all County employees shall take and subscribe to the oath or affirmation [of allegiance] before they enter upon the duties for their employment."* Additionally, all County employees, excluding legal aliens, are required to sign an official "loyalty oath card" (Form 76-0-101), which includes the written oath as documented in the

California Constitution, before they begin the performance of duties. A copy of the signed card is retained in the employee's personnel file.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.20

All Supervisor's staff should file a Statement of Economic Interests (Form 700) every time the Supervisor is reelected.

RESPONSE

The respondents partially agree, the recommendation will not be implemented, because it is not warranted. A Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700) is required for every elected official and public employee who makes or influences governmental decisions.

Each County department has established conflict of interest codes in order to designate positions that requires the filing of Form 700 on an annual basis. The Board of Supervisors' Conflict of Interest Code, is available online at <https://bos.lacounty.gov/Services/Conflict-of-Interest-Lobbyist/Statement-of-Economic-Interest>, and confirms that the Board Deputies and Chiefs of Staff, are required to file annually, and upon assuming or leaving office.

However, since some staff in a Supervisor's Office, including Staff Assistants and Schedulers, do not make or influence governmental decisions, it would be inconsistent with the department's conflict of interest code and unnecessary to require them to file a Form 700 and filing requirements would not apply to their positions.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.21

Job postings for unclassified and classified employees should be posted for a minimum of 60 days.

RESPONSE

The respondents disagree, this recommendation will not be implemented, because it is not reasonable.

The County's job posting guidelines for classified positions are governed by several documents, including County Code Title 5, Appendix 1, Civil Service Rule 7.03; Human Resources Report #7, Policies for Examination Bulletins; and the NeoGov Standard Job Posting Language policy. While these policies are highly prescriptive, they do allow examining departments some flexibility in posting periods.

Flexibility in job posting times is critical to generate a viable, manageable, and appropriate applicant pools. For many recruitments, large applicant pools are generated within a very short timeframe and in such cases, posting a job for 60 days is unnecessary and represents a misuse of limited County resources. Flexibility in job posting times, combined with existing rules and guidelines currently in place, provide the best balance for ensuring that job opportunities are available for potential applicants while meeting County needs and exercising responsible stewardship of County resources.

Currently, the County is evaluating methods to shorten hiring times to be more aligned with industry standards. The current industry standards for time to fill a position vacancy is 36 days according to the 2017 Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM) Customized Talent Acquisition Benchmarking Report. A requirement to post a position for a minimum of 60 days could lead to significant delays in hiring or filling critical positions for which suitable candidates apply and can be onboarded.

More emphasis could be placed on robust distribution and amplified postings of job opening through various outlets.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1.22

DHR and the Chief Executive Office (CEO) should be more willing to accommodate any investigation by the CGJ.

RESPONSE

The respondents agree. The recommendation has been implemented as DHR and CEO make every effort to accommodate and cooperate in CGJ investigations.



FESIA A. DAVENPORT
Chief Executive Officer

County of Los Angeles **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

Board of Supervisors
HILDA L. SOLIS
First District

HOLLY J. MITCHELL
Second District

SHEILA KUEHL
Third District

JANICE HAHN
Fourth District

KATHRYN BARGER
Fifth District

August 15, 2022

To: Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Janice Hahn
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

From: Fesia A. Davenport -
Chief Executive Officer

2021-2022 LOS ANGELES CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

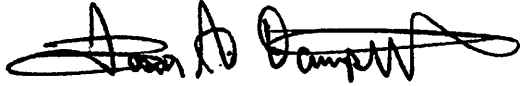
Attached are responses to the 2021-2022 Civil Grand Jury Final Report. We are responding to specific recommendations dealing with the following sections:

- At-Will Employees Unmasked
- Aviation Reimagined
- Drip, Drip, Drip – Where Is Our Water Coming From?
- Here Today, Gone Tomorrow
- May the Force Be With You!
- Men's Central Jail – "Is It Still Needed?"
- Misleading Should Be Costly: Pay The Price
- Only We Can Prevent L.A. County Wildfires
- Water, Water Everywhere Leaking From The Pipes
- Who Can You Trust: Oversight of Conservatorships

Attachment A represents the Chief Executive Officer's responses; Attachments B through H represent the departments' responses; and Attachment I represents a matrix of the questions and responses from each department.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
8/30/2022
Page 3

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fesia A. Davenport". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

FESIA A. DAVENPORT
Chief Executive Officer

FAD:JMN:CT
DSK:md

Enclosures

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Sheriff
Aging and Disabilities
Fire
Human Resources
Medical Examiner-Coroner
Mental Health
Regional Planning
Sanitation District

Each Supervisor
August 15, 2022
Page 2

If you have any questions regarding our responses, please contact me, or your staff may contact Cheri Thomas, by phone at (213) 974-1326 or by email at cthomas@ceo.lacounty.gov.

FAD:JMN
CT:DSK:md

Attachments

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Sheriff
Aging and Disabilities
Fire
Human Resources
Medical Examiner-Coroner
Mental Health
Regional Planning
Sanitation District

Attachment A

Chief Executive Office

DEPARTMENTAL RESPONSES TO FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

Executive Office for the Board of Supervisors, Chief Executive Office for the Board of Supervisors, Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors, Chief Executive Office, County Counsel, Department of Human Resources – At-Will Employees... Unmasked	Responses
<p>Recommendations</p> <p>1.12 Create an electronic database showing the history of Board Office staff transfers to other County unclassified and classified positions.</p>	<p>The respondents agree and the recommendation has been implemented. It is not uncommon for employees to transition between County departments throughout their public service career and systems are already in place to make sure that the individual's record of County employment is retained through any transfer.</p> <p>The County currently has an electronic database, "e-HR," for all personnel transactions. Employee personnel data in e-HR includes historical and current job changes across all departments, such as promotions, demotions, and transfers. This centralized database allows the County to track transfers of employees and run reports; this may include reports on transfers of employees holding specific job titles or employed in the same department or unit as this recommendation states. Creating an additional database for only tracking Board Office staff transfers would be redundant.</p>
<p>1.13 Determine if a policy should be developed to ensure ratings of Board Office staff for positions in other County departments are fair.</p>	<p>The respondents agree, and the recommendation has been implemented. Since rules and procedures are currently in place, a policy does not need to be developed.</p> <p>A strict set of Countywide standards and procedures have been established for all civil service examinations to ensure their uniform application across all employees, including those who work for the Board. In the civil service examination process, it is the candidate's qualifications that are being appraised, not the office in which they worked, and all applicants would be evaluated on the same set of criteria. Furthermore,</p>

	<p>ratings in civil service examinations are based on documented work performance and reviewed at multiple levels before finalized.</p> <p>Additionally, the County established the "Raters Handbook," which includes, guidelines for standardized performance evaluation ratings. Civil Service Rule 20.04 establishes uniform rating standards for County performance evaluations. Performance evaluation ratings are reviewed at multiple levels before being issued to the employee to confirm appropriateness and adherence to County standards.</p>
<p>1.14 Policies regarding raises for Board staff should be created to limit the amount of Board Staff raises per year excluding COLA.</p>	<p>The respondents agree, and the recommendation has been implemented. Board positions have salary ranges, established by County Code 6.44.200 Board of Supervisors Performance-Based Plan. This plan includes a "Merit Increase Guideline Matrix," the purpose of which is to set limits for distributing Merit Salary Adjustments to Eligible Employees that in the aggregate do not exceed the Merit Salary Adjustment Budget.</p>
<p>1.15 When Board Office staff transition to a classified County position, the probation period should commence when they assume the position and not before then. The County should approve a policy to not utilize current classified County employees to any unclassified job in a Supervisor's office.</p>	<p>The respondents partially agree, except for the recommendation regarding the use of classified employees to fill unclassified jobs. The recommendation that the probation period should commence when they assume the position has not been implemented but will be implemented in the future, approximately November 2022. In addition, the recommendation to approve a policy to not utilize current classified County employees to any unclassified job in a Supervisor's office is addressed through the County Charter.</p>
<p>1.16 There should be an orientation package and seminar for outgoing staffers, created by The Department of Human Resources (DHR) and Executive Office (EO).</p>	<p>Probation commences when Board staff are appointed to a classified position, pursuant to Civil Service Rule 12.01. To maximize the probationary period within a County position, appointments to classified positions should be made closer to the anticipated transition date.</p> <p>The respondents agree, and the recommendation has been implemented. DHR and EO currently conduct seminars for outgoing staff of Supervisors who are nearing the end of their last term of office. This includes workshops in the areas of resume preparation for internal</p>

ATTACHMENT I

	<p>(County) and external jobs, how to apply for Civil Service job bulletins, interview preparation, and working with LACERA on steps for separating from County service.</p>
<p>1.17 County should approve a policy that family members or friends of Supervisors, or current staff members, should not be hired in the County Supervisor's office.</p>	<p>The respondents partially agree, the recommendation has not been implemented but may be considered for implementation in the future. While many departments have developed their own nepotism policies given their specific lines of business and hiring circumstances, preventing any conflict of interest, real or perceived, is a high priority for the County, there may be situations where it is appropriate for individuals who have a personal relationship to work in the same department. These instances should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, and measures should be taken or put in place to prevent potential corruption and undue influence, conflicts of interest, or an appearance of impropriety.</p> <p>While the County does not have a countywide nepotism policy, each department is encouraged to develop their own nepotism and conflict of interest policies given their specific lines of business and hiring circumstances. Additionally, the County's Fiscal Manual instructs Departments to take every step to eliminate an actual or apparent conflict of interest by separating the functions of related individuals and reassign such individuals to other responsibilities if needed to ensure the integrity of the County's system of checks and balances.</p>
<p>1.18 The Probationary period should start when the employee 'physically' arrives at the newly classified County position job, not before leaving the Supervisor's payroll.</p>	<p>The respondents partially agree, except for the probationary period starting when the employee 'physically' arrives at the newly classified County position job. The recommendation has not been implemented but will be implemented in the future, approximately November 2022. Probation commences when Board staff are appointed to a classified position, pursuant to Civil Service Rule 12.01. To maximize the probationary period within a County position, appointments to classified positions should be made closer to the anticipated transition date.</p>
<p>1.19 Supervisor's staff do not pledge to an oath, just the Supervisor. All staff members should pledge an oath of office.</p>	<p>The respondents agree, and the recommendation has already been implemented.</p>

ATTACHMENT I

	<p>It is County policy that "all County employees shall take and subscribe to the oath or affirmation [of allegiance] before they enter upon the duties for their employment." Additionally, all County employees, excluding legal aliens, are required to sign an official "loyalty oath card" (Form 76-0-101), which includes the written oath as documented in the California Constitution, before they begin the performance of duties. A copy of the signed card is retained in the employee's personnel file.</p>
<p>1.20 All Supervisor's staff should file a Statement of Economic Interests (Form 700) every time the Supervisor is reelected.</p>	<p>The respondents partially agree, the recommendation will not be implemented, because it is not warranted. A Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700) is required for every elected official and public employee who makes or influences governmental decisions.</p> <p>Each County department has established conflict of interest codes in order to designate positions that requires the filing of Form 700 on an annual basis. The Board of Supervisors' Conflict of Interest Code, is available online at https://bos.lacounty.gov/Services/Conflict-of-Interest-Lobbyist/Statement-of-Economic-Interest, and confirms that the Board Deputies and Chiefs of Staff, are required to file annually, and upon assuming or leaving office.</p> <p>However, since some staff in a Supervisor's Office, including Staff Assistants and Schedulers, do not make or influence governmental decisions, it would be inconsistent with the department's conflict of interest code and unnecessary to require them to file a Form 700 and filing requirements would not apply to their positions.</p>
<p>1.21 Job postings for unclassified and classified employees should be posted for a minimum of 60 days.</p>	<p>The respondents disagree, this recommendation will not be implemented, because it is not reasonable.</p> <p>The County's job posting guidelines for classified positions are governed by several documents, including County Code Title 5, Appendix 1, Civil Service Rule 7.03; Human Resources Report #7, Policies for Examination Bulletins; and the NeoGov Standard Job Posting Language.</p>

	<p>policy. While these policies are highly prescriptive, they do allow examining departments some flexibility in posting periods.</p> <p>Flexibility in job posting times is critical to generate a viable, manageable, and appropriate applicant pools. For many recruitments, large applicant pools are generated within a very short timeframe and in such cases, posting a job for 60 days is unnecessary and represents a misuse of limited County resources. Flexibility in job posting times, combined with existing rules and guidelines currently in place, provide the best balance for ensuring that job opportunities are available for potential applicants while meeting County needs and exercising responsible stewardship of County resources.</p> <p>Currently, the County is evaluating methods to shorten hiring times to be more aligned with industry standards. The current industry standards for time to fill a position vacancy is 36 days according to the 2017 Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM) Customized Talent Acquisition Benchmarking Report. A requirement to post a position for a minimum of 60 days could lead to significant delays in hiring or filling critical positions for which suitable candidates apply and can be onboarded.</p> <p>More emphasis could be placed on robust distribution and amplified postings of job opening through various outlets.</p>
<p>1.22 DHR and the Chief Executive Office (CEO) should be more willing to accommodate any investigation by the CGJ.</p>	<p>The respondents agree. The recommendation has been implemented as DHR and CEO make every effort to accommodate and cooperate in CGJ investigations.</p>
<p>Chief Executive Office for the Board of Supervisors – Aviation Reimagined Recommendations</p>	<p>Responses</p>
<p>2.1 The Board of Supervisors (BOS) should consider an additional budget item for funding Department of Regional Planning's (DRP) drone program including the cost of insurance.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. DRP does not expect to annually procure additional drones or equipment related to new drones. When the service-life of any drone necessitates a replacement or if the fleet expands, DRP will work with the CEO to identify funding. Current ongoing costs are only for drone insurance and software costs</p>

AVIATION REIMAGINED



2021-2022

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CIVIL GRAND JURY**



County of Los Angeles
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

FESIA A. DAVENPORT
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
HILDA L. SOLIS
First District

HOLLY J. MITCHELL
Second District

SHEILA KUEHL
Third District

JANICE HAHN
Fourth District

KATHRYN BARGER
Fifth District

August 15, 2022

To: Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Janice Hahn
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

From: Fesia A. Davenport
Chief Executive Officer

2021-2022 LOS ANGELES CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

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Each Supervisor
August 15, 2022
Page 2

If you have any questions regarding our responses, please contact me, or your staff may contact Cheri Thomas, by phone at (213) 974-1326 or by email at cthomas@ceo.lacounty.gov.

FAD:JMN
CT:DSK:md

Attachments

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Sheriff
Aging and Disabilities
Fire
Human Resources
Medical Examiner-Coroner
Mental Health
Regional Planning
Sanitation District

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<p>Chief Executive Office for the Board of Supervisors – Aviation Reimagined Recommendations</p>	
<p>2.1 The Board of Supervisors (BOS) should consider an additional budget item for funding Department of Regional Planning's (DRP) drone program including the cost of insurance.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. DRP does not expect to annually procure additional drones or equipment related to new drones. When the service-life of any drone necessitates a replacement or if the fleet expands, DRP will work with the CEO to identify funding. Current ongoing costs are only for drone insurance and software costs</p>

	<p>which result in an estimated cost of \$19,000 per year. The nominal amounts will be absorbed in the DRP's operating budget. The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not yet warranted.</p> <p>Disagree. The recommendation requires further analysis. The BOS recommends that the centralization of a County drone program be discussed and vetted through the County's multi-agency UAS workgroup. DRP will reach out to the Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) workgroup coordinator for discussion by December 2022.</p> <p>Partially agree. The recommendation will be implemented. However, rather than a BOS meeting, DRP can present at CEO Cluster meeting. DRP will provide a presentation in Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-23.</p> <p>Disagree. The recommendation requires further analysis on the use of drones by all departments. BOS recommends that a countywide policy on drones be discussed and vetted through the County's multi-agency UAS workgroup. DRP will reach out to the UAS workgroup coordinator for discussion by December 2022.</p> <p>Disagree. The recommendation will not be implemented. DRP has provided drone training as an incentive to staff and funds the training and drone license fees for all trainees.</p> <p>Agree. The recommendation has been implemented. Planners have requested drone flights to capture images and videos for discretionary permit processing. As a result, drone footage has been presented during RPC meetings, as appropriate.</p> <p>Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The BOS Board Room already has technical capabilities to show pre-recorded drone footage.</p>
2.4 Maintain centralization of the drone program at DRP.	
2.5 DRP should present their UAS policy and report their history of accomplishments during a BOS meeting.	
2.9 BOS should adopt a countywide policy on drones for all departments, except County Fire and Sheriff Departments.	
2.11 BOS should consider additional compensation for planners who have completed Los Angeles County drone training.	
2.12 DRP should have the Regional Planning Commission (RPC), as well as BOS, view the drone videos when necessary or requested (RPC meetings and BOS Public Hearing meetings).	
2.14 DRP to ensure the technical connections from the drones, videos can be viewed in the BOS's Board Room, as needed.	
Chief Executive Office for the Board of Supervisors and Chief Executive Office – Drip, Drip, Drip-Where is Our Water Coming From?	
Recommendations	Responses
3.1 Increasing education, and awareness through the media on adopting WaterSense products and help more people understand how to approach and address the issue of water conservancy.	Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. Comprehensive conservation education and awareness measures are being implemented by the Los Angeles (LA) County Flood Control District which is empowered to provide flood protection, water conservation, recreation, and aesthetic enhancement within its boundaries.

	<p>The BOS and CEO will continue to work with DMH to identify possible funding options. This will include continued legislative efforts for additional funding and the continued evaluation of the possible use of various existing funding sources, including mental health funding, among other possibilities. Additionally, CEO and DMH will address funding plans in future budget phases, which will allow recommendations to be made within the context of the overall budget and numerous competing funding priorities and requests.</p>
<p>Chief Executive Office – Aviation Reimagined</p>	
<p>Recommendations</p>	
<p>2.1 The BOS should consider an additional budget item for funding DRP's drone program including the cost of insurance.</p>	<p>Responses Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. DRP does not expect to annually procure additional drones or equipment related to new drones. When the service-life of any drone necessitates a replacement or if the fleet expands, DRP will work with the CEO to identify funding. Current ongoing costs are only for drone insurance and software costs which result in an estimated cost of \$19,000 per year. The nominal amounts will be absorbed in the DRP's operating budget. The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not yet warranted.</p>
<p>2.2 DRP to submit to the CEO budget staff a formula reflecting the costs associated when employing a drone.</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation requires further analysis. DRP will gather data, including staff hourly rates, flight preparation time, drone operation time, and post-processing times to calculate costs associated with drone flights. This research can be completed by December 2022.</p>
<p>2.4 Maintain centralization of the drone program at DRP.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation requires further analysis. CEO recommends that the centralization of a County drone program be discussed and vetted through the County's multi-agency UAS workgroup. DRP will reach out to the UAS workgroup coordinator for discussion by December 2022.</p>
<p>2.6 Locate a larger and more convenient site for training (currently at Dodger Stadium parking lot).</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. DRP drone pilots have been utilizing a 17-acre open grassy field near the Rose Bowl Stadium for training. The large field is surrounded by parking lots and open space and free from obstructions, making the field an ideal location for drone training. It is a central location easily accessible by staff. DRP</p>

	is also in the process of identifying alternate training locations to provide diversity in training courses.
2.7 Locate a county-owned building (preferably vacant) for rooftop training purposes.	Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. DRP has utilized an LACDA-owned office building in Altadena for rooftop drone training purposes. DRP is a tenant of the building, and the building's adjoining parking lot provides ample space for drone deployment and operation. CEO will request for DRP to identify alternate training locations to provide diversity in training courses.
2.9 BOS should adopt a countywide policy on drones for all departments, except County Fire and Sheriff Departments.	Disagree. This recommendation requires further analysis on the use of drones by all departments. CEO recommends that a countywide policy on drones be discussed and vetted through the County's multi-agency UAS workgroup. DRP will reach out to the UAS workgroup coordinator for discussion by December 2022.
2.11 BOS should consider additional compensation for planners who have completed Los Angeles County drone training.	Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. DRP has provided drone training as an incentive to staff and funds the training and drone license fees for all trainees.
2.12 DRP should have the RPC, as well as BOS, view the drone videos when necessary or requested (RPC meetings and BOS Public Hearing meetings).	Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. Planners have requested drone flights to capture images and videos for discretionary permit processing. As a result, drone footage has been presented during RPC meetings, as appropriate.
Chief Executive Office – Here Today, Gone Tomorrow	
Recommendations	
4.1 Designate a parking area in front or close to the facility for staff and family claiming or identifying a decedent.	Responses Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented as the CEO has no jurisdiction over ME-C parking. This recommendation should be referred to the ME-C.
4.4 Expand or move to a larger modern facility inclusive of compounds currently adjacent to the facility.	Partially agree. This recommendation will be partially implemented through the Facility Reinvestment Program (FRP). The FRP will be making a considerable investment to improve ME-C's downtown facility building systems and infrastructure. This will be a multi-year project delivered through DPW, and will include repairs to the electrical, plumbing, and fire protection systems, and elevators. Other recently completed noteworthy improvements to the ME-C facility include

	feeds are warranted for land use purposes. DRP can complete this analysis by December 2022.
Regional Planning-Regional Planning Commission Chair – Aviation Reimagined	
Recommendations	
2.12 DRP should have the RPC, as well as BOS, view the drone videos when necessary or requested (RPC meetings and BOS Public Hearing meetings).	Agree. The recommendation has been implemented. Planners have requested drone flights to capture images and videos for discretionary permit processing. As a result, drone footage has been presented during the RPC meetings, as appropriate. We look forward to an increase in the number of drone images used for future RPC meetings.
2.13 DRP should generate a cost analysis for the actual 'live' feed for RPC and BOS meetings for future viewing.	Partially agree. The RPC recognizes that the DRP requires further analysis to determine the implication to conduct the live drone footage for the RPC and BOS future hearings. Having drone imagery available in real-time to present cases before the RPC is beneficial to our assessment of the projects heard before us.
Sanitation District-Reclamation – Drip, Drip, Drip-Where is Our Water Coming From?	
Recommendations	
3.1 Increasing education, and awareness through the media on adopting WaterSense products and help more people understand how to approach and address the issue of water conservancy.	Agree. This recommendation is being implemented. Comprehensive conservation education and awareness measures are being implemented by regional water agencies and retailers. See Metropolitan Water District's https://www.bewaterwise.com/ .
3.2 Support water measures and public financing to acquire more water supply and sources. Examples of measures: California Proposition 3 Water Infrastructure Bill, and A.G. File No. 2021-014 (October 15, 2021).	Agree. This recommendation is being implemented. Examples include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Recent Federal authorization for Large-Scale Water Recycling Funding Program at \$450 Million to be administered by the Bureau of Reclamation. Several LA county recycled water projects are likely eligible to apply b. The State Budget Act of 2021 appropriated \$650 million to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) for drinking water project grants.

RESPONSE TO THE 2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
AVIATION REIMAGINED

RECOMMENDATION 2.1

The Board of Supervisors (BOS) should consider an additional budget item for funding Department of Regional Planning's (DRP) drone program including the cost of insurance.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. DRP does not expect to annually procure additional drones or equipment related to new drones. When the service-life of any drone necessitates a replacement or if the fleet expands, DRP will work with the CEO to identify funding. Current ongoing costs are only for drone insurance and software costs which result in an estimated cost of \$19,000 per year. The nominal amounts will be absorbed in the DRP's operating budget. The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not yet warranted.

RECOMMENDATION 2.4

Maintain centralization of the drone program at DRP.

RESPONSE

Disagree. The recommendation requires further analysis. The BOS recommends that the centralization of a County drone program be discussed and vetted through the County's multi-agency Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) workgroup. DRP will reach out to the UAS workgroup coordinator for discussion by December 2022.

RECOMMENDATION 2.5

DRP should present their UAS policy and report their history of accomplishments during a BOS meeting.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. The recommendation will be implemented. However, rather than a BOS meeting, DRP can present at CEO Cluster meeting. DRP will provide a presentation in Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-23.

RECOMMENDATION 2.9

BOS should adopt a countywide policy on drones for all departments, except County Fire and Sheriff Departments.

RESPONSE

Disagree. The recommendation requires further analysis on the use of drones by all departments. BOS recommends that a countywide policy on drones be discussed and vetted through the County's multi-agency UAS workgroup. DRP will reach out to the UAS workgroup coordinator for discussion by December 2022.

RECOMMENDATION 2.11

BOS should consider additional compensation for planners who have completed Los Angeles County drone training.

RESPONSE

Disagree. The recommendation will not be implemented. DRP has provided drone training as an incentive to staff and funds the training and drone license fees for all trainees.

RECOMMENDATION 2.12

DRP should have the Regional Planning Commission (RPC), as well as BOS, view the drone videos when necessary or requested (RPC meetings and BOS Public Hearing meetings).

RESPONSE

Agree. The recommendation has been implemented. Planners have requested drone flights to capture images and videos for discretionary permit processing. As a result, drone footage has been presented during RPC meetings, as appropriate.

RECOMMENDATION 2.14

DRP to ensure the technical connections from the drones, videos can be viewed in the BOS's Board Room as needed.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The BOS Board Room already has technical capabilities to show pre-recorded drone footage.

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AVIATION REIMAGINED

RECOMMENDATION 2.1

The BOS should consider an additional budget item for funding DRP's drone program including the cost of insurance

RESPONSE – Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. DRP does not expect to annually procure additional drones or equipment related to new drones. When the service-life of any drone necessitates a replacement or if the fleet expands, DRP will work with the CEO to identify funding. Current ongoing costs are only for drone insurance and software costs which result in an estimated cost of \$19,000 per year. The nominal amounts will be absorbed in the DRP's operating budget. The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not yet warranted.

RECOMMENDATION 2.2

DRP to submit to the CEO budget staff a formula reflecting costs associated when employing a drone.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation requires further analysis. DRP will gather data, including staff hourly rates, flight preparation time, drone operation time, and post-processing times to calculate costs associated with drone flights. This research can be completed by December 2022.

RECOMMENDATION 2.4

Maintain centralization of the drone program at DRP.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation requires further analysis. CEO recommends that the centralization of a County drone program be discussed and vetted through the County's multi-agency UAS workgroup. DRP will reach out to the UAS workgroup coordinator for discussion by December 2022.

RECOMMENDATION 2.6

Locate a larger and more convenient site for training (currently at Dodger Stadium parking lot).

The BOS and CEO understand that efforts by the California State Association of Public Administrators, Public Guardians and Public Conservators (CAPAPGPC) and CSAC to gain state funding failed, despite the state's unprecedented revenues. Conservatorship reform remains a high priority for the legislature, and PG/PC continues to be the only known county social service provider without dedicated funding.

The BOS and CEO will continue to work with DMH to identify possible funding options. This will include continued legislative efforts for additional funding and the continued evaluation of the possible use of various existing funding sources, including mental health funding, among other possibilities. Additionally, CEO and DMH will address funding plans in future budget phases, which will allow recommendations to be made within the context of the overall budget and numerous competing funding priorities and requests.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. DRP drone pilots have been utilizing a 17-acre open grassy field near the Rose Bowl Stadium for training. The large field is surrounded by parking lots and open space and free from obstructions, making the field an ideal location for drone training. It is a central location easily accessible by staff. DRP is also in the process of identifying alternate training locations to provide diversity in training courses.

RECOMMENDATION 2.7

Locate a county-owned building (preferably vacant) for rooftop training purposes.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. DRP has utilized an LACDA-owned office building in Altadena for rooftop drone training purposes. DRP is a tenant of the building, and the building's adjoining parking lot provides ample space for drone deployment and operation. CEO will request for DRP to identify alternate training locations to provide diversity in training courses.

RECOMMENDATION 2.9

BOS should adopt a countywide policy on drones for all departments, except County Fire and Sheriff Departments

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation requires further analysis on the use of drones by all departments. CEO recommends that a countywide policy on drones be discussed and vetted through the County's multi-agency UAS workgroup. DRP will reach out to the UAS workgroup coordinator for discussion by December 2022.

RECOMMENDATION 2.11

BOS should consider additional compensation for planners who have completed Los Angeles County drone training.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. DRP has provided drone training as an incentive to staff and funds the training and drone license fees for all trainees.

RECOMMENDATION 2.12

DRP should have the RPC, as well as BOS, view the drone videos when necessary or requested (RPC meetings and BOS Public Hearing meetings).

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. Planners have requested drone flights to capture images and videos for discretionary permit processing. As a result, drone footage has been presented during RPC meetings, as appropriate.

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

**2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
HERE TODAY, GONE TOMORROW - THE IMPACT ON THE LIVING WHILE CARING
FOR THE DEAD**

RECOMMENDATION NO. 4.1

Designate a parking area in front or close to the facility for staff and family claiming or identifying a decedent.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented as the CEO has no jurisdiction over ME-C parking. This recommendation should be referred to the ME-C.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 4.4

Expand or move to a larger modern facility inclusive of compounds currently adjacent to the facility.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation will be partially implemented through the Facility Reinvestment Program (FRP). The FRP will be making a considerable investment to improve ME-C's downtown facility building systems and infrastructure. This will be a multi-year project delivered through DPW, and will include repairs to the electrical, plumbing, and fire protection systems, and elevators. Other recently completed noteworthy improvements to the ME-C facility include renovation of the toxicology refrigerator, improvements to flooring systems in various locations, and an upgraded crypt door.



AMY J. BODEK, AICP
Director,
Regional Planning

DENNIS SLAVIN
Chief Deputy Director,
Regional Planning

July 13, 2022

Fesia A. Davenport
Chief Executive Office
713 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Ms. Davenport:

2021-22 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS RESPONSE FOR AVIATION REIMAGINED

Attached for your consideration is County Planning's response to the 2021-22 Civil Grand Jury report, as required by California Penal Code sections 933(c), 933.05(a), and 933.05(b). Let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amy Bodek", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Amy J. Bodek, AICP
Director of Regional Planning

AJB:JS:ar

Attachment

S_07122022_LUR_L_FESIADAVENPORT

Attachment G

**Regional Planning and
Regional Planning Commission, Chair**

<p>10.5 APS should do outreach to promote public awareness and education about conservatorship abuses. APS should also offer more advocacy services to the general community about how to spot conservatorship abuse and what to do about it.</p>	<p>Agree. OPG does not have a role in whether this recommendation will or will not be implemented as it does not have jurisdiction over this recommendation.</p> <p>OPG is frequently ordered by the Probate Court to investigate and consider acting as the successor conservator in cases in which a conservator is alleged to be acting improperly. OPG agrees that increased public awareness and education is a worthwhile effort but recognizes that increased awareness and education could result in increased investigations and appointments which will then in turn increase caseloads.</p>
<p>10.9 The Committee believes that the County should dedicate funding for the OPG so they can better advocate for and service more of the needs of those senior conservatees. The BOS should actively advocate and support the efforts by the CAPAPGPC and California Association of Counties (CSAC) to advocate for dedicated state funding for all OPG offices within the state.</p>	<p>Agree. The recommendation for the BOS to support efforts of dedicated funding has been implemented as the BOS has a support position in its legislative platform.</p> <p>Unfortunately, efforts by the California State Association of Public Administrators, Public Guardians and Public Conservators (CAPAPGPC) and CSAC to gain state funding failed again, despite the state's unprecedented revenues. Conservatorship reform remains a high priority for the legislature, and Public Guardian/Public Conservator (PG/PC) continues to be the only known county social service provider without dedicated funding. Recommendations for additional resources for OPG will be made within the context of the overall budget, numerous funding priorities, and requests.</p>
<p>Regional Planning -- Aviation Reimagined</p>	
<p>Recommendations</p>	
<p>2.1 The BOS should consider an additional budget item for funding DRP's drone program including the cost of insurance.</p>	<p>Responses</p> <p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. DRP does not expect to annually procure additional drones or equipment related to new drones. When the service-life of any drone necessitates a replacement or if the fleet expands, DRP will work with the CEO to ensure funding. Current ongoing costs are only for drone insurance and software costs which result in an estimated cost of \$19,000 per</p>

	<p>year. The nominal amounts will be absorbed in the operating budget this FY and future FYs. The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not yet warranted.</p>
<p>2.2 DRP to submit to the CEO budget staff a formula reflecting the costs associated when employing a drone.</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation requires further analysis. DRP will gather data, including staff hourly rates, flight preparation time, drone operation time, and post-processing times to calculate costs associated with drone flights. This research can be completed by December 2022.</p>
<p>2.3 DRP should post signs when inspecting private or public sites in order to alert the area of drone activity.</p>	<p>Partially agree. This recommendation will be implemented. DRP recognizes the importance of visibility in the field, and staff wears County identifiable clothing when conducting any field work, including drone flights. During FY 2022-23, DRP plans to develop drone program-specific branding materials that could be used for the program website, materials, as well as identification on the ground.</p>
<p>2.4 Maintain centralization of the drone program at DRP.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation requires further analysis. DRP recommends that the centralization of a County drone program be discussed and vetted through the County's multi-agency UAS workgroup. Unfortunately, DRP does not have the resources to manage a countywide drone program. DRP encourages other interested departments to develop their own drone program. If they are unable to host their own program, then they can contract with DRP for drone services. DRP will reach out to the UAS workgroup coordinator for discussion by December 2022.</p>
<p>2.5 DRP should present their UAS policy and report their history of accomplishments during a BOS meeting.</p>	<p>Partially agree. This recommendation will be implemented. However, rather than a BOS meeting, DRP suggests that a CEO Cluster meeting may be the more appropriate public forum for this recommendation. DRP can initiate the presentation during FY 2022-23.</p>
<p>2.6 Locate a larger and more convenient site for training (currently at Dodger Stadium parking lot).</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. DRP drone pilots have been utilizing a 17-acre open grassy field near the Rose Bowl Stadium for training. The large field is surrounded by parking lots and open space and free from obstructions, making the field an ideal location for drone training. It is a central location easily accessible by staff. DRP is also in the process of identifying alternate training locations to provide diversity in training courses.</p>

ATTACHMENT I

<p>2.7 Locate a county-owned building (preferably vacant) for rooftop training purposes.</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. DRP has utilized an LACDA-owned office building in Altadena for rooftop drone training purposes. County Planning is a tenant of the building, and the building's adjoining parking lot provides ample space for drone deployment and operation.</p>
<p>2.8 DRP should include in their policy a formal procedure addressing site visits where domestic animals may be present.</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. DRP will modify the program policy and/or training manual to address animals. This will be completed by December 2022.</p>
<p>2.10 DRP should establish a written test for new drone operators to ensure they have the knowledge to operate a drone.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. DRP drone trainees must take a knowledge training course and pass a written FAA exam as a requisite to become a drone pilot for the department. This written exam ensures that the trainees are knowledgeable on airspace rules and regulations, and basic operation of a drone. Therefore, the establishment of a separate written exam is unnecessary.</p>
<p>2.11 BOS should consider additional compensation for planners who have completed Los Angeles County drone training.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. DRP has provided drone training as an incentive to staff and funds the training and drone license fees for all trainees. In addition, the current demand for drone flights is fairly light, and drone pilots do not need to dedicate an exorbitant amount of time on the effort.</p>
<p>2.12 DRP should have the RPC, as well as BOS, view the drone videos when necessary or requested (RPC meetings and BOS Public Hearing meetings).</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. Planners have requested drone flights to capture images and videos for discretionary permit processing. As a result, drone footage has been presented during RPC meetings, as appropriate.</p>
<p>2.13 DRP should generate a cost analysis for the actual 'live' feed for RPC and BOS meetings for future viewing.</p>	<p>Partially agree. This recommendation requires further analysis. While live feeds of drone footage are certainly unique, further analysis is necessary to determine if such capabilities are necessary for land use purposes. County Planning also needs to identify the types of situations that would benefit from live drone footage. DRP can complete this analysis by December 2022.</p>
<p>2.14 DRP to ensure the technical connections from the drones, videos can be viewed in the BOS's Board Room, as needed.</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation has been implemented as the BOS Board Room already has the technical capabilities to show pre-recorded drone footage. As stated in the response to recommendation 2.13, further analysis needs to be conducted to determine if live drone</p>



AMY J. BODEN, AICP
Director,
Regional Planning

BENJAMIN BLAVIN
Chief Deputy Director,
Regional Planning

July 20, 2022

Fosia A. Davenport
Chief Executive Office
713 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
600 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Ms. Davenport:

2021-22 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS RESPONSE FOR AVIATION REIMAGINED

Attached for your consideration is the Regional Planning Commission's response to the 2021-22 Civil Grand Jury report, as required by California Penal Code sections 933(c), 933.05(a), and 933.05(b). Let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Yolanda Quarto-White
Chair, Regional Planning Commission

YDW:EL

Attachment

S. 07202022_RPC_L_FESIADAVENPORT



RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
LA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION, CHAIR

2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
AVIATION REIMAGINED

RECOMMENDATION 2.12

DRP should have the RPC, as well as BOS, view the drone videos when necessary or requested (RPC meetings and BOS Public Hearing meetings).

RESPONSE

Agree. The recommendation has been implemented. Planners have requested drone flights to capture images and videos for discretionary permit processing. As a result, drone footage has been presented during the RPC meetings, as appropriate. We look forward to an increase in the number of drone images used for future RPC meetings.

RECOMMENDATION 2.13

DRP should generate a cost analysis for the actual live feed for RPC and BOS meetings for future viewing.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. RPC recognizes that DRP requires further analysis to determine the implication to conduct the live drone footage for the RPC and BOS future hearings. Having drone imagery available in real-time to present cases before the RPC is beneficial to our assessment of the projects heard before us.

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
LA COUNTY PLANNING

2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AVIATION REIMAGINED

FINDING NO. F1

DRP has financial challenges in regard to the UAS/drone program. Sources of funding are not adequate to meet the operational needs of this program.

RESPONSE

DRP, disagrees with the finding. DRP does not anticipate having any financial issues with the continued funding of the UAS/drone program (Program). The determination made in the report that the annual operating cost for the Program is \$73,385 is inaccurate. That amount was the start-up cost for the Program which is a combination of Productivity Investment Fund (PIF) grant funding and DRP's operating budget in FY 2020-21 and 2021-22. Further, it must be clarified that the PIF funding is a grant and not a loan as stated in the report. PIF grants may be awarded to County departments for innovative projects where existing funding does not exist to implement new programs for providing enhanced services to County residents.

DRP believes the Program's funding is adequate. Current ongoing costs are only for drone insurance and software costs which result in an estimated cost of \$19,000 per year. The nominal amounts will be absorbed in the operating budget this FY and future FYs. The Program is fully matured in its current state. DRP is not seeking to expand the Program by increasing its current fleet of drones and number of pilots. If DRP needs to expand the Program, the Department will request additional funding at the start of the next applicable budget process or work with the Los Angeles County CEO to process a budget adjustment if funding is needed in the middle of a current FY.

FINDING NO. F2

DRP currently charges a nominal fee to other agencies or departments in LA County for use of drones; there is no allocation in DRP's line-item budget specifically for drones/UAS for equipment and or additional drones.

RESPONSE

DRP disagrees with the finding. DRP disagrees the fee is nominal. The fee is based on a cost-recovery model. Specifically, DRP seeks reimbursement of labor costs of the drone operators performing work for the customer department. DRP currently provides services to only the Los Angeles County DPW. DRP will only accept services if it can be provided within the Program's current capacity.

DRP disagrees that there is not a line-item budget. This is because the Department does not expect to annually procure additional drones or equipment related to new drones. As

stated earlier, the Program is fully matured and DRP does not expect to expand. When the service-life of any drone necessitates a replacement or if the fleet expands, DRP will work with the CEO to ensure funding.

FINDING NO. F4

DRP utilizes the Dodger Stadium parking lot for their drone training, except when there is a game or an event. Area used for training is a very small area of the parking lot and is inadequate and inconvenient for training purposes.

RESPONSE

DRP disagrees with the finding. DRP primarily utilizes an open grassy field near the Rose Bowl Stadium for training purposes. The field is approximately 17 acres and provides ample space to safely fly drones. DRP pilots have also trained at the Airplane field at the Whittier Narrows Recreation Area. However, due to the field's popularity, DRP has found that this field is often too busy for trainees to fly safely.

FINDING NO. F7

If the site is zoned for animals, the planner will telephone the owner to find out what type of animals are contained on the property, but there is no written formal policy or checklist for the staff.

RESPONSE

DRP disagrees partially with the finding. Prior to a drone inspection, the planner and/or drone pilot will coordinate via email, phone and/or in person with the property owner regarding the property itself and drone flight details.

FINDING NO. F9

New trainees for drones are taken to Dodger Stadium and complete at least two drone flights.

RESPONSE

DRP disagrees partially with the finding. Drone trainees complete a minimum of three flight practices at a large grassy field near the Rose Bowl Stadium. These trainings are held on a monthly basis. In addition to these practices, the trainees must also accompany a licensed drone pilot on at least two actual drone inspections.

FINDING NO. F11

DRP wants to keep their drone program central to the County, since they created the program and have the expertise and equipment. Monies can be charged to the department to pay for the equipment they have purchased.

RESPONSE

DRP disagrees partially with the finding. DRP encourages other interested departments to develop their own drone programs. However, if such departments are unable to, DRP can enter into an agreement/contract with them to provide drone services. DRP recommends that the centralization of a County drone program be discussed and vetted through the County's multi-agency Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) workgroup.

FINDING NO. F12

There is no written test for new drone trainees. Just a test to fly the drone completed two times.

RESPONSE

DRP disagrees partially with the finding. DRP drone trainees must complete an online Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Part 107 exam preparation course and pass the FAA's written exam. In addition to the course and written exam, trainees undergo in-house practical training, including monthly flight practices and participation in a minimum of two actual drone inspections.

RECOMMENDATION 2.1

The BOS should consider an additional budget item for funding DRP's drone program including the cost of insurance.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. DRP does not expect to annually procure additional drones or equipment related to new drones. When the service-life of any drone necessitates a replacement or if the fleet expands, DRP will work with the CEO to ensure funding. Current ongoing costs are only for drone insurance and software costs which result in an estimated cost of \$19,000 per year. The nominal amounts will be absorbed in the operating budget this FY and future FYs. The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not yet warranted.

RECOMMENDATION 2.2

DRP to submit to the CEO budget staff a formula reflecting costs associated when employing a drone.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation requires further analysis. DRP will gather data, including staff hourly rates, flight preparation time, drone operation time, and post-processing times to calculate costs associated with drone flights. This research can be completed by December 2022.

RECOMMENDATION 2.3

DRP should post signs when inspecting private or public sites in order to alert the area of drone activity.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation will be implemented. DRP recognizes the importance of visibility in the field, and staff wears County identifiable clothing when conducting any field work, including drone flights. During FY 2022-23, DRP plans to develop drone program-specific branding materials that could be used for the program website, materials, as well as identification on the ground.

RECOMMENDATION 2.4

Maintain centralization of the drone program at DRP.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation requires further analysis. DRP recommends that the centralization of a County drone program be discussed and vetted through the County's multi-agency UAS workgroup. Unfortunately, DRP does not have the resources to manage a countywide drone program. DRP encourages other interested departments to develop their own drone program. If they are unable to host their own program, then they can contract with DRP for drone services. DRP will reach out to the UAS workgroup coordinator for discussion by December 2022.

RECOMMENDATION 2.5

DRP should present their UAS policy and report their history of accomplishments during a BOS meeting.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation will be implemented. However, rather than a BOS meeting, DRP suggests that a CEO Cluster meeting may be the more appropriate public forum for this recommendation. DRP can initiate the presentation during FY 2022-23.

RECOMMENDATION 2.6

Locate a larger and more convenient site for training (currently at Dodger Stadium parking lot).

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. DRP drone pilots have been utilizing a 17-acre open grassy field near the Rose Bowl Stadium for training. The large field is surrounded by parking lots and open space and free from obstructions, making the field an ideal location for drone training. It is a central location easily accessible by staff. DRP is also in the process of identifying alternate training locations to provide diversity in training courses.

RECOMMENDATION 2.7

Locate a county-owned building (preferably vacant) for rooftop training purposes.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. DRP has utilized an LACDA-owned office building in Altadena for rooftop drone training purposes. DRP is a tenant of the building, and the building's adjoining parking lot provides ample space for drone deployment and operation.

RECOMMENDATION 2.8

DRP should include in their policy a formal procedure addressing site visits where domestic animals may be present.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. DRP will modify the program policy and/or training manual to address animals. This will be completed by December 2022.

RECOMMENDATION 2.10

DRP should establish a written test for new drone operators to ensure they have the knowledge to operate a drone.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. DRP drone trainees must take a knowledge training course and pass a written FAA exam as a requisite to become a drone pilot for the department. This written exam ensures that the trainees are knowledgeable on airspace rules and regulations, and basic operation of a drone. Therefore, the establishment of a separate written exam is unnecessary.

RECOMMENDATION 2.11

BOS should consider additional compensation for planners who have completed Los Angeles County drone training.

RESPONSE

Disagree. The recommendation will not be implemented. DRP has provided drone training as an incentive to staff and funds the training and drone license fees for all trainees. In addition, the current demand for drone flights is fairly light, and drone pilots do not need to dedicate an exorbitant amount of time on the effort.

RECOMMENDATION 2.12

DRP should have the RPC, as well as BOS, view the drone videos when necessary or requested (RPC meetings and BOS Public Hearing meetings).

RESPONSE

Agree. The recommendation has been implemented. Planners have requested drone flights to capture images and videos for discretionary permit processing. As a result, drone footage has been presented during RPC meetings, as appropriate.

RECOMMENDATION 2.13

DRP should generate a cost analysis for the actual live feed for RPC and BOS meetings for future viewing.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. The recommendation requires further analysis. While live feeds of drone footage are certainly unique, further analysis is necessary to determine if such capabilities are necessary for land use purposes. DRP also needs to identify the types of situations that would benefit from live drone footage. DRP can complete this analysis by December 2022.

RECOMMENDATION 2.14

DRP to ensure the technical connections from the drones, videos can be viewed in the BOS's Board Room as needed.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented as the BOS Board Room already has the technical capabilities to show pre-recorded drone footage. As stated in the response to recommendation 2.13, further analysis needs to be conducted to determine if live drone feeds are warranted for land use purposes. DRP can complete this analysis by December 2022.

**DRIP, DRIP, DRIP
WHERE IS OUR WATER COMING FROM?**



2021-2022

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CIVIL GRAND JURY**



County of Los Angeles
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

FESIA A. DAVENPORT
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
HILDA L. SOLIS
First District

HOLLY J. MITCHELL
Second District

SHEILA KUEHL
Third District

JANICE HAHN
Fourth District

KATHRYN BARGER
Fifth District

August 15, 2022

To: Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Janice Hahn
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

From: Fesia A. Davenport
Chief Executive Officer

2021-2022 LOS ANGELES CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

Attached are responses to the 2021-2022 Civil Grand Jury Final Report. We are responding to specific recommendations dealing with the following sections:

- At-Will Employees Unmasked
- Aviation Reimagined
- Drip, Drip, Drip – Where Is Our Water Coming From?
- Here Today, Gone Tomorrow
- May the Force Be With You!
- Men's Central Jail – "Is It Still Needed?"
- Misleading Should Be Costly: Pay The Price
- Only We Can Prevent L.A. County Wildfires
- Water, Water Everywhere Leaking From The Pipes
- Who Can You Trust: Oversight of Conservatorships

Attachment A represents the Chief Executive Officer's responses; Attachments B through H represent the departments' responses; and Attachment I represents a matrix of the questions and responses from each department.

Each Supervisor
August 15, 2022
Page 2

If you have any questions regarding our responses, please contact me, or your staff may contact Cheri Thomas, by phone at (213) 974-1326 or by email at cthomas@ceo.lacounty.gov.

FAD:JMN
CT:DSK:md

Attachments

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Sheriff
Aging and Disabilities
Fire
Human Resources
Medical Examiner-Coroner
Mental Health
Regional Planning
Sanitation District

	<p>which result in an estimated cost of \$19,000 per year. The nominal amounts will be absorbed in the DRP's operating budget. The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not yet warranted.</p> <p>Disagree. The recommendation requires further analysis. The BOS recommends that the centralization of a County drone program be discussed and vetted through the County's multi-agency UAS workgroup. DRP will reach out to the Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) workgroup coordinator for discussion by December 2022.</p> <p>Partially agree. The recommendation will be implemented. However, rather than a BOS meeting, DRP can present at CEO Cluster meeting. DRP will provide a presentation in Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-23.</p> <p>Disagree. The recommendation requires further analysis on the use of drones by all departments. BOS recommends that a countywide policy on drones be discussed and vetted through the County's multi-agency UAS workgroup. DRP will reach out to the UAS workgroup coordinator for discussion by December 2022.</p> <p>Disagree. The recommendation will not be implemented. DRP has provided drone training as an incentive to staff and funds the training and drone license fees for all trainees.</p> <p>Agree. The recommendation has been implemented. Planners have requested drone flights to capture images and videos for discretionary permit processing. As a result, drone footage has been presented during RPC meetings, as appropriate.</p> <p>Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. The BOS Board Room already has technical capabilities to show pre-recorded drone footage.</p>
2.4 Maintain centralization of the drone program at DRP.	
2.5 DRP should present their UAS policy and report their history of accomplishments during a BOS meeting.	
2.9 BOS should adopt a countywide policy on drones for all departments, except County Fire and Sheriff Departments.	
2.11 BOS should consider additional compensation for planners who have completed Los Angeles County drone training.	
2.12 DRP should have the Regional Planning Commission (RPC), as well as BOS, view the drone videos when necessary or requested (RPC meetings and BOS Public Hearing meetings).	
2.14 DRP to ensure the technical connections from the drones, videos can be viewed in the BOS's Board Room, as needed.	
Chief Executive Office for the Board of Supervisors and Chief Executive Office – Drip, Drip, Drip--Where is Our Water Coming From?	
Recommendations	Responses
3.1 Increasing education, and awareness through the media on adopting WaterSense products and help more people understand how to approach and address the issue of water conservancy.	<p>Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. Comprehensive conservation education and awareness measures are being implemented by the Los Angeles (LA) County Flood Control District which is empowered to provide flood protection, water conservation, recreation, and aesthetic enhancement within its boundaries.</p>

<p>3.2 Support water measures and public financing to acquire more water supply and sources. Examples of measures: California Proposition 3 Water Infrastructure bill, and A.G. File No. 2021-014 (October 15, 2021).</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation has been implemented or will be implemented. Examples include: Implemented a. Recent Federal authorization for Large-Scale Water Recycling Funding Program at \$450 Million to be administered by the Bureau of Reclamation. Several LA county recycled water projects are likely eligible to apply. b. The State Budget Act of 2021 appropriated \$650 million to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) for drinking water project grants.</p> <p>Will be implemented. a. The Department of Public Works (DPW) is leading the InfrastructureLA initiative, a collaborative effort of numerous entities to obtain federal and State funds that includes water supply projects. b. Water and recycled water agencies and industry trade groups continue to advocate for additional State and Federal funding for water projects.</p>
<p>3.3 Consider proposals for and submitting a ballot measure to bring desalination plants into the County.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. Desalination is a viable option in many areas with limited water supplies, and there are over 177,000 desalination plants operational in 170 countries. However, in Los Angeles County it does not provide a net benefit to the community when considered from a triple-bottom-line analysis taking into consideration economic, environmental, and societal impacts. Additionally, implementation of this recommendation would likely have net negative impact on the County's efforts to meet its sustainability goals. Water agencies in LA County have been evaluating the feasibility of desalination for decades and no current desalination projects are recommended. Notably, this includes the decision in 2021 by the West Basin Municipal Water District to terminate their Ocean Water Desalination Project.</p>
<p>Chief Executive Office for the Board of Supervisors – Here Today, Gone Tomorrow Recommendations Responses</p>	

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AND CHIEF
EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DRIP, DRIP, DRIP WHERE IS OUR WATER COMING FROM?

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3.1

Increasing education, and awareness through the media on adopting WaterSense products and help more people understand how to approach and address the issue of water conservancy.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. Comprehensive conservation education and awareness measures are being implemented by the Los Angeles (LA) County Flood Control District which is empowered to provide flood protection, water conservation, recreation, and aesthetic enhancement within its boundaries.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3.2

Support water measures and public financing to acquire more water supply and sources. Examples of measures: California Proposition 3 Water Infrastructure bill, and A.G. File No. 2021-014 (October 15, 2021).

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented or will be implemented. Examples include:

Implemented

- a. Recent Federal authorization for Large-Scale Water Recycling Funding Program at \$450 Million to be administered by the Bureau of Reclamation. Several LA County recycled water projects are likely eligible to apply.
- b. The State Budget Act of 2021 appropriated \$650 million to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) for drinking water project grants.

Will be implemented.

- a. The Department of Public Works (DPW) is leading the Infrastructure LA initiative, a collaborative effort of numerous entities to obtain federal and State funds that includes water supply projects.

- b. Water and recycled water agencies and industry trade groups continue to advocate for additional State and Federal funding for water projects.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3.3

Consider proposals for and submitting a ballot measure to bring desalination plants into the County.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. Desalination is a viable option in many areas with limited water supplies, and there are over 177,000 desalination plants operational in 170 countries. However, in Los Angeles County it does not provide a net benefit to the community when considered from a triple-bottom-line analysis taking into consideration economic, environmental, and societal impacts. Additionally, implementation of this recommendation would likely have net negative impact on the County's efforts to meet its sustainability goals. Water agencies in LA County have been evaluating the feasibility of desalination for decades and no current desalination projects are recommended. Notably, this includes the decision in 2021 by the West Basin Municipal Water District to terminate their Ocean Water Desalination Project.



**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SANITATION DISTRICTS**
Converting Waste Into Resources

Robert C. Ferrante
Chief Engineer and General Manager
1955 Workman Mill Road, Whittier, CA 90601-1400
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 4998, Whittier, CA 90607-4998
(562) 699-7411 • www.lacsd.org

July 15, 2022

VIA EMAIL cthomas@ceo.lacounty.gov

Ms. Fesia A. Davenport
Chief Executive Officer
745 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Ms. Davenport:

Responses to the 2021-2022 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Final Report

Please find attached the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts' (Sanitation Districts) response to the Grand Jury Report titled *DRIP, DRIP, DRIP – Where is Our Water Coming From*. The Sanitation Districts is submitting this response for the "Departments" listed on your July 1, 2022 Letter Attachment A as "Los Angeles County Reclamation (Sanitation District)" and "Los Angeles County Sanitation Department (District)."

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mr. Raymond L. Tremblay at (562) 908-4288, extension 2701, or at R.Tremblay@lacsd.org.

Very truly yours,


Robert C. Ferrante

RLT:sw

Enclosure

DOC 6630107

Attachment H

Sanitation District

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES LOS ANGELES COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICTS

2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DRIP, DRIP, DRIP – WHERE IS OUR WATER COMING FROM?

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3.1

Increasing education, and awareness through the media on adopting WaterSense products and help more people understand how to approach and address the issue of water conservancy.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation is being Implemented. Comprehensive conservation education and awareness measures are being implemented by regional water agencies and retailers. See Metropolitan Water District's <https://www.bewaterwise.com/>.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3.2

Support water measures and public financing to acquire more water supply and sources. Examples of measures: California Proposition 3 Water Infrastructure bill,43 and A.G. File No. 2021-014 (October 15, 2021).

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation is being Implemented. Examples include:

Implemented

- a. Recent Federal authorization for Large-Scale Water Recycling Funding Program at \$450 Million to be administered by the Bureau of Reclamation. Several LA county recycled water projects are likely eligible to apply
- b. The State Budget Act of 2021 appropriated \$650 million to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) for drinking water project grants.

Will be implemented.

- a. LA County DPW is leading the InfrastructureLA initiative, a collaborative effort of numerous entities to obtain federal and State funds that includes water supply projects. <https://infrastructurela.org/infrastructureinitiative/>
- b. Water and recycled water agencies and industry trade groups continue to advocate for additional State and federal funding for water projects.

Attachment I

Matrix

2021-2022 Civil Grand Jury Final Report Responses

	feeds are warranted for land use purposes. DRP can complete this analysis by December 2022.
Regional Planning-Regional Planning Commission Chair – Aviation Reimagined	
Recommendations	Responses
2.12 DRP should have the RPC, as well as BOS, view the drone videos when necessary or requested (RPC meetings and BOS Public Hearing meetings).	Agree. The recommendation has been implemented. Planners have requested drone flights to capture images and videos for discretionary permit processing. As a result, drone footage has been presented during the RPC meetings, as appropriate. We look forward to an increase in the number of drone images used for future RPC meetings.
2.13 DRP should generate a cost analysis for the actual 'live' feed for RPC and BOS meetings for future viewing.	Partially agree. The RPC recognizes that the DRP requires further analysis to determine the implication to conduct the live drone footage for the RPC and BOS future hearings. Having drone imagery available in real-time to present cases before the RPC is beneficial to our assessment of the projects heard before us.
Sanitation District-Reclamation – Drip, Drip, Drip-Where is Our Water Coming From?	
Recommendations	Responses
3.1 Increasing education, and awareness through the media on adopting WaterSense products and help more people understand how to approach and address the issue of water conservancy.	Agree. This recommendation is being implemented. Comprehensive conservation education and awareness measures are being implemented by regional water agencies and retailers. See Metropolitan Water District's https://www.bewaterwise.com/ .
3.2 Support water measures and public financing to acquire more water supply and sources. Examples of measures: California Proposition 3 Water Infrastructure Bill, and A.G. File No. 2021-014 (October 15, 2021).	Agree. This recommendation is being implemented. Examples include: Implemented <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Recent Federal authorization for Large-Scale Water Recycling Funding Program at \$450 Million to be administered by the Bureau of Reclamation. Several LA county recycled water projects are likely eligible to apply b. The State Budget Act of 2021 appropriated \$650 million to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) for drinking water project grants.

ATTACHMENT I

	<p>Will be implemented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. LA County DPW is leading the InfrastructureLA initiative, a collaborative effort of numerous entities to obtain federal and State funds that includes water supply projects. https://infrastructurela.org/infrastructureinitiative/b. Water and recycled water agencies and industry trade groups continue to advocate for additional State and federal funding for water projects.
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THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Office of the General Manager

September 29, 2022

Via Email and U.S. Mail

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple St., 13th Floor, Room 13-303
Los Angeles, CA 90012
[REDACTED]

Dear Presiding Judge:

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Response to Grand Jury Report
Drip, Drip, Drip—Where is Our Water Coming From?

On June 21, 2022, the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury released a report titled, *Drip, Drip, Drip—Where is Our Water Coming From?* The Grand Jury requested that The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) respond to recommendations in the report. Per the Grand Jury's request, below are Metropolitan's responses to Recommendations 3.1 and 3.2.

Metropolitan is the largest wholesale provider of treated water in the United States, with 26 public member agencies that serve 19 million Californians within our 5,200-square-mile service area. Metropolitan's mission is to provide adequate and reliable supplies of high-quality water to meet present and future needs in an environmentally and economically responsible way.

In partnership with local water agencies throughout the region and in Los Angeles County, Metropolitan is a leader in implementing a One Water approach for supply reliability. Metropolitan has invested over \$1.5 billion in drought-resilient resources such as conservation, recycling, and groundwater recovery. Our 17 member agency partners in Los Angeles County have invested billions more. The unprecedented severity of California's current drought coupled with the extreme shortage on the Colorado River underscore an urgent need for sustainable new supplies and continued diversification of Southern California's water resource portfolio.

Metropolitan appreciates the Grand Jury's effort to examine the complex issues surrounding Los Angeles County's water supplies. In addition to our responses below, I would also highlight that our continuing objective is to address Finding F-1 in Los Angeles County by working with our member agencies to provide sufficient water for the County's prosperity and economic growth for decades to come.

Presiding Judge
Page 2
September 29, 2022

Metropolitan Responses:

Recommendation 3.1: *“Increasing education, and awareness through the media on adopting WaterSense products and help more people understand how to approach and address the issue of water conservancy.”*

Response:

Metropolitan agrees with this recommendation. Metropolitan is a proud U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) WaterSense partner and submits reports to the agency annually on our public outreach, regional conservation rebates, and resulting water savings.

Rebates. Metropolitan coordinates a region-wide water conservation program on behalf of our member agencies and their retail providers. Through that program, Metropolitan provides rebates for WaterSense products including high-efficiency toilets, weather-based irrigation controllers, and low-flow urinals (as well as many other water-efficient devices). The stringent WaterSense standard for high efficiency toilets is no more than 1.28 gallons per flush (20 percent more efficient than the national standard). Further, all efficient toilets available for purchase in California are WaterSense designated toilets.

To drive consumers to even more efficient products, Metropolitan’s high-efficiency toilet rebate incentivizes products that use even less water than the WaterSense standards. For weather-based irrigation controllers, Metropolitan directs consumers to an EPA certified list of approved products which can be found on our SoCalWaterSmart.com website.

Outreach. In addition to rebates, Metropolitan provides WaterSense training for landscape professionals throughout Southern California. Applicants who complete the training and pass the required test are then added to Metropolitan’s conservation website at bewaterwise.com as a resource for consumers looking to convert their lawns to more sustainable and water-efficient landscapes.

Metropolitan participates in the annual WaterSense Fix-a-Leak Week—a nationwide outreach effort to educate the public about household water waste. This year, staff developed two social media videos to highlight a rebate on leak detection devices. The videos, which received nearly 8,000 views, walked consumers through the benefits of using a flow-monitoring device to help catch leaks early and in real-time while also incorporating WaterSense figures and products. Metropolitan staff joined water agencies across the nation in a WaterSense Fix-a-Leak Week Twitter Party to further emphasize the importance of saving water by detecting and fixing household leaks.

Finally, Metropolitan received the prestigious EPA WaterSense Excellence Award in 2017 for the many successful and innovative programs that promote conservation and WaterSense products which are still in use today.

Presiding Judge

Page 3

September 29, 2022

Outdoor Water Use. The largest potential gain for future water conservation is outdoor water use. Many WaterSense products focus on helping to irrigate landscapes efficiently, which is important. However, Metropolitan continues to place great emphasis on choices consumers, commercial businesses, and public institutions make about the kind of landscapes that are planted in our region. Replacing irrigated turf with native and drought tolerant landscapes represents the easiest path for our region to become more efficient. In that regard, Metropolitan is working with local and regional entities to take steps to eliminate non-functional turf from our landscapes. Metropolitan continues to provide rebates that are designed to support this landscape transition. In addition, Metropolitan supports efforts to ensure that new development reflects a landscape palette that emphasizes native and drought tolerant landscapes. In this way we will be working to change older landscapes to save water while new developments reflect the water use characteristics we need for a sustainable future.

Recommendation 3.2: *“Support water measures and public financing to acquire more water supply and sources. Examples of measures: California Proposition 3 Water Infrastructure bill, 43 and A.G. File No. 2021-014 (October 15, 2021).”*

Response:

Metropolitan agrees with this recommendation. Metropolitan supports efforts to increase state funding through both the annual budget process and through initiatives that place general obligation bonds on the ballot. The California Budget Acts of 2021 and 2022 include more than \$8.5 billion for water and drought response over multiple years, including \$625 million for recycled water projects.

Several Metropolitan projects critical to ensuring reliable water supplies for Los Angeles County and the entire Southern California region will receive \$130 million in state funding, as a result of legislation signed by Governor Gavin Newsom this month.

Metropolitan’s Pure Water Southern California project – anticipated to be one of the world’s largest water recycling facilities when complete – will receive \$80 million from the FY 2022/23 state budget. The funding will help accelerate the project’s design, construction, and operations.

In addition, \$50 million has been provided to Metropolitan for a set of drought emergency mitigation projects to move locally stored water into parts of Southern California that depend on extremely limited supplies from the State Water Project from Northern California. Without access to alternative supplies, many communities in Los Angeles County have faced significant mandatory conservation measures since June.

Further, Metropolitan supported Proposition 1 in 2014 that authorized \$2.7 billion that will be invested in eight statewide water storage projects that collectively will boost water storage reserves by 2.77 million acre-feet.

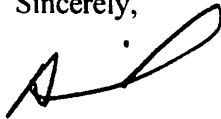
Presiding Judge
Page 4
September 29, 2022

Metropolitan also supports federal programs and legislation to improve water supplies and drought resilience across the Southwest. In 2021, President Biden signed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) which provided \$1 billion for Western water recycling programs through the Bureau of Reclamation. The IIJA includes \$550 million over 5 years for the Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Grants Program and \$450 million for a Competitive Grant Program for Large-Scale Water Recycling Projects. Several recycled water projects planned for Los Angeles County are likely eligible to apply for these funds.

Most recently, in August 2022, President Biden signed the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022. This ambitious legislation helps address the climate crisis by providing \$4 billion for drought relief programs in the Colorado River basin.

Thank you for providing Metropolitan with the opportunity to respond. Please feel free to contact us if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,



Adel Hagekhalil
General Manager



ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

September 27, 2022

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street
13th Floor, Room 13-303
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Civil Grand Jury Report - "*Drip, Drip, Drip – Where is our Water Coming From?*"

Your Honor:

The Office of the Mayor of the City of Los Angeles hereby responds to the Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury Report, entitled "*Drip, Drip, Drip – Where is our Water Coming From?*" dated June 30, 2022. According to the Civil Grand Jury Report, the deadline for responding to the "Recommendations" is September 30, 2022.

RESPONSES TO RECOMMENDATIONS

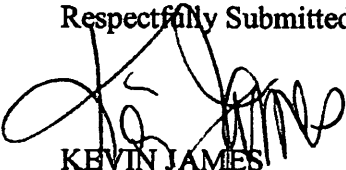
3.1 This recommendation has been implemented. In recent years, the City of Los Angeles, including our Office, has worked to increase education and awareness through the media on ways to approach and address the issue of water conservation, including the City's "Save the Drop" campaign launched in 2015.

3.2 This recommendation has been implemented. In recent years, the City of Los Angeles, including our Office, has supported Measure W (Safe Clean Water Program), Measure A (Safe, Clean Neighborhood Parks, Open Space, Beaches, Rivers Protection, and Water Conservation Measure), and water bonds at the state level, including the "Parks, Environment, and Water Bond," and the "Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014" (Proposition 1).

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
September 27, 2022
Page 2

3.3 This recommendation requires further analysis because of budgeting and resource issues, and because outstanding legal issues may exist (including California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) issues). This office is not able to place a timeframe on such further analysis because the City's budgeting process extends beyond the six month time frame requested in California Penal Code Section 933.05(b)(3).

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin James', is written over the typed name and title.

KEVIN JAMES
Legal Counsel
Office of Los Angeles Mayor
Eric Garcetti

HERE TODAY, GONE TOMORROW
THE IMPACT ON THE LIVING WHILE CARING FOR
THE DEAD



2021 – 2022

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CIVIL GRAND JURY



County of Los Angeles
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
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<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

FESIA A. DAVENPORT
Chief Executive Officer

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HILDA L. SOLIS
First District

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SHEILA KUEHL
Third District

JANICE HAHN
Fourth District

KATHRYN BARGER
Fifth District

August 15, 2022

To: Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Janice Hahn
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

From: Fesia A. Davenport
Chief Executive Officer

2021-2022 LOS ANGELES CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

Attached are responses to the 2021-2022 Civil Grand Jury Final Report. We are responding to specific recommendations dealing with the following sections:

- At-Will Employees Unmasked
- Aviation Reimagined
- Drip, Drip, Drip – Where Is Our Water Coming From?
- Here Today, Gone Tomorrow
- May the Force Be With You!
- Men's Central Jail – "Is It Still Needed?"
- Misleading Should Be Costly: Pay The Price
- Only We Can Prevent L.A. County Wildfires
- Water, Water Everywhere Leaking From The Pipes
- Who Can You Trust: Oversight of Conservatorships

Attachment A represents the Chief Executive Officer's responses; Attachments B through H represent the departments' responses; and Attachment I represents a matrix of the questions and responses from each department.

Each Supervisor
August 15, 2022
Page 2

If you have any questions regarding our responses, please contact me, or your staff may contact Cheri Thomas, by phone at (213) 974-1326 or by email at cthomas@ceo.lacounty.gov.

FAD:JMN
CT:DSK:md

Attachments

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Sheriff
Aging and Disabilities
Fire
Human Resources
Medical Examiner-Coroner
Mental Health
Regional Planning
Sanitation District

<p>4.1 Designate a parking area in front or close to the facility for staff and family claiming or identifying a decedent.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented as the CEO and BOS have no jurisdiction over Medical Examiner-Coroner (ME-C) parking. This recommendation should be referred to the ME-C.</p>
<p>4.2 Contract a Chaplain or Counselor to assist grieving family members in a private room at the facility.</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation is in the process of being implemented. The ME-C is implementing family advocates with social worker backgrounds and is creating a grief room. The Board defers to ME-C's response for further information on the implementation.</p>
<p>4.3 Provide a storage room to include individualized compartments/drawers for decedent belongings.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. The BOS defers to ME-C's response for further information on the storage process.</p>
<p>4.5 Supply laboratory equipment and staff necessary to analyze specimens that are sent out of state in order to expedite results needed for reports.</p>	<p>Partially agree. This recommendation will be partially implemented. Additional testing could be performed in house at the ME-C but it would be impractical to obtain all instrumentation and staffing necessary to handle everything in house. The Board defers to ME-C's response for further information on the implementation.</p>
<p>Chief Executive Office for the Board of Supervisors – May the Force be With You!</p>	
<p>Recommendations</p>	
<p>5.1 Any remaining small data centers should be absorbed by DC-1.</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. All small data centers have been transitioned to DC-1.</p>
<p>5.3 The Chief Information Office (CIO) to ensure achievement of all goals outlined in the March 2021 Enterprise Plan.</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The implementation of IT strategic goals has largely been implemented or are in progress to be completed by 2024.</p>
<p>5.4 Prioritize creation of system to eliminate paper inmate records between the courts and the jails.</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The CIO will work with the Sheriff's Department to automate communications between courts and jails.</p>
<p>5.5 CIO should fill or consolidate senior management positions as soon as possible.</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation is being implemented. The CIO has initiated recruitments for key management positions. Similarly, the Internal Services Department (ISD) has initiated recruitments for its key management positions.</p>
<p>5.6 Conceal electrical sub-station and generators at DC-1 for improved security.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. DC-1 is a leased facility and is required to meet the requirements of a Tier 3 data center, which includes standards-based physical security requirements. Concealment of electrical sub-station and generators at DC-1 are not</p>

	<p>is also in the process of identifying alternate training locations to provide diversity in training courses.</p> <p>Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. DRP has utilized an LACDA-owned office building in Altadena for rooftop drone training purposes. DRP is a tenant of the building, and the building's adjoining parking lot provides ample space for drone deployment and operation. CEO will request for DRP to identify alternate training locations to provide diversity in training courses.</p>
<p>2.7 Locate a county-owned building (preferably vacant) for rooftop training purposes.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation requires further analysis on the use of drones by all departments. CEO recommends that a countywide policy on drones be discussed and vetted through the County's multi-agency UAS workgroup. DRP will reach out to the UAS workgroup coordinator for discussion by December 2022.</p>
<p>2.9 BOS should adopt a countywide policy on drones for all departments, except County Fire and Sheriff Departments.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. DRP has provided drone training as an incentive to staff and funds the training and drone license fees for all trainees.</p>
<p>2.11 BOS should consider additional compensation for planners who have completed Los Angeles County drone training.</p> <p>2.12 DRP should have the RPC, as well as BOS, view the drone videos when necessary or requested (RPC meetings and BOS Public Hearing meetings).</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. Planners have requested drone flights to capture images and videos for discretionary permit processing. As a result, drone footage has been presented during RPC meetings, as appropriate.</p>
<p>Chief Executive Office – Here Today, Gone Tomorrow</p>	
<p>Recommendations</p>	<p>Responses</p>
<p>4.1 Designate a parking area in front or close to the facility for staff and family claiming or identifying a decedent.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented as the CEO has no jurisdiction over ME-C parking. This recommendation should be referred to the ME-C.</p>
<p>4.4 Expand or move to a larger modern facility inclusive of compounds currently adjacent to the facility.</p>	<p>Partially agree. This recommendation will be partially implemented through the Facility Reinvestment Program (FRP). The FRP will be making a considerable investment to improve ME-C's downtown facility building systems and infrastructure. This will be a multi-year project delivered through DPW, and will include repairs to the electrical, plumbing, and fire protection systems, and elevators. Other recently completed noteworthy improvements to the ME-C facility include</p>

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
"HERE TODAY, GONE TOMORROW - THE IMPACT ON THE LIVING WHILE
CARING FOR THE DEAD"

RECOMMENDATION NO. 4.1

Designate a parking area in front or close to the facility for staff and family claiming or identifying a decedent.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented as the CEO and BOS have no jurisdiction over Medical Examiner-Coroner (ME-C) parking. This recommendation should be referred to the ME-C.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 4.2

Contract a Chaplain or Counselor to assist grieving family members in a private room at the facility.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation is in the process of being implemented. The ME-C is implementing family advocates with social worker backgrounds and is creating a grief room. The Board defers to ME-C's response for further information on the implementation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 4.3

Provide a storage room to include individualized compartments/drawers for decedent belongings.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. The BOS defers to ME-C's response for further information on the storage process.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 4.5

Supply laboratory equipment and staff necessary to analyze specimens that are sent out of state in order to expedite results needed for reports.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation will be partially implemented. Additional testing could be performed in house at the ME-C but it would be impractical to obtain all instrumentation and staffing necessary to handle everything in house. The Board defers to ME-C's response for further information on the implementation.



"Enriching Lives"

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER
1104 N. MISSION RD. LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90033



Jonathan R. Lucas, M.D.
Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner

July 15, 2022

Fesia A. Davenport
Chief Executive Officer
713 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 W. Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

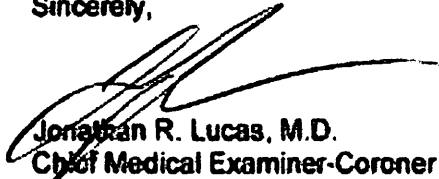
Dear Ms. Davenport:

**RESPONSES TO THE 2021-2022 LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT**

Attached please find the responses from the Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner to the Civil Grand Jury's final report. Our department had only one audit section, titled "Here Today, Gone Tomorrow."

Please contact me with any questions or clarifications.

Sincerely,



Jonathan R. Lucas, M.D.
Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner

JRL:ic

Accreditations:

National Association of Medical Examiners (Provisional)
California Medical Association-Continuing Medical Education
Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education

ANAB ISO IEC 17025:2017 Forensic Science Testing Laboratories
Peace Officer Standards and Training Certified

Law and Justice Serving the Community

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER**

2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR

HERE TODAY, GONE TOMORROW

RECOMMENDATION NO. 4.2

Contract a Chaplain or Counselor to assist grieving family members in a private room at the facility.

RESPONSE

Agree. The recommendation is being implemented. The Department has created a 2-year pilot project and implementation plan for family advocates who have a social worker background to support this effort. There are ongoing efforts to find funding to hire social workers, including conversations with the DMH to assess opportunities to run the pilot project through their department and utilize their existing grants and staffing resources. We expect to find funding or tap into existing resources by the beginning of the 2023/2024 fiscal year.

The creation of the grief room is underway, i.e., the previous space utilized for the gift shop will be converted into smaller grief rooms. The Department is coordinating with CEO Capital Projects and DPW. Funding is in place as of June 2022, and construction is expected to begin in the fall, 2022.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 4.3

Provide a storage room to include individualized compartments/drawers for decedent belongings.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. Decedent property on the service floor (where the examinations take place) is only for suspected homicide investigations and present for purposes of the examination. Our regular storage for decedent personal property is in the Public Services Division Property Section located in the Old Administration Building (OAB). Although there are no individual lockers, the personal property is stored securely in individual packages and neatly arranged on shelving for access during release. Family members are given the decedent's personal property items by trained staff in a private room where no other decedent personal property items are visible.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 4.5

Supply laboratory equipment and staff necessary to analyze specimens that are sent out of state in order to expedite results needed for reports.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation will be partially implemented. The department agrees that additional testing could be performed "in house" and would require some additional equipment and staffing. However, it would be impractical to obtain all instrumentation and staffing necessary to completely eliminate the need to send specimens in some cases to a specialized, national, production laboratory. Obtaining additional testing equipment and staff will require additional funding and will be requested through the normal budget process for the 2023/2024 fiscal year. Electrical infrastructure limitations will restrict the addition of more equipment, but these systems are being addressed through a deferred maintenance project currently in the planning phase with an estimated completion date in 2026.

Attachment F

Mental Health and Office of the Public Guardian

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HERE TODAY, GONE TOMORROW - THE IMPACT ON THE LIVING WHILE CARING FOR THE DEAD

RECOMMENDATION NO. 4.1

Designate a parking area in front or close to the facility for staff and family claiming or identifying a decedent.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented as the CEO has no jurisdiction over ME-C parking. This recommendation should be referred to the ME-C.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 4.4

Expand or move to a larger modern facility inclusive of compounds currently adjacent to the facility.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation will be partially implemented through the Facility Reinvestment Program (FRP). The FRP will be making a considerable investment to improve ME-C's downtown facility building systems and infrastructure. This will be a multi-year project delivered through DPW, and will include repairs to the electrical, plumbing, and fire protection systems, and elevators. Other recently completed noteworthy improvements to the ME-C facility include renovation of the toxicology refrigerator, improvements to flooring systems in various locations, and an upgraded crypt door.

<p>8.7 Personnel needs should be reviewed for each current wildfire season and should be adjusted to fit the needs of the LACFD's wildfire division.</p>	<p>FD, which would have addressed the infrastructure and personnel needs. Unfortunately, while obtaining a majority vote, the measure did not achieve the required 2/3 voter super-majority needed to become enacted. As such, the LACFD continues to explore available revenue streams while working with the CEO and BOS to identify additional funding where possible, monitor department expenditures, and determine funding efficiencies.</p> <p>Agree. This recommendation has been implemented and evaluated at the end of each fire season. However, one of the difficulties is the fire season varies from year to year due to variations in fire activity driven by weather and fuel conditions. Both indicators are extremely difficult to forecast. This is especially true throughout the state with the ongoing drought and above normal temperatures. The fire season continues to be a year-round staffing challenge that many predict will become far worse given the impacts of climate change.</p>
<p>Medical Examiner-Coroner – Here Today, Gone Tomorrow</p>	
<p>Recommendations</p> <p>4.2 Contract a Chaplain or Counselor to assist grieving family members in a private room at the facility.</p>	<p>Responses</p> <p>Agree. The recommendation is being implemented. The Department has created a 2-year pilot project and implementation plan for family advocates who have a social worker background to support this effort. There are ongoing efforts to find funding to hire social workers, including conversations with the DMH to assess opportunities to run the pilot project through their Department and utilize their existing grants and staffing resources. We expect to find funding or tap into existing resources by the beginning of the 2023/2024 fiscal year.</p> <p>The creation of the grief room is underway, i.e., the previous space utilized for the gift shop will be converted into smaller grief rooms. The Department is coordinating with CEO Capital Projects and the DPW. Funding is in place as of June 2022, and construction is expected to begin in the fall, 2022.</p>
<p>4.3 Provide a storage room to include individualized compartments/drawers for decedent belongings.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. Decedent property on the service floor (where the examinations take place) is only</p>

	<p>for suspected homicide investigations and present for purposes of the examination. Our regular storage for decedent personal property is in the Public Services Division Property Section located in the Old Administration Building (OAB). Although there are no individual lockers, the personal property is stored securely in individual packages and neatly arranged on shelving for access during release. Family members are given the decedent's personal property items by trained staff in a private room where no other decedent personal property items are visible.</p>
<p>4.5 Supply laboratory equipment and staff necessary to analyze specimens that are sent out of state in order to expedite results needed for reports.</p>	<p>Partially agree. This recommendation will be partially implemented. The department agrees that additional testing could be performed "in house" and would require some additional equipment and staffing. However, it would be impractical to obtain all instrumentation and staffing necessary to completely eliminate the need to send specimens in some cases to a specialized, national, production laboratory. Obtaining additional testing equipment and staff will require additional funding and will be requested through the normal budget process for the 2023/2024 fiscal year. Electrical infrastructure limitations will restrict the addition of more equipment, but these systems are being addressed through a deferred maintenance project currently in the planning phase with an estimated completion date in 2026.</p>
<p>Mental Health – Men's Central Jail "Is It Still Needed?"</p>	
<p>Recommendations</p>	<p>Responses</p>
<p>6.1 Scrap long delayed and debated plans to demolish the Men's Central Jail (MCJ). It serves a custodial and penal mission for hardened criminals. MCJ should continue to be used for this purpose.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented as the DMH does not have jurisdiction over this recommendation.</p> <p>DMH appreciates the concerns raised by the Civil Grand Jury regarding the County's ability to serve individuals with complex criminal justice histories while in the County's jail system. DMH is focused on providing specialty mental health services, as noted in the report, to those individuals who can be safely and appropriately served by community based mental health services. DMH does acknowledge that if MCJ is closed there will be an even greater need for an already scarce resource - secured mental health beds.</p>

MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU!



2021-2022

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CIVIL GRAND JURY**



FESIA A. DAVENPORT
Chief Executive Officer

County of Los Angeles **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

Board of Supervisors
HILDA L. SOLIS
First District

HOLLY J. MITCHELL
Second District

SHEILA KUEHL
Third District

JANICE HAHN
Fourth District

KATHRYN BARGER
Fifth District

August 15, 2022

To: Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Janice Hahn
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

From: Fesia A. Davenport
Chief Executive Officer

2021-2022 LOS ANGELES CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

Attached are responses to the 2021-2022 Civil Grand Jury Final Report. We are responding to specific recommendations dealing with the following sections:

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Attachment A represents the Chief Executive Officer's responses; Attachments B through H represent the departments' responses; and Attachment I represents a matrix of the questions and responses from each department.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

Each Supervisor
August 15, 2022
Page 2

If you have any questions regarding our responses, please contact me, or your staff may contact Cheri Thomas, by phone at (213) 974-1326 or by email at cthomas@ceo.lacounty.gov.

FAD:JMN
CT:DSK:md

Attachments

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Sheriff
Aging and Disabilities
Fire
Human Resources
Medical Examiner-Coroner
Mental Health
Regional Planning
Sanitation District

ATTACHMENT I

<p>4.1 Designate a parking area in front or close to the facility for staff and family claiming or identifying a decedent.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented as the CEO and BOS have no jurisdiction over Medical Examiner-Coroner (ME-C) parking. This recommendation should be referred to the ME-C.</p>
<p>4.2 Contract a Chaplain or Counselor to assist grieving family members in a private room at the facility.</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation is in the process of being implemented. The ME-C is implementing family advocates with social worker backgrounds and is creating a grief room. The Board defers to ME-C's response for further information on the implementation.</p>
<p>4.3 Provide a storage room to include individualized compartments/drawers for decedent belongings.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. The BOS defers to ME-C's response for further information on the storage process.</p>
<p>4.5 Supply laboratory equipment and staff necessary to analyze specimens that are sent out of state in order to expedite results needed for reports.</p>	<p>Partially agree. This recommendation will be partially implemented. Additional testing could be performed in house at the ME-C but it would be impractical to obtain all instrumentation and staffing necessary to handle everything in house. The Board defers to ME-C's response for further information on the implementation.</p>
<p>Chief Executive Office for the Board of Supervisors – May the Force be With You!</p>	
<p>Recommendations</p>	
<p>5.1 Any remaining small data centers should be absorbed by DC-1.</p>	<p>Responses Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. All small data centers have been transitioned to DC-1.</p>
<p>5.3 The Chief Information Office (CIO) to ensure achievement of all goals outlined in the March 2021 Enterprise Plan.</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The implementation of IT strategic goals has largely been implemented or are in progress to be completed by 2024.</p>
<p>5.4 Prioritize creation of system to eliminate paper inmate records between the courts and the jails.</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The CIO will work with the Sheriff's Department to automate communications between courts and jails.</p>
<p>5.5 CIO should fill or consolidate senior management positions as soon as possible.</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation is being implemented. The CIO has initiated recruitments for key management positions. Similarly, the Internal Services Department (ISD) has initiated recruitments for its key management positions.</p>
<p>5.6 Conceal electrical sub-station and generators at DC-1 for improved security.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. DC-1 is a leased facility and is required to meet the requirements of a Tier 3 data center, which includes standards-based physical security requirements. Concealment of electrical sub-station and generators at DC-1 are not</p>

ATTACHMENT I

<p>5.7 The County Leadership Committee and the ISAB needs to continue to meet to ensure that the best and most current IT solutions are available in this complex system.</p> <p>5.8 The County to continue to seek the latest security enhancements to protect the County E-Mail system.</p>	<p>required due to industry-based perimeter security measures that are in place.</p> <p>Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The CIO and County Leadership Committee will continue to work with ISAB to modernize legacy justice systems</p> <p>Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The CIO continues to work with ISD to implement email security, including enhanced Multi-Factor Authentication, and phishing mitigation technologies.</p>
<p>Chief Executive Office for the Board of Supervisors and Chief Recommendation</p> <p>6.1 Scrap long delayed and debated plans to demolish the Men's Central Jail (MCJ). It serves a custodial and penal mission for hardened criminals. MCJ should continue to be used for this purpose.</p> <p>6.2 Plan needed repairs and renovations of MCJ, as outlined in Finding 6-1 as the only facility rated for hardened criminals and violent inmates that must be kept separate from each other. This addresses the facility usage as the continued penal home for hardened career criminals, gang members, and violent long-term inmates in this "prison" like facility rather than any o the other usual County jails.</p>	<p>Chief Executive Office – Men's Central Jail - "Is It Still Needed?"</p> <p>Response</p> <p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. MCJ is an outdated correctional facility that has outlived its usefulness and no longer meets the needs of the population.</p> <p>Agree. This recommendation will be partially implemented. The County currently has legal obligations under a Consent Decree that might lead to some modifications and enhancements to small segments of the jail in order to enhance mental health services.</p>
<p>Chief Executive Office for the Board of Supervisors and Chief Recommendations</p> <p>7.2 There should be a disincentive for a person to knowingly file a false complaint against a peace officer. This could be achieved, while protecting the right of a citizen to hold government accountable through the legitimate use of the complaint process, by implementing the following: (a) Update all current LASD Civilian Complaint Forms to include the California Penal Code section 148.6 advisement.</p>	<p>Chief Executive Office – Misleading Should be Costly-Pay the Price</p> <p>Responses</p> <p>Partially agree. This recommendation has been partially implemented. The Sheriff's Department is collaborating with the United States (US) Department of Justice (DOJ) regarding the complaint process and forms will be updated. The BOS and CEO defer to LASD's response for implementation details.</p>

	renovation of the toxicology refrigerator, improvements to flooring systems in various locations, and an upgraded crypt door.
Chief Executive Office and the Chief Executive Office-Chief Information Officer – May the Force be With You!	
Recommendation	
5.1 Any remaining small data centers should be absorbed by DC-1.	Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. All small data centers have been transitioned to DC-1.
5.2 The CIO office should consider including the remaining six legacy data centers in DC-1.	Partially agree. This recommendation will be partially implemented. Some data centers such as the ones supporting County hospitals and the Sheriff's Dispatch System will be located in proximity to support the respective operations.
5.3 CIO to ensure achievement of all goals outlined in the March 2021 Enterprise Plan.	Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The implementation of IT strategic goals has largely been implemented or are in progress to be completed by 2024.
5.4 Prioritize creation of system to eliminate paper inmate records between the courts and the jails.	Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The CIO will work with the Sheriff's Department to automate communications between courts and jails.
5.5 CIO and should fill or consolidate senior management positions as soon as possible.	Agree. This recommendation is being implemented. The CIO has initiated recruitments for key management positions. Similarly, ISD has initiated recruitments for its key management positions.
5.6 Conceal electrical sub-station and generators at DC-1 for improved security.	Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. DC-1 is a leased facility and is required to meet the requirements of a Tier 3 data center, which includes standards-based physical security requirements. Concealment of electrical sub-station and generators at DC-1 are not required due to industry-based perimeter security measures that are in place.
5.7 The County Leadership Committee and the ISAB needs to continue to meet to ensure that the best and most current IT solutions are available in this complex system.	Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The CIO will continue to work with ISAB to modernize legacy justice systems.
5.8 The County to continue to seek the latest security enhancements to protect the County Email system.	Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. CIO continues to work with ISD to implement email security, including enhanced Multi-Factor Authentication, and phishing mitigation technologies.
Chief Executive Office-Alternatives to Incarceration and Jail Closure Implementation Team – "Men's Central Jail - "Is It Still Needed?"	
Recommendations	
Responses	

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU

RECOMMENDATION NO. 5.1

Any remaining small data centers should be absorbed by DC-1.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. All small data centers have been transitioned to DC-1.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 5.3

The Chief Information Office (CIO) to ensure achievement of all goals outlined in the March 2021 Enterprise Plan.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The implementation of IT strategic goals has largely been implemented or are in progress to be completed by 2024.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 5.4

Prioritize creation of system to eliminate paper inmate records between the courts and the jails.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The CIO will work with the Sheriff's Department to automate communications between courts and jails.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 5.5

CIO and should fill or consolidate senior management positions as soon as possible.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation is being implemented. The CIO has initiated recruitments for key management positions. Similarly, the Internal Services Department (ISD) has initiated recruitments for its key management positions.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 5.6

Conceal electrical sub-station and generators at DC-1 for improved security.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This Recommendation will not be implemented. DC-1 is a leased facility and is required to meet the requirements of a Tier 3 data center, which includes standards-based physical security requirements. Concealment of electrical sub-station and generators at DC-1 are not required due to industry-based perimeter security measures that are in place.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 5.7

The County Leadership Committee and the ISAB needs to continue to meet to ensure that the best and most current IT solutions are available in this complex system.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The CIO and County Leadership Committee will continue to work with ISAB to modernize legacy justice systems.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 5.8

The County to continue to seek the latest security enhancements to protect the County Email system.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The CIO continues to work with ISD to implement email security, including enhanced Multi-Factor Authentication, and phishing mitigation technologies.



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HALL OF JUSTICE

ALEX VILLANUEVA, SHERIFF



August 2, 2022

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

RESPONSE TO THE FINAL REPORT OF THE 2021-22 LOS ANGELES COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY

Attached is the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Department) response to the 2021-22 Civil Grand Jury Report (CGJ) recommendations. The CGJ's areas of interest specific to the Department included: May the Force Be with You; Men's Central Jail "Is it Still Needed;" and Misleading Should Be Costly-Pay the Price.

Should you have questions regarding our response, please contact Division Director Conrad Meredith, Administrative Services Division, at (213) 229-3310.

Sincerely,

ALEX VILLANUEVA
SHERIFF

211 WEST TEMPLE STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

A Tradition of Service
— Since 1850 —

Attachment B

Sheriff

August 2, 2022

AV:CM:aw
(Administrative Services Division)

- c: Board of Supervisors, Justice Deputies
 - Celia Zavala, Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
 - Fesia Davenport, Chief Executive Officer
 - Sheila Williams, Senior Manager, Chief Executive Office (CEO)
 - Rene Phillips, Manager, CEO
 - Jocelyn Ventilacion, Principal Analyst, CEO
 - Anna Petrosyan, Analyst, CEO
 - Dawyn R. Harrison, Acting County Counsel
 - Elizabeth D. Miller, Chief Legal Advisor, Legal Advisory Unit
 - Michele Jackson, Principal Deputy County Counsel, Legal Advisory Unit
 - Timothy K. Murakami, Undersheriff
 - John L. Satterfield, Chief of Staff, Office of the Sheriff
 - Conrad Meredith, Division Director, Administrative Services Division (ASD)
 - Glen C. Joe, Assistant Division Director, ASD
 - Adam R. Wright, Sergeant, ASD
 - Kristine D. Corrales, Deputy, ASD
- Report Back Information Letters\Grand Jury Response - Annually-- Grand Jury Final Report 07-15-22 (Cover letter)

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
SHERIFF

2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU

RECOMMENDATION NO. 5.4

Prioritize the creation of a system to eliminate paper inmate records between the courts and the jails.

RESPONSE

The Department agrees with this recommendation. The recommendation will be implemented.

There have been ongoing efforts by the Department and the courts to implement recommendation 5-4. The project is slow-moving due to several complications. The reduction of paper documents traveling between the courts and the jails is contingent on two dependencies.

The first is implementing the Superior Court's new criminal case management system, Odyssey. Odyssey is approximately four years behind schedule and is expected to be online in 2023.

The second dependency is the modernization of the Department's Automated Jail Information System (AJIS). This project recently completed the strategic assessment known as the business process review. The request for proposal is currently under development. There is no funding source for the replacement of AJIS. The Department plans to meet with the Chief Information Officer this year to propose using Legacy Application Replacement Funding to fund the project. The initial estimated cost for this project is approximately \$25 million and will take about two years to complete.

Once the modernized AJIS and Odyssey systems are online, they will be integrated to exchange inmate and court information electronically. Additional integration of the two systems to allow for the exchange of information could be completed within a year of the two projects being online.

	<p>detai ned population. The BOS creation of the Office of Diversion and Reentry within the Department of Health Services, the Alternatives to Incarceration Initiative and Jail Closure Implementation Team within the CEO, the adoption of the "Care First, Jails Last" vision adopted by the BOS, and the recent direction to create the Justice, Care, and Opportunities Department evidences the BOS' steadfast commitment to embed justice reform priorities and care first strategies across the County's infrastructure. In addition to the commitment to provide alternatives to incarceration for those engaged in the criminal justice system experiencing homelessness, poverty, mental illness, and substance use dependencies where appropriate and consistent with public safety, the September 2021, "Estimated Cost Savings from a Reduced Jail Population and Closure of MCJ and Jail Projections," prepared by the JFA Institute indicates that any plan to close MCJ must evaluate the population currently housed in that facility along with employing community-based alternatives to incarceration when safe and appropriate to do so, which requires the active cooperation and collaboration with the Court and justice partners (District Attorney, Public Defender, Alternate Public Defender, Probation, and Sheriff). The subset of the population detained at MCJ that is unlikely to be diverted to community-based settings because of the serious nature of the crime(s) charged or committed along with violent criminal histories will have to be relocated to other existing jail facilities. There will likely be physical modifications necessary to accommodate the various housing and restricted housing classifications.</p>
<p>Sheriff Department – May the Force be With You!</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>5.4 Prioritize creation of system to eliminate paper inmate records between the courts and the jails.</p>	<p>Responses</p> <p>The Department agrees with this recommendation. The recommendation will be implemented.</p> <p>There have been ongoing efforts by the Department and the courts to implement recommendation 5-4. The project is slow-moving due to</p>

	<p>several complications. The reduction of paper documents traveling between the courts and the jails is contingent on two dependencies. The first is implementing the Superior Court's new criminal case management system, Odyssey. Odyssey is approximately four years behind schedule and is expected to be online in 2023.</p> <p>The second dependency is the modernization of the Department's Automated Jail Information System (AJIS). This project recently completed the strategic assessment known as the business process review. The request for proposal is currently under development. There is no funding source for the replacement of AJIS. The Department plans to meet with the Chief Information Officer this year to propose using Legacy Application Replacement Funding to fund the project. The initial estimated cost for this project is approximately \$25 million and will take about two years to complete.</p> <p>Once the modernized AJIS and Odyssey systems are online, they will be integrated to exchange inmate and court information electronically. Additional integration of the two systems to allow for the exchange of information could be completed within a year of the two projects being online.</p>
<p>Sheriff Department – Men's Central Jail "Is It Still Needed?" 6.1 Scrap long delayed and debated plans to demolish the Men's Central Jail (MCJ). It serves a custodial and penal mission for hardened criminals. MCJ should continue to be used for this purpose.</p>	<p>The Department partially agrees with this recommendation. However, this requires further analysis among multiple County departments and County funding to fully implement.</p> <p>The Department agrees with the need for a facility that serves a custodial and penal mission for hardened criminals but respectfully disagrees that the Department's MCJ is the appropriate facility for this mission. As demonstrated through lawsuits, well-documented reporting, and investigations from various commissions and committees, MCJ has physically outlived its usefulness as an effective custodial facility for our high security and high-risk population. Unfortunately, this population</p>

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE AND THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE-OFFICE OF THE
CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER**

**2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU**

RECOMMENDATION NO. 5.1

Any remaining small data centers should be absorbed by DC-1.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. All small data centers have been transitioned to DC-1.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 5.2

The CIO office should consider including the remaining six legacy data centers in DC-1.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation will be partially implemented. Some data centers such as the ones supporting County hospitals and the Sheriff's Dispatch System will be located in proximity to support the respective operations.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 5.3

CIO to ensure achievement of all goals outlined in the March 2021 Enterprise Plan.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The implementation of IT strategic goals has largely been implemented or are in progress to be completed by 2024.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 5.4

Prioritize creation of system to eliminate paper inmate records between the courts and the jails.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The CIO will work with the Sheriff's Department to automate communications between courts and jails.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 5.5

CIO and should fill or consolidate senior management positions as soon as possible.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation is being implemented. The CIO has initiated recruitments for key management positions. Similarly, ISD has initiated recruitments for its key management positions.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 5.6

Conceal electrical sub-station and generators at DC-1 for improved security.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. DC-1 is a leased facility and is required to meet the requirements of a Tier 3 data center, which includes standards-based physical security requirements. Concealment of electrical sub-station and generators at DC-1 are not required due to industry-based perimeter security measures that are in place.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 5.7

The County Leadership Committee and the ISAB needs to continue to meet to ensure that the best and most current IT solutions are available in this complex system.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The CIO will continue to work with ISAB to modernize legacy justice systems.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 5.8

The County to continue to seek the latest security enhancements to protect the County Email system.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. CIO continues to work with ISD to implement email security, including enhanced Multi-Factor Authentication, and phishing mitigation technologies.

**MEN'S CENTRAL JAIL
"IS IT STILL NEEDED?"**



2021 – 2022

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CIVIL GRAND JURY**



FESIA A. DAVENPORT
Chief Executive Officer

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

Board of Supervisors
HILDA L. SOLIS
First District

HOLLY J. MITCHELL
Second District

SHEILA KUEHL
Third District

JANICE HAHN
Fourth District

KATHRYN BARGER
Fifth District

August 15, 2022

To: Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Janice Hahn
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

From: Fesia A. Davenport
Chief Executive Officer

2021-2022 LOS ANGELES CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

Attached are responses to the 2021-2022 Civil Grand Jury Final Report. We are responding to specific recommendations dealing with the following sections:

- At-Will Employees Unmasked
- Aviation Reimagined
- Drip, Drip, Drip – Where Is Our Water Coming From?
- Here Today, Gone Tomorrow
- May the Force Be With You!
- Men's Central Jail – "Is It Still Needed?"
- Misleading Should Be Costly: Pay The Price
- Only We Can Prevent L.A. County Wildfires
- Water, Water Everywhere Leaking From The Pipes
- Who Can You Trust: Oversight of Conservatorships

Attachment A represents the Chief Executive Officer's responses; Attachments B through H represent the departments' responses; and Attachment I represents a matrix of the questions and responses from each department.

Each Supervisor
August 15, 2022
Page 2

If you have any questions regarding our responses, please contact me, or your staff may contact Cheri Thomas, by phone at (213) 974-1326 or by email at cthomas@ceo.lacounty.gov.

FAD:JMN
CT:DSK:md

Attachments

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Sheriff
Aging and Disabilities
Fire
Human Resources
Medical Examiner-Coroner
Mental Health
Regional Planning
Sanitation District

	required due to industry-based perimeter security measures that are in place.
5.7 The County Leadership Committee and the ISAB needs to continue to meet to ensure that the best and most current IT solutions are available in this complex system.	Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The CIO and County Leadership Committee will continue to work with ISAB to modernize legacy justice systems
5.8 The County to continue to seek the latest security enhancements to protect the County E-Mail system.	Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The CIO continues to work with ISD to implement email security, including enhanced Multi-Factor Authentication, and phishing mitigation technologies.
Chief Executive Office for the Board of Supervisors and Chief Executive Office - "Is It Still Needed?"	
Recommendation	Response
6.1 Scrap long delayed and debated plans to demolish the Men's Central Jail [MCJ]. It serves a custodial and penal mission for hardened criminals. MCJ should continue to be used for this purpose.	Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. MCJ is an outdated correctional facility that has outlived its usefulness and no longer meets the needs of the population.
6.2 Plan needed repairs and renovations of MCJ, as outlined in Finding 6-1 as the only facility rated for hardened criminals and violent inmates that must be kept separate from each other. This addresses the facility usage as the continued penal home for hardened career criminals, gang members, and violent long-term inmates in this "prison" like facility rather than any of the other usual County jails.	Agree. This recommendation will be partially implemented. The County currently has legal obligations under a Consent Decree that might lead to some modifications and enhancements to small segments of the jail in order to enhance mental health services.
Chief Executive Office for the Board of Supervisors and Chief Executive Office - "Misleading Should be Costly-Pay the Price"	
Recommendations	Responses
7.2 There should be a disincentive for a person to knowingly file a false complaint against a peace officer. This could be achieved, while protecting the right of a citizen to hold government accountable through the legitimate use of the complaint process, by implementing the following: (a) Update all current LASD Civilian Complaint Forms to include the California Penal Code section 148.6 advisement.	Partially agree. This recommendation has been partially implemented. The Sheriff's Department is collaborating with the United States (US) Department of Justice (DOJ) regarding the complaint process and forms will be updated. The BOS and CEO defer to LASD's response for implementation details.

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AND
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

**2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
MEN'S CENTRAL JAIL "IS IT STILL NEEDED"**

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.1

Scrap long delayed & debated plans to demolish the Men's Central Jail [MCJ]. It serves a custodial & penal mission for hardened criminals. MCJ should continue to be used for this purpose.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. MCJ is an outdated correctional facility that has outlived its usefulness and no longer meets the needs of the population.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.2

Plan needed repairs and renovations of MCJ, as outlined in Finding 6-1 – as the only facility rated for hardened criminals & violent inmates that must be kept separate from each other. This addresses the facility usage as the continued penal home for hardened career criminals, gang members, and violent long-term inmates in this "prison" like facility rather than any of the other usual County Jails.

RESPONSE

Agree. The recommendation will be partially implemented. The County currently has legal obligations under a Consent Decree that might lead to some modifications and enhancements to small segments of the jail in order to enhance mental health services.

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AND
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
MISLEADING SHOULD BE COSTLY – PAY THE PRICE

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.2 (a)

Update all current the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's (LASD) Civilian Complaint Forms to include the California Penal Code section 148.6 advisement.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation has been partially implemented. The Sheriff's Department is collaborating with the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) regarding the complaint process and forms will be updated. The BOS and CEO defer to LASD response for implementation details.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.2 (b)

Update the LASD website to restore citizen access to the entire department complaint process and procedures.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been partially implemented. LASD has set a goal to restore the option to file a complaint online. The BOS and CEO defer to LASD's response for implementation details.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.2 (c)

Review the LASD Civilian Complaint Process for "ease of use" by civilians. In other words, can the complaint process and Form be easily located? Can the information contained on the Form be easily located? Can the information contained on the Form be easily understood by the layperson?

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been partially implemented. LASD has set a goal to restore the option to file a complaint online. The BOS and CEO defer to LASD's response for implementation details.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.2 (d)

Add the advisement for the 47.5 of the CCC to the LASD Civilian Complaint Form.



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HALL OF JUSTICE

ALEX VILLANUEVA, SHERIFF



August 2, 2022

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

RESPONSE TO THE FINAL REPORT OF THE 2021-22 LOS ANGELES COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY

Attached is the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Department) response to the 2021-22 Civil Grand Jury Report (CGJ) recommendations. The CGJ's areas of interest specific to the Department included: May the Force Be with You; Men's Central Jail "Is it Still Needed;" and Misleading Should Be Costly-Pay the Price.

Should you have questions regarding our response, please contact Division Director Conrad Meredith, Administrative Services Division, at (213) 229-3310.

Sincerely,

ALEX VILLANUEVA
SHERIFF

211 WEST TEMPLE STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

A Tradition of Service
— Since 1850 —

August 2, 2022

AV:CM:aw
(Administrative Services Division)

c: Board of Supervisors, Justice Deputies
Celia Zavala, Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Fesia Davenport, Chief Executive Officer
Sheila Williams, Senior Manager, Chief Executive Office (CEO)
Rene Phillips, Manager, CEO
Jocelyn Ventilacion, Principal Analyst, CEO
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(Report Back Information Letters\Grand Jury Response - Annually-- Grand Jury Final Report 07-15-22 (Cover letter))

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
SHERIFF**

2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MEN'S CENTRAL JAIL "IS IT STILL NEEDED"

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.1

Scrap long delayed & debated plans to demolish the Men's Central Jail (MCJ). It serves a custodial & penal mission for hardened criminals. MCJ should continue to be used for this purpose.

RESPONSE

The Department partially agrees with this recommendation. However, this requires further analysis among multiple County departments and County funding to fully implement.

The Department agrees with the need for a facility that serves a custodial and penal mission for hardened criminals, but respectfully disagrees that the Department's MCJ is the appropriate facility for this mission. As demonstrated through lawsuits, well-documented reporting, and investigations from various commissions and committees, MCJ has physically outlived its usefulness as an effective custodial facility for our high security and high-risk population. Unfortunately, this population remains housed at MCJ due to the lack of a modern, appropriate alternative.

The Department consistently maintains that a modern, purpose-built custody facility to handle the most violent and dangerous population is required. The Mental Health Treatment Center (MHTC), previously approved by the BOS, would have served this purpose (and more). The state-of-the-art MHTC design included a new processing center and mental and medical health beds which would have been a humane, safe replacement for MCJ. The Department currently houses most of its inmates needing mental health care in the Department's Twin Towers Correctional Facility (TTCF), which opened in 1997. While TTCF has the capacity to house dangerous and violent inmates, it too has aged and needs to be upgraded and maintained.

Building the MHTC would have moved the mental health and medical care population to the state-of-the-art facility, allowing for the high-security population to be moved to the TTCF. Unfortunately, the BOS elected to terminate the MHTC project against the advice of outside experts.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.2

Plan needed repairs and renovations of MCJ, as outlined in Finding 6-1 as the only facility rated for hardened criminals & violent inmates that must be kept separate from each other. This addresses the facility usage as the continued penal home for hardened career criminals, gang members, and violent long-term inmates in this “prison” like facility rather than any of the other usual County Jails.

RESPONSE

The Department partially agrees with this recommendation. However, this requires further analysis among multiple County departments and County funding to fully implement.

While repairs and renovations are sorely needed at MCJ, the reality is MCJ has far outlived its useful life span. Repairs and renovations will be mere stopgap measures that delay the inevitable closure of MCJ. Los Angeles County residents will be better served with MCJ being replaced with an appropriate, modern facility.

While the Department does not believe repairs and renovations are a realistic long-term solution to the concerns with MCJ, we agree with the CGJ that the unique housing challenges with respect to the type of population housed at MCJ need to be addressed. Simply, “demolishing MCJ” with no custodial replacement is not only ill-advised but impossible even under the most generous diversion forecasts under the Board's “Care First, Jails Last” initiative. Closing MCJ without a corresponding replacement would place incarcerated individuals, staff, and volunteers at immense risk, not to mention the significant liability County taxpayers would incur through a dangerously overcrowded jail system.

This assessment is not simply the opinion of the Department. These sentiments are shared by outside, independent experts, including the highly respected JFA Institute (JFA).

In 2020, JFA contracted with the County, at the direction of the Board, to conduct several studies related to the Department's jail system. One study was intended to produce a jail population projection that would support the closure of MCJ through an overall reduction of the jail population. The CEO noted that JFA was made aware of the June 22, 2021, Board motion to avoid building new jail facilities, necessitating the inclusion of a “no build” scenario in their study.

JFA studied the “no build” scenario extensively and found it would create structural overcrowding since the post-MCJ jail system’s operational capacity would be approximately 7,160 beds compared to an estimated jail population of 8,900. JFA aptly points out that this would likely lead to increased jail violence, inability to provide appropriate access to services, and other undesirable impacts.



DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

hope. recovery. wellbeing.

LISA H. WONG, Psy.D.
Acting Director

Curley L. Bonds, M.D.
Chief Medical Officer

Connie D. Draxler, M.P.A.
Acting Chief Deputy Director

July 15, 2022

TO: Fesia A. Davenport
Chief Executive Officer

FROM: Lisa H. Wong, Psy.D. *Lisa H. Wong*
Acting Director

SUBJECT: 2021-2022 LOS ANGELES COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL
REPORT

Attached please find information from the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health and the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health-Office of Public Guardian that may be of relevance to the Los Angeles County's single, coordinated response to the 2021-2022 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Final Report.

The information provided pertains to the following recommendations on Pages 89-99 and 155-172 respectively in the reports titled *Men's Central Jail 'Is It Still Needed'* and *Who Can You Trust? An Oversight of Conservatorships.*

Please let me know if you need additional information.

LHW:CDD:lm

Attachments (2)

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH**

**2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
MEN'S CENTRAL JAIL "IS IT STILL NEEDED?"**

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.1

Scrap long delayed & debated plans to demolish the Men's Central Jail [MCJ]. It serves a custodial & penal mission for hardened criminals. MCJ should continue to be used for this purpose.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented as the DMH does not have jurisdiction over this recommendation.

DMH appreciates the concerns raised by the Civil Grand Jury regarding the County's ability to serve individuals with complex criminal justice histories while in the County's jail system. DMH is focused on providing specialty mental health services, as noted in the report, to those individuals who can be safely and appropriately served by community based mental health services. DMH does acknowledge that if MCJ is closed there will be an even greater need for an already scarce resource - secured mental health beds.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.2

Plan needed repairs and renovations of MCJ, as outlined in Finding 6-1 as the only facility rated for hardened criminals & violent inmates that must be kept separate from each other. This addresses the facility usage as the continued penal home for hardened career criminals, gang members, and violent long-term inmates in this "prison" like facility rather than any of the other usual County Jails.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented as the DMH does not have jurisdiction over this recommendation.

DMH appreciates the concerns raised by the Civil Grand Jury regarding the County's ability to serve individuals with complex criminal justice histories while in the County's jail system. DMH is focused on providing specialty mental health services, as noted in the report, to those individuals who can be safely and appropriately served by community based mental health services.

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE – ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION AND JAIL
CLOSURE IMPLEMENTATION TEAM**

2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MEN'S CENTRAL JAIL "IS IT STILL NEEDED"

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.1

Scrap long delayed & debated plans to demolish the Men's Central Jail [MCJ]. It serves a custodial & penal mission for hardened criminals. MCJ should continue to be used for this purpose.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented because MCJ is a dilapidated and outdated correctional facility that was constructed in 1963 and is inadequate for the provision of essential medical, mental health care, and housing to serve the complex needs of the detained population. About half of all the people in custody require mental health treatment, and approximately 20 percent of that population is suffering from acute and debilitating mental illness. The County and Sheriff's Department have a constitutional mandate to provide adequate care and housing to those within their custody and MCJ is not physically designed to meet the growing mental health needs of the currently detained population. Further, the County and the Sheriff's Department are subject to a 2015 consent decree with the US DOJ, which requires the County meet certain operational standards and mental health treatment needs in all custody facilities. The BOS creation of the Office of Diversion and Reentry within the Department of Health Services, the Alternatives to Incarceration Initiative and Jail Closure Implementation Team within the CEO, the adoption of the "Care First, Jails Last" vision, and the recent direction to create the Justice, Care and Opportunities Department evidences the BOS' steadfast commitment to embed justice reform priorities and care first strategies across the County's infrastructure. The carceral system is ill-equipped to respond to human conditions such as homelessness, poverty, mental illness, and substance use dependencies and as part of that current system, MCJ no longer meets the needs of the population.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6.2

Plan needed repairs and renovations of MCJ, as outlined in Finding 6-1 – as the only facility rated for hardened criminals & violent inmates that must be kept separate from each other. This addresses the facility usage as the continued penal home for hardened

career criminals, gang members, and violent long-term inmates in this “prison” like facility rather than any of the other usual County Jails.

RESPONSE

Disagree. The recommendation will not be implemented because MCJ is a dilapidated and outdated correctional facility and the current needs of the population in custody have dramatically changed since the facility was constructed in 1963. About half of the in-custody population requires mental health treatment and approximately 20 percent of that population is suffering from acute and debilitating mental illness. The County and Sheriff’s Department have a constitutional mandate to provide adequate care and housing to those within their custody and MCJ is not physically designed to meet the growing mental health needs of the currently detained population. The BOS creation of the Office of Diversion and Reentry within the Department of Health Services, the Alternatives to Incarceration Initiative and Jail Closure Implementation Team within the CEO, the adoption of the “Care First, Jails Last” vision adopted by the BOS, and the recent direction to create the Justice, Care, and Opportunities Department evidences the BOS’ steadfast commitment to embed justice reform priorities and care first strategies across the County’s infrastructure. In addition to the commitment to provide alternatives to incarceration for those engaged in the criminal justice system experiencing homelessness, poverty, mental illness, and substance use dependencies where appropriate and consistent with public safety, the September 2021, “Estimated Cost Savings from a Reduced Jail Population and Closure of MCJ and Jail Projections,” prepared by the JFA Institute indicates that any plan to close MCJ must evaluate the population currently housed in that facility along with employing community-based alternatives to incarceration when safe and appropriate to do so, which requires the active cooperation and collaboration with the Court and justice partners (District Attorney, Public Defender, Alternate Public Defender, Probation, and Sheriff). The subset of the population detained at MCJ that is unlikely to be diverted to community-based settings because of the serious nature of the crime(s) charged or committed along with violent criminal histories will have to be relocated to other existing jail facilities. There will likely be physical modifications necessary to accommodate the various housing and restricted housing classifications.

	<p>several complications. The reduction of paper documents traveling between the courts and the jails is contingent on two dependencies. The first is implementing the Superior Court's new criminal case management system, Odyssey. Odyssey is approximately four years behind schedule and is expected to be online in 2023.</p> <p>The second dependency is the modernization of the Department's Automated Jail Information System (AJIS). This project recently completed the strategic assessment known as the business process review. The request for proposal is currently under development. There is no funding source for the replacement of AJIS. The Department plans to meet with the Chief Information Officer this year to propose using Legacy Application Replacement Funding to fund the project. The initial estimated cost for this project is approximately \$25 million and will take about two years to complete.</p> <p>Once the modernized AJIS and Odyssey systems are online, they will be integrated to exchange inmate and court information electronically. Additional integration of the two systems to allow for the exchange of information could be completed within a year of the two projects being online.</p>
<p>Sheriff Department – Men's Central Jail "Is It Still Needed?" 6.1 Scrap long delayed and debated plans to demolish the Men's Central Jail (MCJ). It serves a custodial and penal mission for hardened criminals. MCJ should continue to be used for this purpose.</p>	<p>The Department partially agrees with this recommendation. However, this requires further analysis among multiple County departments and County funding to fully implement.</p> <p>The Department agrees with the need for a facility that serves a custodial and penal mission for hardened criminals but respectfully disagrees that the Department's MCJ is the appropriate facility for this mission. As demonstrated through lawsuits, well-documented reporting, and investigations from various commissions and committees, MCJ has physically outlived its usefulness as an effective custodial facility for our high security and high-risk population. Unfortunately, this population</p>

	<p>remains housed at MCJ due to the lack of a modern, appropriate alternative.</p> <p>The Department consistently maintains that a modern, purpose-built custody facility to handle the most violent and dangerous population is required. The Mental Health Treatment Center (MHTC), previously approved by the BOS, would have served this purpose (and more). The state-of-the-art MHTC design included a new processing center and mental and medical health beds which would have been a humane, safe replacement for MCJ. The Department currently houses most of its inmates needing mental health care in the Department's Twin Towers Correctional Facility (TTCF), which opened in 1997. While TTCF has the capacity to house dangerous and violent inmates, it too has aged and needs to be upgraded and maintained.</p> <p>Building the MHTC would have moved the mental health and medical care population to the state-of-the-art facility, allowing for the high-security population to be moved to the TTCF. Unfortunately, the BOS elected to terminate the MHTC project against the advice of outside experts.</p>
<p>6.2 Plan needed repairs and renovations of MCJ, as outlined in Finding 6-1 as the only facility rated for hardened criminals and violent inmates that must be kept separate from each other. This addresses the facility usage as the continued penal home for hardened career criminals, gang members, and violent long-term inmates in this "prison" like facility rather than any of the other usual County jails.</p>	<p>The Department partially agrees with this recommendation. However, this requires further analysis among multiple County departments and County funding to fully implement.</p> <p>While repairs and renovations are sorely needed at MCJ, the reality is MCJ has far outlived its useful life span. Repairs and renovations will be mere stopgap measures that delay the inevitable closure of MCJ. Los Angeles County residents will be better served with MCJ being replaced with an appropriate, modern facility.</p> <p>While the Department does not believe repairs and renovations are a realistic long-term solution to the concerns with MCJ, we agree with the CGJ that the unique housing challenges with respect to the type of population housed at MCJ need to be addressed. Simply, "demolishing</p>

MCJ" with no custodial replacement is not only ill-advised but impossible even under the most generous diversion forecasts under the Board's "Care First, Jails Last" initiative. Closing MCJ without a corresponding replacement would place incarcerated individuals, staff, and volunteers at immense risk, not to mention the significant liability County taxpayers would incur through a dangerously overcrowded jail system.

This assessment is not simply the opinion of the Department. These sentiments are shared by outside, independent experts, including the highly respected JFA Institute (JFA).

In 2020, JFA contracted with the County, at the direction of the Board, to conduct several studies related to the Department's jail system. One study was intended to produce a jail population projection that would support the closure of MCJ through an overall reduction of the jail population. The CEO noted that JFA was made aware of the June 22, 2021, Board motion to avoid building new jail facilities, necessitating the inclusion of a "no build" scenario in their study.

JFA studied the "no build" scenario extensively and found it would create structural overcrowding since the post-MCJ jail system's operational capacity would be approximately 7,160 beds compared to an estimated jail population of 8,900. JFA aptly points out that this would likely lead to increased jail violence, inability to provide appropriate access to services, and other undesirable impacts.

Unable to ignore the issues an MCJ closure would cause, JFA submitted a second, realistic scenario that included a plan to create a purpose-built women's facility, renovate and reopen Pitchess Detention Center (PDC) East Facility, and build a mental/medical health facility to replace the MCJ medical outpatient housing. This plan would address the need for more modern, appropriate housing for some of our most challenging

	<p>populations, including the group the CGJ correctly points out as requiring unique housing currently only available at MCJ.</p> <p>As noted above, JFA is a well-respected, independent group that was contracted by the Board specifically to study the Los Angeles County jail population and issue recommendations with respect to closing MCJ. Even JFA was unable to formulate a scenario that did not include building additional bed space, particularly with respect to the unique population housed at MCJ.</p> <p>The Department would like to emphasize that while we do not believe continuing to operate MCJ, even with an extensive refurbishment, is the best path forward. We agree with the CGJ's assessment that the unique, violent population kept at MCJ requires specialty housing, which is not available in any other jail in our system. The CGJ correctly identifies the challenges with the population housed at MCJ and the need for specific housing for that population.</p>
<p>Sheriff Department – Misleading Should be Costly-Pay the Price</p> <p>7.2 There should be a disincentive for a person to knowingly file a false complaint against a peace officer. This could be achieved, while protecting the right of a citizen to hold government accountable through the legitimate use of the complaint process, by implementing the following:</p> <p>(a) Update all current LASD Civilian Complaint Forms to include the California Penal Code section 148.6 advisement.</p> <p>7.2 (b) Update the LASD website to restore citizen access to the entire department complaint process and procedures.</p>	<p>The Department partially agrees with this recommendation. The recommendation has been partially implemented.</p> <p>The Department has been collaborating with the DOJ regarding the complaint process as required by the DOJ Antelope Valley Settlement (2015). The process is nearing completion, and updated forms, policies, and procedures will be published. These revisions include changing the complaint dispositions to match Penal Code 13012, updating our existing software systems' categories, and updating tracking capabilities.</p> <p>The Department agrees with this recommendation. The recommendation has been partially implemented.</p> <p>The LASD website prominently posts information regarding the complaint process in English and Spanish. The information includes obtaining a</p>

**MISLEADING SHOULD BE COSTLY – PAY THE
PRICE**



2021 – 2022

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CIVIL GRAND JURY**

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT

MICHEL R. MOORE
Chief of Police



ERIC GARCETTI
Mayor

P. O. Box 30158
Los Angeles, CA 90030
Telephone: (213) 978-4640
TDD: (877) 275-5273
Ref #: 1.14

August 17, 2022

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
210 West Temple Street
13th Floor-Room 13-303
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Presiding Judge:

This correspondence will serve as the Los Angeles Police Department's (LAPD) response to the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury (CGJ) report, *Misleading Should Be Costly – Pay The Price*, dated June 30, 2022. The CGJ requested that the LAPD respond to its recommendations by September 30, 2022 (i.e., ninety days from the release of the report to the public).

RECOMMENDATION 7.1(a):

Update all current LAPD Civilian Complaint Forms to include the California Penal Code Section 148.6 advisement.

RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 7.1(a):

This recommendation requires further analysis, to be completed by December 31, 2022. This analysis is pending the outcome of the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office seeking review of *Los Angeles Police Protective League vs. City of Los Angeles* (Case No. BC676283) by the California Supreme Court.

RECOMMENDATION 7.1(b):

Add the advisement for Section 47.5 of the California Civil Code (CCC) to the LAPD Civilian Complaint Form.

RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 7.1(b):

This recommendation requires further analysis, to be completed by December 31, 2022. This analysis is pending the outcome of the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office seeking review of Los Angeles Police Protective League vs. City of Los Angeles (Case No. BC676283) by the California Supreme Court.

RECOMMENDATION 7.1(c):

Since the filing of a civilian complaint triggers a mandated investigation, and if the investigation results in the discovery that the filed complaint was knowingly false, and if the peace officer targeted by the knowingly false complaint has suffered damage due to his or her employment status as a peace officer, the City of Los Angeles should pay for the legal representation in pursuing a 47.5 CCC lawsuit to recover the damages the knowingly false complaint caused.

RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 7.1(c):

This recommendation requires further analysis, to be completed by December 31, 2022. This analysis is pending the outcome of the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office seeking review of Los Angeles Police Protective League vs. City of Los Angeles (Case No. BC676283) by the California Supreme Court. The 47.5 CCC expressly allows a peace officer to bring an action for defamation. Shifting the cost for such a lawsuit to the City would require action by the City's elected officials and compliance with the City's Employee Relations Ordinance. It would also require a financial analysis to ascertain the feasibility of implementation based on the City's financial resources.

RECOMMENDATION 7.1(d):

Should the above 47.5 CCC solution to pay for the officers' legal representation not be feasible, then 47.5 CCC legal insurance should be offered as an employment benefit so the officers can pursue damage recovery themselves.

RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 7.1(d):

This recommendation requires further analysis, to be completed by December 31, 2022. This analysis is pending the outcome of the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office seeking review of Los Angeles Police Protective League vs. City of Los Angeles (Case No. BC676283) by the California Supreme Court. The 47.5 CCC expressly allows a peace officer to bring an action for defamation. Shifting the cost for such a lawsuit to the City would require action by the City's elected officials and compliance with the City's Employee Relations Ordinance. It would also require a financial analysis to ascertain the feasibility of implementation based on the City's financial resources.

RECOMMENDATION 7.1(e):

The City of Los Angeles, if discovered that the filed civilian complaint was knowingly false, should seek recovery of damages in Small Claims Court that includes the cost of the investigation and any other monetary loss due to the filing of a knowingly false complaint.

RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 7.1(e):

This recommendation requires further analysis, to be completed by December 31, 2022. This analysis is pending the outcome of the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office seeking review of *Los Angeles Police Protective League vs. City of Los Angeles* (Case No. BC676283) by the California Supreme Court. This recommendation would also require a financial analysis to ascertain the feasibility of implementation based on the City's financial resources. Another consideration would be the availability of resources within the City Attorney's Office or LAPD to pursue actions in Small Claims Court.

RECOMMENDATION 7.1(f):

The LAPD needs to review and update, if appropriate, its software and equipment concerning the tracking of civilian complaints so there is one primary data source for both valid complaints (to assist in peace officer accountability for misconduct) and the tracking of false complaints (to assist in providing accountability for the false complainant, as well as cost recovery).

RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 7.1(f):

This recommendation requires further analysis, to be completed by December 31, 2022. This analysis is pending the outcome of the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office seeking review of *Los Angeles Police Protective League vs. City of Los Angeles* (Case No. BC676283) by the California Supreme Court. Additionally, an analysis of LAPD's Complaint Management System will be conducted to determine the ability to implement this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION 7.1(g):

The LAPD needs to do a thorough review of all policies, criteria, and practices regarding the recovery costs associated with every aspect of investigating knowingly false complaints; and follow-up the review by implementing cost recovery recommendations.

RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 7.1(g):

This recommendation requires further analysis, to be completed by December 31, 2022. This analysis is pending the outcome of the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office seeking review of

The Presiding Judge

Page 4

1.14

Los Angeles Police Protective League vs. City of Los Angeles (Case No. BC676283) by the California Supreme Court. This recommendation would also require a financial analysis to ascertain the feasibility of implementation based on the City's financial resources. Another consideration would be the availability of resources within the City Attorney's Office or LAPD to seek recovery of monetary loss.

RECOMMENDATION 7.1(h):

The City of Los Angeles, if discovered that the filed civilian complaint was knowingly false, should reimburse the Los Angeles Protective League for attorney fees and all costs associated with defending or assisting the officer in contesting the complaint.

RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 7.1(h):

This recommendation requires further analysis, to be completed by December 31, 2022. This analysis is pending the outcome of the Los Angeles City Attorney's office seeking review of Los Angeles Police Protective League vs. City of Los Angeles (Case No. BC676283) by the California Supreme Court. The reimbursement of attorney's fees and costs would require action by City elected officials. This recommendation would also require a financial analysis to ascertain the feasibility of implementation based on the City's financial resources.

If you have any questions, please contact Director Lizabeth Rhodes, Office of Constitutional Policing and Policy, at (213) 486-8730.

Respectfully,



MICHEL R. MOORE
Chief of Police

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
SHERIFF**

**2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
MISLEADING SHOULD BE COSTLY – PAY THE PRICE**

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.2(a)

Update all current LASD Civilian Complaint Forms to include the California Penal Code section 148.6 advisement.

RESPONSE

The Department partially agrees with this recommendation. The recommendation has been partially implemented.

The Department has been collaborating with the DOJ regarding the complaint process as required by the DOJ Antelope Valley Settlement (2015). The process is nearing completion, and updated forms, policies, and procedures will be published. These revisions include changing the complaint dispositions to match Penal Code 13012, updating our existing software systems' categories, and updating tracking capabilities.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.2(b)

Update the LASD website to restore citizen access to the entire Department complaint process and procedures.

RESPONSE

The Department agrees with this recommendation. The recommendation has been partially implemented.

The LASD website prominently posts information regarding the complaint process in English and Spanish. The information includes obtaining a complaint form and a phone number for complaints. The Department's goal is to restore the option to file a complaint online.

The Department will update the complaint procedure on the LASD website with the pending changes once they are final.

Unable to ignore the issues an MCJ closure would cause, JFA submitted a second, realistic scenario that included a plan to create a purpose-built women's facility, renovate and reopen Pitchess Detention Center (PDC) East Facility, and build a mental/medical health facility to replace the MCJ medical outpatient housing. This plan would address the need for more modern, appropriate housing for some of our most challenging populations, including the group the CGJ correctly points out as requiring unique housing currently only available at MCJ.

As noted above, JFA is a well-respected, independent group that was contracted by the Board specifically to study the Los Angeles County jail population and issue recommendations with respect to closing MCJ. Even JFA was unable to formulate a scenario that did not include building additional bed space, particularly with respect to the unique population housed at MCJ.

The Department would like to emphasize that while we do not believe continuing to operate MCJ, even with an extensive refurbishment, is the best path forward. We agree with the CGJ's assessment that the unique, violent population kept at MCJ requires specialty housing, which is not available in any other jail in our system. The CGJ correctly identifies the challenges with the population housed at MCJ and the need for specific housing for that population.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.2(c)

Review the LASD Civilian Complaint Process for "ease of use" by civilians. In other words, can the complaint process and Form be easily located? Can the information contained on the Form be easily located? Can the information contained on the Form be easily understood by the layperson?

RESPONSE

The Department agrees with this recommendation. The recommendation has been partially implemented.

The LASD website prominently posts information regarding the complaint process in English and Spanish. The information includes obtaining a complaint form and a phone number for complaints. The Department's goal is to restore the option to file a complaint online.

The Department will update the complaint procedure on the LASD website with the pending changes once they are final.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.2(d)

Add the advisement for 47.5 of the CCC to the LASD Civilian Complaint Form.

RESPONSE

The Department does not agree or disagree with this recommendation. The recommendation will not be implemented.

Notwithstanding Section 47, a peace officer may bring an action for defamation against an individual who has filed a complaint with that officer's employing agency alleging misconduct, criminal conduct, or incompetence, if that complaint is false, the complaint was made with knowledge that it was false and that it was made with spite, hatred or ill will. The knowledge that the complaint was false may be proved by showing that the complainant had no reasonable grounds to believe the statement was true and that the complainant exhibited a reckless disregard for ascertaining the truth.

This section involves the enforcement of 148.6 by advising complainants that knowingly submitting a false complaint against a deputy is a misdemeanor. The City of Los Angeles is currently appealing a 2020 California Superior Court decision regarding an order to enforce statute 148.6 PC (filed by the LA City Attorney's Office on July 19, 2021, with the California Court of Appeal, Second Appellate District, Division 7.) The Department is waiting to see the result of the appeal before any decision to modify the complaint forms and include the 148.6 advisory is made.

Additionally, pursuant to the California Commission on State Mandates, Statement of Decision for False Reports of Police Misconduct program (report No. 00-TC-26) cannot pursue actual cost recovery without the 148.6 PC advisory. Any policy or procedure to recover these costs cannot be made pending the court decision.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.2(e)

The filing of a civilian complaint triggers a mandated investigation. If the investigation results in the discovery that the filed complaint was knowingly false, and the peace officer targeted by the knowingly false complaint has suffered harm, the County of Los Angeles should pay for the legal representation in pursuing a 47.5 CCC lawsuit to recover the damages the knowingly false complaint caused.

RESPONSE

The Department disagrees with this recommendation. The recommendation will not be implemented.

Nothing in 47.5 CCC mandates that the employing agency of a law enforcement officer is responsible for the cost of legal representation or court costs brought forth in a personal defamation suit against a defendant accused of filing a false report. The County of Los Angeles is also not mandated to provide legal insurance for these costs.

Employee benefits of this kind are more appropriately handled during negotiations for employee benefits for inclusion in a Memorandum of Understanding.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.2(f)

If the above 47.5 CCC solution to pay for the officer's legal representation is not feasible, then the County of Los Angeles should offer 47.5 CCC legal insurance as an employee benefit so the peace officer can pursue damage recovery themselves.

RESPONSE

The Department disagrees with this recommendation. The recommendation will not be implemented.

Nothing in 47.5 CCC mandates that the employing agency of a law enforcement officer is responsible for the cost of legal representation or court costs brought forth in a personal defamation suit against a defendant accused of filing a false report. The County of Los Angeles is also not mandated to provide legal insurance for these costs.

Employee benefits of this kind are more appropriately handled during negotiations for employee benefits for inclusion in a Memo of Understanding.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.2(g)

The County of Los Angeles, if the filed civilian complaint is discovered to be knowingly false, should seek recovery of damages in Small Claims Court to recover the costs associated with the investigation, and any other monetary loss due to the filing of a knowingly false complaint.

RESPONSE

The Department does not agree or disagree with this recommendation. The recommendation will not be implemented.

Enforcement of 148.6, by advising complainants that are knowingly submitting a false complaint against a deputy is a misdemeanor. The City of Los Angeles is currently appealing a 2020 California Superior Court decision regarding an order to enforce statute 148.6 PC (filed by the LA City Attorney's Office on July 19, 2021, with the California Court of Appeal, Second Appellate District, Division 7.) The Department is waiting to see the result of the appeal before any decision to modify the complaint forms and include the 148.6 advisory is made.

Additionally, pursuant to the California Commission on State Mandates, Statement of Decision for False Reports of Police Misconduct program (report No. 00-TC-26) cannot pursue actual cost recovery without the 148.6 PC advisory. Any policy or procedure to recover these costs cannot be made pending the court decision.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.2(h)

The LASD needs to update its complaint resolution categories to more closely match State law. For example, if the LASD has a resolution of "Conduct Appears Reasonable," then the complaint can be listed as "Unfounded," or "Exonerated" in the peace officer's file that is separate from that officer's personnel file.

RESPONSE

The Department partially agrees with this recommendation. The recommendation has been partially implemented.

The Department has been collaborating with the DOJ regarding the complaint process as required by the DOJ Antelope Valley Settlement (2015). The process is nearing completion, and updated forms, policies, and procedures will be published. These revisions include changing the complaint dispositions to match Penal Code 13012, updating categories within our existing software systems, and updating tracking capabilities.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.2(i)

The LASD needs to update its software and equipment concerning the tracking of civilian complaints so there is one primary data source for both valid complaints to assist in peace officer accountability in regards to misconduct; and the tracking of false complaints to assist in providing accountability for the false complainant, as well as cost recovery.

RESPONSE

The Department partially agrees with this recommendation. The recommendation has been partially implemented.

The Department has been collaborating with the DOJ regarding the complaint process as required by the DOJ Antelope Valley Settlement (2015). The process is nearing completion, and updated forms, policies, and procedures will be published. These revisions include changing the complaint dispositions to match Penal Code 13012, updating categories within our existing software systems, and updating tracking capabilities.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.2(j)

The LASD needs to do a thorough review of all policies, criteria, and practices regarding the recovery of costs associated with every aspect of investigating knowingly filed false complaints; and follow-up the review by implementing cost recovery recommendations.

RESPONSE

The Department does not agree with this recommendation. The recommendation will not be implemented.

Pursuant to the California Commission on State Mandates, Statement of Decision for False Reports of Police Misconduct program (report No. 00-TC-26) cannot pursue actual cost recovery without the 148.6 PC advisory. Any policy or procedure to recover these costs cannot be made pending negotiation with the DOJ Antelope Valley Settlement Agreement (2015).

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.2(k)

The County of Los Angeles, if discovered that the filed civilian complaint was knowingly false, should reimburse ALADS, for attorney fees and all costs associated with defending or assisting the peace officer in contesting the complaint.

RESPONSE

The Department disagrees with this recommendation. The recommendation will not be implemented.

Nothing in 47.5 CCC mandates that the employing agency of a law enforcement officer is responsible for the cost of legal representation or court costs brought forth in a personal defamation suit against a defendant accused of filing a false report. The County of Los Angeles is also not mandated to provide legal insurance for these costs.

Employee benefits of this kind are more appropriately handled during negotiations for employee benefits for inclusion in a Memorandum of Understanding.

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<p>Sheriff Department – Misleading Should be Costly-Pay the Price</p> <p>7.2 There should be a disincentive for a person to knowingly file a false complaint against a peace officer. This could be achieved, while protecting the right of a citizen to hold government accountable through the legitimate use of the complaint process, by implementing the following:</p> <p>(a) Update all current LASD Civilian Complaint Forms to include the California Penal Code section 148.6 advisement.</p> <p>7.2 (b) Update the LASD website to restore citizen access to the entire department complaint process and procedures.</p>	<p>The Department partially agrees with this recommendation. The recommendation has been partially implemented.</p> <p>The Department has been collaborating with the DOJ regarding the complaint process as required by the DOJ Antelope Valley Settlement (2015). The process is nearing completion, and updated forms, policies, and procedures will be published. These revisions include changing the complaint dispositions to match Penal Code 13012, updating our existing software systems' categories, and updating tracking capabilities.</p> <p>The Department agrees with this recommendation. The recommendation has been partially implemented.</p> <p>The LASD website prominently posts information regarding the complaint process in English and Spanish. The information includes obtaining a</p>

ATTACHMENT I

<p>7.2 (c) Review the LASD Civilian Complaint Process for "ease of use" by civilians. In other words, can the complaint and Form be easily located? Can the information contained on the Form be easily located? Can the information contained on the Form be easily understood by the layperson?</p>	<p>complaint form and a phone number for complaints. The Department's goal is to restore the option to file a complaint online.</p> <p>The Department will update the complaint procedure on the LASD website with the pending changes once they are final.</p> <p>The Department agrees with this recommendation. The recommendation has been partially implemented.</p> <p>The LASD website prominently posts information regarding the complaint process in English and Spanish. The information includes obtaining a complaint form and a phone number for complaints. The Department's goal is to restore the option to file a complaint online.</p> <p>The Department will update the complaint procedure on the LASD website with the pending changes once they are final.</p>
<p>7.2 (d) Add the advisement for 47.5 of the CCC to the LASD Civilian Complaint Form.</p>	<p>The Department does not agree or disagree with this recommendation. The recommendation will not be implemented.</p> <p>Notwithstanding Section 47, a peace officer may bring an action for defamation against an individual who has filed a complaint with that officer's employing agency alleging misconduct, criminal conduct, or incompetence, if that complaint is false, the complaint was made with knowledge that it was false and that it was made with spite, hatred or ill will. The knowledge that the complaint was false may be proved by showing that the complainant had no reasonable grounds to believe the statement was true and that the complainant exhibited a reckless disregard for ascertaining the truth.</p> <p>This section involves the enforcement of 148.6 by advising complainants that knowingly submitting a false complaint against a deputy is a misdemeanor. The City of Los Angeles is currently appealing a 2020 California Superior Court decision regarding an order to enforce statute 148.6 PC (filed by the LA City Attorney's Office on July 19, 2021, with the</p>

<p>7.2 (e) The filing of a civilian complaint triggers a mandated investigation. If the investigation results in the discovery that the filed complaint was knowingly false, and the peace officer targeted by the knowingly false complaint has suffered harm, the County of Los Angeles should pay for the legal representation in pursuing a 47.5 CCC lawsuit to recover the damages the knowingly false complaint caused.</p>	<p>California Court of Appeal, Second Appellate District, Division 7.) The Department is waiting to see the result of the appeal before any decision to modify the complaint forms and include the 148.6 advisory is made. Additionally, pursuant to the California Commission on State Mandates, Statement of Decision for False Reports of Police Misconduct program (report No. 00-TC-26) cannot pursue actual cost recovery without the 148.6 PC advisory. Any policy or procedure to recover these costs cannot be made pending the court decision.</p> <p>The Department disagrees with this recommendation. The recommendation will not be implemented.</p> <p>Nothing in 47.5 CCC mandates that the employing agency of a law enforcement officer is responsible for the cost of legal representation or court costs brought forth in a personal defamation suit against a defendant accused of filing a false report. The County of Los Angeles is also not mandated to provide legal insurance for these costs.</p> <p>Employee benefits of this kind are more appropriately handled during negotiations for employee benefits for inclusion in a Memorandum of Understanding.</p>
<p>7.2 (f) If the above 47.5 CCC solution to pay for the officer's legal representation is not feasible, then the County of Los Angeles should offer 47.5 CCC legal insurance as an employee benefit so the peace officer can pursue damage recovery themselves.</p>	<p>The Department disagrees with this recommendation. The recommendation will not be implemented.</p> <p>Nothing in 47.5 CCC mandates that the employing agency of a law enforcement officer is responsible for the cost of legal representation or court costs brought forth in a personal defamation suit against a defendant accused of filing a false report. The County of Los Angeles is also not mandated to provide legal insurance for these costs.</p> <p>Employee benefits of this kind are more appropriately handled during negotiations for employee benefits for inclusion in a Memorandum of Understanding.</p>

<p>7.2 (g) The County of Los Angeles, if the filed civilian complaint is discovered to be knowingly false, should seek recovery of damages in Small Claims Court to recover the costs associated with the investigation, and any other monetary loss due to the filing of a knowingly false complaint.</p>	<p>The Department does not agree or disagree with this recommendation. The recommendation will not be implemented.</p> <p>Enforcement of 148.6, by advising complainants that are knowingly submitting a false complaint against a deputy is a misdemeanor. The City of Los Angeles is currently appealing a 2020 California Superior Court decision regarding an order to enforce statute 148.6 PC (filed by the LA City Attorney's Office on July 19, 2021, with the California Court of Appeal, Second Appellate District, Division 7.) The Department is waiting to see the result of the appeal before any decision to modify the complaint forms and include the 148.6 advisory is made.</p> <p>Additionally, pursuant to the California Commission on State Mandates, Statement of Decision for False Reports of Police Misconduct program (report No. 00-TC-26) cannot pursue actual cost recovery without the 148.6 PC advisory. Any policy or procedure to recover these costs cannot be made pending the court decision.</p>
<p>7.2 (h) The LASD needs to update its complaint resolution categories to more closely match State law. For example, if the LASD has a resolution of "Conduct Appears Reasonable," then the complaint can be listed as "Unfounded," or "Exonerated" in the peace officer's file that is separate from that officer's personnel file.</p>	<p>The Department partially agrees with this recommendation. The recommendation has been partially implemented.</p> <p>The Department has been collaborating with the DOJ regarding the complaint process as required by the DOJ Antelope Valley Settlement (2015). The process is nearing completion, and updated forms, policies, and procedures will be published. These revisions include changing the complaint dispositions to match Penal Code 13012, updating categories within our existing software systems, and updating tracking capabilities.</p>
<p>7.2 (i) The LASD needs to update its software and equipment concerning the tracking of civilian complaints so there is one primary data source for both valid complaints to assist in peace officer accountability in regard to misconduct; and the tracking of false complaints to assist in providing accountability for the false complainant, as well as cost recovery.</p>	<p>The Department partially agrees with this recommendation. The recommendation has been partially implemented.</p> <p>The Department has been collaborating with the DOJ regarding the complaint process as required by the DOJ Antelope Valley Settlement (2015). The process is nearing completion, and updated forms, policies, and procedures will be published. These revisions include changing the</p>

<p>complaint dispositions to match Penal Code 13012, updating categories within our existing software systems, and updating tracking capabilities. The Department does not agree with this recommendation. The recommendation will not be implemented.</p> <p>Pursuant to the California Commission on State Mandates, Statement of Decision for False Reports of Police Misconduct program (report No. 00-TC-26) cannot pursue actual cost recovery without the 148.6 PC advisory. Any policy or procedure to recover these costs cannot be made pending negotiation with the DOJ Antelope Valley Settlement Agreement (2015).</p> <p>The Department disagrees with this recommendation. The recommendation will not be implemented.</p> <p>Nothing in 47.5 CCC mandates that the employing agency of a law enforcement officer is responsible for the cost of legal representation or court costs brought forth in a personal defamation suit against a defendant accused of filing a false report. The County of Los Angeles is also not mandated to provide legal insurance for these costs.</p> <p>Employee benefits of this kind are more appropriately handled during negotiations for employee benefits for inclusion in a Memorandum of Understanding.</p>	<p>7.2 (j) The LASD needs to do a thorough review of all policies, criteria, and practices regarding the recovery of costs associated with every aspect of investigating knowingly filed false complaints; and follow-up the review by implementing cost recovery recommendations.</p>
<p>The Department disagrees with this recommendation. The recommendation will not be implemented.</p> <p>Nothing in 47.5 CCC mandates that the employing agency of a law enforcement officer is responsible for the cost of legal representation or court costs brought forth in a personal defamation suit against a defendant accused of filing a false report. The County of Los Angeles is also not mandated to provide legal insurance for these costs.</p> <p>Employee benefits of this kind are more appropriately handled during negotiations for employee benefits for inclusion in a Memorandum of Understanding.</p>	<p>7.2 (k) The County of Los Angeles, if discovered that the filed civilian complaint was knowingly false, should reimburse ALADS, for attorney fees and all costs associated with defending or assisting the peace officer in contesting the complaint.</p>
<p>Aging and Disabilities Dept and Aging and Disabilities Dept-Purposeful Aging Los Angeles – Who Can You Trust? An Oversight of Conservatorships</p>	
<p>Responses</p> <p>Partially Agree. The recommendation will be partially implemented. The AD Department does not report conservatorship cases to the BOS. The AD Department has an MOU with the Public Guardian (PG) through the APS Program. As such, APS Social Workers make referrals to the PG when an individual is cognitively impaired, is isolated with no family members and the individual would benefit from PG services, such as a conservatorship. The AD Department will</p>	<p>Recommendations</p> <p>10.2 Continue to report to the Board of Supervisors on conservatorships twice a year on any new reforms and procedures that will create a better communication between all County, social services agencies, and the OPG.</p>



ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

September 27, 2022

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street
13th Floor, Room 13-303
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Civil Grand Jury Report – “Misleading Should be Costly – Pay the Price”

Your Honor:

The Office of the Mayor of the City of Los Angeles hereby responds to the Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury Report, entitled “*Misleading Should be Costly – Pay the Price*,” dated June 30, 2022. According to the Civil Grand Jury Report, the deadline for responding to the “Recommendations” is September 30, 2022.

RESPONSES TO RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 (a). This recommendation requires further analysis as the "Discussion" section in the "Civil Grand Jury Report" indicates a conflict between the various levels of Courts interpreting the subject California Penal Code sections. This office is not able to place a timeframe on such further analysis because it has no control over the timeframe for any particular resolution of the conflict in the Courts, which will likely extend beyond the six month time frame requested in California Penal Code (CPC) Section 9.33.05(b)(3).

7.1 (b). This recommendation requires further analysis as the "Discussion" section in the "Civil Grand Jury Report" indicates a conflict between the various levels of Courts interpreting the subject California Penal Code sections. This office is not able to place a timeframe on such further analysis because it has no control over the timeframe for any particular resolution of the conflict in the Courts, which will likely extend beyond the six month time frame requested in CPC Section 9.33.05(b)(3).

7.1 (c). This recommendation requires further analysis as the "Discussion" section in the "Civil Grand Jury Report" indicates a conflict between the various levels of Courts interpreting the subject California Penal Code sections. This office is not able to place a timeframe on such further analysis because it has no control over the timeframe for any particular resolution of the conflict in the Courts, which will likely extend beyond the six month time frame requested in CPC Section 9.33.05(b)(3).

7.1 (d). This recommendation requires further analysis as the "Discussion" section in the "Civil Grand Jury Report" indicates a conflict between the various levels of Courts interpreting the subject California Penal Code sections. This office is not able to place a timeframe on such further analysis because it has no control over the timeframe for any particular resolution of the conflict in the Courts, which will likely extend beyond the six month time frame requested in CPC Section 9.33.05(b)(3).

7.1 (e). This recommendation requires further analysis as the "Discussion" section in the "Civil Grand Jury Report" indicates a conflict between the various levels of Courts interpreting the subject California Penal Code sections. This office is not able to place a timeframe on such further analysis because it has no control over the timeframe for any particular resolution of the conflict in the Courts, which will likely extend beyond the six month time frame requested in CPC Section 9.33.05(b)(3).

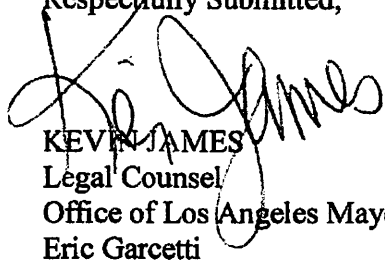
7.1 (f). This recommendation requires further analysis as the "Discussion" section in the "Civil Grand Jury Report" indicates a conflict between the various levels of Courts interpreting the subject California Penal Code sections. This office is not able to place a timeframe on such further analysis because it has no control over the timeframe for any particular resolution of the conflict in the Courts, which will likely extend beyond the six month time frame requested in CPC Section 9.33.05(b)(3).

7.1 (g). This recommendation requires further analysis as the "Discussion" section in the "Civil Grand Jury Report" indicates a conflict between the various levels of Courts interpreting the subject California Penal Code sections. This office is not able to place a timeframe on such further analysis because it has no control over the timeframe for any particular resolution of the conflict in the Courts, which will likely extend beyond the six month time frame requested in CPC Section 9.33.05(b)(3).

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
September 27, 2022
Page 2

7.1 (h). This recommendation requires further analysis as the "Discussion" section in the "Civil Grand Jury Report" indicates a conflict between the various levels of Courts interpreting the subject California Penal Code sections. This office is not able to place a timeframe on such further analysis because it has no control over the timeframe for any particular resolution of the conflict in the Courts, which will likely extend beyond the six month time frame requested in CPC Section 9.33.05(b)(3).

Respectfully Submitted,



KEVIN JAMES
Legal Counsel
Office of Los Angeles Mayor
Eric Garcetti



FESIA A. DAVENPORT
Chief Executive Officer

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

Board of Supervisors
HILDA L. SOLIS
First District

HOLLY J. MITCHELL
Second District

SHEILA KUEHL
Third District

JANICE HAHN
Fourth District

KATHRYN BARGER
Fifth District

August 15, 2022

To: Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Janice Hahn
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

From: Fesia A. Davenport
Chief Executive Officer

2021-2022 LOS ANGELES CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

Attached are responses to the 2021-2022 Civil Grand Jury Final Report. We are responding to specific recommendations dealing with the following sections:

- At-Will Employees Unmasked
- Aviation Reimagined
- Drip, Drip, Drip – Where Is Our Water Coming From?
- Here Today, Gone Tomorrow
- May the Force Be With You!
- Men's Central Jail – "Is It Still Needed?"
- Misleading Should Be Costly: Pay The Price
- Only We Can Prevent L.A. County Wildfires
- Water, Water Everywhere Leaking From The Pipes
- Who Can You Trust: Oversight of Conservatorships

Attachment A represents the Chief Executive Officer's responses; Attachments B through H represent the departments' responses; and Attachment I represents a matrix of the questions and responses from each department.

Each Supervisor
August 15, 2022
Page 2

If you have any questions regarding our responses, please contact me, or your staff may contact Cheri Thomas, by phone at (213) 974-1326 or by email at cthomas@ceo.lacounty.gov.

FAD:JMN
CT:DSK:md

Attachments

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Sheriff
Aging and Disabilities
Fire
Human Resources
Medical Examiner-Coroner
Mental Health
Regional Planning
Sanitation District

ATTACHMENT I

	required due to industry-based perimeter security measures that are in place.
5.7 The County Leadership Committee and the ISAB needs to continue to meet to ensure that the best and most current IT solutions are available in this complex system.	Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The CIO and County Leadership Committee will continue to work with ISAB to modernize legacy justice systems
5.8 The County to continue to seek the latest security enhancements to protect the County E-Mail system.	Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The CIO continues to work with ISD to implement email security, including enhanced Multi-Factor Authentication, and phishing mitigation technologies.
Chief Executive Office for the Board of Supervisors and Chief Executive Office – Men’s Central Jail - “Is It Still Needed?”	Response
6.1 Scrap long delayed and debated plans to demolish the Men’s Central Jail [MCJ]. It serves a custodial and penal mission for hardened criminals. MCJ should continue to be used for this purpose.	Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. MCJ is an outdated correctional facility that has outlived its usefulness and no longer meets the needs of the population.
6.2 Plan needed repairs and renovations of MCJ, as outlined in Finding 6-1 as the only facility rated for hardened criminals and violent inmates that must be kept separate from each other. This addresses the facility usage as the continued penal home for hardened career criminals, gang members, and violent long-term inmates in this “prison” like facility rather than any o the other usual County jails.	Agree. This recommendation will be partially implemented. The County currently has legal obligations under a Consent Decree that might lead to some modifications and enhancements to small segments of the jail in order to enhance mental health services.
Chief Executive Office for the Board of Supervisors and Chief Executive Office – Misleading Should be Costly-Pay the Price	Responses
7.2 There should be a disincentive for a person to knowingly file a false complaint against a peace officer. This could be achieved, while protecting the right of a citizen to hold government accountable through the legitimate use of the complaint process, by implementing the following: (a) Update all current LASD Civilian Complaint Forms to include the California Penal Code section 148.6 advisement.	Partially agree. This recommendation has been partially implemented. The Sheriff’s Department is collaborating with the United States (US) Department of Justice (DOJ) regarding the complaint process and forms will be updated. The BOS and CEO defer to LASD’s response for implementation details.

ATTACHMENT I

<p>7.2 (b) Update the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's (LASD) website to restore citizen access to the entire department complaint process and procedures.</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation has been partially implemented. LASD has set a goal to restore the option to file a complaint online. The BOS and CEO defer to LASD's response for implementation details.</p>
<p>7.2 (c) Review the LASD Civilian Complaint Process for "ease of use" by civilians. In other words, can the complaint and Form be easily located? Can the information contained on the Form be easily located? Can the information contained on the Form be easily understood by the layperson?</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation has been partially implemented. LASD has set a goal to restore the option to file a complaint online. The BOS and CEO defer to LASD's response for implementation details.</p>
<p>7.2 (d) Add the advisement for 47.5 of the CCC to the LASD Civilian Complaint Form.</p>	<p>Partially disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented per the Sheriff's response. The BOS and CEO defer to the LASD's response for further details.</p>
<p>7.2 (e) The filing of a civilian complaint triggers a mandated investigation. If the investigation results in the discovery that the filed complaint was knowingly false, and the peace officer targeted by the knowingly false complaint has suffered harm, the County of Los Angeles should pay for the legal representation in pursuing a 47.5 CCC lawsuit to recover the damages the knowingly false complaint caused.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. The BOS and CEO defer to the LASD's response for further details.</p>
<p>7.2 (f) If the above 47.5 CCC solution to pay for the officer's legal representation is not feasible, then the County of Los Angeles should offer 47.5 CCC legal insurance as an employee benefit so the peace officer can pursue damage recovery themselves.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented.</p>
<p>7.2 (g) The County of Los Angeles, if the filed civilian complaint is discovered to be knowingly false, should seek recovery of damages in Small Claims Court to recover the costs associated with the investigation, and any other monetary loss due to the filing of a knowingly false complaint.</p>	<p>Partially disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented but the BOS and CEO will work with County Counsel to better understand all avenues of recourse available to the County to recover its costs, so long as the amount to recover the costs does not outweigh the costs.</p>

<p>7.2 (h) The LASD needs to update its complaint resolution categories to more closely match State law. For example, if the LASD has a resolution of "Conduct Appears Reasonable," then the complaint can be listed as "Unfounded," or "Exonerated" in the peace officer's file that is separate from that officer's personnel file.</p>	<p>Partially agree. This recommendation has been partially implemented. LASD is collaborating with the US Department of Justice regarding the complaint process and updated forms, policies, and procedures will be published. The BOS and CEO defer to LASD's response for implementation details.</p>
<p>7.2 (i) The LASD needs to update its software and equipment concerning the tracking of civilian complaints so there is one primary data source for both valid complaints to assist in peace officer accountability in regard to misconduct; and the tracking of false complaints to assist in providing accountability for the false complainant, as well as cost recovery.</p>	<p>Partially agree. This recommendation has been partially implemented. LASD is collaborating with the US DOJ regarding the complaint process and tracking capabilities will be updated. The BOS and CEO defer to LASD's response for implementation details.</p>
<p>7.2 (j) The LASD needs to do a thorough review of all policies, criteria, and practices regarding the recovery of costs associated with every aspect of investigating knowingly filed false complaints; and follow-up the review by implementing cost recovery recommendations.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. The BOS and CEO defer to the LASD's response for details of the analysis.</p>
<p>7.2 (k) The County of Los Angeles, if discovered that the filed civilian complaint was knowingly false, should reimburse ALADS, for attorney fees and all costs associated with defending or assisting the peace officer in contesting the complaint.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented.</p>
<p>Chief Executive Office for the Board of Supervisors and Chief Executive Office – Only We Can Prevent L.A. County Wildfires</p>	
<p>Recommendations</p>	<p>Responses</p>
<p>8.1 Keep and expand the prison camp program to help both the LA County Fire Department (LACFD) and prisoners who participate in this worthwhile program.</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The LACFD will continue its partnership with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to continue the inmate firefighter camps and will work with CDCR to expand the program. The BOS and the CEO defer to the Fire Department's response for further information on the implementation.</p>

RESPONSE

Partially disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented per the Sheriff's response. The BOS and CEO defer to the LASD's response for further details.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.2 (e)

The filing of a civilian complaint triggers a mandated investigation. If the investigation results in the discovery that the filed complaint was knowingly false, and the peace officer targeted by the knowingly false complaint has suffered harm, the County of Los Angeles should pay for the legal representation in pursuing a 47.5 CCC lawsuit to recover the damages the knowingly false complaint caused.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. The BOS and CEO defer to the LASD's response for further details.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.2 (f)

If the above 47.5 CCC solution to pay for the officer's legal representation is not feasible, then the County of Los Angeles should offer 47.5 CCC legal insurance as an employee benefit so the peace officer can pursue damage recovery themselves.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.2 (g)

The County of Los Angeles, if the filed civilian complaint is discovered to be knowingly false, should seek recovery of damages in Small Claims Court to recover the costs associated with the investigation, and any other monetary loss due to the filing of a knowingly false complaint.

RESPONSE

Partially disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented but the BOS and CEO will work with County Counsel to better understand all avenues of recourse available to the County to recover its costs, so long as the amount to recover the costs does not outweigh the costs.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.2 (h)

The LASD needs to update its complaint resolution categories to more closely match State law. For example, if the LASD has a resolution of "Conduct Appears Reasonable," then the complaint can be listed as "Unfounded," or "Exonerated" in the peace officer's file that is separate from that officer's personnel file.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation has been partially implemented. LASD is collaborating with the US DOJ regarding the complaint process and updated forms, policies, and procedures will be published. The BOS and CEO defer to LASD's response for implementation details.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.2 (i)

The LASD needs to update its software and equipment concerning the tracking of civilian complaints so there is one primary data source for both valid complaints to assist in peace officer accountability in regards to misconduct; and the tracking of false complaints to assist in providing accountability for the false complainant, as well as cost recovery.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation has been partially implemented. LASD is collaborating with the US DOJ regarding the complaint process and tracking capabilities will be updated. The BOS and CEO defer to LASD's response for implementation details.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.2 (j)

The LASD needs to do a thorough review of all policies, criteria, and practices regarding the recovery of costs associated with every aspect of investigating knowingly filed false complaints; and follow-up the review by implementing cost recovery recommendations.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. The BOS and CEO defer to the LASD's response for details of the analysis.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7.2 (k)

The County of Los Angeles, if discovered that the filed civilian complaint was knowingly false, should reimburse ALADS, for attorney fees and all costs associated with defending or assisting the peace officer in contesting the complaint.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented.

**ONLY WE CAN PREVENT L.A. COUNTY
WILDFIRES**



2021-2022

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CIVIL GRAND JURY**



County of Los Angeles
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

FESIA A. DAVENPORT
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
HILDA L. SOLIS
First District

HOLLY J. MITCHELL
Second District

SHEILA KUEHL
Third District

JANICE HAHN
Fourth District

KATHRYN BARGER
Fifth District

August 15, 2022

To: Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Janice Hahn
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

From: Fesia A. Davenport
Chief Executive Officer

2021-2022 LOS ANGELES CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

Attached are responses to the 2021-2022 Civil Grand Jury Final Report. We are responding to specific recommendations dealing with the following sections:

- At-Will Employees Unmasked
- Aviation Reimagined
- Drip, Drip, Drip – Where Is Our Water Coming From?
- Here Today, Gone Tomorrow
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Each Supervisor
August 15, 2022
Page 2

If you have any questions regarding our responses, please contact me, or your staff may contact Cheri Thomas, by phone at (213) 974-1326 or by email at cthomas@ceo.lacounty.gov.

FAD:JMN
CT:DSK:md

Attachments

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Sheriff
Aging and Disabilities
Fire
Human Resources
Medical Examiner-Coroner
Mental Health
Regional Planning
Sanitation District

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS,
AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ONLY WE CAN PREVENT L.A. COUNTY WILDFIRES

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.1

Keep and expand the prison camp program to help both the LA County Fire Department (LACFD) and prisoners who participate in this worthwhile program.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The LACFD will continue its partnership with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to continue the inmate firefighter camps and will work with CDCR to expand the program. The BOS and the CEO defer to the Fire Department's response for further information on the implementation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.2

Fund and implement ASAP the new LACFD fire camp at Camp Gonzales (motion passed recently by the BOS).

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The fire camp at Camp Gonzales is expected to be implemented in 2023. The BOS and CEO defer to the Fire Department's response for further information on the implementation.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.3

Arrange for a larger budget from LA County's general fund for the program, which changes from year to year depending on the wildfire season, to be adjusted accordingly on a case-by-case basis so the current personnel needs of the LACFD are met.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation requires further analysis as LACFD is a Special District that relies primarily on property taxes and a special tax approved by voters in 1997. The BOS and CEO will work with Fire to identify additional funding, monitor department expenditures, and determine funding efficiencies.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.4

More funding to hire additional FSAs should be evaluated after each fire season in anticipation of the next season to fulfill the budgetary needs of the LACFD.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been partially implemented. LACFD has been allocated state funding for one additional FSA wildland hand crew in FY 22/23 and another in FY 23/24. Additional funding will require further analysis as LACFD is a Special District. The BOS and CEO defer to the Fire Department's response for further information.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.6

The LACFD budget should be increased to satisfy current personnel and department needs, which vary from wildfire season to wildfire season.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation requires further analysis as LACFD is a Special District that relies primarily on property taxes and a special tax approved by voters in 1997. The BOS and CEO will work with Fire to identify additional funding, monitor department expenditures, and determine funding efficiencies.

<p>7.2 (h) The LASD needs to update its complaint resolution categories to more closely match State law. For example, if the LASD has a resolution of "Conduct Appears Reasonable," then the complaint can be listed as "Unfounded," or "Exonerated" in the peace officer's file that is separate from that officer's personnel file.</p>	<p>Partially agree. This recommendation has been partially implemented. LASD is collaborating with the US Department of Justice regarding the complaint process and updated forms, policies, and procedures will be published. The BOS and CEO defer to LASD's response for implementation details.</p>
<p>7.2 (i) The LASD needs to update its software and equipment concerning the tracking of civilian complaints so there is one primary data source for both valid complaints to assist in peace officer accountability in regard to misconduct; and the tracking of false complaints to assist in providing accountability for the false complainant, as well as cost recovery.</p>	<p>Partially agree. This recommendation has been partially implemented. LASD is collaborating with the US DOJ regarding the complaint process and tracking capabilities will be updated. The BOS and CEO defer to LASD's response for implementation details.</p>
<p>7.2 (j) The LASD needs to do a thorough review of all policies, criteria, and practices regarding the recovery of costs associated with every aspect of investigating knowingly filed false complaints; and follow-up the review by implementing cost recovery recommendations.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. The BOS and CEO defer to the LASD's response for details of the analysis.</p>
<p>7.2 (k) The County of Los Angeles, if discovered that the filed civilian complaint was knowingly false, should reimburse ALADS, for attorney fees and all costs associated with defending or assisting the peace officer in contesting the complaint.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented.</p>
<p>Chief Executive Office for the Board of Supervisors and Chief Executive Office for the Board of Supervisors and Chief Executive Office – Only We Can Prevent L.A. County Wildfires</p>	
<p>Recommendations</p>	<p>Responses</p>
<p>8.1 Keep and expand the prison camp program to help both the LA County Fire Department (LACFD) and prisoners who participate in this worthwhile program.</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The LACFD will continue its partnership with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to continue the inmate firefighter camps and will work with CDCR to expand the program. The BOS and the CEO defer to the Fire Department's response for further information on the implementation.</p>

<p>8.2 Fund and implement ASAP the new LACFD fire camp at Camp Gonzales (motion passed recently by the BOS).</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The fire camp at Camp Gonzales is expected to be implemented in 2023. The BOS and CEO defer to the Fire Department's response for further information on the implementation.</p>
<p>8.3 Arrange for a larger budget from LA County's general fund for the program, which changes from year to year depending on the wildfire season, to be adjusted accordingly on a case-by-case basis so the current personnel needs of the LACFD are met.</p>	<p>Partially agree. This recommendation requires further analysis as LACFD is a Special District that relies primarily on property taxes and a special tax approved by voters in 1997. The BOS and CEO will work with Fire to identify additional funding, monitor department expenditures, and determine funding efficiencies.</p>
<p>8.4 More funding to hire additional FSAs should be evaluated after each fire season in anticipation of the next season to fulfill the budgetary needs of the LACFD.</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation has been partially implemented. LACFD has been allocated state funding for one additional FSA wildland hand crew in FY 22/23 and another in FY 23/24. Additional funding will require further analysis as LACFD is a Special District. The BOS and CEO defer to the Fire Department's response for further information.</p>
<p>8.6 The LACFD budget should be increased to satisfy current personnel and department needs, which vary from wildfire season to wildfire season.</p>	<p>Partially agree. This recommendation requires further analysis as LACFD is a Special District that relies primarily on property taxes and a special tax approved by voters in 1997. The BOS and CEO will work with Fire to identify additional funding, monitor department expenditures, and determine funding efficiencies.</p>
<p>Chief Executive Office for the Board of Supervisors and Chief Executive Office – Water, Water Everywhere Leaking from the Pipes</p>	
<p>Recommendation 9.1 Utilities and Public Works departments should create interagency practices to avoid encroachments.</p>	<p>Response Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. As part of initial project development, the County DPW conducts a comprehensive assessment of property rights within the project area. DPW coordinates with partner agencies and private property owners to address any potential conflicts or encroachments. DPW will continue to improve the process to avoid encroachments.</p>
<p>9.2 Due to the corrosion proof nature of PVC and proven low break rate, the water utilities should review their policy on this noteworthy pipe material.</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. DPW installed PVC pipe for two recent projects with great success. PVC is generally lower cost than steel or ductile iron, and DPW is evaluating the current design standards to establish criteria for selection of PVC.</p>



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
FIRE DEPARTMENT

1330 NORTH EASTERN AVENUE
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90063-3294
(323) 881-2401
www.fire.lacounty.gov

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FOURTH DISTRICT

KATHRYN BARGER
FIFTH DISTRICT

DARYL L. OSBY
FIRE CHIEF
FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

July 14, 2022

TO: FESIA DAVENPORT, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

FROM: DARYL L. OSBY, FIRE CHIEF *Daryl L. Osby*

RESPONSE TO THE 2021-2022 LOS ANGELES COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

Attached is the Los Angeles County Fire Department's response to the recommendations made in the 2021-2022 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury final report. We agree with and will take action to address the recommendations contained in the report.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (323) 881-6180.

DLO:JS

Attachment

c: Cheri Thomas

SERVING THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF

AGOURA HILLS
ARTESIA
AZUSA
BALDWIN PARK
BELL
BELL GARDENS
BELLFLOWER
BRADSHAW
CALADAGAS

CARSON
CERRITOS
CLAREMONT
COMMERCE
Covina
CUDAHY
USAMITHO BAH
QUARTE

EL MONTE
GARDENA
GLENDORA
HAWTHORN GARDENS
HAWTHORNE
MERRICK BLVD
MIDCITY HILLS
MOUNTAIN VIEW PARK
INDUSTRY

FOLEYWOOD
FRYSDALE
LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE
LA MERIDA
LA MERIDA
LA PUENTE
LAZYWOOD
LANCASTER

LANHRDALE
LOS ANGELES
LYNDHURST
MALLETT
MAYWOOD
MIRAMONTE
PALMDALE
PALMS VERTICES ESTATE
PARAMOUNT

POD RANRA
POSDENA
RANCHO PALMS VERDES
ROLLING HILLS
ROLLING HILLS ESTATES
ROSENDALE
SANTA CLARITA
SANTA CLARITA

SIGNAL HILL
SOUTH EL MONTE
SOUTH GATE
TEHACHE CITY
VENICE
VINTAGE
WEST HOLLWOOD
WESTLAKE VILLAGE
WORTHING

Attachment D

Los Angeles County Fire Department

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT**

2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ONLY WE CAN PREVENT L.A. COUNTY WILDFIRES

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.1

Keep and expand the prison camp program to help both the LA County Fire Department (LACFD) and prisoners who participate in this worthwhile program.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation is implemented under the Department's agreement with California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR). Currently LACFD operates five CDCR inmate firefighter camps with a total of nine fire crews available daily. The number of crews available daily has dramatically fallen over the last decade, decreasing from 28 fire crews available daily to the current nine. LACFD stands ready to increase the number of fire crews at each camp with additional CDCR inmate firefighters, however, CDCR controls participant eligibility and camp assignment. Ultimately the number of CDCR inmate firefighters, and where they are located is beyond the control of LACFD. The LACFD has the facilities to house additional fire crews at each of these camps and will continue to work with CDCR regarding participant eligibility and camp assignment.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.2

Fund and implement ASAP the new LACFD fire camp at Camp Gonzales (motion passed recently by the Board of Supervisors).

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation will be implemented; however, implementation is expected sometime in 2023. The Department is currently working with the CEO – Alternatives to Incarceration (ATI) on the program. Fire will be providing specific program training elements which will be funded by CEO-ATI via Department Service Order (DSO) to recover actual costs incurred by LACFD. This program is currently being developed by CEO-ATI, however, is expected to transfer to the Justice Care and Opportunities Department (JCOD) once JCOD is operational.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.3

Arrange for a larger budget from LA County's general fund for the program, which changes from year to year depending on the wildfire season, to be adjusted accordingly on a case-by-case basis so the current personnel needs of the LACFD are met.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation requires further analysis to identify options for the consideration of the BOS. LACFD, as a Special District, is funded independent of the County General Fund, and relies primarily on property taxes and a special tax approved by the voters in 1997 to provide essential fire protection and emergency medical services. This recommendation will require further analysis and approval of CEO and BOS.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.4

More funding to hire additional FSAs should be evaluated after each fire season in anticipation of the next season to fulfill the budgetary needs of the LACFD.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been partially implemented. As a Cal-Fire Contract County, LACFD has been allocated state funding to add one 13-person, 40-hour workweek, Type-1 FSA wildland hand crew in FY 22/23 and a second in FY 23/24, with funding becoming on-going in subsequent years. The addition of these crews improves LACFD wildland hand crew staffing but is far short of the number of wildland hand crews needed. Funding beyond the level provided by the state requires further analysis as LACFD, as a Special District, is funded independent of the County General Fund, and relies primarily on property taxes and a special tax approved by the voters in 1997 to provide essential fire protection and emergency medical services. The Department will continue to work with the CEO and BOS to identify additional funding, monitor department expenditures, and determine funding efficiencies.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.5

Add more fire academies to the local LA County community colleges that offer FSA training so that the LACFD will be able to hire additional trained personnel.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. The LACFD will not be implementing this recommendation due to it not being jurisdictional or under control of the Department. The LACFD is supportive of requesting additional fire training programs to be offered by local community colleges to create awareness of available fire service careers.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.6

The LACFD budget should be increased to satisfy current personnel and department needs, which vary from wildfire season to wildfire season.

RESPONSE

Partially agree. This recommendation requires further analysis to identify options for the consideration of the BOS. LACFD, as a Special District, is funded independent of the County General Fund, and relies primarily on property taxes and a special tax approved by the voters in 1997 to provide essential fire protection and emergency medical services. In March of 2019, the Department put forth a funding measure, Measure FD, which would have addressed the infrastructure and personnel needs. Unfortunately, while obtaining a majority vote, the measure did not achieve the required 2/3 voter super-majority needed

to become enacted. As such, the LACFD continues to explore available revenue streams while working with the CEO and BOS to identify additional funding where possible, monitor department expenditures, and determine funding efficiencies.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8.7

Personnel needs should be reviewed for each current wildfire season and should be adjusted to fit the needs of the LACFD's wildfire division.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented and evaluated at the end of each fire season. However, one of the difficulties is the fire season varies from year to year due to variations in fire activity driven by weather and fuel conditions. Both indicators are extremely difficult to forecast. This is especially true throughout the state with the ongoing drought and above normal temperatures. The fire season continues to be a year-round staffing challenge that many predict will become far worse given the impacts of climate change.

<p>10.5 APS should do outreach to promote public awareness and education about conservatorship abuses. APS should also offer more advocacy services to the general community about how to spot conservatorship abuse and what to do about it.</p>	<p>Agree. The recommendation will be implemented. The APS Program already promotes public awareness and educates the public about conservatorship as described in response to R10.4 above. However, we encourage and welcome additional opportunities to raise awareness about this important topic. The AD can work closely with the OPG to develop and establish outreach materials to inform the public about conservatorship abuses.</p> <p>Timeframe: One year to implement an enhanced educational plan, which includes developing new outreach materials.</p>
<p>Fire – Only We Can Prevent L.A. County Wildfires</p>	
<p>Recommendation</p>	
<p>8.1 Keep and expand the prison camp program to help both the LA County Fire Department (LACFD) and prisoners who participate in this worthwhile program.</p>	<p>Response</p> <p>Agree. This recommendation is implemented under the Department's agreement with California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR). Currently LACFD operates five CDCR inmate firefighter camps with a total of nine fire crews available daily. The number of crews available daily has dramatically fallen over the last decade, decreasing from 28 fire crews available daily to the current nine. LACFD stands ready to increase the number of fire crews at each camp with additional CDCR inmate firefighters, however, CDCR controls participant eligibility and camp assignment. Ultimately the number of CDCR inmate firefighters, and where they are located is beyond the control of LACFD. The LACFD has the facilities to house additional fire crews at each of these camps and will continue to work with CDCR regarding participant eligibility and camp assignment.</p>
<p>8.2 Fund and implement ASAP the new LACFD fire camp at Camp Gonzales (motion passed recently by the BOS).</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation will be implemented; however, implementation is expected sometime in 2023. The Department is currently working with the CEO – Alternatives to Incarceration (ATI) on the program. Fire will be providing specific program training elements which will be funded by CEO-ATI via Department Service Order (DSO) to recover actual costs incurred by LACFD. This program is currently being developed by CEO-ATI, however, is expected to transfer to the</p>

<p>8.3 Arrange for a larger budget from LA County's general fund for the program, which changes from year to year depending on the wildfire season, to be adjusted accordingly on a case-by-case basis so the current personnel needs of the LACFD are met.</p>	<p>Justice Care and Opportunities Department (JCOD) is operational. Partially agree. This recommendation requires further analysis to identify options for the consideration of the BOS. LACFD, as a Special District, is funded independent of the County General Fund, and relies primarily on property taxes and a special tax approved by the voters in 1997 to provide essential fire protection and emergency medical services. This recommendation will require further analysis and approval of CEO and BOS.</p>
<p>8.4 More funding to hire additional FSAs should be evaluated after each fire season in anticipation of the next season to fulfill the budgetary needs of the LACFD.</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation has been partially implemented. As a Cal-Fire Contract County, LACFD has been allocated state funding to add one 13-person, 40-hour workweek, Type-1 FSA wildland hand crew in FY 22/23 and a second in FY 23/24, with funding becoming on-going in subsequent years. The addition of these crews improves LACFD wildland hand crew staffing but is far short of the number of wildland hand crews needed. Funding beyond the level provided by the state requires further analysis as LACFD, as a Special District, is funded independent of the County General Fund, and relies primarily on property taxes and a special tax approved by the voters in 1997 to provide essential fire protection and emergency medical services. The Department will continue to work with the CEO and BOS to identify additional funding, monitor department expenditures, and determine funding efficiencies.</p>
<p>8.5 Add more fire academies to the local LA County community colleges that offer FSA training so that the LACFD will be able to hire additional trained personnel.</p>	<p>Partially agree. The LACFD will not be implementing this recommendation due to it not being jurisdictional or under control of the Department. The LACFD is supportive of requesting additional fire training programs to be offered by local community colleges to create awareness of available fire service careers.</p>
<p>8.6 The LACFD budget should be increased to satisfy current personnel and department needs, which vary from wildfire season to wildfire season.</p>	<p>Partially agree. This recommendation requires further analysis to identify options for the consideration of the BOS. LACFD, as a Special District, is funded independent of the County General Fund, and relies primarily on property taxes and a special tax approved by the voters in 1997 to provide essential fire protection and emergency medical services. In March of 2019, the Department put forth a funding measure, Measure</p>

	<p>FD, which would have addressed the infrastructure and personnel needs. Unfortunately, while obtaining a majority vote, the measure did not achieve the required 2/3 voter super-majority needed to become enacted. As such, the LACFD continues to explore available revenue streams while working with the CEO and BOS to identify additional funding where possible, monitor department expenditures, and determine funding efficiencies.</p>
<p>8.7 Personnel needs should be reviewed for each current wildfire season and should be adjusted to fit the needs of the LACFD's wildfire division.</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation has been implemented and evaluated at the end of each fire season. However, one of the difficulties is the fire season varies from year to year due to variations in fire activity driven by weather and fuel conditions. Both indicators are extremely difficult to forecast. This is especially true throughout the state with the ongoing drought and above normal temperatures. The fire season continues to be a year-round staffing challenge that many predict will become far worse given the impacts of climate change.</p>
<p>Medical Examiner-Coroner – Here Today, Gone Tomorrow</p>	
<p>Recommendations</p>	
<p>4.2 Contract a Chaplain or Counselor to assist grieving family members in a private room at the facility.</p>	<p>Responses</p> <p>Agree. The recommendation is being implemented. The Department has created a 2-year pilot project and implementation plan for family advocates who have a social worker background to support this effort. There are ongoing efforts to find funding to hire social workers, including conversations with the DMH to assess opportunities to run the pilot project through their Department and utilize their existing grants and staffing resources. We expect to find funding or tap into existing resources by the beginning of the 2023/2024 fiscal year.</p> <p>The creation of the grief room is underway, i.e., the previous space utilized for the gift shop will be converted into smaller grief rooms. The Department is coordinating with CEO Capital Projects and the DPW. Funding is in place as of June 2022, and construction is expected to begin in the fall, 2022.</p>
<p>4.3 Provide a storage room to include individualized compartments/drawers for decedent belongings.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. Decedent property on the service floor (where the examinations take place) is only</p>

**WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE
LEAKING FROM THE PIPES**



2021-2022

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CIVIL GRAND JURY**



FESIA A. DAVENPORT
Chief Executive Officer

County of Los Angeles **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

Board of Supervisors
HILDA L. SOLIS
First District
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
Second District
SHEILA KUEHL
Third District
JANICE HAHN
Fourth District
KATHRYN BARGER
Fifth District

August 15, 2022

To: Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Janice Hahn
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

From: Fesia A. Davenport
Chief Executive Officer

2021-2022 LOS ANGELES CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

Attached are responses to the 2021-2022 Civil Grand Jury Final Report. We are responding to specific recommendations dealing with the following sections:

- At-Will Employees Unmasked
- Aviation Reimagined
- Drip, Drip, Drip – Where Is Our Water Coming From?
- Here Today, Gone Tomorrow
- May the Force Be With You!
- Men's Central Jail – "Is It Still Needed?"
- Misleading Should Be Costly: Pay The Price
- Only We Can Prevent L.A. County Wildfires
- Water, Water Everywhere Leaking From The Pipes
- Who Can You Trust: Oversight of Conservatorships

Attachment A represents the Chief Executive Officer's responses; Attachments B through H represent the departments' responses; and Attachment I represents a matrix of the questions and responses from each department.

Each Supervisor
August 15, 2022
Page 2

If you have any questions regarding our responses, please contact me, or your staff may contact Cheri Thomas, by phone at (213) 974-1326 or by email at cthomas@ceo.lacounty.gov.

FAD:JMN
CT:DSK:md

Attachments

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Sheriff
Aging and Disabilities
Fire
Human Resources
Medical Examiner-Coroner
Mental Health
Regional Planning
Sanitation District

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS,
AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

**2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE LEAKING FROM THE PIPES**

RECOMMENDATION NO. 9.1

Utilities and Public Works departments should create interagency practices to avoid encroachments.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. As part of initial project development, the County DPW conducts a comprehensive assessment of property rights within the project area. DPW coordinates with partner agencies and private property owners to address any potential conflicts or encroachments. DPW will continue to improve the process to avoid encroachments.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 9.2

Due to the corrosion proof nature of PVC and proven low break rate, the water utilities should review their policy on this noteworthy pipe material.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. DPW installed PVC pipe for two recent projects with great success. PVC is generally lower cost than steel or ductile iron, and DPW is evaluating the current design standards to establish criteria for selection of PVC.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 9.3

Continue evaluation of earthquake resilient pipes and expand usage of this material as indicated.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. DPW specifies flexible joints for tank connections and for pipe connections in areas prone to land movement. DPW is also continuing to evaluate products, perform research, and attend technical seminars regarding earthquake resilient materials.

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS,
AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR WHO CAN YOU TRUST? AN OVERSIGHT OF CONSERVATORSHIPS

It should be noted that the Civil Grand Jury Final Report lists “Los Angeles County Adult Protective Services” (APS), “Los Angeles Workforce Development Aging & Community Services” (WDACS), and “Purposeful Aging” as three separate departments/agencies. In addition, the Report refers to the new department incorrectly as “Aging and Community Services.” Effective July 1, 2022, WDACS ceased to exist and was split into two different county departments: The Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) and the Aging and Disabilities (AD) Department.

The DEO will focus on economic development and workforce training by developing strategies that support key industry sectors and preparing the regional workforce for the jobs of tomorrow with a focus on disadvantaged communities and individuals facing barriers to meaningful employment. The DEO also formulates contingency plans and strategies designed to mitigate the job and revenue loss caused by substantial economic disruptions that inevitably occur, often without warning.

The AD will serve the rapidly growing older and disabled adult population. Within the AD department, Adult Protective Services serves all of the Los Angeles region residents who may be victims of abuse, neglect or exploitation. The AD also serves adults with disabilities, many of whom have pre-existing conditions, are particularly more vulnerable during emergencies (e.g., COVID-19), and have limited access to basic needs such as housing, medical care, transportation and/or food. As such, AD will focus on a client centered, coordinated service delivery systems and support improving the quality of life for this group.

Purposeful Aging Los Angeles (PALA) is an initiative and partnership between the County and the City of Los Angeles, other cities, AARP, the private sector, and universities, and was formed to help the Los Angeles region prepare for a dramatic demographic shift in the older adult population that will occur by 2030. PALA is an initiative that is comprised of a collaborative effort among various stakeholders and is overseen by the AD department. On its own PALA has no capacity to forward any direct services.

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

FREDERICK H. PICKEL, Ph.D.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/RATEPAYER ADVOCATE
(213) 978-0220
Fred.Pickel@lacity.org



OFFICE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY
200 N. SPRING STREET, SUITE 1736
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

October 24, 2022

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 13th Floor, Room 13-303
Los Angeles, California 90012

Your Honor:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Recommendations 9-1, 9-2, and 9-3 made in the 2021-2022 Civil Grand Jury report section "Water, Water Everywhere, Leaking from the Pipes", page 152.

Background on the Office of Public Accountability/Ratepayer Advocate (OPA)

The OPA is a unique, independent, highly specialized, and technical Office within the City of Los Angeles (City) family. It was created in 2011 by a Charter Amendment, which specified that the OPA shall provide public independent analysis of the City's Department Water and Power (DWP) actions as they relate water and electricity rates. The OPA is an office independent of DWP and other City Departments. The current staff is three utility-sector expert professionals and one part-time administrative professional.

OPA's Comments on the Civil Grand Jury's Recommendations

Recommendation 9-1: Utilities and Public Works departments should create interagency practices to avoid encroachments

Given the over 100-year history of the water utility services in Los Angeles, detailed location information on some water delivery facilities is sometimes lacking. At the same time, DWP needs to expand its mainline and trunkline infrastructure investments.¹

¹ As cited by the Grand Jury report page 148, Frederick H. Pickel, Ph.D, OPA report on DWP 2015 water rate proposal 2015-12-11', opaimportantdoc3249100444_12112015.pdf at <http://opa.lacity.org>. PDF pages 50, 52, and 54.

DWP describes the scope of its infrastructure leak management efforts in the DWP's 2020 Urban Water Management Plan, including SB 1420 requirements to quantify and report their annual distribution system water losses.²

OPA agrees with Recommendation 9-1 that expanded interagency collaboration would help avoid encroachments and reduce leaks. For existing facilities, steady improvements in leak detection help efforts to find leaks, some possibly created by encroachments, and prioritize infrastructure investments. For new facilities, existing construction permitting processes, and the recent creation of the City's Street Damage Restoration Fee, with fee reductions for coordinated agency in-street activities, should help to reduce leaks.

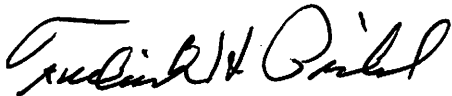
Recommendation 9-2: Due to the corrosion proof nature of PVC and proven low break rate, the water utilities should review their policy on this noteworthy pipe material, and Recommendation 9-3: Continue evaluation of earthquake resilient pipes and expand usage of this material as indicated.

OPA believes that DWP portfolio approach to mainline and trunkline pipe technology is reasonable.³ The appropriate technology depends on the conditions at each individual site, such as local seismicity and soil characteristics. OPA agrees with Recommendations 9-2 and 9-3 that DWP should continue to assess pipe materials as technologies improve and costs change.

Closing

Thank you for the opportunity to make comments. I am readily available for you or your Grand Jury members for any questions or if there are changed circumstances related to these recommendations.

Regards,



Frederick H. Pickel, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Office of Public Accountability/Ratepayer Advocate

² DWP 2020 Urban Water Management Plan, at page 3-4 and starting at 3-24,
<https://ladwp.com/cs/groups/ladwp/documents/pdf/mdaw/nzyy/~edisp/opladwpccb762836.pdf>

³ As discussed in the OPA report on DWP 2015 water rate proposal, op. cit., and the DWP 2020 Urban Water Management Plan, op. cit.



City of Whittier

13230 Penn Street, Whittier, California 90602-1772
(562) 567-9999 www.cityofwhittier.org

Joe Vinatieri
Mayor

Jessica Martinez
Mayor Pro Tem

Fernando Dutra
Council Member

Cathy Warner
Council Member

Octavio Martinez
Council Member

Brian Saeki
City Manager

November 2, 2022

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 13th Floor, Room 13-303
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report on Waterline Infrastructure

Dear Presiding Judge:

Below is the City of Whittier's response to the recommendations made in the Civil Grand Jury Report, Water Infrastructure.

Recommendation – Agree

9-1 Utilities and Public Works Departments should create interagency practices to avoid encroachments.

Brief reason for agreement or disagreement:

The City has implemented practices, when possible, of avoiding encroachment onto private property, and obligatory elements in designs clearly identifying City-owned infrastructure typically ending at utility easement.

Recommendation – Agree

9-2 Due to the corrosion proof nature of PVC and proven low break rate, the water utilities should review their policy on this noteworthy pipe material.

Brief reason for agreement or disagreement:

The City understands the benefits of PVC piping and has been using C900 PVC with its watermain replacement program of aged distribution lines, ranging from 6 inch to 24 inch in diameter. Larger transmission lines are only replaced as needed, typically with ductile iron.

Recommendation – Agree

9-3 Continue evaluation of earthquake resilient pipes expand usage of this material as indicated.

Brief reason for agreement or disagreement:

The City has already implemented the use of flex joints and couplings at critical infrastructure. (ex: Pumping Plant and Treatment vessels) The

Page Two
Presiding Judge
November 2, 2022

City also has the benefits of the flexural strength, longitudinal bending and axial deflection capacity of the c900 PVC in the distribution system.

In addition, the City Council is very supportive of actions that proper planning and proactive maintenance can minimize pipe failure.

Should you have any questions pertaining to these recommendations, please contact our City Manager, Brian Saeki at 562-567-9300.

Sincerely,



Joe Vinatieri
Mayor

cc: Brian Saeki, City Manager
Kyle Cason, Director of Public Works



CITY OF GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA
Office of the City Attorney

613 E. Broadway, Suite 220
Glendale, California 91206-4394
(818) 548-2080 Fax (818) 547-3402
www.glendaleca.gov

November 1, 2022

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Civil Grand Jury
222 S. Hill Street, Suite 670
Los Angeles, CA 90012-3210

Re: City of Glendale Response to the June 21, 2022 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report Entitled: "Water, Water Everywhere Leaking from the Pipes"

Dear Honorable Presiding Judge:

Pursuant to my telephone conversation of today with Mr. Jim Sodowski of the Civil Grand Jury, enclosed please find a resubmittal of the City of Glendale's Response ("Response") to the June 21, 2022 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report captioned above.

The Response was originally submitted to the address indicated on the Grand Jury's June 21, 2022 correspondence (copy enclosed). The City's response was delivered, timely on September 26, 2022, via Federal Express (copy of proof of delivery is also enclosed). Per Mr. Sodowski, the address noted in the Grand Jury's instructions should have been the Civil Grand Jury address. Therefore, the Response packet is being resubmitted to the address indicated on this correspondence, which was provided to the City today.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL J. GARCIA, CITY ATTORNEY

By: 
Dorine Martirosian
Principal Assistant City Attorney

Encls.

cc: Roubik Golanian, P.E., City Manager
Michael J. Garcia, City Attorney
Mark Young, General Manager, Glendale Water & Power



CITY OF GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA
Management Services

613 E. Broadway Suite 200
Glendale, CA 91206-4308
Tel. (818) 548-4844 Fax (818) 547-6740
glendaleca.gov

September 20, 2022

Via Federal Express

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street
13th Floor, Room 13-303
Los Angeles, California 90012

**RE: City of Glendale Response to the June 21, 2022 Los Angeles
County Civil Grand Report Entitled: "Water, Water Everywhere
Leaking from the Pipes"**

Dear Honorable Presiding Judge:

Enclosed please find the City of Glendale's response to the above-referenced Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury Report (Report), as specified in California Penal Code section 933, and as instructed by Foreperson Thomas P. O'Shaughnessy in his June 21, 2022 cover letter to the City of Glendale.

Sincerely,

Roubik R. Golanian, P.E.
City Manager
City of Glendale

cc: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members, City of Glendale
Michael J. Garcia, City Attorney, City of Glendale
Mark Young, General Manager, Glendale Water & Power

Adopted
09/13/22
Asatryan/Brotman
All Ayes

RESOLUTION NO. 22-119

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING A RESPONSE TO THE JUNE 21, 2022 LOS ANGELES COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY REPORT ENTITLED "WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE LEAKING FROM THE PIPES" AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER, OR HIS DESIGNEE, TO SUBMIT SAID RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY

WHEREAS, on June 21, 2022, the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury released a Report entitled "Water, Water Everywhere Leaking from The Pipes"; and

WHEREAS, a response is required to civil grand jury reports by state statute; and

WHEREAS, a draft response has been prepared for approval by the City Council and is attached to this Resolution as Exhibit 1.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA:

SECTION 1. That the draft response attached hereto as Exhibit 1, is hereby approved as the City of Glendale's official response to the June 21, 2022 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report entitled "Water, Water Everywhere Leaking from The Pipes".

SECTION 2. The Council does hereby direct the City Manager, or his designee, to file the response, as substantially attached, for and on behalf of the City of Glendale with the Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles County Superior Court.

Adopted this 13th day of September, 2022.




Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM



Principal Assistant City Attorney
Date: 9/16/22

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES) SS.
CITY OF GLENDALE)

I, Suzie Abajian, PH.D., City Clerk of the City of Glendale, certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 22-119 was adopted by the Council of the City of Glendale, California, at a regular meeting thereof held on the 13th day of September, 2022, by the following vote:

Ayes:	Asatryan, Brotman, Devine, Najarian, Kassakhian
Noes:	None
Absent:	None
Abstain:	None

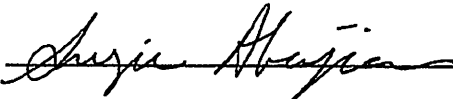

City Clerk

EXHIBIT 1

City of Glendale Response to June 21, 2022 Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury Report Entitled "Water, Water Everywhere Leaking from The Pipes"

I. RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY FINDINGS

Finding # 9-1: "The maintenance and installation practices of the water pipe infrastructures appear consistent throughout the industry."

Response to Finding # 9-1: The City agrees with this finding. There are different practices between water agencies, but in general they appear to be consistent.

Finding # 9-2: "The 2020 Sunset/UCLA pipe break may have been caused, in part, by a lack of communication between the various services using the underground right of way in the public streets."

Response to Finding # 9-2: The City partially disagrees with this finding due to its conclusory nature regarding statements in a written report¹ about a main break at another utility that did not specifically indicate that the issue was related to a "lack of communication".

1. "LA City Council, Council File No. 20-1076 - Sunset Boulevard / UCLA / Water Main Break /August 23, 2020", Martin L. Adams, General Manager and Chief Engineer, Los Angeles Department of Water & Power.

Finding # 9-3: "PVC water mains have the lowest break rates of any pipe material."

Response to Finding # 9-3: The City disagrees with this statement. The report referenced by the Grand Jury² makes this conclusion across a dataset for the industry as whole. Taking this statement out of context can give the impression that PVC pipe would have a lower break rate than other pipe material in every installation, which is a false conclusion when reading the referenced report in its entirety. In fact, a follow-up area of study for the report's authors would be a comparison of the failure rate between ductile-iron pipe and PVC pipe of the same installation vintage in non-corrosive soils in dense urban areas, and when native backfill is used instead of imported backfill material.

Further, the follow-up report should study if water agency's practices are skewing the data. If agencies are only installing PVC mains in areas known to have less stresses from vehicle loading, or areas with fewer buried utilities, current and abandoned, then these installations would have caused the data to show a lower break rate with PVC, when in fact, PVC was specifically chosen for these applications. Additionally, if water agency specifications for pipe laying and backfill are different for PVC vs. ductile iron, there is a possibility that a more stringent pipe laying and backfill specification for PVC reduced its overall break-rate in the dataset analyzed in this report.

2. "Water Main Break Rates in the USA and Canada: A Comprehensive Study", March 2018, Steven Folkman, Ph.D., P.E., Utah State University, Buried Structures Laboratory.

Finding # 9-4: "Japanese manufacturers have developed earthquake resilient pipes and LADWP has begun evaluation."

Response to finding # 9-4: The City partially disagrees with this this finding. Though this Finding does not apply to the City, it is important to clarify that LADWP has already studied earthquake resilient pipe materials and has an active program to install either Japanese made or American made earthquake resilient pipe in very specific locations and applications.¹

II. RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS

Grand Jury Recommendation # 9-1: Utilities and Public Works departments should create interagency practices to avoid encroachments.

Response to Recommendation # 9-1: Interagency practices to avoid damage caused by construction and maintenance activities related to underground utilities is codified in two sections of the California Code of Regulations.

The first is the California Code of Regulations, Title 19 Public Safety, Division 4 California Underground Facilities Safe Excavation Board.

The second is the California Code of Regulations, Title 1 General, Division 5 Public Work and Public Purchases, Chapter 3.1 Protection of Underground Infrastructure, Article 2 Regional Notification Center System, Section 4216.

Per California Government Code 4216:

Every operator of a subsurface installation, except the Department of Transportation, shall become a member of, participate in, and share in the costs of, a regional notification center. Operators of subsurface installations who are members of, participate in, and share in the costs of a regional notification center, including, but not limited to, to Underground Service Alert - Northern California or the Underground Service Alert - Southern California are in compliance with this Section and Section 4216.9. A regional notification center shall not charge a fee to a person for notifying the regional notification center to obtain a ticket or to renew a ticket.

GWP's Electric and Water Divisions contract with the Underground Service Alert - Southern California because it is the only notification center in the region to fulfill this legal requirement. The Underground Service Alert of Southern California (DigAlert), is an independent non-profit mutual benefit corporation, working to ensure the safety of excavation workers and the general public by preventing damage to subsurface infrastructure through education, advocacy, and operation of an effective communications link between excavators and subsurface infrastructure owners/operators.

Anyone excavating in the public right-of-way in Glendale must notify DigAlert by calling 811 or by using their online notification tool. This service is free of charge. Appropriate GWP staff respond to the "DigAlert ticket" that is generated, mark GWP utilities if any in the excavation zone then upload photos of the makings into the DigAlert system. Similarly, if GWP crews need to perform an excavation, they notify DigAlert and other utilities must mark the excavation area if they have any underground utilities located there, before GWP crews can begin their excavations.

Grand Jury Recommendation # 9-2: Due to the corrosion proof of nature of PVC and proven low break rate, the water utilities should review their policy on this noteworthy pipe material.

Response to Recommendation # 9-2:

Due to the ability of PVC pipe to resist corrosion and the formation of bio-films that can increase corrosion inside of the pipe, GWP uses PVC pipe for most recycled water main installations.

GWP uses cement-lined ductile iron pipe for potable water main installations and replacements to help reduce breaks caused by high vehicle loading and settlement of backfill that may occur due to the high number of other underground utilities, new and abandoned, in the public right-of-way. PVC pipe is very susceptible to failures due to point-loading which can be caused by settlement of other utilities "touching the pipe" or causing uneven support of the pipe as the bedding moves. Ductile iron pipe is less susceptible to these uneven forces. Fortunately, most soils in Glendale are not corrosive. So, exterior pipe corrosion is not a major cause of main breaks within the City.

Additionally, due to the low corrosiveness of Glendale's soils GWP can rehabilitate existing pipes instead of replacing them. GWP's current standards are to replace unlined six-inch, or smaller, cast iron mains with eight-inch or larger cement-line ductile iron mains, and to clean and reline cast iron mains that are eight inches and larger. This significantly extends the useful life of the existing mains and allows for more rehabilitation and replacement of the City's water infrastructure at a lower cost.

Grand Jury Recommendation # 9-3: Continue evaluation of earthquake resilient pipes and expand usage of this material as indicated.

Response to Recommendation # 9-3:

The City uses earthquake resilient pipes in specific and appropriate locations. GWP's program focuses on the applications most susceptible to damage from earthquakes and applications that would suffer the highest consequences due to failures. The most important application for earthquake resilient pipes is at the City's above ground steel water storage tanks. The City's tanks are designed per ASTM/AWWA standards to withstand earthquakes and minimize damage resulting from earthquakes. If a tank lifts vertically or moves horizontally in an earthquake the pipes connecting to the tank can break and can damage the tank itself by pulling out a section of the tank wall. To prevent this type of damage, GWP has upgraded and installed earthquake resilient pipe at all of its water tank connections.

[End of Document]

**WHO CAN YOU TRUST?
AN OVERSIGHT OF CONSERVATORSHIPS**



**2021-2022
LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CIVIL GRAND JURY**

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

FREDERICK H. PICKEL, Ph.D.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/RATEPAYER ADVOCATE
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OFFICE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY
200 N. SPRING STREET, SUITE 1736
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

October 24, 2022

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 13th Floor, Room 13-303
Los Angeles, California 90012

Your Honor:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Recommendations 9-1, 9-2, and 9-3 made in the 2021-2022 Civil Grand Jury report section "Water, Water Everywhere, Leaking from the Pipes", page 152.

Background on the Office of Public Accountability/Ratepayer Advocate (OPA)

The OPA is a unique, independent, highly specialized, and technical Office within the City of Los Angeles (City) family. It was created in 2011 by a Charter Amendment, which specified that the OPA shall provide public independent analysis of the City's Department Water and Power (DWP) actions as they relate water and electricity rates. The OPA is an office independent of DWP and other City Departments. The current staff is three utility-sector expert professionals and one part-time administrative professional.

OPA's Comments on the Civil Grand Jury's Recommendations

Recommendation 9-1: Utilities and Public Works departments should create interagency practices to avoid encroachments

Given the over 100-year history of the water utility services in Los Angeles, detailed location information on some water delivery facilities is sometimes lacking. At the same time, DWP needs to expand its mainline and trunkline infrastructure investments.¹

¹ As cited by the Grand Jury report page 148, Frederick H. Pickel, Ph.D, OPA report on DWP 2015 water rate proposal 2015-12-11', opaimportantdoc3249100444_12112015.pdf at <http://opa.lacity.org>. PDF pages 50, 52, and 54.

DWP describes the scope of its infrastructure leak management efforts in the DWP's 2020 Urban Water Management Plan, including SB 1420 requirements to quantify and report their annual distribution system water losses.²

OPA agrees with Recommendation 9-1 that expanded interagency collaboration would help avoid encroachments and reduce leaks. For existing facilities, steady improvements in leak detection help efforts to find leaks, some possibly created by encroachments, and prioritize infrastructure investments. For new facilities, existing construction permitting processes, and the recent creation of the City's Street Damage Restoration Fee, with fee reductions for coordinated agency in-street activities, should help to reduce leaks.

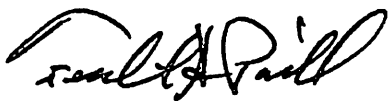
Recommendation 9-2: Due to the corrosion proof nature of PVC and proven low break rate, the water utilities should review their policy on this noteworthy pipe material, and Recommendation 9-3: Continue evaluation of earthquake resilient pipes and expand usage of this material as indicated.

OPA believes that DWP portfolio approach to mainline and trunkline pipe technology is reasonable.³ The appropriate technology depends on the conditions at each individual site, such as local seismicity and soil characteristics. OPA agrees with Recommendations 9-2 and 9-3 that DWP should continue to assess pipe materials as technologies improve and costs change.

Closing

Thank you for the opportunity to make comments. I am readily available for you or your Grand Jury members for any questions or if there are changed circumstances related to these recommendations.

Regards,



Frederick H. Pickel, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Office of Public Accountability/Ratepayer Advocate

² DWP 2020 Urban Water Management Plan, at page 3-4 and starting at 3-24, <https://ladwp.com/cs/groups/ladwp/documents/pdf/mdaw/nzyy/~edisp/opladwpcbb762836.pdf>

³ As discussed in the OPA report on DWP 2015 water rate proposal, op. cit., and the DWP 2020 Urban Water Management Plan, op. cit.



FESIA A. DAVENPORT
Chief Executive Officer

County of Los Angeles **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

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Board of Supervisors
HILDA L. SOLIS
First District

HOLLY J. MITCHELL
Second District

SHEILA KUEHL
Third District

JANICE HAHN
Fourth District

KATHRYN BARGER
Fifth District

August 15, 2022

To: Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Janice Hahn
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

From: Fesia A. Davenport
Chief Executive Officer

2021-2022 LOS ANGELES CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

Attached are responses to the 2021-2022 Civil Grand Jury Final Report. We are responding to specific recommendations dealing with the following sections:

- At-Will Employees Unmasked
- Aviation Reimagined
- Drip, Drip, Drip – Where Is Our Water Coming From?
- Here Today, Gone Tomorrow
- May the Force Be With You!
- Men's Central Jail – "Is It Still Needed?"
- Misleading Should Be Costly: Pay The Price
- Only We Can Prevent L.A. County Wildfires
- Water, Water Everywhere Leaking From The Pipes
- Who Can You Trust: Oversight of Conservatorships

Attachment A represents the Chief Executive Officer's responses; Attachments B through H represent the departments' responses; and Attachment I represents a matrix of the questions and responses from each department.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

Each Supervisor
August 15, 2022
Page 2

If you have any questions regarding our responses, please contact me, or your staff may contact Cheri Thomas, by phone at (213) 974-1326 or by email at cthomas@ceo.lacounty.gov.

FAD:JMN
CT:DSK:md

Attachments

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Sheriff
Aging and Disabilities
Fire
Human Resources
Medical Examiner-Coroner
Mental Health
Regional Planning
Sanitation District

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.1

Continue to offer excellent service to clients through the Office of the Public Guardian and review their procedures twice a year with the Board of Supervisors.

RESPONSE

Agree. The recommendation has not yet been implemented but the BOS and the CEO understand it will be implemented by the Department of Mental Health (DMH) during FY 2022-2023.

The BOS and CEO appreciate the Civil Grand Jury's recognition and acknowledgement of the excellent services provided by DMH Office of Public Guardian (OPG) to clients.

The BOS and CEO agree with DMH-OPG's commitment to review procedures twice a year with the BOS.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.2

Continue to report to the Board of Supervisors on conservatorships twice a year on any new reforms and procedures that will create a better communication between all County, Social Service agencies and the OPG.

RESPONSE

Agree. The recommendation will be implemented during FY 2022-23. DMH and the OPG will continue to report on conservatorship reform efforts bi-annually and the Aging & Disabilities Department (AD) will commence biannual reporting to the BOS on the number of conservatorship referrals to the OPG. For further information, the BOS and CEO defer to the responses from DMH and the AD.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.3

If legally feasible, create a more robust real time database in the County similar to the California Megan's Law database to help family, friends and senior advocacy social service agencies to pinpoint conservatorship complaints and abuses by conservators who have been removed for cause. This database should be shared by the OPG and senior social service agencies such as APS, WDACS, PALA and the City of LA Department of Aging (DOA). These social service agencies should be able to input any complaints using the database so that the County can easily track conservatorship abuses.

RESPONSE

Disagree. The recommendation will not be implemented. The OPG investigates and is appointed conservator on a small fraction of the County's Probate Conservatorships and does not have access to court cases in which OPG is not directly involved. Furthermore, publishing complaint information can lead to undue harm as many complaints and allegations of abuse do not lead to a "conviction" type ruling and are not clearly substantiated. The BOS and CEO defer to the OPG and AD responses for further information.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.4

There needs to be more conservatorship advocacy and educational programs for the general public from the OPG and other County and City Social Service organizations such as APS, WDACS, PALA and DOA to help report constituent conservatorship complaints and abuses.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. Both the OPG and the AD (and the AD's APS) will work to provide more outreach and education to the public to help report conservatorship complaints. The BOS and CEO defer to OPG's and AD's responses for implementation details.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.5

APS should do outreach to promote public awareness and education about conservatorship abuses. APS should also offer more advocacy services to the general community about how to spot conservatorship abuse and what to do about it.

RESPONSE

Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The AD will work closely with the OPG over the next year to develop and establish new outreach materials to inform the public about conservatorship abuses.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.8

With the newly created Aging and Community Services Department under WDACS, the new Executive Director and the County have a perfect opportunity to provide outreach to assist individuals to help them understand what Conservatorship abuse is and how to report it.

RESPONSE

Agree. The recommendation has been implemented and will be continued. The new AD Director is aware and understands the need for community awareness regarding conservatorship and will continue ensuring that APS staff continue promoting awareness on conservatorship abuse at community events.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.9

The Committee believes that the County should dedicate funding for the OPG so they can better advocate for and service more of the needs of those senior conservatees. The BOS should actively advocate and support the efforts by the CAPAPGPC and California Association of Counties (CSAC) to advocate for dedicated state funding for all OPG offices within the state.

RESPONSE

Agree. The recommendation for the BOS to support efforts of dedicated funding has been implemented as the BOS has a support position in its legislative platform. Recommendations for additional resources will be made within the context of the overall budget, numerous funding priorities, and requests.

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH**

2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR WHO CAN YOU TRUST? AN OVERSIGHT OF CONSERVATORSHIPS

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.1

Continue to offer excellent service to clients through the Office of the Public Guardian and review their procedures twice a year with the Board of Supervisors.

RESPONSE

Agree. The recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented during FY 2022-2023.

DMH and OPG appreciates the Civil Grand Jury's recognition and acknowledgement of the excellent services provided by OPG to clients.

OPG agrees to review procedures twice a year with the BOS.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.2

Continue to report to the Board of Supervisors on conservatorships twice a year on any new reforms and procedures that will create a better communication between all County, social service agencies, and the OPG.

RESPONSE

Agree. The recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented during FY 2022-2023.

DMH and OPG agree that it is important to report on conservatorship reform efforts. This report to be included in the regular bi-annual legislative updates provided to the BOS through the CEO Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Affairs (LAIR).

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.3

If legally feasible, create a more robust real time database in the County similar to the California Megan's Law database to help family, friends and senior advocacy social service agencies to pinpoint conservatorship complaints and abuses by conservators who have been removed for cause. This database should be shared by the OPG and senior social service agencies such as APS, WDACS, PALA, and DOA. These social service agencies should be able to input any complaints using the database so that the County can easily track conservatorship abuses.

RESPONSE

Disagree. The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not reasonable.

OPG investigates and is appointed conservator on a small fraction of the County's Probate Conservatorships. OPG is not provided access to court cases in which OPG is not involved (private family and private professional fiduciary cases). Furthermore, oversight of conservatorships and conservators is a function of the Probate Court, and the licensing of private professional fiduciaries is a responsibility of the California State Department of Consumer Affairs, Professional Fiduciaries Bureau. Complaints regarding possible conservator concerns of abuse should be sent to the Superior Court Probate Investigators Office, who is statutorily required to investigate concerns related to actions of the conservator. If substantiated, the Probate Court could conduct evidentiary hearings, issue Orders to Show Cause, issue sanctions and, if necessary, remove the conservator. It should be noted that these procedures currently exist but may not be known to the public. It may be important, as noted in other recommendations, to educate the public on this process of filing a complaint.

Based on limited access to Probate conservatorship cases outside of OPG cases, OPG would not be able to develop a database to pinpoint conservatorship complaints and abuses. OPG recommends a meeting with the Probate Court including Adult Protective Services (APS), Workforce Development and Aging and Community Services (WDACS), Purposeful Aging Los Angeles (PALA), and LA City Department Of Aging (DOA) to identify ways to assist the public in filing conservatorship complaints.

There may also be concerns with publishing complaint information. Some of the complaints are investigated and result in the complaint being dismissed as the allegations are unfounded. In these cases, exposing that a complaint has been made could cause undo harm to a conservator.

Megan's Law mandates DOJ to notify the public about convicted sex offenders and authorizes local law enforcement to do so. Similarly, the County would likely need to adopt an ordinance or get a state law passed authorizing PG to release this information to the public. One of the issues with this though, is that in Probate conservatorships, OPG does not generally get a "conviction" type ruling from the Court that a person has been "removed for cause." Complaints and allegations of abuse in Conservatorship matters are plentiful (family members often accuse each other of abuse), but those allegations aren't usually clearly substantiated, and whether there has been some form of abuse is not often ruled on by the judge or laid out in an order in probate conservatorship proceedings.

As a result of the above information, this recommendation cannot be implemented at this time, but OPG is willing to convene a meeting with Superior Court and affected agencies to discuss ways to assist the public in filing conservatorship complaints. DMH/OPG defers possible legislation action to create a database similar to Megan's Law to CEO LAIR.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.9

The Committee believes that the County should dedicate funding for the OPG so they can better advocate for and service more of the needs of those senior conservatees. The BOS should actively advocate and support the efforts by the CAPAPGPC and California Association of Counties (CSAC) to advocate for dedicated state funding for all OPG offices within the state.

RESPONSE

Agree. The recommendation for the BOS to support efforts of dedicated funding has been implemented as the BOS has a support position in its legislative platform.

Unfortunately, efforts by the California State Association of Public Administrators, Public Guardians and Public Conservators (CAPAPGPC) and California State Association of Counties to gain state funding failed again, despite the state's unprecedented revenues. Conservatorship reform remains a high priority for the legislature, and Public Guardian/Public Conservator (PG/PC) continues to be the only known county social service provider without dedicated funding. Recommendations for additional resources for OPG will be made within the context of the overall budget, numerous funding priorities, and requests.

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH - OFFICE OF PUBLIC GUARDIAN

2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR WHO CAN YOU TRUST? AN OVERSITE OF CONSERVATORSHIPS

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.1

Continue to offer excellent service to clients through the Office of the Public Guardian and review their procedures twice a year with the Board of Supervisors.

RESPONSE

Agree. The recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented during FY 2022-2023.

DMH and OPG appreciate the Civil Grand Jury's recognition and acknowledgement of the excellent services provided by OPG to clients.

OPG agrees to review procedures twice a year with the BOS.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.2

Continue to report to the Board of Supervisors on conservatorships twice a year on any new reforms and procedures that will create a better communication between all County, social service agencies, and the OPG.

RESPONSE

Agree. The recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented during FY 2022-2023.

DMH and OPG agree that it is important to report on conservatorship reform efforts. This report will be included in the regular bi-annual legislative updates provided to the BOS through the CEO LAIR.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.3

If legally feasible, create a more robust real time database in the County similar to the California Megan's Law database to help family, friends and senior advocacy social service agencies to pinpoint conservatorship complaints and abuses by conservators who have been removed for cause. This database should be shared by the OPG and senior social service agencies such as APS, WDACS, PALA, and DOA. These social service agencies should be able to input any complaints using the database so that the County can easily track conservatorship abuses.

<p>10.6 DOA should be offering more conservatorship education and advocacy services to the general public regarding conservatorship abuse and hot to combat it. The committee also found that there should be better communication between the department and other senior social services organizations, such as APS, WDACS, and PALA to track conservatorship complaints and abuses.</p>	<p>Partially Agree. This recommendation will not be implemented as jurisdiction lies with the DOA. Although we defer this recommendation to the LA City Department of Aging DOA regarding their efforts in conservatorship education and advocacy, the AD department has a strong relationship with the DOA as both agencies administer the Area Agency on Aging and continuously collaborate on various programs. The AD department will continue to work with the City DOA and share any new developed outreach materials to inform the public about conservatorships.</p>
<p>10.7 PALA should be offering more conservatorship education and advocacy services to its constituent general public regarding conservatorship abuse and how to combat it. The Committee also found that there should be better communication between the department and other senior social services organizations such as APS, WDACS and DOA to track conservatorship complaints and abuses.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. As stated earlier, PALA is an initiative that is comprised of a collaborative effort among various stakeholders in LA County, including the City Department of Aging, and is overseen by the AD Department. On its own, PALA has no capacity to forward any direct services as described. Please refer to responses above.</p>
<p>10.8 With the newly created Aging and Community Services Department (DACS) under WDACS, the new executive director and the County have the perfect opportunity to provide outreach to assist individuals to help them understand what Conservatorship abuse is and how to report it.</p>	<p>Agree. The recommendation has been implemented and will be continued. The new AD Director is aware and understands the need for community awareness regarding conservatorship and will continue ensuring that APS staff continue promoting awareness on conservatorship abuse at community events.</p>
<p>Aging and Disabilities Dept-Adult Protective Services – Who Can You Trust? An Oversight of Conservatorships</p>	
<p>Recommendations</p>	<p>Responses</p>
<p>10.2 Continue to report to the Board of Supervisors on conservatorships twice a year on any new reforms and procedures that will create a better communication between all County, social services agencies, and the OPG.</p>	<p>Partially Agree. Recommendation will be partially implemented. The AD Department does not report conservatorship cases to the BOS. The AD Department has an MOU with the PG through the APS Program. As such, APS Social Workers make referrals to the PG when an individual is cognitively impaired, is isolated with no family members and the individual would benefit from PG services, such as a conservatorship. The AD Department will commence biannual reporting to the BOS on the number of conservatorship referrals to the PG.</p>

ATTACHMENT I

<p>10.3 If legally feasible, create a more robust real-time database in the County similar to the California Megan's Law database to help family, friends and senior advocacy social service agencies to pinpoint conservatorship complaints and abuses by conservators who have been removed for cause. This database should be shared by the OPG and senior social service agencies such as APS, WDACS, PALA and DOA. These social service agencies should be able to input any complaints using the database so that the County can easily track conservatorship abuses.</p>	<p>Timeframe: The AD Department will report to the BOS on the number of conservatorship referrals to the OPG twice a year.</p> <p>Partially Agree. This recommendation will not be implemented as jurisdiction lies with the PG. The AD agrees that a more robust real time database should be established to help family, friends and senior advocacy social services agencies pinpoint conservatorship complaints and abuses by conservators who have been removed for cause. As the CGJ notes, the database would need to comply with all legal restrictions and parameters, particularly in the area of confidentiality. AD defers to the PG, who would need to take the lead and be the database developer, and gatekeeper, as it would serve as the "drop box" for all conservatorship related referrals and complaints from other social service agencies. The PG could seek input from APS to create a comprehensive database, to which APS and other appropriate social service agencies can inquire or follow up on referrals and complaints and track progress in real time</p> <p>Timeframe: AD has no timeframe and defers to PG to establish a timeline.</p>
<p>10.4 There needs to be more conservatorship advocacy and educational programs for the general public from the OPG and other County and City social service organizations such as APS, WDACS, PALA, and DOA to help report constituent conservatorship complaints and abuses.</p>	<p>Agree. The recommendation will be implemented. The AD Department has made great efforts to educate the public about conservatorship through its outreach events, including Senior Fairs, Smarter Senior Forums, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, and other community events which are well-attended by our target audience (i.e., older and dependent adults and their caregivers). Information about this topic is also available in our promotional materials, as well as on our website and social media platforms. However, we encourage and welcome additional opportunities to raise awareness. The AD can work closely with the OPG to develop and establish outreach materials to inform the public about conservatorship.</p> <p>Timeframe: Implementation one year with an enhanced educational plan, which includes developing new outreach materials.</p>

<p>10.5 APS should do outreach to promote public awareness and education about conservatorship abuses. APS should also offer more advocacy services to the general community about how to spot conservatorship abuse and what to do about it.</p>	<p>Agree. The recommendation will be implemented. The APS Program already promotes public awareness and educates the public about conservatorship as described in response to R10.4 above. However, we encourage and welcome additional opportunities to raise awareness about this important topic. The AD can work closely with the OPG to develop and establish outreach materials to inform the public about conservatorship abuses.</p> <p>Timeframe: One year to implement an enhanced educational plan, which includes developing new outreach materials.</p>
<p>Fire – Only We Can Prevent L.A. County Wildfires</p>	
<p>Recommendation</p> <p>8.1 Keep and expand the prison camp program to help both the LA County Fire Department (LACFD) and prisoners who participate in this worthwhile program.</p>	<p>Response</p> <p>Agree. This recommendation is implemented under the Department's agreement with California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR). Currently LACFD operates five CDCR inmate firefighter camps with a total of nine fire crews available daily. The number of crews available daily has dramatically fallen over the last decade, decreasing from 28 fire crews available daily to the current nine. LACFD stands ready to increase the number of fire crews at each camp with additional CDCR inmate firefighters, however, CDCR controls participant eligibility and camp assignment. Ultimately the number of CDCR inmate firefighters, and where they are located is beyond the control of LACFD. The LACFD has the facilities to house additional fire crews at each of these camps and will continue to work with CDCR regarding participant eligibility and camp assignment.</p>
<p>8.2 Fund and implement ASAP the new LACFD fire camp at Camp Gonzales (motion passed recently by the BOS).</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation will be implemented; however, implementation is expected sometime in 2023. The Department is currently working with the CEO – Alternatives to Incarceration (ATI) on the program. Fire will be providing specific program training elements which will be funded by CEO-ATI via Department Service Order (DSO) to recover actual costs incurred by LACFD. This program is currently being developed by CEO-ATI, however, is expected to transfer to the</p>

<p>6.2 Plan needed repairs and renovations of MCJ, as outlined in Finding 6-1 as the only facility rated for hardened criminals and violent inmates that must be kept separate from each other. This addresses the facility usage as the continued penal home for hardened career criminals, gang members, and violent long-term inmates in this "prison" like facility rather than any of the other usual County jails.</p>	<p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented as the DMH does not have jurisdiction over this recommendation.</p> <p>DMH appreciates the concerns raised by the Civil Grand Jury regarding the County's ability to serve individuals with complex criminal justice histories while in the County's jail system. DMH is focused on providing specialty mental health services, as noted in the report, to those individuals who can be safely and appropriately served by community based mental health services.</p>
<p>Mental Health – Who Can You Trust? An Oversight of Conservatorships</p>	
<p>Recommendations</p>	
<p>10.1 Continue to offer excellent service to clients through the Office of Public Guardian and review their procedures twice each year with the Board of Supervisors.</p>	<p>Responses</p> <p>Agree. The recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented during FY 2022-2023.</p> <p>DMH and OPG appreciate the Civil Grand Jury's recognition and acknowledgement of the excellent services provided by OPG to clients.</p>
<p>10.2 Continue to report to the Board of Supervisors on conservatorships twice a year on any new reforms and procedures that will create a better communication between all County, social services agencies, and the OPG.</p>	<p>OPG agrees to review procedures twice a year with the BOS.</p> <p>Agree. The recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented during FY 2022-2023.</p> <p>DMH and OPG agree that it is important to report on conservatorship reform efforts. This report to be included in the regular bi-annual legislative updates provided to the Board of Supervisors through the CEO Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Affairs (LAIR).</p>
<p>10.3 If legally feasible, create a more robust real-time database in the County similar to the California Megan's Law database to help family, friends and senior advocacy social service agencies to pinpoint conservatorship complaints and abuses by conservators who have been removed for cause. This database should be shared by the OPG and senior social service agencies such as APS,</p>	<p>Disagree. The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not reasonable.</p> <p>OPG investigates and is appointed conservator on a small fraction of the County's Probate Conservatorships. OPG is not provided access to court cases in which OPG is not involved (private family and private professional fiduciary cases). Furthermore, oversight of conservatorships</p>

<p>WDACS, PALA and DOA. These social service agencies should be able to input any complaints using the database so that the County can easily track conservatorship abuses.</p>	<p>and conservators is a function of the Probate Court, and the licensing of private professional fiduciaries is a responsibility of the California State Department of Consumer Affairs, Professional Fiduciaries Bureau. Complaints regarding possible conservator concerns of abuse should be sent to the Superior Court Probate Investigators Office, who is statutorily required to investigate concerns related to actions of the conservator. If substantiated, the Probate Court could conduct evidentiary hearings, issue Orders to Show Cause, issue sanctions and if necessary, remove the conservator. It should be noted that these procedures currently exist but may not be known to the public. It may be important, as noted in other recommendations, to educate the public on this process of filing a complaint.</p> <p>Based on limited access to Probate conservatorship cases outside of OPG cases, OPG would not be able to develop a database to pinpoint conservatorship complaints and abuses. OPG recommends a meeting with the Probate Court including Adult Protective Services (APS), Workforce Development and Aging and Community Services (WDACS), Purposeful Aging Los Angeles (PALA), and LA City Department Of Aging (DOA) to identify ways to assist the public in filing conservatorship complaints.</p> <p>There may also be concerns with publishing complaint information. Some of the complaints are investigated and result in the complaint being dismissed as the allegations are unfounded. In these cases, exposing that a complaint has been made could cause undo harm to a conservator.</p> <p>Megan's Law mandates DOJ to notify the public about convicted sex offenders and authorizes local law enforcement to do so. Similarly, the County would likely need to adopt an ordinance or get a state law passed authorizing PG to release this information to the public. One of the issues with this though, is that in Probate conservatorships, OPG does not generally get a "conviction" type ruling from the Court that a person has</p>
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	<p>been "removed for cause." Complaints and allegations of abuse in Conservatorship matters are plentiful (family members often accuse each other of abuse), but those allegations aren't usually clearly substantiated, and whether there has been some form of abuse is not often ruled on by the judge or laid out in an order in probate conservatorship proceedings.</p> <p>As a result of the above information, this recommendation cannot be implemented at this time, but OPG is willing to convene a meeting with Superior Court and affected agencies to discuss ways to assist the public in filing conservatorship complaints. DMH/OPG defers possible legislation action to create a database similar to Megan's Law to CEO LAIR.</p>
<p>10.9 The Committee believes that the County should dedicate funding for the OPG so they can better advocate for and service more of the needs of those senior conservatees. The BOS should actively advocate and support the efforts by the CAPAPGPC and California Association of Counties (CSAC) to advocate for dedicated state funding for all OPG offices within the state.</p>	<p>Agree. The recommendation for the BOS to support efforts of dedicated funding has been implemented as the BOS has a support position in its legislative platform.</p> <p>Unfortunately, efforts by the California State Association of Public Administrators, Public Guardians and Public Conservators (CAPAPGPC) and California State Association of Counties to gain state funding failed again, despite the state's unprecedented revenues. Conservatorship reform remains a high priority for the legislature, and Public Guardian/Public Conservator (PG/PC) continues to be the only known county social service provider without dedicated funding. Recommendations for additional resources for OPG will be made within the context of the overall budget, numerous funding priorities, and requests.</p>
<p>Mental Health-Office of the Public Guardian – Who Can You Trust? An Oversight of Conservatorships</p>	
<p>Recommendations</p>	
<p>10.1 Continue to offer excellent service to clients through the Office of Public Guardian and review their procedures twice each year with the Board of Supervisors.</p>	<p>Responses</p> <p>Agree. The recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented during FY 2022-2023.</p>

<p>10.2 Continue to report to the Board of Supervisors on conservatorships twice a year on any new reforms and procedures that will create a better communication between all County, social services agencies, and the OPG.</p> <p>10.3 If legally feasible, create a more robust real-time database in the County similar to the California Megan's Law database to help family, friends and senior advocacy social service agencies to pinpoint conservatorship complaints and abuses by conservators who have been removed for cause. This database should be shared by the OPG and senior social service agencies such as APS, WDACS, PALA and DOA. These social service agencies should be able to input any complaints using the database so that the County can easily track conservatorship abuses.</p>	<p>DMH and OPG appreciate the Civil Grand Jury's recognition and acknowledgement of the excellent services provided by OPG to clients. OPG agrees to review procedures twice a year with the BOS. Agree. The recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented during FY 2022-2023.</p> <p>DMH and OPG agree that it is important to report on conservatorship reform efforts. This report will be included in the regular bi-annual legislative updates provided to the BOS through the CEO LAIR.</p> <p>Disagree. The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not reasonable.</p> <p>OPG investigates and is appointed conservator on a small fraction of the County's Probate Conservatorships. OPG is not provided access to court cases in which OPG is not involved (private family and private professional fiduciary cases). Furthermore, oversight of conservatorships and conservators is a function of the Probate Court, and the licensing of private professional fiduciaries is a responsibility of the California State Department of Consumer Affairs, Professional Fiduciaries Bureau. Complaints regarding possible conservator concerns of abuse should be sent to the Superior Court Probate Investigators Office, who is statutorily required to investigate concerns related to actions of the conservator. If substantiated, the Probate Court could conduct evidentiary hearings, issue Orders to Show Cause, issue sanctions and if necessary, remove the conservator. It should be noted that these procedures currently exist but may not be known to the public. It may be important, as noted in other recommendations, to educate the public on this process of filing a complaint.</p> <p>Based on limited access to Probate conservatorship cases outside of OPG cases, OPG would not be able to develop a database to pinpoint conservatorship complaints and abuses. OPG recommends a meeting with the Probate Court including APS, WDACS, PALA, and DOA to identify ways to assist the public in filing conservatorship complaints.</p>
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	<p>There may also be concerns with publishing complaint information. Some of the complaints are investigated and result in the complaint being dismissed as the allegations are unfounded. In these cases, exposing that a complaint has been made could cause undue harm to a conservator.</p> <p>Megan's Law mandates DOJ to notify the public about convicted sex offenders and authorizes local law enforcement to do so. Similarly, the County would likely need to adopt an ordinance or get a state law passed authorizing PG to release this information to the public. One of the issues with this is that in Probate conservatorships, OPG does not generally get a "conviction" type ruling from the Court that a person has been "removed for cause." Complaints and allegations of abuse in Conservatorship matters are plentiful (family members often accuse each other of abuse), but those allegations aren't usually clearly substantiated, and whether there has been some form of abuse is not often ruled on by the judge or laid out in an order in probate conservatorship proceedings.</p> <p>As a result of the above information this recommendation cannot be implemented at this time, but OPG is willing to convene a meeting with Superior Court and affected agencies to discuss ways to assist the public in filing conservatorship complaints. DMH/OPG defers possible legislation action to create a database similar to Megan's Law to CEO LAIR.</p>
<p>10.4 There needs to be more conservatorship advocacy and educational programs for the general public from the OPG and other County and City social service organizations such as APS, WDACS, PALA, and DOA to help report constituent conservatorship complaints and abuses.</p>	<p>Agree. The recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented during FY 2022-2023 with a modification to be reported annually.</p> <p>OPG recently added the Principal Deputy Public Guardian classification, and one of the duties of this classification is to conduct educational programs. OPG will incorporate into the training programs information and guidance to constituents on how to report conservatorship complaints of abuse or neglect.</p>

<p>10.5 APS should do outreach to promote public awareness and education about conservatorship abuses. APS should also offer more advocacy services to the general community about how to spot conservatorship abuse and what to do about it.</p>	<p>Agree. OPG does not have a role in whether this recommendation will or will not be implemented as it does not have jurisdiction over this recommendation.</p> <p>OPG is frequently ordered by the Probate Court to investigate and consider acting as the successor conservator in cases in which a conservator is alleged to be acting improperly. OPG agrees that increased public awareness and education is a worthwhile effort but recognizes that increased awareness and education could result in increased investigations and appointments which will then in turn increase caseloads.</p>
<p>10.9 The Committee believes that the County should dedicate funding for the OPG so they can better advocate for and service more of the needs of those senior conservatees. The BOS should actively advocate and support the efforts by the CAPAGPC and California Association of Counties (CSAC) to advocate for dedicated state funding for all OPG offices within the state.</p>	<p>Agree. The recommendation for the BOS to support efforts of dedicated funding has been implemented as the BOS has a support position in its legislative platform.</p> <p>Unfortunately, efforts by the California State Association of Public Administrators, Public Guardians and Public Conservators (CAPAGPC) and CSAC to gain state funding failed again, despite the state's unprecedented revenues. Conservatorship reform remains a high priority for the legislature, and Public Guardian/Public Conservator (PG/PC) continues to be the only known county social service provider without dedicated funding. Recommendations for additional resources for OPG will be made within the context of the overall budget, numerous funding priorities, and requests.</p>
<p>Regional Planning – Aviation Reimagined</p>	
<p>Recommendations</p>	
<p>2.1 The BOS should consider an additional budget item for funding DRP's drone program including the cost of insurance.</p>	<p>Responses</p> <p>Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. DRP does not expect to annually procure additional drones or equipment related to new drones. When the service-life of any drone necessitates a replacement or if the fleet expands, DRP will work with the CEO to ensure funding. Current ongoing costs are only for drone insurance and software costs which result in an estimated cost of \$19,000 per</p>

	<p>There may also be concerns with publishing complaint information. Some of the complaints are investigated and result in the complaint being dismissed as the allegations are unfounded. In these cases, exposing that a complaint has been made could cause undue harm to a conservator.</p> <p>Megan's Law mandates DOJ to notify the public about convicted sex offenders and authorizes local law enforcement to do so. Similarly, the County would likely need to adopt an ordinance or get a state law passed authorizing PG to release this information to the public. One of the issues with this is that in Probate conservatorships, OPG does not generally get a "conviction" type ruling from the Court that a person has been "removed for cause." Complaints and allegations of abuse in Conservatorship matters are plentiful (family members often accuse each other of abuse), but those allegations aren't usually clearly substantiated, and whether there has been some form of abuse is not often ruled on by the judge or laid out in an order in probate conservatorship proceedings.</p> <p>As a result of the above information this recommendation cannot be implemented at this time, but OPG is willing to convene a meeting with Superior Court and affected agencies to discuss ways to assist the public in filing conservatorship complaints. DMH/OPG defers possible legislation action to create a database similar to Megan's Law to CEO LAIR.</p>
<p>10.4 There needs to be more conservatorship advocacy and educational programs for the general public from the OPG and other County and City social service organizations such as APS, WDACS, PALA, and DOA to help report constituent conservatorship complaints and abuses.</p>	<p>Agree. The recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented during FY 2022-2023 with a modification to be reported annually.</p> <p>OPG recently added the Principal Deputy Public Guardian classification, and one of the duties of this classification is to conduct educational programs. OPG will incorporate into the training programs information and guidance to constituents on how to report conservatorship complaints of abuse or neglect.</p>

<p>9.3 Continue evaluation of earthquake resilient pipes and expand usage of this material as indicated.</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation has been implemented. DPW specifies flexible joints for tank connections and for pipe connections in areas prone to land movement. DPW is also continuing to evaluate products, perform research, and attend technical seminars regarding earthquake resilient materials.</p>
<p>Chief Executive Office for the Board of Supervisors and Conservatorships</p>	<p>Chief Executive Office – Who Can You Trust? An Oversight of Conservatorships</p>
<p>Recommendation</p>	<p>Response</p>
<p>10.1 Continue to offer excellent service to clients through the Office of Public Guardian and review their procedures twice each year with the Board of Supervisors.</p>	<p>Agree. The recommendation has not yet been implemented but the BOS and the CEO understand it will be implemented by the Department of Mental Health (DMH) during FY 2022-2023.</p> <p>The BOS and CEO appreciate the Civil Grand Jury's recognition and acknowledgement of the excellent services provided by DMH Office of Public Guardian (OPG) to clients.</p> <p>The BOS and CEO agree with DMH-OPG's commitment to review procedures twice a year with the BOS.</p>
<p>10.2 Continue to report to the Board of Supervisors on conservatorships twice a year on any new reforms and procedures that will create a better communication between all County, social services agencies, and the OPG.</p>	<p>Agree. The recommendation will be implemented during FY 2022-23. DMH and the OPG will continue to report on conservatorship reform efforts bi-annually and the Aging & Disabilities Department (AD) will commence biannual reporting to the BOS on the number of conservatorship referrals to the OPG. For further information, the BOS and CEO defer to the responses from DMH and the AD.</p>
<p>10.3 If legally feasible, create a more robust real-time database in the County similar to the California Megan's Law database to help family, friends and senior advocacy social service agencies to pinpoint conservatorship complaints and abuses by conservators who have been removed for cause. This database should be shared by the OPG and senior social service agencies such as APS, WDACS, PALA and City of LA Department of Aging (DOA). These social service agencies should be able to input any</p>	<p>Disagree. The recommendation will not be implemented. The OPG investigates and is appointed conservator on a small fraction of the County's Probate Conservatorships and does not have access to court cases in which OPG is not directly involved. Furthermore, publishing complaint information can lead to undue harm as many complaints and allegations of abuse do not lead to a "conviction" type ruling and are not clearly substantiated. The BOS and CEO defer to the OPG and AD responses for further information.</p>

<p>complaints using the database so that the County can easily track conservatorship abuses.</p>	
<p>10.4 There needs to be more conservatorship advocacy and educational programs for the general public from the OPG and other County and City social service organizations such as APS, WDACS, PALA, and DOA to help report constituent conservatorship complaints and abuses.</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. Both the OPG and the AD (and the AD's APS) will work to provide more outreach and education to the public to help report conservatorship complaints. The BOS and CEO defer to OPG's and AD's responses for implementation details.</p>
<p>10.5 APS should do outreach to promote public awareness and education about conservatorship abuses. APS should also offer more advocacy services to the general community about how to spot conservatorship abuse and what to do about it.</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation will be implemented. The AD will work closely with the OPG over the next year to develop and establish new outreach materials to inform the public about conservatorship abuses.</p>
<p>10.8 With the newly created Aging and Community Services Department (DACS) under WDACS, the new executive director and the County have the perfect opportunity to provide outreach to assist individuals to help them understand what Conservatorship abuse is and how to report it.</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation has been implemented and will be continued. The new AD Director is aware and understands the need for community awareness regarding conservatorship and will continue ensuring that APS staff continue promoting awareness on conservatorship abuse at community events.</p>
<p>10.9 The Committee believes that the County should dedicate funding for the OPG so they can better advocate for and service more of the needs of those senior conservatees. The BOS should actively advocate and support the efforts by the CAPAPGPC and California Association of Counties (CSAC) to advocate for dedicated state funding for all OPG offices within the state.</p>	<p>Agree. This recommendation for the BOS to support efforts of dedicated funding has been implemented as the BOS has a support position in its legislative platform. Recommendations for additional resources will be made within the context of the overall budget, numerous funding priorities, and requests.</p> <p>The BOS and CEO understand that efforts by the California State Association of Public Administrators, Public Guardians and Public Conservators (CAPAPGPC) and CSAC to gain state funding failed, despite the state's unprecedented revenues. Conservatorship reform remains a high priority for the legislature, and PG/PC continues to be the only known county social service provider without dedicated funding.</p>



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Aging & Adult Information &
Assistance Line:
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Report Elder Abuse:
(877) 477-3646
Community & Senior Centers:
(323) 260-2003



July 14, 2022

TO: Fesla A. Davenport
Chief Executive Office

FROM: Dr. Laura Trejo, Director
Aging and Disabilities Department

SUBJECT: **RESPONSES TO 2021-2022 LOS ANGELES COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT**

Attached for your review is the response to the 2021-2022 Civil Grand Jury's (CGJ) Final Report. The CGJ's report lists "Los Angeles County Adult Protective Services" (APS), "Los Angeles Workforce Development Aging & Community Services" (WDACS), and "Purposeful Aging" as three separate departments/agencies.

In addition, the Report refers to our new department incorrectly as "Aging and Community Services." Effective July 1, 2022, WDACS ceased to exist and was split into two different county departments: The Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) and the Aging and Disabilities (AD) Department.

Our responses address the CGJ's concerns and following recommendations: R10.2, R10.3, R10.4, R10.5, R10.6, R10.7, and R10.8. This document has been reviewed and approved by County Counsel.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Lorenza C. Sánchez, Chief Deputy at LSanchez@wdacs.lacounty.gov

LT:LCS:vs

Attachment

Attachment C

Aging and Disabilities

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RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
AGING AND DISABILITIES DEPARTMENT AND PURPOSEFUL AGING LOS
ANGELES**

2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR WHO CAN YOU TRUST? AN OVERSIGHT OF CONSERVATORSHIPS

It should be noted that the Civil Grand Jury Final Report lists “Los Angeles County Adult Protective Services” (APS), “Los Angeles Workforce Development Aging & Community Services” (WDACS), and “Purposeful Aging” as three separate departments/agencies. In addition, the Report refers to the new department incorrectly as “Aging and Community Services.” Effective July 1, 2022, WDACS ceased to exist and was split into two different County departments: The Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) and the Aging and Disabilities (AD) Department.

The DEO will focus on economic development and workforce training by developing strategies that support key industry sectors and preparing the regional workforce for the jobs of tomorrow with a focus on disadvantaged communities and individuals facing barriers to meaningful employment. The DEO also formulates contingency plans and strategies designed to mitigate the job and revenue loss caused by substantial economic disruptions that inevitably occur, often without warning.

The AD will serve the rapidly growing older and disabled adult population. Within the AD Department, Adult Protective Services serves all of the Los Angeles Region residents who may be victims of abuse, neglect or exploitation. The AD also serves adults with disabilities, many of whom have pre-existing conditions, are particularly more vulnerable during emergencies (e.g., COVID-19), and have limited access to basic needs such as housing, medical care, transportation and/or food. As such, AD will focus on a client centered, coordinated service delivery systems and support improving the quality of life for this group.

Purposeful Aging Los Angeles (PALA) is an initiative and partnership between the County and the City of Los Angeles, other cities, AARP, the private sector, and universities, which was formed to help the Los Angeles region prepare for a dramatic demographic shift in the older adult population that will occur by 2030.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.2

Continue to report to the Board of Supervisors on conservatorships twice a year on any new reforms and procedures that will create a better communication between all County, Social Service agencies and the OPG.

RESPONSE

Partially Agree. The recommendation will be partially implemented. The AD Department does not report conservatorship cases to the BOS. The AD Department has an MOU with the Public Guardian (PG) through the APS Program. As such, APS Social Workers make referrals to the PG when an individual is cognitively impaired, is isolated with no family members and the individual would benefit from PG services, such as a conservatorship. The AD Department will commence biannual reporting to the BOS on the number of conservatorship referrals to the PG.

Timeframe: The AD Department will report to the BOS on the number of conservatorship referrals to the OPG twice a year.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.3

If legally feasible, create a more robust real time database in the County similar to the California Megan's Law database to help family, friends and senior advocacy social service agencies to pinpoint conservatorship complaints and abuses by conservators who have been removed for cause. This database should be shared by the OPG and senior social service agencies such as APS, WDACS, PALA and DOA. These social service agencies should be able to input any complaints using the database so that the County can easily track conservatorship abuses.

RESPONSE

Partially Agree. This recommendation will not be implemented as jurisdiction lies with the PG. The AD agrees that a more robust real time database should be established to help family, friends and senior advocacy social services agencies pinpoint conservatorship complaints and abuses by conservators who have been removed for cause. As the CGJ notes, the database would need to comply with all legal restrictions and parameters, particularly in the area of confidentiality. AD defers to the PG, who would need to take the lead and be the database developer, and gatekeeper, as it would serve as the "drop box" for all conservatorship related referrals and complaints from other social service agencies. The PG could seek input from APS to create a comprehensive database, to which APS and other appropriate social service agencies can inquire or follow up on referrals and complaints and track progress in real time.

Timeframe: AD has no timeframe and defers to PG to establish a timeline.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.4

There needs to be more conservatorship advocacy and educational programs for the general public from the OPG and other County and City Social Service organizations such as APS, WDACS, PALA and DOA to help report constituent conservatorship complaints and abuses.

RESPONSE

Agree. The recommendation will be implemented. The AD Department has made great efforts to educate the public about conservatorship through its outreach events, including Senior Fairs, Smarter Senior Forums, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, and other community events which are well-attended by our target audience (i.e., older and dependent adults and their caregivers). Information about this topic is also available in our promotional materials, as well as on our website and social media platforms. However, we encourage and welcome additional opportunities to raise awareness. The AD can work closely with the OPG to develop and establish outreach materials to inform the public about conservatorship.

Timeframe: Implementation in one year with an enhanced educational plan, which includes developing new outreach materials.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.6

DOA should be offering more conservatorship education and advocacy services to the general public regarding conservatorship abuse and how to combat it. The committee also found that there should be better communication between the department and other senior social services organizations, such as APS, WDACS, and PALA to track conservatorship complaints and abuses.

RESPONSE

Partially Agree. This recommendation will not be implemented as jurisdiction lies with the DOA. Although we defer this recommendation to the LA City Department of Aging DOA regarding their efforts in conservatorship education and advocacy, the AD department has a strong relationship with the DOA as both agencies administer the Area Agency on Aging and continuously collaborate on various programs. The AD department will continue to work with the City DOA and share any new developed outreach materials to inform the public about conservatorships.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.7

PALA should be offering more conservatorship education and advocacy services to its constituent general public regarding conservatorship abuse and how to combat it. The Committee also found that there should be better communication between the department and other senior social services organizations such as APS, WDACS and DOA to track conservatorship complaints and abuses.

RESPONSE

Disagree. This recommendation will not be implemented. As stated earlier, PALA is an initiative that is comprised of a collaborative effort among various stakeholders in LA County, including the City Department of Aging, and is overseen by the AD Department. On its own, PALA has no capacity to forward any direct services as described. Please refer to responses above.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.8

With the newly created Aging and Community Services Department under WDACS, the new Executive Director and the County have a perfect opportunity to provide outreach to

assist individuals to help them understand what Conservatorship abuse is and how to report it.

RESPONSE

Agree. The recommendation has been implemented and will be continued. The new AD Director is aware and understands the need for community awareness regarding conservatorship and will continue ensuring that APS staff continue promoting awareness on conservatorship abuse at community events.

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
AGING AND DISABILITIES DEPARTMENT – ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES**

2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR WHO CAN YOU TRUST? AN OVERSIGHT OF CONSERVATORSHIPS

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.2

Continue to report to the Board of Supervisors on conservatorships twice a year on any new reforms and procedures that will create a better communication between all County, Social Service agencies and the OPG.

RESPONSE

Partially Agree. Recommendation will be partially implemented. The AD Department does not report conservatorship cases to the BOS. The AD Department has an MOU with the PG through the APS Program. As such, APS Social Workers make referrals to the PG when an individual is cognitively impaired, is isolated with no family members and the individual would benefit from PG services, such as a conservatorship. The AD Department will commence biannual reporting to the BOS on the number of conservatorship referrals to the PG.

Timeframe: The AD Department will report to the BOS on the number of conservatorship referrals to the OPG twice a year.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.3

If legally feasible, create a more robust real time database in the County similar to the California Megan's Law database to help family, friends and senior advocacy social service agencies to pinpoint conservatorship complaints and abuses by conservators who have been removed for cause. This database should be shared by the OPG and senior social service agencies such as APS, WDACS, PALA and DOA. These social service agencies should be able to input any complaints using the database so that the County can easily track conservatorship abuses.

RESPONSE

Partially Agree. This recommendation will not be implemented as jurisdiction lies with the PG. The AD agrees that a more robust real time database should be established to help family, friends and senior advocacy social services agencies pinpoint conservatorship complaints and abuses by conservators who have been removed for cause. As the CGJ notes, the database would need to comply with all legal restrictions and parameters, particularly in the area of confidentiality. AD defers to the PG, who would need to take the lead and be the database developer, and gatekeeper, as it would serve as the "drop box" for all conservatorship related referrals and complaints from other social service agencies. The PG could seek input from APS to create a comprehensive database, to which APS and other appropriate social service agencies can inquire or follow up on referrals and complaints and track progress in real time.

Timeframe: AD has no timeframe and defers to PG to establish a timeline.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.4

There needs to be more conservatorship advocacy and educational programs for the general public from the OPG and other County and City Social Service organizations such as APS, WDACS, PALA and DOA to help report constituent conservatorship complaints and abuses.

RESPONSE

Agree. The recommendation will be implemented. The AD Department has made great efforts to educate the public about conservatorship through its outreach events, including Senior Fairs, Smarter Senior Forums, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, and other community events which are well-attended by our target audience (i.e., older and dependent adults and their caregivers). Information about this topic is also available in our promotional materials, as well as on our website and social media platforms. However, we encourage and welcome additional opportunities to raise awareness. The AD can work closely with the OPG to develop and establish outreach materials to inform the public about conservatorship.

Timeframe: Implementation one year with an enhanced educational plan, which includes developing new outreach materials.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.5

APS should do outreach to promote public awareness and education about conservatorship abuses. APS should also offer more advocacy services to the general community about how to spot conservatorship abuse and what to do about it.

RESPONSE

Agree. The recommendation will be implemented. The APS Program already promotes public awareness and educates the public about conservatorship as described in response to R10.4 above. However, we encourage and welcome additional opportunities to raise awareness about this important topic. The AD can work closely with the OPG to develop and establish outreach materials to inform the public about conservatorship abuses.

Timeframe: One year to implement an enhanced educational plan, which includes developing new outreach materials.

JAIME H. PACHECO-OROZCO
GENERAL MANAGER

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



DEPARTMENT OF AGING
AN AREA AGENCY ON AGING
221 N. FIGUEROA ST., STE. 500
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ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

September 29, 2022

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 13th Floor, Room 13-303
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY
2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR WHO CAN YOU TRUST?
AN OVERSIGHT OF CONSERVATORSHIPS (REPORT)**

The City of Los Angeles Department of Aging (LADOA) provides City residents comprehensive programs and services to meet the unique needs of older adults and family caregivers. Programs and services are provided in partnership with community-based agencies at local multipurpose senior centers. Programs include nutrition, transportation, evidence-based programs among other services to enhance the quality of life of older adults and promote health, dignity, and independence.

To further LADOA's mission, the City of Los Angeles (City) and the County of Los Angeles (County) partnered with key stakeholders to launch the Purposeful Aging Los Angeles (PALA) initiative in 2016, with the specific purpose of preparing the Los Angeles region for the demographic shift in the older adult population that will occur by 2030. PALA is neither a City department nor a County department. PALA neither provides direct services to older adults nor has a dedicated funding stream to provide direct services. Instead, as an initiative that brought together the City, the County, and other stakeholders, PALA developed an Action Plan to improve the lives of older adults (Age-Friendly Action Plan for the Los Angeles Region 2018-2021). Based on the results of an extensive survey and robust community and stakeholder input, PALA's Action Plan made recommendations in eight key areas: Civic Participation and Employment; Communications and Information; Community Support and Health Services; Emergency Preparedness and Resilience; Housing; Outdoor Spaces and Buildings; Social Participation and Respect/Social Isolation; and Transportation.

As directed by the Court, the City of Los Angeles Department of Aging (LADOA) is providing the following responses on behalf of the City to the Recommendations contained in the Report (10.2; 10.3; 10.4; 10.6; and 10.7).

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.2 - Background on climate for conservatorship reform:

Continue to report to the County Board of Supervisors on conservatorships twice a year on any new reforms and procedures that will create a better communication between all County, Social Service agencies and the OPG.

RESPONSE

The City of Los Angeles is a chartered city under the Constitution of the State of California and is governed jointly by a Mayor and City Council of 15 members. As a City Department, the LADOA reports directly and jointly to the Mayor and City Council, not to the County Board of Supervisors. Notwithstanding this reporting structure, the LADOA concurs that better communication between the County (and its departments) and the City benefits older adults.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.3 - Reporting Conservatorship Abuse Problems

If legally feasible, create a more robust real time database in the County similar to the California Megan's Law database to help family, friends and senior advocacy social service agencies to pinpoint conservatorship complaints and abuses by conservators who have been removed for cause. This database should be shared by the OPG and senior social service agencies such as APS, WDACS, PALA and the City of LA Department of Aging (DOA). These social service agencies should be able to input any complaints using the database so that the County can easily track conservatorship abuses.

RESPONSE

The LADOA concurs with this recommendation. A coordinated, accurate, and real-time database should be shared by the OPG with senior social service agencies so that the referring agencies are able to input any complaints using the database. Moreover, the LADOA recommends that the referring agencies also have access to reviewing the information contained in the database. This will allow the referring agencies to coordinate care for their older adult consumers with their caregivers, OPG and other appropriate legal entities. This will also ensure that the senior social service agencies are apprised timely of critical developments and details in referred cases.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.4 - Senior Social Services Agencies

There needs to be more conservatorship advocacy and educational programs for the general public from the OPG and other County and City Social Service organizations such as APS, WDACS, PALA and DOA to help report constituent conservatorship complaints and abuses.

RESPONSE

The LADOA concurs with the recommendation that conservatorship advocacy and educational programs will benefit older adults. At present, the LADOA contracts with Bet Tzedek to provide legal services to low-income older adults.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.6 - Los Angeles City Department on Aging (DOA)

DOA should be offering more conservatorship education and advocacy services to the

general public regarding conservatorship abuse and how to combat it. The committee also found that there should be better communication between the department and other senior social services organizations such as APS, WDACS, and PALA to track conservatorship complaints and abuses.

RESPONSE

The LADOA concurs with the recommendation that there should be better communications between LADOA and other senior social services organizations to track conservatorship complaints and abuses. As indicated in its response to Recommendation 10.3, LADOA believes that a robust, real-time database accessible to senior social services agencies will support this recommendation. As indicated in Recommendation 10.4, LADOA currently contracts with Bet Tzedek for legal services to low-income older adults. While not specifically articulated in the contract with Bet Tzedek, the LADOA may be able to consult with Bet Tzedek to assist with developing educational material on conservatorship abuse.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.7 - PURPOSEFUL AGING (PALA)

PALA should be offering more conservatorship education and advocacy services to its constituent general public regarding conservatorship abuse and how to combat it. The Committee also found that there should be better communication between the department and other senior social services organizations, such as APS, WDACS and DOA to track conservatorship complaints and abuses.

RESPONSE

As indicated in the introductory remarks, PALA is neither a City department nor a County department, but instead was an initiative launched in 2016 that brought together public agencies, non-profit organizations, and community stakeholders to identify key areas of critical importance to the growing, older adult population in the Los Angeles region. As part of these convenings, PALA developed an Action Plan adopted by the City and the County that made recommendations on eight key areas (enumerated above). Nonetheless, the LADOA believes that the issue of conservatorship abuse is one that the members of the PALA initiative would agree is of concern to this constituency.

If you have any questions pertaining to this matter, please call me at (213) 810-4006.

Sincerely,

Jaime H. Pacheco-Orozco

JAIME H. PACHECO-OROZCO
General Manager

JHP:at:gdz/Proposed Response to Civil Grand Jury 09292022

cc: Regina C. Mills, Deputy City Attorney



ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

September 27, 2022

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street
13th Floor, Room 13-303
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Civil Grand Jury Report – “Who Can You Trust? An Oversight [sic] of Conservatorships”

Your Honor:

The Office of the Mayor of the City of Los Angeles hereby responds to the Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury Report, entitled “Who Can You Trust? An Oversight [sic] of Conservatorships” dated June 30, 2022. According to the Civil Grand Jury Report, the deadline for responding to the “Recommendations” is September 30, 2022.

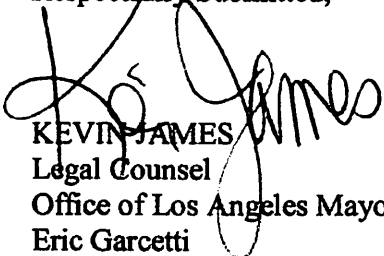
RESPONSES TO RECOMMENDATIONS

10.6 This recommendation requires further analysis because of budgeting and resource issues. While this office agrees that the Department of Aging (DOA) could offer more conservatorship education and advocacy services to the general public, and could work with senior social service organizations to track conservatorship complaints, the ability to do that work going forward will depend on future budgets allocating sufficient resources that work.

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
September 27, 2022
Page 2

This office is not able to place a timeframe on such further analysis because the city's budgeting process extends beyond the six month time frame requested in the CPC Section 933.05(b)(3).

Respectfully Submitted,


KEVIN JAMES
Legal Counsel
Office of Los Angeles Mayor
Eric Garcetti

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA

JAIME H. PACHECO-OROZCO
GENERAL MANAGER



DEPARTMENT OF AGING
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ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

September 29, 2022

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street, 13th Floor, Room 13-303
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY
2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR WHO CAN YOU TRUST?
AN OVERSIGHT OF CONSERVATORSHIPS (REPORT)**

The City of Los Angeles Department of Aging (LADOA) provides City residents comprehensive programs and services to meet the unique needs of older adults and family caregivers. Programs and services are provided in partnership with community-based agencies at local multipurpose senior centers. Programs include nutrition, transportation, evidence-based programs among other services to enhance the quality of life of older adults and promote health, dignity, and independence.

To further LADOA's mission, the City of Los Angeles (City) and the County of Los Angeles (County) partnered with key stakeholders to launch the Purposeful Aging Los Angeles (PALA) initiative in 2016, with the specific purpose of preparing the Los Angeles region for the demographic shift in the older adult population that will occur by 2030. PALA is neither a City department nor a County department. PALA neither provides direct services to older adults nor has a dedicated funding stream to provide direct services. Instead, as an initiative that brought together the City, the County, and other stakeholders, PALA developed an Action Plan to improve the lives of older adults (Age-Friendly Action Plan for the Los Angeles Region 2018-2021). Based on the results of an extensive survey and robust community and stakeholder input, PALA's Action Plan made recommendations in eight key areas: Civic Participation and Employment; Communications and Information; Community Support and Health Services; Emergency Preparedness and Resilience; Housing; Outdoor Spaces and Buildings; Social Participation and Respect/Social Isolation; and Transportation.

As directed by the Court, the City of Los Angeles Department of Aging (LADOA) is providing the following responses on behalf of the City to the Recommendations contained in the Report (10.2; 10.3; 10.4; 10.6; and 10.7).

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.2 - Background on climate for conservatorship reform:

Continue to report to the County Board of Supervisors on conservatorships twice a year on any new reforms and procedures that will create a better communication between all County, Social Service agencies and the OPG.

RESPONSE

The City of Los Angeles is a chartered city under the Constitution of the State of California and is governed jointly by a Mayor and City Council of 15 members. As a City Department, the LADOA reports directly and jointly to the Mayor and City Council, not to the County Board of Supervisors. Notwithstanding this reporting structure, the LADOA concurs that better communication between the County (and its departments) and the City benefits older adults.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.3 - Reporting Conservatorship Abuse Problems

If legally feasible, create a more robust real time database in the County similar to the California Megan's Law database to help family, friends and senior advocacy social service agencies to pinpoint conservatorship complaints and abuses by conservators who have been removed for cause. This database should be shared by the OPG and senior social service agencies such as APS, WDACS, PALA and the City of LA Department of Aging (DOA). These social service agencies should be able to input any complaints using the database so that the County can easily track conservatorship abuses.

RESPONSE

The LADOA concurs with this recommendation. A coordinated, accurate, and real-time database should be shared by the OPG with senior social service agencies so that the referring agencies are able to input any complaints using the database. Moreover, the LADOA recommends that the referring agencies also have access to reviewing the information contained in the database. This will allow the referring agencies to coordinate care for their older adult consumers with their caregivers, OPG and other appropriate legal entities. This will also ensure that the senior social service agencies are apprised timely of critical developments and details in referred cases.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.4 - Senior Social Services Agencies

There needs to be more conservatorship advocacy and educational programs for the general public from the OPG and other County and City Social Service organizations such as APS, WDACS, PALA and DOA to help report constituent conservatorship complaints and abuses.

RESPONSE

The LADOA concurs with the recommendation that conservatorship advocacy and educational programs will benefit older adults. At present, the LADOA contracts with Bet Tzedek to provide legal services to low-income older adults.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.6 - Los Angeles City Department on Aging (DOA)

DOA should be offering more conservatorship education and advocacy services to the

general public regarding conservatorship abuse and how to combat it. The committee also found that there should be better communication between the department and other senior social services organizations such as APS, WDACS, and PALA to track conservatorship complaints and abuses.

RESPONSE

The LADOA concurs with the recommendation that there should be better communications between LADOA and other senior social services organizations to track conservatorship complaints and abuses. As indicated in its response to Recommendation 10.3, LADOA believes that a robust, real-time database accessible to senior social services agencies will support this recommendation. As indicated in Recommendation 10.4, LADOA currently contracts with Bet Tzedek for legal services to low-income older adults. While not specifically articulated in the contract with Bet Tzedek, the LADOA may be able to consult with Bet Tzedek to assist with developing educational material on conservatorship abuse.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.7 - PURPOSEFUL AGING (PALA)

PALA should be offering more conservatorship education and advocacy services to its constituent general public regarding conservatorship abuse and how to combat it. The Committee also found that there should be better communication between the department and other senior social services organizations, such as APS, WDACS and DOA to track conservatorship complaints and abuses.

RESPONSE

As indicated in the introductory remarks, PALA is neither a City department nor a County department, but instead was an initiative launched in 2016 that brought together public agencies, non-profit organizations, and community stakeholders to identify key areas of critical importance to the growing, older adult population in the Los Angeles region. As part of these convenings, PALA developed an Action Plan adopted by the City and the County that made recommendations on eight key areas (enumerated above). Nonetheless, the LADOA believes that the issue of conservatorship abuse is one that the members of the PALA initiative would agree is of concern to this constituency.

If you have any questions pertaining to this matter, please call me at (213) 810-4006.

Sincerely,

Jaime H. Pacheco-Orozco

JAIME H. PACHECO-OROZCO
General Manager

RESPONSE TO THE CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH - OFFICE OF PUBLIC GUARDIAN

2021-2022 CIVIL GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR WHO CAN YOU TRUST? AN OVERSITE OF CONSERVATORSHIPS

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.1

Continue to offer excellent service to clients through the Office of the Public Guardian and review their procedures twice a year with the Board of Supervisors.

RESPONSE

Agree. The recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented during FY 2022-2023.

DMH and OPG appreciate the Civil Grand Jury's recognition and acknowledgement of the excellent services provided by OPG to clients.

OPG agrees to review procedures twice a year with the BOS.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.2

Continue to report to the Board of Supervisors on conservatorships twice a year on any new reforms and procedures that will create a better communication between all County, social service agencies, and the OPG.

RESPONSE

Agree. The recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented during FY 2022-2023.

DMH and OPG agree that it is important to report on conservatorship reform efforts. This report will be included in the regular bi-annual legislative updates provided to the BOS through the CEO LAIR.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.3

If legally feasible, create a more robust real time database in the County similar to the California Megan's Law database to help family, friends and senior advocacy social service agencies to pinpoint conservatorship complaints and abuses by conservators who have been removed for cause. This database should be shared by the OPG and senior social service agencies such as APS, WDACS, PALA, and DOA. These social service agencies should be able to input any complaints using the database so that the County can easily track conservatorship abuses.

RESPONSE

Disagree. The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not reasonable. OPG investigates and is appointed conservator on a small fraction of the County's Probate Conservatorships. OPG is not provided access to court cases in which OPG is not involved (private family and private professional fiduciary cases). Furthermore, oversight of conservatorships and conservators is a function of the Probate Court, and the licensing of private professional fiduciaries is a responsibility of the California State Department of Consumer Affairs, Professional Fiduciaries Bureau. Complaints regarding possible conservator concerns of abuse should be sent to the Superior Court Probate Investigators Office, who is statutorily required to investigate concerns related to actions of the conservator. If substantiated, the Probate Court could conduct evidentiary hearings, issue Orders to Show Cause, issue sanctions and if necessary, remove the conservator. It should be noted that these procedures currently exist but may not be known to the public. It may be important, as noted in other recommendations, to educate the public on this process of filing a complaint.

Based on limited access to Probate conservatorship cases outside of OPG cases, OPG would not be able to develop a database to pinpoint conservatorship complaints and abuses. OPG recommends a meeting with the Probate Court including APS, WDACS, PALA, and DOA to identify ways to assist the public in filing conservatorship complaints.

There may also be concerns with publishing complaint information. Some of the complaints are investigated and result in the complaint being dismissed as the allegations are unfounded. In these cases, exposing that a complaint has been made could cause undue harm to a conservator.

Megan's Law mandates DOJ to notify the public about convicted sex offenders and authorizes local law enforcement to do so. Similarly, the County would likely need to adopt an ordinance or get a state law passed authorizing PG to release this information to the public. One of the issues with this is that in Probate conservatorships, OPG does not generally get a "conviction" type ruling from the Court that a person has been "removed for cause." Complaints and allegations of abuse in Conservatorship matters are plentiful (family members often accuse each other of abuse), but those allegations aren't usually clearly substantiated, and whether there has been some form of abuse is not often ruled on by the judge or laid out in an order in probate conservatorship proceedings.

As a result of the above information this recommendation cannot be implemented at this time, but OPG is willing to convene a meeting with Superior Court and affected agencies to discuss ways to assist the public in filing conservatorship complaints. DMH/OPG defers possible legislation action to create a database similar to Megan's Law to CEO LAIR.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.4

There needs to be more conservatorship advocacy and educational programs for the general public from the OPG and other County and City social services organizations such as APS, WDACS, PALA, and DOA to help report constituent conservatorship complaints and abuses.

RESPONSE

Agree. The recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented during FY 2022-2023 with a modification to be reported annually.

OPG recently added the Principal Deputy Public Guardian classification, and one of the duties of this classification is to conduct educational programs. OPG will incorporate into the training programs information and guidance to constituents on how to report conservatorship complaints of abuse or neglect.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.5

APS should do outreach to promote public awareness and education about conservatorship abuses. APS should also offer more advocacy services to the general community about how to spot conservatorship abuse and what to do about it.

RESPONSE

Agree. OPG does not have a role in whether this recommendation will or will not be implemented as it does not have jurisdiction over this recommendation.

OPG is frequently ordered by the Probate Court to investigate and consider acting as the successor conservator in cases in which a conservator is alleged to be acting improperly. OPG agrees that increased public awareness and education is a worthwhile effort but recognizes that increased awareness and education could result in increased investigations and appointments which will then in turn increase caseloads.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10.9

The Committee believes that the County should dedicate funding for the OPG so they can better advocate for and service more of the needs of those senior conservatees. The BOS should actively advocate and support the efforts by the CAPAGPC and California Association of Counties (CSAC) to advocate for dedicated state funding for all OPG offices within the state.

RESPONSE

Agree. The recommendation for the BOS to support efforts of dedicated funding has been implemented as the BOS has a support position in its legislative platform.

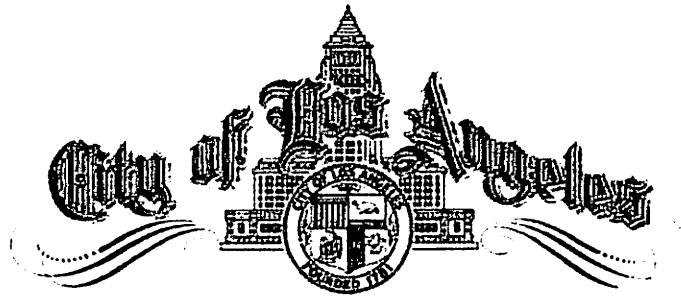
Unfortunately, efforts by the California State Association of Public Administrators, Public Guardians and Public Conservators (CAPAGPC) and CSAC to gain state funding failed again, despite the state's unprecedented revenues. Conservatorship reform remains a high priority for the legislature, and Public Guardian/Public Conservator (PG/PC) continues to be the only known county social service provider without dedicated funding. Recommendations for additional resources for OPG will be made within the context of the overall budget, numerous funding priorities, and requests.

WHO'S WATCHING THE FIRE HOUSE?



2021 – 2022

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CIVIL GRAND JURY**



ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

September 27, 2022

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street
13th Floor, Room 13-303
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Civil Grand Jury Report – “*Who’s Watching the Firehouse?*”

Your Honor:

The Office of the Mayor of the City of Los Angeles hereby responds to the Los Angeles Civil Grand Jury Report, entitled “*Who’s Watching the Firehouse?*” dated June 30, 2022. According to the Civil Grand Jury Report, the deadline for responding to the “Recommendations” is September 30, 2022.

RESPONSES TO RECOMMENDATIONS

R 11.1 This recommendation requires further analysis because of budgeting and resource issues, and potential outstanding legal issues related to polygraph tests. While background checks are important, the ability to make changes will depend on future budgets allocating sufficient resources for that work. Furthermore, regarding polygraph tests, an analysis of outstanding legal issues would need to be conducted. This office is not able to place a timeframe on such further analysis because the City's budgeting process extends beyond the six month time frame requested in California Penal Code (CPC) Section 933.05(b)(3).

Presiding Judge
Los Angeles Superior Court
September 27, 2022
Page 2

R 11.6 This recommendation requires further analysis because of budgeting and resource issues, and because the term "an oversight procedure" is broad and vague and, depending on what "oversight procedures" are implemented, potential outstanding legal issues may exist. Furthermore, depending on what new oversight procedures are implemented, an analysis of outstanding legal issues would need to be conducted. This office is not able to place a timeframe on such further analysis because the City's budgeting process extends beyond the six month time frame requested in CPC Section 933.05(b)(3).

R 11.9 This recommendation cannot be implemented by the Mayor's Office.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "KEVIN JAMES", written over the typed name and title.

KEVIN JAMES
Legal Counsel
Office of Los Angeles Mayor
Eric Garcetti