

COUNTYWIDE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE **November 10, 2021** MEETING Meeting Conducted Via Microsoft Teams

MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES PRESENT

Chair Pro Tem: Jonathan Lucas, Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner

Curley Bonds II for Jonathan Sherin, Director, County Department of Mental Health

Mark Diorio for Selwyn Hollins, Director, County Internal Services Department

Peter Espinoza, Director, Office of Diversion and Reentry

*Xiomara Flores Holguin for Bobby Cagle, Director, County Department of Children and Family Services

Ricardo Garcia, County Public Defender

Eugene Harris, President, Los Angeles County Police Chiefs Association

*Jeremiah Hart for Mike Saffell, President, South Bay Police Chiefs Association

*Mara Landay for Eric Garcetti, Mayor, City of Los Angeles

Robin Limon for Alex Villanueva, Sheriff

Edward McIntyre for Jacki Bacharach, County Quality & Productivity Commission

Robert Philibosian, Peace Officers Association of Los Angeles County

*Zee Rodriguez for Robert Bonta, California Attorney General

Cesar Sanchez for Erika Anzoategui, County Alternate Public Defender

Robin Toma, Executive Director, County Commission on Human Relations

Robin Toma for Otto Solorzano, Director, County Department of Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services

*Gary Tsai for Barbara Ferrer, Director, County Department of Public Health

*Thida Van for Fesia Davenport, County Chief Executive Officer

Sharon Woo for George Gascón, District Attorney

***Not a designated alternate**

I. CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS

Jonathan Lucas, Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner, Chair Pro Tem

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m. by Jonathan Lucas, Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner Chair Pro Tem.

II. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

Mark Delgado, Executive Director of the Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee (CCJCC), noted that Supervisor Hilda Solis will end her tenure as Chair of this

committee at the end of November. Supervisor Holly Mitchell will become Chair in December. He thanked Supervisor Solis and her office for their support this year and stated that he looks forward to working with Supervisor Mitchell and her office beginning next month.

Mr. Delgado also noted that Judge Peter Espinoza, Director of the Office of Diversion and Reentry (ODR), will be retiring at the end of November.

Judge Espinoza became a Municipal Court Judge in 1994 and a Superior Court Judge in 1997. While with the Court, he served in a variety of leadership roles, including as Supervising Judge of Criminal. In 2016, he was appointed as the first Director of ODR. In this capacity, he has done tremendous work elevating diversion opportunities in the county in partnership with many of the individuals on this committee.

Judge Espinoza has served as a member of CCJCC for many years, first as a Judge and then later as the Director of ODR. On behalf of CCJCC, Mr. Delgado thanked Judge Espinoza for his work on this committee.

Several members joined in congratulating Judge Espinoza on his upcoming retirement and thanked him for his work.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Jonathan Lucas, Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner, Chair Pro Tem

There were no requests for revisions to the minutes of the October 13, 2021 meeting.

Los Angeles County Public Defender Ricardo Garcia made a motion to approve the minutes. This motion was seconded by Sharon Woo of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office.

ACTION: The motion to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2021 meeting was approved without objection.

V. COUNTY COMMISSION ON ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS

Mark Delgado, Executive Director, Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee (CCJCC)

Mark Delgado, Executive Director of the Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee (CCJCC), provided a follow-up to this item from the previous CCJCC meeting.

As a reminder, the County Commission on Alcohol and Other Drugs (CAOD) advises and makes recommendations to the County Board of Supervisors on issues related to alcohol and other drugs.

CAOD consists of 23 total members, one of whom is nominated by CCJCC to represent a public safety agency.

The member of the CAOD that had previously been nominated by CCJCC has subsequently retired, and the Commission requested that CCJCC nominate a new representative.

Since the last meeting, Chief Eugene Harris, President of the Los Angeles County Police Chiefs Association, nominated Chief Jeremiah “Jay” Hart of the Torrance Police Department to serve on the CAOD as the representative from a public safety agency.

Chief Harris summarized Chief Hart’s background and qualifications and made a motion to nominate of Chief Hart to serve on COAD. Chief Hart introduced himself to the committee and also spoke about his qualifications to serve on COAD.

Robert Philibosian of the Peace Officers Association of Los Angeles County seconded the motion to nominate Chief Hart to serve as a member of CAOD.

ACTION: The motion to nominate Chief Jay Hart to serve on the Commission on Alcohol and Other Drugs (CAOD) was approved without objection.

VI. LOS ANGELES COUNTY ANNUAL REPORT ON HATE CRIMES

Robin S. Toma, Esq., Executive Director, Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations

Marshall J. Wong, M.S.W. Assistant Director, WDACS, Hate Crime Coordinator, Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations

Robin Toma, Executive Director of the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations, presented on the Annual Hate Crime Report. Joining Mr. Toma in this presentation was Marshall Wong, Assistant Director of the County Department of Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services (WDACS), and Hate Crime Coordinator of the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations.

Mr. Toma noted that three major events of 2020 were the Presidential Election, protests following the death of George Floyd, and the COVID-19 pandemic, all of which impacted upon hate crimes.

Mr. Wong stated that there was a total of 635 hate crimes in this county in 2020, which is an increase of nearly 20% over the 530 hate crimes in 2019 and the highest number since 2008. There has also been an overall trend of an increase in hate crimes since 2013 (an increase of 65% since that year).

Data indicate that, in terms of motivation for hate crimes, 61% of the crimes (403 total) in 2020 were based on race/ethnicity/national origin. This is an increase of 53% over the number in 2019 (263 total).

Hate crimes based on sexual orientation in 2020 accounted for 18% (122 total) of the crimes. This is an increase of 17% over the number in 2019 (104 total).

Hate crimes based on religion, gender, and disability decreased from the number reported for 2019.

A breakdown of racial hate crimes by known targeted group indicates the following:

- Black – 169 hate crimes, which is 42% of these crimes and an increase of 35% over 2019.
- Latino/a – 106 hate crimes, which is 26% of these crimes and an increase of 58% over 2019.
- White – 50 hate crimes, which is 12% of these crimes and an increase of 127% over 2019.
- Asian/Pacific Islander – 44 hate crimes, which is 11% of these crimes and an increase of 76% over 2019.

Mr. Wong discussed the increase in hate crimes against Asian/Pacific Islanders in 2020. Of these crimes, 42% of known suspects in these crimes were White, 36% were Latino/a, and 19% were African American.

Mr. Wong also noted the following:

- There were 56 crimes in which specifically anti-immigrant slurs were used, which is a 14% increase from the previous year. Two-thirds of these crimes targeted Latinos and 20% targeted Asian Americans.
- As noted, hate crimes based on sexual orientation increased 17% in 2020. 84% of these crimes targeted gay men.
- Among hate crimes based on religion, the Jewish community was the highest targeted group at 88%.
- Anti-transgender hate crimes declined from 42 to 32, but this was still the third-largest number ever reported for these crimes.
- The rate of violence grew from 65% to 68%, which is the highest rate since 2003.
- The largest number of hate crimes reported in 2020 took place in the Metro Service Planning Area (SPA), which stretches from West Hollywood to Boyle Heights. The second largest number was in the San Fernando Valley SPA. However, if one accounts for population, the highest rate was in the Metro SPA, followed by the Western SPA, which includes parts of West Los Angeles, Beverly Hills, Culver City, and several beach communities.
- There has been a growth in hate crimes committed by white nationalists. There were 119 of these crimes in 2020, which is the largest number since 2009. About

one in five hate crimes had white supremacist ideology or symbols visible or explicitly referenced. They constituted 19% of all hate crimes.

- Hate crimes committed by gang members constituted 5% of the total, which is down from 6% in the previous year (32 crimes total in each year).

Mr. Toma discussed LA vs HATE, which is Los Angeles County's Initiative to end hate. The goal of this is to create an infrastructure to inform, engage, and promote unity and action against hate.

The first component of this initiative is a community-driven marketing campaign that encourages residents and organizations to unite against hate and report all incidents of hate, not just hate crimes.

Another component is a website for the initiative located at <https://www.lavshate.org>. This was launched in June 2020.

Mr. Toma noted that everyone who reports hate to 211 is offered free services. The following is a sampling of services that are offered to help people:

- Healing and Help:
 - Counseling – mental health and trauma
 - Crime victim compensation
 - Legal remedies – civil rights and anti-discrimination laws
 - Eviction defense
 - To address minors in hate crime, connecting with the Department of Children and Family Services
- Change: Technical assistance and advocacy to address hate sources
 - Change business practices, such as training of employees to intervene to stop bias-based harassment; and signage to warn
 - Offer services and support to schools where bullying or hate incidents have occurred
 - Working with city governments to take action – to support victims of hate, adopt LA vs HATE, create a human relations/human rights agency for community engagement

Another component of the initiative is a network of community agencies that provide hate prevention and rapid response services that are aimed at changing policies and practices that either foment hate or perpetuate it.

United Against Hate Week has been set for the week of November 14th through November 20th. (Information on this was subsequently emailed to committee members.)

Mr. Toma reviewed a listing of reporting agencies for the Hate Crime Report, which includes law enforcement agencies, community-based organizations, colleges and universities, and school districts.

A copy of the Hate Crime Report and PowerPoint slides that were used for this presentation have been posted online at <http://ccjcc.lacounty.gov>.

The Hate Crime Report can also be found at <https://hrc.lacounty.gov>.

ACTION: For information only.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.