



**LANCASTER CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION
AGENDA
Wednesday,
June 9, 2021
10:00 a.m.**

Posted by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, June 4, 2021
at the entrance to the Lancaster City Hall Council Chambers
44933 Fern Avenue, Lancaster, CA 93534

**TELEPHONIC MEETING PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20
ISSUED BY GOVERNOR NEWSOM**

LANCASTER CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

Chairman Drew Mercy

Vice Chair Jeff Little

Commissioner Mark Brown; Commissioner Tim Fuller;

Commissioner Howard Harris; Commissioner Jin Hur;

Commissioner Evelyn Medrano

**In response to Governor's Executive Order N-29-20, and
due to capacity limitations at the Lancaster City Hall Council Chambers,
this meeting will be conducted telephonically and video streamed live on Channel 28 and
the City's website: <https://www.cityoflancafterca.org/connect/public-meetings>**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDIZED AND NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS MAY BE RECEIVED
BY DIALING 1 (888) 475-4499 USING MEETING ID: 953 8998 3035# PASSWORD: 999690#**

**LANCASTER CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 2021**

AGENDA ITEMS TO BE REMOVED

Sometimes it is necessary to remove items from the agenda. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you.

PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR - AGENDIZED ITEMS

In accordance with Governor's Order N-29-20, the public may observe this telephonic/ virtual meeting by listening to the live broadcast on local cable channel 28 or live stream on the City's website (<https://www.cityoflanasterca.org/connect/public-meetings>). The public may participate in the meeting ***BY DIALING 1 (888) 475-4499 USING MEETING ID: 953 8998 3035# PASSWORD: 999690#*** ***Individual speakers are limited to three (3) minutes each unless a different time limit is announced.***

Consent Calendar items may be acted upon with one motion, a second and the vote. If you desire to speak on an item or items on the Consent Calendar, you may participate in the meeting ***BY DIALING 1 (888) 475-4499 USING MEETING ID: 953 8998 3035# PASSWORD: 999690#*** You will be given three minutes, unless a different time limit is announced, to address your concerns before the Lancaster Criminal Justice Commission takes action on the Consent Calendar.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Commission Members: Brown, Fuller, Harris, Hur, Medrano; Vice Chair Little; Chairman Mercy

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENTATION

1. Illegal Cannabis Grows

CONSENT CALENDAR

CC 1. Approval of Minutes – May 12, 2021

**LANCASTER CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 2021**

NEW BUSINESS

NB 1. Discussion and possible action on a Criminal Justice Subcommittee

COMMISSION/ STAFF PRESENTATIONS, UPDATES, REPORTS

1. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Crime Trends Report
Presenter: Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
2. Los Angeles County Probation Department Update
Presenter: Los Angeles County Probation Department
3. California Highway Patrol Update
Presenter: California Highway Patrol
4. District Attorney Update
Presenter: District Attorney's Office
5. City Attorney Update
Presenter: Assistant City Attorney
6. Public Safety Update
Presenter: Public Safety Director
7. State Legislative Office Update
Presenters: Congressman Garcia's Office, Senator Wilk's Office and Assemblyman Lackey's Office

PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR - NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS

This portion of the agenda allows an individual the opportunity to address the Commission on any item ***NOT ON THE AGENDA*** regarding Commission business. In accordance with Governor's Order N-29-20, the public may observe this telephonic/ virtual meeting by listening to the live broadcast on local cable channel 28 or live stream on the City's website (<https://www.cityoflancastrca.org/connect/public-meetings>). The public may participate in the meeting ***BY DIALING 1 (888) 475-4499 USING MEETING ID: 953 8998 3035#*** ***PASSWORD: 999690#*** ***Individual speakers are limited to three (3) minutes each unless a different time limit is announced.*** State law prohibits the Commission from taking action on items not on the agenda.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Next Regular Meeting:

Wednesday, July 14, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.

**LANCASTER CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 2021**

MEETING ASSISTANCE INFORMATION

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Executive Order N-29-20, the City has implemented a procedure for receiving and swiftly resolving requests for reasonable modification or accommodation from individuals with disabilities, consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act and resolving any doubt whatsoever in favor of accessibility. If you need special assistance to participate in this telephonic meeting, please contact the City Clerk at (661)723-6020 or via email at CityClerk@cityoflancafterca.org. To ensure availability, you are advised to make your request at least 72 hours prior to the meeting/event you wish to attend. Due to difficulties in securing sign language interpreters, five or more business days notice is strongly recommended. For additional information, please contact the City Clerk at (661)723-6020.

AGENDA ADDENDUM INFORMATION

On occasion items may be added after the agenda has been mailed to subscribers. Copies of the agenda addendum item will be available at the City Clerk Department and are posted with the agenda on the windows of the City Council Chambers. For more information, please call the City Clerk Department at (661) 723-6020.

All documents available for public review are on file with the City Clerk Department.

**LANCASTER CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION
MINUTES
May 12, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mercy called the meeting of the Lancaster Criminal Justice Commission to order at 10:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commission Members Brown, Harris, Hur; Vice Chairman Little; Chairman Mercy

Absent: Commission Members Fuller, Medrano

Staff

Members: City Manager, Assistant City Manager, Public Safety Director, Assistant City Attorney, Assistant City Clerk, Code Enforcement & Emergency Services Manager

Additional

Attendees: Assemblyman Tom Lackey's District Director Vanessa Wilk, Los Angeles County District Attorney's Antelope Valley Branch Head Deputy District Attorney Sherwood, Los Angeles County Probation Department Supervisor Robert Sepulveda, California Highway Patrol Captain Broneer, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Acting Captain Lieutenant Burgin, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Community Relations Deputy Deciga, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Community Relations Deputy Green

INVOCATION

Commissioner Harris

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Brown

PRESENTATION

None

APPROVAL OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION CONSENT CALENDAR

CC 1. Approval of Minutes – April 14, 2021

On a motion by Commissioner Brown and seconded by Vice Chairman Little, the Commission approved the Consent Calendar, by the following vote: 5-0-0-2; AYES: Brown, Harris, Hur, Little, Mercy; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: Fuller, Medrano

MINUTES

May 12, 2021

COMMISSION/ STAFF UPDATES

1. LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT CRIME TRENDS REPORT

Deputy Green provided the statistics for March of 2021 for the Burglary Suppression Team, LAN-CAP Team, Robbery Team, and LEAPS program.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department continued with their Community Engagement with virtual workshops and attending community events when possible while abiding by the CDC guidelines.

Discussion among the Commission, Deputy Green, Acting Captain Lt. Burgin and staff included a comparison of the trends from the past year with the current year, contributing factors to the identified increase in trends, baseline comparative, Part 1 Crime Hot Spot Areas for March 2021, homicide rate over a year period, efforts contributing to crime prevention and illegal cannabis grow activity.

Jackie Owens from Congressman Garcia's office discussed illegal cannabis grow activity, indentured servants working the illegal cannabis grows, production of toxic waste, stealing of water, joint efforts of the Cities, Counties, State, and Federal agencies to address the issue, and multi-billion-dollar industry involved.

Discussion among the Commission and Ms. Owens included future presentation to the Commission with the Sheriff's Department and Watermaster regarding the illegal cannabis grow activity.

2. LOS ANGELES COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Department Supervisor, Robert Sepulveda, provided information on restricted activities during COVID-19 including upcoming changes, return to full operations, telephonic communication operations over the past year, large release of inmates prior to COVID-19, preparation for upcoming caseloads to significantly increase with the anticipated upcoming large release of inmates, availability of resources including the positive impacts.

Discussion among the Commission, Mr. Sepulveda, and staff included the information presented, changes in the bail system, probation check-ins, remote access over the past year, no bail warrant, reporting requirements of 48 hours vs. 30 days, overall increase in domestic violence, GPS tracking, case load average, anticipated case load increase, frequency of check-ins, AB 109 requirements, staffing, recent changes to early release eligibility, homelessness, and policy changes.

3. CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL UPDATE

Captain Broneer provided information on the year-to-date statistics through April 2021 including year-to-date totals for fatal accidents, traffic collisions, DUI collisions, vehicle thefts, drug related arrests, weapons violations, enforcement contacts, vehicle pursuits, and citations issued.

Additionally, Captain Broneer provided information on an upcoming blood drive in honor of Officer Andy Ornelas.

Discussion among the Commission and Captain Broneer included the information provided, contributing factors to the increase in vehicle pursuits, and illegal cannabis grow activity.

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4. DISTRICT ATTORNEY UPDATE

Head Deputy District Attorney Sherwood provided information on the increase in vehicle pursuits and possible contributing factors, information on felony and misdemeanor filings along with a comparison to the previous years for the month of April 2021, along with information on the policy changes to the requirements for misdemeanor filings resulting in a lower filing rate.

Deputy District Attorney Sherwood also discussed the water issues with the increase in the cannabis grows, activity relating to the prosecution of these cases, toxic waste, Los Angeles County Deputy District Attorney Karen Tandler's work on these cases, and illegal activity relating to tap tap clubs.

Discussion among the Commission, Deputy District Attorney Sherwood, and staff included the information provided on the tap tap clubs, organized crime, property owners and management companies being held accountable, collaborative efforts to stop the illegal activity, hot spot data correlated to illegal activity within the area, non-responsive property owners of public nuisance properties, red light letters, accountability and liability of property owners, collaborative efforts between the City and District Attorney, and restitution process.

5. CITY ATTORNEY UPDATE

The Assistant City Attorney provided updates on red light letters to property owners, number of carts removed off the streets per the Shopping Cart Ordinance, implementation of the Sidewalk Vendor and Food Truck Ordinance, current work with the Public Safety Director on the implementation of the updated Administrative Citation Ordinance, and current work on the Rental Housing Ordinance for future presentation to the Commission and Council including the possible participation of no more than two Commission Members, with the current work being completed relating to the future Housing Ordinance update.

Commissioner Harris and Vice Chairman Little expressed their interest in participating in the current work being completed relating to the future Housing Ordinance update.

Discussion among the Commission and staff included the Sidewalk Vendor and Food Truck Ordinance, and collaborative effort between the City and County to combat the current activity.

6. PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

The Code Enforcement & Emergency Services Manager provided an update on activity relating to the enforcement of the Sidewalk Vendor and Food Truck Ordinance.

Discussion among the Commission and staff included the need to involve more agencies in the enforcement efforts, indentured servants, future updates to be provided, remedies provided by the Sidewalk Vendor and Food Truck Ordinance, enforcement of ordinances throughout the City, different approaches utilized for different problems encountered, approach for compliance vs. punitive, permit requirements, trespassing issues on vacant properties, compliance with state and local laws, social media promotion of food truck vendors, combating the illegal aspect, collaborative effort between the City and County to ensure compliance, Commission suggestions, updates to be provided at future Commission meetings relating to the Hybrid Model and current work being completed, activity relating to indentured servants, and illegal cannabis grows.

The Public Safety Director requested that the Commission provide notice if there were additional topics they would like to have agendaized for future presentation at a Commission meeting.

MINUTES

May 12, 2021

7. STATE LEGISLATIVE OFFICE UPDATE

Vanessa Wilk from Assemblyman Tom Lackey's Office provided information on a recent ride along the Assemblyman participated in relating to the illegal cannabis grow activity along with legislative updates which included information on SB 2, AB 1509, AB 89, and AB 26.

Additionally, Ms. Wilk provided information on EDD assistance.

Chairman Mercy, on behalf of Senator Wilk's office, provided information on EDD Fraud and work on combatting the illegal cannabis grow activity.

PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR - NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS

Chairman Mercy provided the public with the procedure to address the Commission regarding non-agendized items.

No public comment at this time.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Hur – discussed the time in between meetings, effects of COVID-19, and stated it was good to see everyone healthy and well.

Commissioner Harris – stated it was good to see everyone, and indicated he looked forward to the future meetings and was glad to see everyone was healthy.

Commissioner Brown – discussed how informative the meeting was, his appreciation for the meeting, and stated he would see everyone next month.

Vice Chairman Little – stated it was great to see everyone and discussed the work ahead.

Chairman Mercy – discussed the time in between meetings, notice being provided if there were items the Commission would like to see agendized for future meetings, and items he would like to see on future meetings, which included: the illegal cannabis grows, misinformation regarding the work the Sheriff's Department does, indentured servants, and follow-up to the City Council's Vote of No Confidence in Los Angeles County District Attorney Gascon.

MINUTES

May 12, 2021

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Mercy stated the Criminal Justice Commission meeting will be adjourned in memory of Stockton Police Officer Jimmy Inn, Concho County Texas Sheriff’s Office Sergeant Stephen Jones and Deputy Sheriff Samuel Leonard, and San Luis Obispo Police Department Detective Luca Benedetti.

Chairman Mercy adjourned the Criminal Justice Commission meeting at 12:13 p.m. and stated the next meeting of the Criminal Justice Commission would take place Wednesday, June 9, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 9th day of June 2021, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

KATHLEEN STENBACK
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK
COMMISSION SECRETARY

DREW MERCY
CHAIRMAN

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES
LANCASTER CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

I, _____, _____ of the City of Lancaster, CA, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the original Lancaster Criminal Justice Commission Minutes, for which the original is on file in my office.

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, CA on this _____ day of _____, _____.

(seal)
