



## COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS

### LOS ANGELES COUNTY

*"Enriching lives through effective and caring service"*

May 4, 2017

## MEMORANDUM TO THE COMMISSIONERS

FROM: Isabelle Gunning, President

SUBJECT: Commission Meeting- Monday, May 8, 2017

The Commission is meeting on Monday, May 8, 2017 at 12:30 p.m., at 3175 W. Sixth Street, Teamwork Conference Room 301 (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor), Floor, Los Angeles, California.

Enclosed is the Agenda, Draft Minutes of April 3, 2017 meeting and other pertinent information for your review and approval.

**Please Note: At approximately, 1:00 pm., our Department's photographer will be taking photos of Commissioners for our Website. Be ready with**

**your Smile!** 

If you are unable to attend the meeting, please call Grace Löwenberg at (213) 639-6089 no later than **9:00 a.m., Monday, May 8th!**

***Please ensure you have your Photo ID to enter the premises or you will need to sign in the reception area/security guard. Thanks.***

See you **Monday!**

***(Parking is available on 523 Shatto Street, 4<sup>th</sup> and Shatto. Park on Level 3 and above.)***

*gl*

**Ad Hoc Committee on Policing and Human Relations Committee will meet prior to Commission meeting @ 11:00 am., in Teamwork Rm. 301. (Same room.) Members: Melina Abdullah, Chair, Cynthia Anderson Barker, Adrian Dove, Isabelle Gunning, Sandra Thomas. Staff: Robin Toma, Ray Regalado, Yuisa Gimeno, Joshua Parr**

#### Human Relations Commissioners

Isabelle Gunning, Esq.  
President

Melina Abdullah, Ph.D.  
Jarrett T. Barrios, Esq.  
Sandra Thomas, Ph.D.  
Vice Presidents

Cynthia Anderson Barker, Esq.  
Michael Gi-Hao Cheung  
Ilan Davidson  
Adrian Dove  
Porter Gilberg  
Preeti P. Kulkarni  
Samuel Liu  
Daisy Ma  
Guadalupe G. Montaña  
Ashlee Y. Oh

Honorary Members  
Vito Cannella  
Philip R. Valera  
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Human Relations Staff  
Robin S. Toma, Esq.  
Executive Director

Elena Halpert-Schili  
Assistant Executive Director

Intergroup Relations Specialists  
Kevin Coleman  
Gustavo Guerra Vasquez  
Sikivu Hutchinson  
Yuisa Gimeno  
Monica Lomell  
Juan Carlos Martinez  
RiKu Matsuda  
Josh Parr  
Gustavo Partida  
Ray Regalado  
Fidel Rodriguez  
Clifton Trotter  
Marshall Wong

Administrative Staff  
Grace Löwenberg  
Barbara Nolen  
Emily Pacheco  
Sharon Williams

Dispute Resolution Program  
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Community and Senior Services

Cynthia Banks  
Director

Otto Solorzano  
Chief Deputy Director  
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#### Board of Supervisors

Hilda Solis  
First District

Mark Ridley-Thomas  
Second District

Shella Kuehl  
Third District

Janice Hahn  
Fourth District

Kathryn Barger  
Fifth District

Sachi A. Hamai  
Chief Executive Officer



## **A G E N D A**

### **MEETING OF THE COMMISSION/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**May 8, 2017 – 12:30-2:00 pm.**

**Ray Bartlett/Teamwork Conference Room 301 – L.A. County WDACS (CSS) Building  
3175 W. Sixth Street, Los Angeles, CA 90020**

**Our mission: to transform prejudice into acceptance, inequity into justice, and hostility into peace**

- 1. Call to Order/Flag Salute and Moment of Silence**
- 2. Review/Approval of Minutes**
- 3. Public Comment**
- 4. President's Report**
  - 4.1. Spotlight on a Commissioner: Mr. Ian Davidson, 4<sup>th</sup> Supervisorial District
  - 4.2. Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 1992 Rodney King Civil Unrest event –April 29, 2017
  - 4.3. Commissioners' Strategic Retreat
- 5. Executive Director's Report**
  - 5.1. Youth Human Relations Leadership Conference: Rise Up LA!
  - 5.2. Ramadan in LA event – Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup>\*
- 6. Committee Report**
  - 6.1. Ad Hoc Committee on Policing and Human Relations
  - 6.2. JAF Human Relations Awards Event Committee
- 7. Action/Discussion Items**
  - 7.1. Nominating Committee Presentation of Slate of Nominees for Commission Officers
  - 7.2. L.A. Sheriff's Policy on Use of Drones
  - 7.3. Ratification of the JAF Human Relations Awards Committee and its membership
- 8. Commissioner's Comments/Announcements (2 minutes per item)**
- 9. Adjournment (2:00)**

**Note:** The following Commissioner will be participating by conference telephone communication from the following locations: Sandra Thomas, 3544 Canon Blvd., Altadena, CA 91001, (626) 399-5007.

*Para mas información en español, favor de comunicarse al (213) 738-2788.*

\* Denotes that this agenda packet includes written material regarding this agenda item.

\*\* All committee reports are to be submitted in writing in advance for the agenda packet whenever possible. Meetings are held in English. If interpretation in other languages or accommodations for persons with disabilities are needed, please contact the Commission at (213) 738-2788 at least 3 business days before the meeting. The meetings of the Human Relations Commission are accessible to persons with disabilities. Access to the facility is via the Sixth Street entrance.



# Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations

3175 W. Sixth Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, California, 90020  
<http://www.lahumanrelations.org>

(213) 738-2788

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[PROPOSED] MINUTES  
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS  
Commission Meeting of April 3, 2017  
Workforce Development Aging and Community Services (WDACS)  
3175 W. Sixth Street, Los Angeles, California 90020  
Rm 301 CSS Teamwork

PRESENT:    Melina Abdullah                      Preeti Kulkarni  
                 Cynthia Anderson-Barker       Samuel Liu  
                 Jarrett Tomas Barrios                Daisy Ma  
                 Ilan Davidson                                Guadalupe Montaña  
                 Adrian Dove                                Ashlee Oh  
                 Porter Gilberg                               Sandra Thomas (By Phone)  
                 Isabelle Gunning

ABSENT:    Michael Gi-Hao Cheung

STAFF:      Robin Toma                                        Grace Löwenberg  
                 Emily Pacheco

GUESTS:    Karen Mack, LA Commons and Ramadan in LA  
                 Marium Mohiuddin, Ramadan in LA

1. **Call to Order/Flag Salute and Moment of Silence:** Commission President Isabelle Gunning called the meeting to order, and a quorum of the Commission was established with 12 commissioners present. Commissioner Oh led the pledge of allegiance, and a moment of silence was observed.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** It was moved by Commissioner Liu, and seconded by Commissioner Davidson, to approve the minutes of March 6 and March 13, 2017, as presented. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.
3. **Public Comment:** No request for comment by members of the public was received.
4. **President's Report:** Commission President Gunning provided the following report:
  - 4.1 **Spotlight on a Commissioner:** Mr. Porter Gilberg, 4<sup>th</sup> Supervisorial District: She introduced newly appointed commissioner, Porter Gilberg, who provided a brief

overview of his experience with human relations work. Mr. Gilberg is the Executive Director of the LGBTQ Center in Long Beach, where he has volunteered and worked since 2007. His expertise is in serving the LGBTQ community.

- 4.2 Public Hearing on Policing and Human Relations, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sup. Dist. Reseda, 3/26/2017:** Commissioner Abdullah provided a report on the final district based hearing held in the third district on March 26, at Church of Christ in Reseda. Approximately 100 members of the public attended the hearing held at a church that has been active on the issue of policing and human relations. Christian Eaddy, a 25 year old man, was a member of the church's congregation when he was killed four years ago by Los Angeles Police Department officers.

Previous concerns of the committee about not having a significant turn out from homeless residents of the Venice/Santa Monica area were realized, despite the fact that we provided transportation for this community which was arranged in advance. A drive by shooting occurred during the hearing, which was witnessed by commission staff and children. This occurrence lent support for the commission's decision to provide child care at the hearing in July. Commissioner Kulkarni commented that issues such as mental health and the criminalization of homelessness have frequently been discussed and should be included in the final report on these hearings.

Two final hearings will be held to collect testimony related to Women's/ LGBTQ issues and law enforcement responses. More information was provided in the report from the committee which was submitted later in the meeting.

- 4.3 Commissioners Retreat:** Commissioners were informed that staff will begin working on scheduling a commissioners' retreat in May or June. Commission staff will look at the possibility of extending a regularly scheduled commission meeting or an alternative weekday/weekend when commissioners can meet from 10 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.
- 5. Executive Director's Report:** The retirement of Assistant Executive Director Elena Halpert-Schilt, effective March 31, 2017, was shared, acknowledging and thanking her for her ten years of service with the commission. Executive Director Toma provided the following report:
- 5.1 Youth Human Relations Leadership Conference: Rise Up, LA! 3/24/2017:** Executive Director Toma informed the commission that the annual Youth Conference was held on March 24. A detailed report will be given at a future commission meeting. Approximately 250 participants were in attendance. Staff members Fidel Rodriguez, Gustavo Partida, and Gustavo Guerra Vasquez were acknowledged for their efforts in organizing this event.

## **6. Committee Report**

- 6.1 Ad Hoc Committee on Policing and Human Relations:** Commissioner Abdullah informed the Commission that the policing and human relations hearing originally scheduled for April 8 will not take place until July 2017. Logistical concerns, such as finalizing a location, resulted in the need to postpone the hearing. Kimberle Crenshaw will not be available again until July, which has further extended the expected completion date of the hearings. This hearing, on Women's and LGBTQ issues, will be

held as early as possible in July, with the hearing for law enforcement to proceed thereafter.

The committee has discussed the need to provide childcare at the public hearing on Women's and LGBTQ issues. Commissioner Abdullah also expressed the need to discuss the process by which press releases of the commission are edited by WDACS staff.

Following the committee report, the commission discussed the development of the report on the hearings, and how input from commissioners would be received and integrated. As the Commission approaches the completion of this project, a more concrete process for commissioner input and approval will be communicated and developed.

- 6.2 JAF Human Relations Awards Event Committee:** Commissioner Oh informed commissioners that planning continues for the 2017 JAF Awards event. A date has not yet been identified, but a request for nominations has been made to the commissioners and staff. Nominations are due two weeks from the commission meeting. A nomination form was provided in the agenda packet. Following this report, Commissioners Davidson, Liu, and Montañó expressed interest in serving on this committee, and were asked to officially join.

## **7. Action/Discussion Items**

- 7.1 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of L.A. Rodney King Uprising:** This agenda item address two items related to the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Uprising.

The Commission first discussed the draft statement on the Uprising provided in the agenda packet.

It was moved by Commissioner Ma, and seconded by Commission Dove, that the commission supports the development of a resolution and the authority to do that is delegated to the President and Executive Director that takes this and integrate input from commissioners, and will be shared with commissioners prior to submitting it to the Board of Supervisors. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

The Commission was also reminded of the prior discussion related to the Korean American Federation of Los Angeles' events commemorating the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the civil unrest. The action item before the Commission at this meeting was the consideration of the use of the Commission logo on flyers and announcements for these events. Following a brief discussion the Commission took the following action:

It was moved Commissioner Liu, and seconded by Commissioner Ma, that the LA County Human Relations Commission express its support for all those events that commemorate the 25th anniversary of the 1992 LA Rodney King Uprising/Riots/Civil Unrest and promote greater understanding of the different impacts it had on the diverse communities in Los Angeles county. Among these anniversary events are those of the Korean American Federation of Los Angeles and its partners, support of which the commission authorizes the



president and executive director to jointly determine when consistent with the mission vision and values of the commission. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.


- 7.2 “Ramadan in L.A.” Outreach:** Karen Mack from LA Commons and Marium Mohiuddin spoke regarding this year’s Ramadan in LA event, which was previously discussed by the commission, and which the commission voted to sponsor. The commission was asked to promote the event to their constituents and networks so that attendance at this year’s event will surpass the 150 people who attended last year. Currently there are 12 sponsors of the event, and more to follow. The focus of this event is the presentation of music, poetry, and learning about the Muslim community. The event is organized around the breaking of the fast during the season of Ramadan, and invites the public to participate in Iftars (evening breaking of the fast) at various mosques and Islamic Centers throughout the County.
- 7.3 Use of Drones by LA County Sheriff:** This item was postponed until the next commission meeting.
- 7.4 Creation of Nominations Committee:** Commission President Gunning asked Commissioners Oh, Kulkarni, Davidson, Dove, and Ma to serve on this year’s nominations committee. All members accepted, and the commission approved the formation of the committee, which will develop and present a slate of nominations for commission officers at the next meeting.

It was moved by Commission Kulkarni, and seconded by Commissioner Ma, to form the nominations committee as discussed. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- 8. Commissioner’s Comments/Announcements:** No announcements were received.
- 9. Adjournment:** It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, and seconded by Commissioner Kulkarni to adjourn the meeting in memory of Lynne Stewart, lawyer and defender of the constitutional and human rights of Muslim and other controversial and often unpopular defendants; and Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. who was assassinated 49 years ago on April 4.


Respectfully submitted,

Isabelle Gunning, President



# #RAMADANinLA

FRIDAY MAY 26 @ 6 PM | BARNSDALL ART PARK  
[www.RAMADANinLA.com](http://www.RAMADANinLA.com)




## AN EVENING OF ART, MUSIC & CELEBRATION

After the resounding success of last year's #RAMADANinLA, LA Commons ([www.lacommons.org](http://www.lacommons.org)), in partnership with LA's Muslim community LA County's Human Relations Commission, is excited to announce that the community gathering and celebration is returning this year and will be the evening of Friday, May 26, the night Ramadan starts.

With the rise of Islamophobia and the fear of a Muslim registry/ban, #RAMADANinLA is needed now more than ever to bring communities together.

### 2017 CO-SPONSORS

#### LA Commons & Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission

2 Faiths 1 Prayer

72 Virgins

Drink and Draw

The Guibord Center -  
Religion Inside Out

ILM Foundation

IMAN Center

Interfaith Communities United  
for Justice and Peace

Interfaith Family

Islamic Center  
of Southern California

King Fahad Mosque

Muslim Public  
Affairs Council

NewGround: Muslim Jewish  
Partnership for Change

Pacifica Institute



Los Angeles County

# Commission on Human Relations

Department of Workforce Development, Aging Community Services  
3175 West Sixth Street, Suite 406  
Los Angeles, CA 90020

(213) 738-2788

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## Ad Hoc Committee on Policing and Human Relations

### Meeting Notice

Monday, May 8, 2017  
11:00 a.m.

Department of Workforce Development, Aging Community Services  
3175 West Sixth Street, Teamwork Room 301  
Los Angeles, California 90020

Members: Commissioners Melina Abdullah (Chair), Cynthia Anderson-  
Barker, Adrian Dove, Isabelle Gunning, Sandra Thomas

Staff: Robin Toma, Ray Regalado, Yuisa Gimeno, Joshua Parr, Emily  
Pacheco

### AGENDA

1. Staff Trauma Debrief – Brief Report
2. Women/LGBTQ Hearing Preparations Update
3. Law Enforcement Hearing Preparations Update
4. Academic Partner for Post-Hearing Project Discussion





# Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations

3175 W. Sixth St., Ste. 400  
Los Angeles, California, 90020  
<http://www.lahumanrelations.org>

(213) 738-2788

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEETING

April 17, 2017

11:00 a.m.

(Via Conference Call)

Teleconference: 866-390-1828: Code, 2613030#

Members: Preeti Kulkarni, Chair; Ilan Davidson, Adrian Dove,  
Daisy Ma, Ashlee Oh

## Minutes

Called to order at 11:03 a.m. when quorum was achieved with 3 of 5 committee members present on the conference line.

Nominating Committee members present: Preeti Kulkarni (Chair), Daisy Ma, Ashlee Oh  
Members not present: Dove and Davidson

11:03 a.m. – Quorum achieved with Commissioners Kulkarni, Ma and Oh; Meeting called to order by Kulkarni (appointed by President Gunning to chair this committee)

Chair Kulkarni asked Robin to go over Nominating Committee background, duties, and timeline, which he did. At request of commissioners, he went over parts of bylaws pertaining to the officers' duties.

Motion to have Isabelle Gunning on slate as President – moved by Commissioner Kulkarni, and seconded by Commissioner Oh; passed unanimously

VP/Secretary to be Commissioner Ma of 1<sup>st</sup> District- Moved by Commissioner Kulkarni; seconded by Commissioner Oh. Commissioner Ma would like Commissioner Barrios to be invited to serve a second annual term, and only if he declines she would agree to serve as VP/Secretary.

After discussion, motion made by Commissioner Ma to pass the following Slate of Nominees; seconded by Commissioner Oh.

1<sup>st</sup> Dist: Barrios (or if Barrios declines to be on slate, then Ma as VP/Secretary)

2<sup>nd</sup> Dist: Dove (if Dove declines to be on slate, then Abdullah)

3<sup>rd</sup> Dist: Gunning (Gunning has indicated acceptance of nomination)

4<sup>th</sup> Dist: Davidson; (if Davidson declines nomination, then Liu) moved by Ma; seconded by Oh; passed unanimously

5<sup>th</sup> Dist: Oh – Nominated by Ma; seconded by Kulkarni (Oh will be VP-Secretary if Barrios accepts place on slate to be VP)

Motion was passed unanimously.

Adjournment: 11:44 a.m.

Minutes approved by Chair Kulkarni and committee members present.

**Note: Since the meeting, Barrios accepted nomination for 1<sup>st</sup> District VP; Dove declined nomination for 2<sup>nd</sup> District VP, and Abdullah accepted; Davidson accepted nomination for 4<sup>th</sup> District VP.**

**Thus, the slate (to be presented at the next Commission meeting in May) is as follows:**

**President: Gunning (3<sup>rd</sup> District)**

**VP/Secretary: Oh (5<sup>th</sup> District)**

**VP: Barrios (1<sup>st</sup> District)**

**VP: Abdullah (2<sup>nd</sup> District)**

**VP: Davidson (4<sup>th</sup> District)**