

Criminal Justice

- *Will you commit to reducing custody arrests and instead using your discretion to issue a citation or to release individuals after booking?*

The LASD is working actively with our County partners in the diversion of qualified individuals into “Alternatives to Custody Programs.” The Los Angeles County Jails today are very different than they were a few years ago. While we previously housed many low level offenders, the vast majority of our inmate population currently are more serious/violent offenders. We also have an increasing population of inmates suffering from serious mental health issues. We continuously evaluate our inmate population in an effort to manage our daily population totals in order to provide the safest possible environment for our inmates and staff alike.

Education Advocacy

- *At a time when students and parents across the country are worried about gun violence at school, the Trump administration’s response is to put more guns into our nation’s schools, either by arming teachers or by stationing armed security or police officers on campus. Recently, an incident in a California high school teacher, who is a reserve police officer, accidentally discharged his gun into the classroom’s ceiling. “Debris or fragmentation” from the ceiling, according to the local police chief, struck a 17-year-old student, who was taken to the hospital for treatment.*

- *Research has consistently demonstrated that armed staff in schools sow distrust between students and school staff, undermine positive school climate, criminalize students, and further heighten tensions on campus.*
- *Do you support arming teachers? (Yes/No/Explain)*

I am not a proponent of arming teachers in our schools. I don't believe that most teachers would be supportive of this tactic either. There are a number of reasons for my perspective, but I believe that it puts the teacher at greater risk, in that if the suspect is aware that the teacher is armed, they will likely become an initial target. Teachers have enough to do in educating our children. Security is a specialty that would be a distraction to their core mission.

Maintaining positive communication and relationships with our school communities, including students, parents, teachers, school security and administrators, and developing effective early warning systems is a positive means of dealing with threats.

Recently, deputies from our Norwalk Station were notified by an alert school security officer after he overheard a threat. We were able to identify the student, conduct an investigation and recover

several weapons and ammunition in the student's home.

In 2017, the LASD received 52 tips and leads specifically related to threats targeting schools. In the month following the Parkland School shooting, the LASD made 7 arrests of individuals who made violent threats against schools. Seven others received psychiatric services after being put on a hold for mental health evaluation. We were thankful for an engaged school community who reported the threats.

▪ *Do you support placing more permanent armed security guards or police officers on school campuses? (Yes/No/Explain)*

That is a decision that would have to be made on a case by case basis by the individual school districts. If that decision is made in order to protect the students, teachers and staff at a particular school, I would advocate for ensuring that those deployed are properly trained and vetted for the position. I believe that there are many benefits to having carefully selected school resource deputies deployed on school campuses beyond the obvious one regarding the prevention of violent incidents.

- *Do you support keeping schools “gun free”? (Yes/No/Explain)*

I believe that schools should be places that are optimally conducive to a learning environment. That environment must be safe in the eyes of all involved in order to nurture that environment. I believe that no person who is not properly authorized to be armed on campus should be allowed on that campus.

Immigrant Rights

- *LA County has approximately 900k undocumented residents. As Sheriff, what steps would you take to protect undocumented residents and their families, and build trust with immigrant communities?*

I fully enforce our Department’s policies that preclude our deputies from asking about a person’s immigration status. We focus on the victim as a human being who needs our service and assistance. We protect all people by protecting their rights and ensuring that they receive justice under the law.

- *In 2017, California adopted SB 54, the California Values Act, to disentangle ICE from local law enforcement agencies and help ensure that residents can cooperate with the police without fear it will lead to their deportation. Do you support SB 54? As Sheriff, what steps would you take to ensure the Department’s compliance with the law?*

SB 54 was signed into law by Governor Brown and I am sworn to uphold the law. We worked with the Governor's staff as well as the Governor himself in influencing the final outcome of the legislation. The final draft which became law is largely modeled on what we were doing in Los Angeles County. I believe that we were able to strike the critical balance between public trust and public safety.

Jails

• The Sheriff has tremendous amount of power, including reducing sentences of those incarcerated in the jails. What steps do you plan on taking as Sheriff of LA County in reducing the population inside the LA County jails?

As mentioned previously, we continuously evaluate our inmate population for release consideration. Approximately 120,000 people are booked into our Inmate Reception Center each year, which creates a high level of turnover within our inmate population. Under current conditions, when we looked at how many inmates could be diverted out of our jails into work release programs, I learned that only a few hundred out of our average daily population of 17,000 would be eligible after a risk assessment is completed. Our goal is to ensure that we don't

release someone who remains a significant threat to the public or themselves.

We also are challenged by the dramatic recent growth in the numbers of those who are seriously mentally ill in our custody. Inmate patients who suffer from some form of mental illness now comprise between 25-33% of our total inmate population. We are working closely with our partners at the Department of Health Services and the Department of Mental Health in an effort to look at all available options. The reality, at least for the short term, is that we are managing what amounts to a state prison population and the largest mental health facility in the nation.

• How do you plan on working and partnering with the LASD Civilian Oversight Commission? Specifically, what do you see their role is in holding LASD accountable and transparent in policies and practices?

I was an early supporter of the Civilian Oversight Commission as an important bridge between the many diverse communities that we serve and the LASD. The members serve in an advisory capacity to both the Board of Supervisors and the Los

Angeles County Sheriff's Department. They weigh in on a wide variety of issues and we take their input and guidance very seriously. The COC is comprised of dedicated professionals from many diverse fields of expertise. The Commission meetings are held in a public forum where the department provides information and updates on a myriad of issues affecting public safety. A few examples are training regarding interacting with those in a mental health crisis, de-escalation strategies and Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) implementation.

LGBT, Gender + Reproductive Justice

• Transgender people are overrepresented in the Los Angeles County jails. Historically, most transgender women have been housed in the K6G "gay" unit at Men's Central Jail, while most transgender men have been housed at the CRDF "women's" jail. Auditors recently found LASD out of compliance with section 115.42(e) of the federal Prison Rape Elimination Act Standards, which requires the agency to give each transgender inmate's own views with respect to their own safety "serious consideration" when making facility and housing placement decisions. As Sheriff, would you move the Department toward allowing transgender individuals to be housed based on their gender identity when such a placement feels safe and appropriate for them-- and if so, how?

We already have protocols in place that address these important concerns. The Office of Inspector

General has called our policy one of the most, if not the most, progressive policies in the nation.

We are proud of all that has been accomplished, but we continuously strive to be better.

• The ACLU opposes criminal penalties for the exchange of sex for money or other things of value, between consenting adults. Evidence abounds that criminalization of sex work is not an effective way to combat human trafficking, and in fact makes it more difficult and less safe for exploited sex workers to seek help. These problems disproportionately impact transgender women, others in the LGBTQ community, people of color, and women. Would you support a moratorium on prostitution prosecutions for consensual sex work, a formal policy of not pursuing prostitution charges against victims who report another crime that occurred while they were engaging in sex work, and/or other measures to enhance safety and security for people engaged in the sex trade?

I am very proud of LASD's work on Human Trafficking. We have created a co-located, collaborative model that is viewed by many as a national model for what can be done when private and public stakeholders work together toward common goals. We treat victims of human trafficking as victims, not as suspects, and provide them the opportunity for counseling, wrap-around services

and other individualized needs. We hold the traffickers and pimps accountable, as well as addressing the demand side, also holding responsible those that seek to exploit some of the most vulnerable in our society.

We are always looking to address the needs and concerns of our communities and are more than willing to look at all options available to us.

• We know that 1.3 million children in the United States have mothers who are incarcerated, and 5 percent of women in jails nationwide are pregnant at admission. As the largest women's jail in the country, CRDF routinely houses (?) postpartum parents who need or want to breastfeed or pump breastmilk for delivery to their children. How will you ensure that parents are able to directly breastfeed or get their breastmilk to their children, and otherwise maintain family relationships while incarcerated in LA County? What alternatives to incarceration will you establish to this effect? What are your thoughts on construction plans for a new women's facility in Mira Loma?

We have some of the most innovative programs available to women who are pregnant and in our care and custody at CRDF. We are always looking for ways to improve our service delivery and are open to all suggestions.

Mira Loma is being designed to be a gender responsive facility, addressing the special needs of our female inmate population. We are working toward providing the best care available to our inmates in a more therapeutic environment.

Police Practices

- The Racial and Identity Profiling Act requires that law enforcement agencies collect and report data on each stop its officers conduct, including the perceived race of the individual stopped, the reason for the stop, and any action taken. The law does not specify how agencies should use this information. Do you commit to analyzing this information regularly and taking action – whether it is Department-wide or officer specific – if the results suggest that there is biased policing activity occurring?

We are committed to upholding the law. We are currently developing systems and policy for implementation which will begin in 2019.