



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HALL OF JUSTICE

ROBERT G. LUNA, SHERIFF



December 20, 2023

Sharmaine Moseley, Executive Director
Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission
World Trade Center
350 South Figueroa, Suite 288
Los Angeles, California 90071
Via Electronic submittal

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
RESPONSE TO THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT
COMMISSION'S REQUEST FOR A POLICY ON MEMORIAL VIGILS**

Dear Ms. Moseley:

As you may be aware, at its November meeting, the Civilian Oversight Commission ("COC") heard a matter on the agenda entitled "Harassment of Families" related to the "Department's lack of policies regarding the treatment of family members and their next of kin who have lost loved ones as a result of use of force by deputies."

Based on our review of the history of the issue, this issue dates back to at least November 2019 when the COC requested the Office of Inspector General (OIG) to "initiate a formal inquiry and assessment as to whether the harassment of families by LASD patrol operations staff is occurring and the nature of said harassment following fatal uses of force." The OIG issued a report in or about November 2020 and among its recommendations was to "Adopt a Policy Regarding Memorial Sites and Vigils." This recommendation was later adopted by the Board of Supervisors (BOS) in a motion dated July 27, 2021. From reviewing the Department's files, it appears the Department issued a newsletter on January 24, 2020 on the topic.

The discussion at the November 2023 meeting included a discussion about the original policy recommendation and whether a newsletter was sufficient. In

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Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission

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addition, it appears that members of the COC and OIG were not aware of and/or had not previously seen the newsletter.

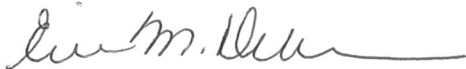
Following the COC meeting and at the direction of the Sheriff, a policy was drafted on this topic. This proposed policy, attached to this letter, will convert the substance of the newsletter into formal policy to address the issues and recommendations presented by the OIG, COC, and BOS.

We would appreciate it if you could circulate this to the members of the COC, or any appropriate sub-committee thereof. We welcome comments on this draft policy, but respectfully request that we receive all comments by Friday, January 5, 2024.

Please let me know should you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

ROBERT G. LUNA, SHERIFF



EILEEN M. DECKER
Division Director
Office of Constitutional Policing

cc: Max Huntsman, Inspector General
Dara Williams, Chief Deputy Inspector General

w/attachment