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ATTENTION: ASSIGNMENT EDITORS

L.A. COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS ON POLICING AND HUMAN RELATIONS

25 years after the 1992 Civil Unrest and on the heels of the protests in Anaheim, do residents of Los Angeles County see improvements in how law enforcement interacts with the community?

WHAT: The Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations will hold a public hearing on **policing and human relations** in **South Los Angeles** for residents of the 2nd Supervisorial District as part of a countywide Policing and Human Relations Project. Public hearings were announced in recognition of the **50th Anniversary of the 1965 Watts Rebellion**, the **25th Anniversary of the 1992 Civil Unrest** and the strained relations between law enforcement and local communities that precipitated these events.

The Commission wants to hear from the community about their personal experiences with law enforcement officers and agencies in Los Angeles County (LAPD, LASD, Inglewood PD, Gardena PD, etc.), and about their suggestions for increasing fairness and equity in policing, and for building and/or maintaining positive relations between police and communities.

This hearing is a part of a series of hearings taking place throughout Los Angeles County. A final hearing is planned in order to hear from law enforcement representatives and subject matter experts. In addition to the hearings, the Commission is obtaining information about best practices and recommendations for fair policing from many sources. The results of these hearings and additional information will be combined in a report that can be used by community partners to strengthen local public safety systems.

WHO: Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations
Members of the Public

WHEN: Saturday, February 25, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

WHERE: Watts Labor Community Action Committee
Phoenix Room
10950 S. Central Avenue, Watts, Los Angeles

VISUALS: Residents of South Los Angeles and throughout the 2nd Supervisorial District discussing their interactions with and feelings about law enforcement.

QUOTES:

“For our commission, this is a critically important opportunity to hear from the Watts and other South LA communities because it was in these communities more than 50 years ago where a crisis in police-community relations erupted in widespread violence,” **said Isabelle Gunning, President of the L.A. County Commission on Human Relations.** “With these hearings, we hope community members will come forward to speak on the issues that we need to address today if we are to have strong trust in police-community relations.”

“We hope the diverse communities of the 2nd Supervisorial District will recognize that we sincerely want to hear from them about their experiences with police, whether bad or good, so we can highlight the work that needs to be done, and the positives that need to be reinforced,” **stated Robin Toma, Executive Director of the Commission.** “As we approach the 25th anniversary of the Rodney King uprising, this is a chance to see what has changed from since those days, and what still stands in the way of effective 21st Century constitutional policing based in trust and accountability. Now with the news of the unfortunate incident in Anaheim between an off-duty Los Angeles police officer and a group of students a healthy debate has sparked about policing and human relations. We invite the public to come to Saturday’s hearing to share their personal stories with law enforcement in Los Angeles County.”

“Los Angeles County is a huge area,” said **Dr. Melina Abdullah, Vice-President of the Commission and Chair of its Ad-Hoc Committee on Policing and Human Relations**. “When you talk about law enforcement agencies there are over 50 agencies in Los Angeles County. Aside from the LAPD and the sheriff’s department you have dozens of municipal police agencies including Inglewood, Culver City and Hawthorne. It is critically important that the public come out and tell us about their experiences so that the Commission and the County can have an accurate representation of how the community really feels about police-community relations.”

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Los Angeles County

Commission on Human Relations

Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services
3175 West Sixth Street, Suite 400
Los Angeles, CA 90020

(213) 738-2788

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations will hold a public hearing on

POLICING AND HUMAN RELATIONS

We seek to strengthen trust between police and communities and advance positive intergroup relations through policing practices. **Community members are invited to share their experiences of interactions with law enforcement within Los Angeles County and/or provide recommendations to address policing issues.** Testimony will be limited to 2 minutes per speaker. Community members are encouraged to submit written information and/or suggestions (5 pages maximum). The public will also have the option to submit brief video recorded testimony (2 minutes max). On-site parking is FREE. Spanish/English translation will be provided. A light lunch will be served.

DATE: Saturday, February 25, 2017

TIME: 10 AM – 1 PM

LOCATION: Phoenix Hall
Watts Labor Community Action Committee
10950 S. Central Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90059

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Public Testimony on Policing and Human Relations
- III. Adjournment

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

** If interpretation in other languages, including Spanish or American Sign Language, or accommodations for persons with disabilities are needed, please contact the Commission at (213) 738-2788 no later than 3 days prior to the hearing. This hearing will be accessible to persons with disabilities.



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AVISO DE AUDIENCIA PÚBLICA

La Comisión de las Relaciones Humanas del Condado de Los Ángeles conducirá una audiencia pública sobre

CONDUCTA POLICIAL Y RELACIONES HUMANAS

Buscamos fortalecer la confianza entre la policía y las comunidades y promover relaciones positivas mediante prácticas policiales. **Se invita a los miembros de la comunidad a compartir sus experiencias de interacción con la policía dentro del condado de Los Ángeles y/o proporcionar recomendaciones para abordar los asuntos policiales.** El testimonio se limitará a 2 minutos por orador. Se anima a miembros de la comunidad a presentar información escrita y/o sugerencias (5 páginas como máximo). El público también tendrá la opción de enviar un breve testimonio grabado en video (máximo 2 minutos). El estacionamiento en el local es gratuito. Se proporcionará traducción al español. Se servirá un almuerzo ligero.

LA FECHA: sabado, 25 de febrero del 2017

LA HORA: 10 AM – 1 PM

LUGAR: Phoenix Hall
Watts Labor Community Action
Committee
10950 S. Central Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90059

AGENDA

- I. Llamado al Orden
- II. Testimonio público sobre la policía y las relaciones humanas
- III. Clausura

Para más información en español, favor de comunicarse al (213) 738-2788. Habrá Interpretación en español.

*** Si se necesita interpretación en otros idiomas, incluyendo lenguaje de signos en español o "americano", o acomodaciones para personas con discapacidades, comuníquese con la Comisión al (213) 738-2788 a más tardar 3 días antes de la audiencia. Esta audiencia será accesible a personas con discapacidades.*