LARRP October 2022 Newsletter

Restoring People! Rebuilding Community! Reshaping the Nation!

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LARRP Committee Meetings

Integrated Health Committee
October 3, 2022, 2:00 pm

REGISTER Integrated Health

Education Committee:
October 6, 2022, 4:00 PM

Register Education

LARRP General Meeting
October 20, 2022, 10:00 am

REGISTER - General Meeting

November Meetings

Employment Committee
November 16, 2022, 2:00 PM

Register Employment

Housing Committee
November 17, 2022, 1:30 PM

Register Housing

MEETING ARCHIVES

Why We Do what We Do
Grounding us in our Space - Migral Perez
Former LARRP intern, Miguel Perez shares his story.

It is an inspiring example of the power and effectiveness of our guiding principle at LARRP - partnership and networking!

LARRP Policy Updates

SB 731

WE WON!!!! Governor Newsom signs SB 731 by Senator Maria Durazo!

For the past two years LARRP has been a co-sponsor of SB731, the “Sunsetting Convictions” bill that will allow most non-violent and non-sexual felonies and misdemeanors to be automatically expunged from an individuals’ record after 5 years of finishing their sentence without being convicted again. Certain law enforcement, judicial, and educational staff will still be able to see the otherwise sealed records, but public access, and access by other parties will be limited or restricted completely after the aforementioned period has passed. It was an uphill battle to win this in the Capitol and it is a huge win for the entire reentry community. It would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of our co-sponsors Californians for Safety and Justice, Anti-Recidivism Coalition, Homeboy Industries, A New Way Of Life, and All of Us or None, along with powerful advocacy from the LARRP network!

Measure A

LARRP Joins the Steering Committee of Measure A for Sheriff Accountability

We are excited to share with you all that LARRP has been selected to join the Measure A Steering Committee here in LA County. You can read more about Measure A HERE, the county-wide ballot measure which would allow the Board of Supervisors to take action to remove an LA Sheriff that is misusing county funds, defying subpoenas, obstructing investigations, or otherwise violating the law. Measure A would simply give the Board of Supervisors the tools to take swift action to protect the public in the face of a sheriff who is conducting themselves above the law. You can help with Measure A right now by sharing the official Measure A social media posts and signing up at the bottom of the Measure A homepage!

LARRP Says NO (again) to the Latest Proposal to Build Another Jail!

On Tuesday, September 27th, the BOS voted NO on the most recent proposal, this time by Supervisor Barger, to build a “mental health jail.” With only 24 hours to get comments in, nearly 60 LARRP members responded to our Action Alert and submitted comments to the Board Motion #11 to build a mental health jail. LARRP did support Motion 16, Addressing the Mental Health Crisis in Los Angeles County: Developing Mental Health Care Facilities to Help Depopulate the Jail, by Supervisors Solis and Hahn, which passed unanimously 5-0.

Motion 16 directs County agencies to develop non-carceral locked and unlocked mental health facilities to help de-populate Men’s Central Jail. The board has also tasked the County Administrator with developing a reentry coordinator for people who are leaving jail.
submitted a letter to oppose Board Motion 11.

Three years ago, the community and the Board agreed that building a mental health jail was not in the best interest of Los Angeles and committed instead towards a Care First Jails Last approach. Supervisor Barger’s attempt to re-litigate this decision is a step backward. Thanks to activism from all across the County, Motion 11 failed 2-3, with only Barger and Hahn supporting.

help depopulate Men’s Central Jail. The goal is to move some of the higher acuity mental health individuals out of the jail and into non-carceral facilities staffed and run by mental health professionals instead of jails run by law enforcement staff. The P-3 population represents about 1400 individuals within the county jail population, so this move to look at new facilities could help hundreds of folks receive specialized, non-carceral treatment and support. You can read more about it from Supervisor Hilds Solis here.

October Spotlight
The Election - November 8, 2022

Election Season is Here!
Get Ready to Vote on Key Issues Important to Our Community

- **Measure A** authorizes the removal of a sheriff, by 4/5th vote of the Board of Supervisors, if they commit serious violations of the public trust — like breaking the law, stealing county funds, obstructing investigations into deputy misconduct, or failing to stop deputy gangs from brutalizing our communities.
  - A Yes vote would give the board the ability to take action against the sheriff
  - A No vote would not change anything and keep the status quo as is

- **Los Angeles County Sheriff** - The Sheriff’s Department, the largest in the country, is headed by a single elected official who oversees all aspects of the department and it’s nearly $4B budget.
  - The current Sheriff, Alex Villanueva, has served since 2018
  - Former Long Beach Police Chief Robert Luna, is running against him.

- **California State Attorney General** - The Statewide election for State Attorney General is also taking place. The Attorney General is the state’s top lawyer, and is responsible for representing the state in lawsuits, ensuring the civil rights of all Californians, and broader criminal investigations. The AG also runs the CA Department of Justice, giving them immense power to enforce and enact the laws passed by the state.
  - The current AG, Rob Bonta, was appointed to the position by Governor Newsom after his predecessor, Xavier Becerra, was tapped by President Biden to head up the Federal Department of Health and Human Services.
  - His opponent, Nathan Hochman, is a civil litigator who is a “tough on crime” candidate.

Election day for everyone nationwide is Tuesday, November 8th,

but over 400 voting locations in Los Angeles are open daily from 10am-7pm beginning on October 29th. Find more info at [www.LAvote.gov](http://www.LAvote.gov).

Registering to vote is easy, and can be done online [HERE](http://www.LAvote.gov), the deadline to register is October 24th!

If you are unsure if you are registered, you can check [HERE](http://www.LAvote.gov) on the county website as well!

As we get closer to election day, every voter in the state will get a ballot in the mail, which can be filled out and mailed back at no cost to you. You simply will need to fill out the ballot, put it in the supplied envelope, sign, date and address the envelope, and drop it off at any post office or mail dropbox.

If you would prefer, you can also find an in-person voting location [HERE](http://www.LAvote.gov).
Below is a refresher from our partners at LA Free The Vote on voter eligibility for justice involved people.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELIGIBLE TO VOTE</th>
<th>INELIGIBLE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- In county jail:</td>
<td>- Currently imprisoned in:</td>
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<tr>
<td>- serving a misdemeanor sentence (a misdemeanor never affects your right to vote)</td>
<td>- State prison</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Because jail time is a condition of probation (misdemeanor or felony)</td>
<td>- Federal prison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Serving a felony jail sentence</td>
<td>- Currently serving a state prison felony sentence in a county jail or other correctional facility</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Awaiting trial</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Currently in county jail for a parole violation</td>
<td>- Currently in county jail awaiting transfer to a state or federal prison for a felony conviction</td>
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<tr>
<td>- On probation</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- On mandatory supervision</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- On post-release community supervision</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- On federal supervised release</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- A person with a juvenile wardship adjudication</td>
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</table>

YOU have the power to vote and get your network to vote, and if you have any questions about registering voting locations or any other inquiries, you can email Charles@lareentry.org

LA Free The Vote Presentation

LARRP in Action
Vera Institute Event on Pretrial Services

As LA County finally begins to shift pretrial services out of the Probation Department and to establish a new pretrial entity, we heard from national experts on best practices, challenges, and how supportive pretrial services programs can assist in decarceration efforts and promote community safety. Experts from New York, New Jersey, and California shared lessons learned on what it takes to get pretrial services off the ground, scaled up, and to sustain the work.

Community based reentry service providers will be essential to the success of LA’s new pretrial entity and we encourage all LARRP network members to stay connected to this new entity which will be housed inside the new the Justice Care and Opportunities Department (“JCOD”).

On September 16, LARRP Steering Committee members Lynne Lyman, Jose Osuna, and Michael Graf-Weisner joined an in-person convening by the Vera Institute for Justice in South LA for a deep dive on Pretrial Services.

Report from the LARRP Community Safety Committee

This month we continue to do our part in addressing the heartbreak of gun violence in our communities.

During September LARRP joined forces with Centinela Youth Services, faith leaders and other youth service providers to launch the Community Healing Collaboration – Eastside, a Cal VIP-funded program seeks to equip trusted community leaders and credible messengers with training on best-practices in violence reduction and structures that support community and family healing.

LARRP also joined forces with Loyola Marymount University to support Community Safety at Crenshaw High School, a semester-long project which seeks to learn and strategize practical and youth-led ways of addressing community-based
A semester-long project which seeks to learn and strategize practical and youth-led ways of addressing community-based violence in order to prevent the school-to-prison pipeline at Crenshaw High School.

Opportunities and Information

Invitation to partner with CCJBH

Individuals transitioning from prison to the community who have identified mental health and/or substance use disorders do not utilize Medi-Cal services at high rates.

To learn more about why, CCJBH, with support from the Cal State, Sacramento, is currently planning a series of listening sessions this fall/winter with members from the broad BH/JI population and the providers that serve them.

We would greatly value your organization’s partnership on this work.

Please use this FORM to let us know whether your organization might be interested.

Make sure you click "view entire message" when you come to the bottom of the email so you can see all the month’s events and some of the important new reports and news stories that have come out in the last month.

Community Events

Postsecondary Enrollment for Formerly Incarcerated Persons in California

Monday, October 3, 12:00 - 1:00pm PT

Featuring Tolani Britton, Assistant Professor of Education, UC Berkeley

Sponsored by: Institute for the Study of Societal Issues
Co-sponsored by: Center for the Study of Law & Society

Zoom Webinar REGISTER (free)

Upcoming Meetings of the Probation Oversight Commission

Commission Meetings (Register Here)
- October 13, 2022
- October 27, 2022
- November 16, 2022* at 12:00 p.m.
- December 8, 2022* at 12:00 p.m

Town Halls (Register Here)
- October 19, 2021
- November 30, 2022
- December 14, 2022

UPCOMING MEETINGS
In the NEWS

Featured News Item

L.A. County sheriff’s unit accused of targeting political enemies, vocal critics

LA Times By Alene Tchekmedyian, Sept. 23, 2021

The unit, named the Civil Rights and Public Integrity Detail, has pursued a long-running investigation into one of Villanueva’s most vocal critics, L.A. County Inspector General Max Huntsman, and others despite sheriff’s officials being told by the FBI and state law enforcement officials that it appeared no crimes had been committed, a senior sheriff’s official said.

The team also has an open criminal inquiry into a nonprofit that is run by a member of a county board that oversees the sheriff and is associated with county Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, both of whom have clashed fiercely with Villanueva and called for his resignation.

Concern over the team has caused consternation both inside and outside the department. Even the union representing rank-and-file deputies put out a warning that a member of the detail was using “unconventional tactics” to question deputies.

READ MORE

See Also:

L.A. County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl’s home searched by sheriff’s investigators

L.A. sheriff stripped of control of Kuehl investigation by attorney general

Sheriff ordered to halt search of some computers linked to Supervisor Kuehl investigation

More news....

Gov. Newsom vetoes bill to end indefinite solitary confinement in California, citing safety concerns

LA Times, By Hannah Wiley , Sept. 29, 2022

Gov. Gavin Newsom vetoed a bill Thursday to limit solitary confinement in California’s jails, prisons and private detention centers, rejecting advocates’ hopes to restrict a practice that many experts have likened to torture.

READ MORE

Veto Statement

Impact Justice And Its Project Pairing Homeowners With Formerly Incarcerated Tenants Gets A $15 Million Boost

Witness LA, September 15, 2022 by Taylor Walker

READ MORE

LA Supervisors Vote to Explore Creating Locked, ‘Non-Correctional’ Mental Health Facilities
Facilities
The LAist, By Emily Elena Dugdale, Sep 27, 2022
The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a motion Tuesday that proposed establishing locked “non-correctional” mental health treatment facilities for incarcerated people with mental health needs currently languishing in the county jails.

'Read More'

'Third World tactics'? What’s behind L.A. County sheriff’s search of Sheila Kuehl’s home?
LA Times, By Times Staff, Sept. 21, 2022
Sheila Kuehl and Patti Giggans have been among the most vocal critics of Los Angeles County Sheriff Alex Villanueva.

'Read More'

'Every Exit is An Entrance - Starting Over'
Black Voice News, Breanna Reeves, Part 1 of 4

'Read More'

Column: If California really wants to reduce crime, not just talk about it, it’ll cost $42 million
LA Times By Erika D. Smith, Sept. 6, 2022
Politicians up and down the state continue to placate an apprehensive public, staking out opposing sides of the ideological spectrum to talk about reducing crime, while often shying away from specific, sustainable solutions. Examples of this abound.

'Read More'
One of the most important criminal legal system disparities in California has long been difficult to decipher: Which communities throughout the state do incarcerated people come from? Anyone who lives in, works within heavily policed and incarcerated communities, or who has an incarcerated loved one intuitively knows that certain neighborhoods disproportionately experience incarceration. But data have never been available to quantify how many people from each community are imprisoned with any real precision.

But now, thanks to redistricting reform that ensures incarcerated people are counted correctly in the legislative districts they come from, we can understand the geography of incarceration in California.

**Key findings:**

- In 2019, over half of the people in U.S. prisons – amounting to more than 770,000 people – were serving sentences of 10 years or longer – a huge jump from 2000.
- Nearly one in five people in U.S. prisons—over 260,000 people—had already served at least 10 years in 2019. This is an increase from 133,000 people in 2000—which represented 10% of the prison population in that year.
- In California, 29% of imprisoned people had already served at least 10 years in 2019. In Washington, DC, the level was even higher in 2020, at 39%.
- Over 770,000 people in U.S. prisons were serving sentences of 10 years or longer in 2019—56% of the total prison population. This is an increase from 587,000 people in 2000—which represented 44% of the prison population in that year.