May 17, 2021

Ms. Dara Williams  
Chief Deputy  
Los Angeles County Office of Inspector General  
312 South Hill Street, Third Floor  
Los Angeles, California 90013

Dear Ms. Williams:

**RESPONSE TO THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT ON REFORM AND OVERSIGHT EFFORTS: FIRST QUARTER 2021 REPORT**

Attached herein is the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's (Department) response to the Los Angeles County Office of Inspector General's (OIG) validation draft on the “Reform and Oversight Efforts: Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department – First Quarter 2021 Report.” I have reviewed the report and appreciate your input. The attachment contains responses from our Homicide and Internal Criminal Investigations Bureaus.

Thank you and your staff for your efforts in reviewing the various functions and responsibilities within the Department’s purview. The dedication made by members of the OIG to execute this report is greatly appreciated by the Department. I am committed to balancing community safety with public trust and appreciate the recommendations you make to assist us in this endeavor.

The Audit and Accountability Bureau (AAB) has the responsibility to monitor and document the Department’s response related to this review.
Should you have any questions regarding the Department's response, please contact Captain Rodney K. Moore at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

ALEX VILLANUEVA, SHERIFF

[Signature]
TIMOTHY K. MURAKAMI
UNDERSHERIFF
Attachment: Responses from Homicide Bureau and ICIB
Response from Homicide Bureau

Deputy-Involved Shootings

Page 8 – “The information contained in the following summaries of shootings is based on information provided by the Sheriff’s Department and is preliminary in nature. While the Office of Inspector General receives information at the walk-through at the scene of the shooting, preliminary memoranda with summaries, and by attending a Critical Incident Review, the statements of the deputies and witnesses are not provided. The Sheriff’s Department does not permit the monitoring of its investigations of deputy-involved shootings and does not comply with lawful requests for documentation of these investigations.”

This paragraph was not in the previous Quarterly Report. The Sheriff’s Department is in compliance with the law and provides a copy of the investigations upon their completion.

We are not willing to change this paragraph.

Page 9 – Norwalk

“The male Hispanic threw an object from his window that caught their attention.”
This statement should read:

“The male Hispanic threw an object, later identified as a loaded handgun, from his window that caught their attention.”

We added the following sentence to the summary: A loaded firearm was recovered in the area where the deputies saw the suspect throw an object out of the window.

Page 10 – East Los Angeles

“At that time, six deputies shot a total of 20 rounds at the male.”
This statement should read:

“At that time, six deputies fired a total of 16 rounds at the male.” Changed to 16 rounds

The statement should read:

“at approximately 8:50 p.m.,”
Changed to 8:50 pm

Page 10 – East Los Angeles
"Mr. Cervantes turned toward one of the deputies."

The statement should read:

"Mr. Cervantes suddenly turned assultive toward one of the deputies."

We are not willing to change this.

Response from Professional Standards Division – ICIB

Internal Criminal Investigations Bureau

Page 14 – "The Sheriff's Department’s Internal Criminal Investigations Bureau (ICIB) reports directly to the Sheriff and Undersheriff."

This statement should read:

The Sheriff’s Department’s Internal Criminal Investigations Bureau (ICIB) reports directly to Division Chief and Commander of Professional Standards Division.

We changed this. We keep changing it based on the information we are given from LASD.

"As of March 31, 2021, the Sheriff’s Department reports ICIB has 73 active cases. This quarter, the Sheriff’s Department reports sending 12 cases to the LADA for filing consideration. The oldest open case that ICIB has sent to the LADA for filing consideration is a 2017 case, which is still being reviewed by the LADA."

This statement should read:

As of March 31, 2021, twenty-five cases are currently at the LADA’s office for filing consideration. Eighteen cases are in-trial, pre-trial, or arraignment. The oldest open case submitted to the LADA, which is still under review, was from 2018. This quarter, the Sheriff’s Department reports sending 10 cases to the LADA for filing consideration. The remaining 30 cases have not been completed and are actively under investigation by ICIB.

We are suggesting that the paragraph read as set forth below:

As of March 31, 2021, the Sheriff’s Department reports ICIB has 73 active cases. This quarter, the Sheriff’s Department reports sending ten cases to the LADA for filing consideration. In addition to the ten cases referred LADA this quarter, the LADA is still reviewing fifteen other cases for a total of 25 cases currently under review. Eighteen cases are in the arraignment, pre-trial, or trial stage. The remaining thirty cases are still actively under investigation by ICIB. The oldest open case that ICIB has sent to the LADA for filing consideration is a 2017 case, which was presented to LADA in 2018 and is still being reviewed.