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# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CONSUMER AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMISSION

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Hilda L. Solis  
Mark Ridley-Thomas  
Sheila Kuehl  
Janice Hahn  
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*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

## **Commission Meeting Minutes**

Friday, February 22, 2019

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Conference Room 739  
500 W. Temple St., Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Item 1: Call to Order** Chair Ronnie Jayne called the meeting to order at 10:43 A.M.

**Item 2: Roll Call and Confirmation of Quorum** Roll call was taken and the quorum requirement was met.

**Present**      **1<sup>st</sup> Supervisorial District:** Farrell Chiles, Mike Gomez  
                  **2<sup>nd</sup> Supervisorial District:** Dennis Arguelles, Ronnie Jayne  
                  **3<sup>rd</sup> Supervisorial District:** Joan Patsy Ostroy, Ross Viselman  
                  **4<sup>th</sup> Supervisorial District:** None  
                  **5<sup>th</sup> Supervisorial District:** Vivian Chan, Harry Leon

**Absent**        **1<sup>st</sup> Supervisorial District:** Mark Ramos  
                  **2<sup>nd</sup> Supervisorial District:** K.W. Tulloss  
                  **3<sup>rd</sup> Supervisorial District:** None  
                  **4<sup>th</sup> Supervisorial District:** Marcel Rodarte, Charline Sistrunk, Patrick Wilson  
                  **5<sup>th</sup> Supervisorial District:** Daniel Deng

**Staff**         Joseph Nicchitta, Joel Ayala, Chavon Smith

**Public**        Eugene Willis

### **Item 3: Approval of Consumer Affairs Advisory Commission Minutes**

Commissioner Mike Gomez moved to approve the minutes of the Consumer Affairs Advisory Commission meeting for November 15, 2018. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Farrell Chiles. Motion passed.

### **Item 4: Director Update – Joseph Nicchitta**

Department of Consumer and Business Affairs (DCBA) Director Joseph Nicchitta spoke to the Commission about the growth of the DCBA's programs and services, staffing changes, improvements to systems and technological resources, relationships with prosecuting agencies, and the department's strategic planning process- which includes increased collaboration with the Commission. Mr. Nicchitta responded to questions from the Commission about the vision of the commission in the DCBA's strategic planning, which included streamlining the goals of the commission with the goals of the department

Mr. Nicchitta also announced that Maggie Becerra was appointed as Deputy Director of Consumer Protection for DCBA, and will provide a presentation at a future meeting.

### **Item 5: 2019 Elections**

Commissioner Vivian Chan moved to elect a slate appointing Commissioner Mike Gomez as Commission Chair, and Commissioner Joan Patsy Ostroy as Commission Vice Chair. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dennis Arguelles. Motion passed unanimously.

2018 Chair Ronnie Jayne thanked the commission for allowing her to serve the previous two terms- 2017 and 2018- and passed leadership of the remainder of the meeting to newly elected Chair Mike Gomez.

### **Item 6: 2019 Committee Selection**

Chair Gomez provided an overview of the two standing committees, the Legislative Committee and the Public Information Committee, and reviewed the committee meeting calendar. Chair Gomez asked that the Committee Interest Cards be sent to commissioners via e-mail for the Executive Committee to review at the next meeting.

### **Item 7: 2019 Meeting Calendar**

The Commission reviewed the 2019 meeting calendar, which included the Regular Commission meetings, and the committee meetings. No revisions were made to the meeting calendar.

### **Item 8: In-District Meeting Update**

Commissioner Farrell Chiles provided an update on the in-district meeting event, scheduled for Thursday, March 14, 2019, at Fairplex Sheraton Conference Center. The event will be held in collaboration with County Supervisor Hilda Solis, City of Pomona, Fairplex, and DCBA, and feature presentations on consumer scams, renters' rights, and immigration affairs.

### **Item 9: Department Update**

DCBA Chief Deputy Director Joel Ayala provided an update to the Commission on the department's programs and services including high cost loans, energy efficiency scams, and increasing the department's utilization of data analytics to create data driven reports and examine the relationships between consumer protection issues and demographic information.

### **Item 10: Future Agenda Items**

Commissioners requested the following future agenda items:

- Presentation from DCBA on the Department's strategic plan
- IRS Consumer Scams
- Improving Los Angeles County's Approach to Serving Older Adults (Board of Supervisors Motion # 5 – February 5, 2019)

### **Item 11: Public Comment**

Commissioner Chiles announced an event "African American History in the US Military", held at California State University Los Angeles on February 27, 2019. Commissioner Chiles provided the flyer to DCBA staff to circulate to the Commission via email.

### **Item 12: Adjournment**

The Consumer Affairs Advisory Commission meeting was adjourned at 12:23 P.M.