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EQUITY DEPARTMENT**
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CANDICE CHO
VICE PRESIDENT

ENRIQUE DE LA CRUZ
MELISSA GRANT
COURTNEY MORGAN-GREENE
MICHELE REED
CHRISTOPHER REYNOSO
MARIA ROMAN-TAYLORSON
ROSA RUSSELL
ANGELICA SOLIS
THELA THATCH

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 28, 2026
12:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Commission President Pierre Arreola called the meeting to order at 12:14 p.m. Commissioners Cho, De la Cruz, Morgan-Greene, Reed, Roman-Taylorson, Russell, and Thatch were present at the roll call.

Commissioners Grant, Reynoso, and Solis were absent.

Also in attendance were Capri Maddox, General Manager, LA Civil Rights Department; Claudia Luna, Assistant General Manager; Heather Aubry, Assistant City Attorney; Mayra Medel, Executive Officer; Carla Ibarra, LGBTQIA+ Liaison; Lilita Villa, Human Relations Advocate; and Chloe Coventry, Management Assistant.

A quorum was established and the meeting proceeded.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

The public comment period was opened. There were no speakers to address the Commission therefore, public comment was closed.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Commission reviewed the minutes of the December 2, 2025 special meeting. Commissioner Russell motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Reed seconded the motion, and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved:	Russell
Seconded:	Reed
Ayes:	Arreola, Cho, De la Cruz, Morgan-Greene, Roman-Taylorson, Thatch
Abstain:	
Absent:	Grant, Reynoso, Solis
Vote:	8 - 0

4. PRESENTATIONS

- a. Dr. Monica Lomeli, Manager, Hate Documentation & Data Analytics, Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations, provided a presentation on the 2024 Hate Crime Report. Data is a collaborative effort – work with over 100 agencies including all law enforcement agencies in the County, and schools. The highest number of hate crimes was reported in the inaugural year of the report, 1980. 2024 illustrated a year of hate crime motivated by race, ethnicity, or national origin. 48% of all hate crimes were racialized and incidents increased by 4% from the previous year. Transgender individuals were the highest reported incidents that face violence at 94%. This data is used to inform the LA County Board of Supervisors and other County entities. Dr. Lomeli also reported that these numbers are unlikely to be accurate as only incidents that are reported can be documented. Full report can be found here: https://assets-us-01.kc-usercontent.com/0234f496-d2b7-00b6-17a4-b43e949b70a2/07d89f78-f080-457e-85ed-918b08eba88a/Final_2024%20Hate%20Crime%20Report-Digital.pdf?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=
- b. Joumana Silyan-Saba, Director of Civic Engagement & Human Rights, LA Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department, provided an update on Civil Rights Enforcement (CRE). The City of LA's ordinance 186084 prohibits discrimination for anyone who lives, visits, or works in the City of LA on the basis of protected class in the private sector. She explained the process involves an intake assessment, investigation, and enforcement. The CRE team can issue a notice of violation, which is a public document that'll list corrective actions and penalties. The notice of violation can be challenged and would result in an administrative hearing. Joumana requested that the commission help with outreach and help disseminate information to their networks. She also let commissioners know they can request presentations for groups who may be interested in learning more about CRE.

5. DEPARTMENT UPDATE

General Manager, Capri Maddox, shared updates on the department's work and stressed the importance of reporting discrimination incidents as people may feel emboldened. GM Maddox reported that 4 contracts are being executed to the following organizations: Proyecto Pastoral, East LA Community Corporation, Watts Empowerment Center, and Charles Drew University. GM Maddox highlighted that commissioners Reed and Thatch were present at the MLK day parade.

6. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

- a. Due to time constraints, the discussion regarding the implementation of the strategic plan was tabled for the next regular meeting.
- b. President Arreola provided updates on the executive team's activities. They have been working on developing connections with other City departments, and Councilmembers. The team will follow up with the Commission on the Status of Women and implementation of CEDAW in the City of LA. He also notified the commission that they were named in a council motion put forth by councilmember Jurado. Staff will keep track of this motion and provide updates as needed. Commissioner Cho thanked commissioners for their time in regards to the 1:1 meetings and reminded commissioners to fill out their post-survey if they hadn't.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner De la Cruz provided remarks about recent events particularly in Minnesota. He wrote and distributed a statement he wrote supporting the call for a general strike. The statement can be found here:

https://civilandhumanrights.lacity.gov/sites/g/files/wph2271/files/2026-01/SKM_C360i26012814460.pdf

Commissioner Morgan-Greene provided an update that the Department of Justice's (DOJ) request for patient records for trans children from the Children's Hospital Los Angeles had been dropped.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned in honor of Renée Good and Alex Pretti. Two community members who lost their lives in Minnesota. The meeting was also adjourned in the honor and service of Commissioner Candice Cho who will be stepping down from the Human Relations Commission and will now serve on the California Civil Rights Council. This meeting marks her last meeting as a Human Relations Commissioner. Seeing no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 2:11 pm.