

Holding the L.A. Sheriff's Department Accountable for Abandoning Abuse Reforms

What: LWV-Pasadena Area Forum
Where: Altadena Public Library, 600 E. Mariposa
When: Tuesday, November 12th, 2019, 7-8:30 p.m.

Less than a decade after Under Sheriff Paul Tanaka and numerous Sheriff's Deputies were sentenced to prison—with former Sheriff Lee Baca currently appealing his prison sentence—for jail inmate abuse, dishonesty and obstruction of justice, LASD now claims deputies were unfairly fired for misconduct, and aims to reverse the reforms that followed.

The County Board of Supervisors, local press, government oversight organizations and a growing number of citizens who supported the reforms are now concerned that the Department is abandoning them with impunity. Many previously fired deputies are being rehired.

Internal investigations of deputies alleged to have committed misconduct have been halted, and other reforms reversed. For example, deputies' heavy metal flashlights, often used to abuse jail inmates, were forbidden and now have returned.

Speakers:

- **R. Samuel Paz**, civil rights attorney and Board Member of the ACLU of Southern California who helped initiate citizen oversight of LASD.
- **Brian K. Williams**, Executive Director of the L A Sheriff's Department's Citizen Oversight Commission, the official watchdog of the Sheriff's Department.
- **Melina Abdullah, Ph.D.**, Professor and Chair of the Pan African Studies Department of Los Angeles City College, and Co-Founder of Black Lives Matter LA who frequently appears before policing oversight bodies.
- **Sharon Kyle**—Moderator, ACLU SoCal Union Board, ACLU National Board Representative, Publisher, LA Progressive.
- **Elisa Arcidiacono**, Justice Deputy, Supervisor Barger's office, will address legal implications of the reforms being reversed.

Co-sponsors include The LWV-LA, The LA County LWV, the ACLU SoCal/Pasadena-Foothills Chapter, Pasadenans Organizing for Progress (POP), NDLON (National Day Laborers Organizing Network), Altadena Town Councilwoman Veronica Jones, The Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Greater Pasadena (IMA), Indivisible Pasadena/Altadena Chapter, Allen Edson, President, NAACP Pasadena, NBBA (Neighbors Building a Better Altadena), LA Progressive

