Reform and Oversight Efforts: Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

April to June
2019

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INTRODUCTION

This report encompasses the monitoring, auditing, and review of activities related to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Department) that occurred from April 1, 2019 until June 30, 2019.[1] The Office of Inspector General (OIG) has four primary functions:

- Monitoring the Department's operations and conditions in its jail facilities, including the Department's response to prisoner and public complaints.
- Periodically reviewing data on the Department's use of force, the Department's investigations of force incidents and allegations of misconduct, and the Department's disciplinary decisions.
- Conducting periodic audits and inspections of Department operations and reviewing the quality of the Department's audits and inspections.
- Regularly communicating with the public, the Board of Supervisors, the Civilian Oversight Commission (COC), and the Department regarding the Department's operations.

In the last *Quarterly Report* published and available to the public, the OIG sought to expand the amount of data provided to the public. In this *Quarterly Report*, the OIG continues to work towards that goal. By providing quarterly and regular updates, the OIG's goal is to keep the public, the Board of Supervisors, and the COC aware of any recent trends, changes in recent practices, and of any other changes that are occurring within the Department.

[1] The report will note if the data reflects something other than what was gathered between April 1, 2019, and June 30, 2019.

MONITORING

Service Comment Reports

In accordance with Department policies, the Department accepts and reviews all comments from members of the public that are germane to departmental service or individual performances.[2] The Department categorizes these comments into three categories:

- External Commendation: an external communication of appreciation for and/or approval of service provided by Department members;
- Service Complaint[3]: an external communication of dissatisfaction with Department service, procedure or practice, not involving employee misconduct; and
- Personnel Complaint: an external allegation of misconduct, either a violation of law or Department policy, against any member of the Department.[4]

The following chart lists the number and types of comments received by each station and/or unit this quarter which have been entered into the Department's database. There may be comments which had not yet been entered as of the June 30, 2019, cutoff date for this report.[5]

Station/Unit Supervisorial District	Commendations	Personnel Complaints	Service Complaints
ACCESS TO CARE BUREAU	1	1	0
ADM: CENTRAL PATROL ADM HQ	0	1	0
ADM: COURT SERVICES DIV HQ	0	1	0
ADM: CUST SRVS ADM HQ	0	0	1
ADM: EAST PATROL ADM HQ	0	1	0
ADM: TECH & SUPPORT ADM HQ	1	0	0
ALTADENA SD-5	7	4	2
AVALON SD-4	4	0	1
COMMUNITY COLLEGE BUREAU	4	0	0
CUSTODY COMPLIANCE AND SUSTAINABILITY BUREAU	1	0	0

[2] *See* Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, *Manual of Policies and Procedures*, 3-04/10.00, "Department Service Reviews."
[3] It is possible for the same employee to get a Service Complaint and Personel Complaint based on the same incident in question.
[4] *Id*.
[5] If a station or unit does not appear on this chart, the station or unit did not receive any comments from April 1 until June 24, 2019. This data was pulled from the Department's PRMS system on June 24, 2019, and reflects the data provided as of that date.

Station/Unit Supervisorial District	Commendations	Personnel Complaints	Service Complaints
CENTURY SD-2	7	7	4
CERRITOS SD-4	6	5	3
CUSTODY INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES	0	1	0
CIVIL MANAGEMENT BUREAU	6	3	5
COURT SERVICES CENTRAL	5	1	3
COMPTON SD-2	3	13	7
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP BUREAU	9	0	0
CENTURY REGIONAL DETENTION FACILITY SD-2	0	2	2
CRESCENTA VALLEY SD-5	3	2	2
COUNTY SERVICES BUREAU	5	3	4
CARSON SD-2	4	2	2
COURT SERVICES TRANSPORTATION	1	0	0
EAST LOS ANGELES SD-1	8	13	4
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS BUREAU	1	0	0
COURT SERVICES EAST	2	2	2
OH SECURITY HQ	1	0	0
HOMICIDE BUREAU	2	1	0
INTERNAL AFFAIRS BUREAU	1	1	1
INTERNAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU	1	0	0
INDUSTRY SD-1, 4	15	13	3
INMATE RECEPTION CENTER SD-1	2	1	0
LANCASTER SD-5	14	15	3
LAKEWOOD SD-4	4	9	2
LOMITA SD-4	4	5	2
MARINA DEL REY SD-4	5	2	1
MAJOR CRIMES BUREAU	0	2	0
MEN'S CENTRAL JAIL SD-1	0	0	1
MALIBU/LOST HILLS SD-3	8	5	0
NARCOTICS BUREAU	0	2	0
NORTH COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY SD-5	2	1	0
NORWALK REGIONAL	11	5	3
OPERATION SAFE STREETS BUREAU	1	2	0

Station/Unit Supervisorial District	Commendations	Personnel Complaints	Service Complaints
PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION	2	0	0
PARKS BUREAU	3	2	0
PALMDALE SD-5	15	17	3
PICO RIVERA SD-1, 4	12	3	0
RECORDS and IDENTIFICATION	2	0	0
RISK MANAGEMENT BUREAU	2	0	0
TRAINING BUREAU	3	0	0
SANTA CLARITA VALLEY SD-5	22	11	2
SAN DIMAS SD-5	9	4	1
SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT BUREAU	0	1	0
SHERIFF INFORMATION BUREAU	2	2	1
SOUTH LOS ANGELES SD-2	1	6	1
SCIENTIFIC SERVICES BUREAU	1	1	0
SPECIAL VICTIMS BUREAU	1	1	0
TEMPLE CITY SD-2	5	5	0
TRANSIT SERVICES BUREAU	1	2	0
WALNUT/SAN DIMAS SD-5	13	9	4
WEST HOLLYWOOD SD-3	7	16	0
COURT SERVICES WEST	8	5	1

Handling of Prisoner Grievances

The Department is still in the process of installing iPads in all jail facilities to capture information related to prisoner requests and, eventually, prisoner grievances. There are now 186 installed and operational iPads, an increase of 16 iPads since the last quarter. There are now a total of 56 iPads at CRDF, 48 iPads at MCJ, and 82 iPads at TTCF. The Department also reports that it has completed the Wi-Fi upgrades needed at TTCF and CRDF for the iPads to fully function. The Wi-Fi upgrades are now underway at MCJ and a plan is being developed to start implementation of iPads at PDC North.

The Department has reported that iPads have automatically responded to 1,740,462 requests for information from January 1 through June 30, 2019. As previously reported, the Department continues to expand the types of information

that can be accessed from the iPads and will continue to add information as feasible.

As reported in the OIG's January 2018 *Quarterly Report*, the Department implemented a policy restricting the filing of duplicate of excessive inmate grievances. The Department reports that between April 1 and June 30, 2019, 26 prisoners were restricted from filing 54 grievances under this policy. The OIG reviewed the restricted grievances to ensure that the restrictions complied with the policy and will continue to monitor.

Taser Use in Custody

The OIG has compiled the number of times the Department has deployed a Taser in custodial settings April through June 2019. The numbers below were gathered from the Department's *Monthly Force Synopsis*, which the Department produces and provides to the OIG each month.[6]

Month	Number of Times Taser Deployed
April 2019	**4**
May 2019	**1**
June 2019	**2**

Use-of-Force Incidents in Custody Division

The OIG monitors the Department's Custody Services Division data on use-of-force incidents, prisoner-on-prisoner violence, and assaults on Department personnel.

As previously reported, in July 2017, the OIG published a report analyzing the methods the Department used to collect data for jail violence statistics[7] and concluded that the Department lacked a centralized system to collect, verify, and validate the accuracy of these statistics and, as a result, the Department disseminated inconsistent data on jail violence. The Department has acknowledged that its data at times may have been inconsistent and is working to implement a centralized system to collect, verify, and validate the data on its jail violence statistics. The OIG is currently conducting an audit of the Department's methodologies and the data those methodologies produce regarding jail violence.

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[6] The OIG is not making any representation on whether the use of the Taser in each of these incidents was permissible under the Department's policies and/or if the Taser was deployed lawfully.

[7] Los Angeles County Office of Inspector General, *A Review of the Jail Violence Tracking and Reporting Procedures of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department*, https://oig.lacounty.gov/Portals/OIG/Reports/A%20Review%20of%20the%20Jail%20Violence%20Tracking%20and%20Reporting%20Procedures%20of%20the%20Los%20Angeles%20County%20Sheriffs%20Department.pdf?ver=2018-10-26-142600-987. (Last Accessed December 18, 2018).

Pending the presentation of that audit, and with the caveat that the data may be unreliable or may change in the future given these shortcomings, the OIG here publishes the Department's data on jail violence for the third and fourth quarters of 2018, as reflected below:

Prisoner on Staff Assault:

3rd Quarter of 2018	131
4th Quarter of 2018	115

Prisoner on Prisoner Assault:

3rd Quarter of 2018	988
4th Quarter of 2018	881

Use-of-force Incidents:

3rd Quarter of 2018	530
4th Quarter of 2018	452

In-Custody Deaths

Between April 1 and June 30, 2019, six individuals died while under the care and custody of the Department. Of these six decedents, two were pronounced dead in the Department's detention facilities and one was pronounced dead in a station lockup. The remaining three decendents were pronounced dead in the hospitals to which they had been transported.

OIG staff responded to the scene of the two deaths that occurred in the Department's detention facilities. OIG staff also attended the Custody Services Division Administrative Death Reviews for each of the six in-custody deaths.

The following summaries, arranged in chonological order, provide brief descriptions of each in-custody death:

On April 6, 2019, an individual was reportedly discovered by deputies in a cell at Twin Towers Correctional Facility during what was described as a suicide attempt. Emergency aid was rendered, paramedics were called, and the individual was pronounced dead at the scene.

On April 6, 2019, a station jailer reportedly discovered an individual unresponsive in a cell at the Palmdale Patrol Station lockup. Deputies rendered emergency aid until paramedics arrived and transported the individual to the Palmdale Regional Medical Center. The individual died within a few hours of arriving at the hospital.

On April 22, 2019, an individual in the Inmate Reception Center was reportedly discovered unresponsive in a cell during facility count. Emergency aid was rendered, paramedics were called, and the individual was pronounced dead at the scene.

On May 12, 2019, an individual was reportedly discovered unresponsive in a cell at the East Los Angeles Patrol Station lockup. Emergency aid was rendered, paramedics were called, and the individual was pronounced dead at the scene.

On June 13, 2019, an individual was reportedly discovered by deputies in a cell at Men's Central Jail during what was described as a suicide attempt. Deputies and medical personnel rendered emergency aid until paramedics arrived and transported the individual to the Los Angeles County/USC Medical Center (LCMC). The individual died on June 16, 2019.

On June 20, 2019, an individual died at the Henry Mayo Newhall Hospital after being transported from North County Correctional Facility on June 15, 2019, for a medical emergency.

Other Deaths

Between April 1 and June 30, 2019, two individuals died under circumstances which do not fit within the categorical definition of in-custody death but who were under the care and custody of the Department when the condition which resulted in their deaths first became apparent.

The following summaries, arranged in chonological order, provide brief descriptions of these incidents:

On April 25, 2019, deputies responded to a call for service and subsequently arrested an individual at the location. While walking the individual to a patrol vehicle for transport, the individual collapsed. The deputies removed the handcuffs and administered CPR until paramedics arrived. Paramedics pronounced the individual dead at the scene. OIG staff was present at the Critical Incident Review for this incident.

On May 20, 2019, an individual was reportedly discovered unresponsive in a cell at the Michael D. Antonovich Antelope Valley Courthouse. The individual was transported to the Antelope Valley Hospital and was subsequently released from custody on May 21, 2019. The individual died May 22, 2019. OIG staff was present at the Custody Services Division Administrative Death Review for this incident.

Office of Inspector General Site Assessments

OIG staff regularly conduct site visits and inspections at the Department's custodial facilities to identify matters requiring attention. All site visits result in extensive follow up. In the second quarter of 2019, OIG completed 52 site assessments and logged 79 monitoring hours inside seven of the Department's jail and lockup facilities. During those visits, OIG staff spoke with prisoners and met with Department personnel of all ranks, including custody assistants, civilian staff, clergy, and volunteers. As part of the OIG's jail monitoring, OIG staff attended 59 Custody Services Division executive and administrative meetings and met with division executives for 63 monitoring hours.

OIG staff also continued to meet with prisoners housed in general population modules, administrative segregation units, disciplinary units, and medical and mental health units. OIG also continued to meet with civil detainees. OIG monitors met with and received input from individuals at cell front, during recreation and treatment group time, and in private interview rooms when necessary to ensure confidentiality. The following chart represents LASD facilities visited from April 1 through June 30, 2019:

Facility	Site Visits
Century Regional Detention Facility (CRDF)	4
Inmate Reception Center (IRC)	12
Men's Central Jail (MCJ)	14
North County Correctional Facility (NCCF)	4
Pitchess Detention Center North (PDC North)	3
Pitchess Detention Center South (PDC South)	3
Twin Towers Correctional Facility (TTCF)	12
Total	**52**

Department Use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems

The Department reports it deployed the Unmanned Aircraft System four times this quarter. On June 13, 2019, the Department deployed the system to conduct a search and rescue mission for a missing hiker in the Angeles National Forest. The

system was able to search areas not accessible to rescuers and not visible by aircraft. The missing hiker was eventually located.

In June the system was again deployed for several days in the search for a hiker who first went missing in the Angeles National Forest on June 22, 2019. (On June 29, 2019, the Department reported the hiker had been found alive by members of the Department's Altadena Search and Rescue Team quite a few miles away from the trail of his original hike.

DATA REVIEW

Deputy-Involved Shootings

The Department has different categories of shootings. The definitions of each of these categories can be found in the *Manual of Policies and Procedures* (MPP), section 3-10/300.00. The Department defines "hit shooting" as one where a deputy fired his/her weapon intentionally and hit one or more people. A "non-hit shooting" is defined as an event where a deputy fired his/her weapon intentionally, but did not hit anyone. If a person was unintentionally struck by gunfire, the shooting is categorized by the Department as an accidental shooting (for example, if a warning shot were fired and struck a bystander, the shooting would be categorized by the Department as accidental).

From April 1 to June 30, 2019, there were nine incidents in which persons were shot or shot at by Sheriff's Department personnel. OIG staff responded to each of these nine deputy-involved-shootings. Eleven people were struck by deputies' gunfire. Six people struck by gunfire died as a result of their gunshot wounds.

The Department provides some data regarding these shootings on its public data website at: http://lasd.org/deputy_involved_shootings.html. Because the Department does not provide narrative descriptions, such as those provided below, on the Department's website for all deputy-involved shootings, the OIG provides the following summaries.

Vernon: The Department reported that on May 10, 2019, at about 2:45 p.m., deputies responded to Downey Police Department's request for assistance. Downey Police Department officers and detectives had initiated a vehicle pursuit of a murder suspect. Downey Police officers, Bell Gardens Police officers and the Department's deputies became involved in the pursuit. The male Hispanic subject, who was the passenger of the subject vehicle, fired several rounds at the pursuing police officers and deputies. During the pursuit, neither the officers nor the deputies returned fire. The driver of subject vehicle, a white female, became stuck in traffic preventing her

from continuing forward. The male Hispanic subject pointed a handgun and fired at the pursuing officers and deputies, at that time, the officers and deputies returned fire, striking both the male and female subjects. The female subject surrendered to deputies. A special weapons and tactics team from Special Enforcement Bureau responded and took the male subject into custody.

The male subject sustained two gunshot wounds to the head, one of which is believed to be self-inflicted. He was placed on life support, but subsequently died. The female subject sustained a gunshot wound to her arm. She was treated and released to the custody of the Department. An uninvolved civilian motorist sustained a graze gunshot wound to the head. He was transported to the hospital, treated, and released. It is unknown when he was shot and whether it was the subject's rounds or law enforcement rounds that struck him. No officers or deputies were injured, but three law enforcement radio cars (not the Department's) were struck by gunfire.

Compton: The Department reported that on May 12, 2019, at approximately 6:24 p.m., Compton Station deputies were driving in Compton when they recognized a male Hispanic, whom they believed to be a gang member, walking on the sidewalk. When the male Hispanic subject saw the deputies, he grabbed his front waistband and the deputies reportedly saw what appeared to be the impression of the butt of a gun in the subject's waistband. The deputies attempted to contact the subject to investigate. When one of the deputies got out of the car, the subject fled on foot. The deputy pursued him on foot, while his partner deputy remained in the car and followed behind. As the subject fled, the driver deputy saw the subject remove a handgun from his waistband. The subject ran into the back yard of a single-family residence. At this time, the second deputy got out of their patrol vehicle and ran after the subject. One of the deputies peered through the yard's fence and saw the subject point the handgun at him. Seeing this, the deputy fired three rounds at the subject. The subject was not hit and ran toward the rear of the property. The deputies set up a containment and ultimately took the subject into custody. A weapon was recovered at the scene.

Lynwood: The Department reported that on May 21, 2019, at approximately 12:28 p.m., Century Station deputies received a family disturbance call indicating a person was acting violently, threatening family members, and possibly under the influence of a substance. When the deputies arrived at the location, they saw the male Hispanic subject exit the rear door of the location holding a large hammer in one hand and an alcohol bottle in the other hand. The subject walked toward the deputy, maintain his hold on the hammer. One of the deputies gave the subject several commands to stop and drop the hammer, but the subject refused and continued towards the deputy. The deputy fired three rounds at the subject.

The three rounds struck the subject's upper torso. He was transported to the hospital where he was pronounced dead. The hammer was recovered from the scene.

San Gabriel: The Department reported that on June 6, 2019, at approximately 12:28 p.m., San Gabriel Police Department officers responded to a family disturbance call. The Informant said the subject was agitated and armed with a firearm. Officers responded and contained the area. While law enforcement conducted call-outs of the occupants of the location, the subject fired several rounds at a family member and civilians. A San Gabriel police officer feared for the safety of community members and fired one round at the subject.

At that time, the San Gabriel Police Department requested assistance from the Department. The Department's Special Enforcement Bureau took command of the scene. As the Department personnel worked to evacuate residents from nearby homes, the subject discharged multiple rounds at them. During the standoff, a fire broke out in the home. (The subject started a fire within the dwelling but how he started it is not yet known.) The subject exited the home through the back door and attempted to enter the front door of a rear structure. Department personnel ordered the subject to surrender and he did not comply. The subject walked to the opposite side of the rear residence and successfully made forced entry through a window. The subject barricaded himself in the residence.

The subject was forced out of the residence due to the deployment by law enforcement of gas and briefly hid underneath a boat before jumping over a fence into a neighbor's backyard. The subject was still armed with a handgun. While in the neighbor's yard, a deputy discharged a 40mm less-lethal projectile, which hit the subject. The subject jumped back into his yard and briefly hid underneath disabled cars before running toward and entering the rear residence. Deputies introduced gas into the structure to force the subject to surrender. The subject emerged from the structure with a shotgun, at which time one deputy shot at the subject before handcuffing him.

The subject sustained at least one gunshot wound to the upper torso and was pronounced dead at the scene. One deputy fired a total of seven shots at the subject. Three guns were recovered from the scene along with an undetermined amount of live and expended rounds.

Los Angeles: The Department reported that on June 6, 2019, at approximately 7:30 p.m., two deputies from Century Station entered the parking lot of an apartment complex, and attempted to contact two subjects seated in a parked

vehicle. As seen on a video of the incident released by the Department, one of the deputies approached the vehicle and opened the rear passenger door. The driver subject, a male African American, failed to comply with the deputies' orders to exit the car. With the rear door still open, the driver placed the car in reverse hitting the deputy with the open door. The deputy opened fire into the subjects' vehicle. The subject car continued coasting in reverse and eventually came to rest in a parking space north of the original location.

One deputy fired nine rounds, the other deputy fired 25 rounds. The passenger, a male African American, was taken into custody and was not struck by gunfire. The driver was struck by an unknown number of rounds and was pronounced dead at the scene.

This incident received media attention and a video of the incident was released by the Department.

Inglewood: The Department reported that on June 6, 2019, at approximately 10:27 p.m., deputies from South Los Angeles Station pulled over a car for a vehicle code violation. The subject vehicle initially yielded, but then accelerated away when the deputies exited their patrol vehicle to approach the driver. A few minutes later, the deputies saw the same car parked not far from the initial stop. The deputies saw the male African American subject running away, but then lost sight of him. Shortly thereafter, the deputies saw the subject walking a short distance away. When the deputies attempted to contact the subject, he brandished a gun. The two deputies shot a total of 48 times at the subject. During the melee, the subject attempted to flee in the deputies' patrol vehicle.

The subject sustained multiple gunshot wounds to the upper torso. He was transported to the hospital, where he was pronounced dead. A gun was recovered at the scene.

Palmdale: The Department reported that on June 14, 2019, at approximately 7:00 p.m., deputies from the Palmdale Station attempted to stop a subject who was wanted for driving a vehicle without the owner's consent. The subject did not comply and ran away from them. As the male white subject ran, he retrieved a firearm from the pocket of his cargo shorts. The two deputies gave chase. During the foot pursuit, the subject pointed the gun in the direction of one of the deputies. Fearing for his partner's safety, the other deputy fired one round and struck the subject.

The subject sustained one gunshot wound to his right shoulder. He was transported to the hospital, and was listed in fair condition. A firearm, later determined to be a replica, was recovered from the scene.

Carson: The Department reported that on June 18, 2019, at approximately 10:38 a.m., Carson Station deputies were in pursuit of an "armed, stolen vehicle." The chase lasted approximately five minutes before the driver attempted to get around a spike strip, lost control of the vehicle, and crashed. At that point, the front passenger exited the car and began firing at the deputies. Deputies returned fire. Seven deputies shot a total of 63 rounds at the subjects.

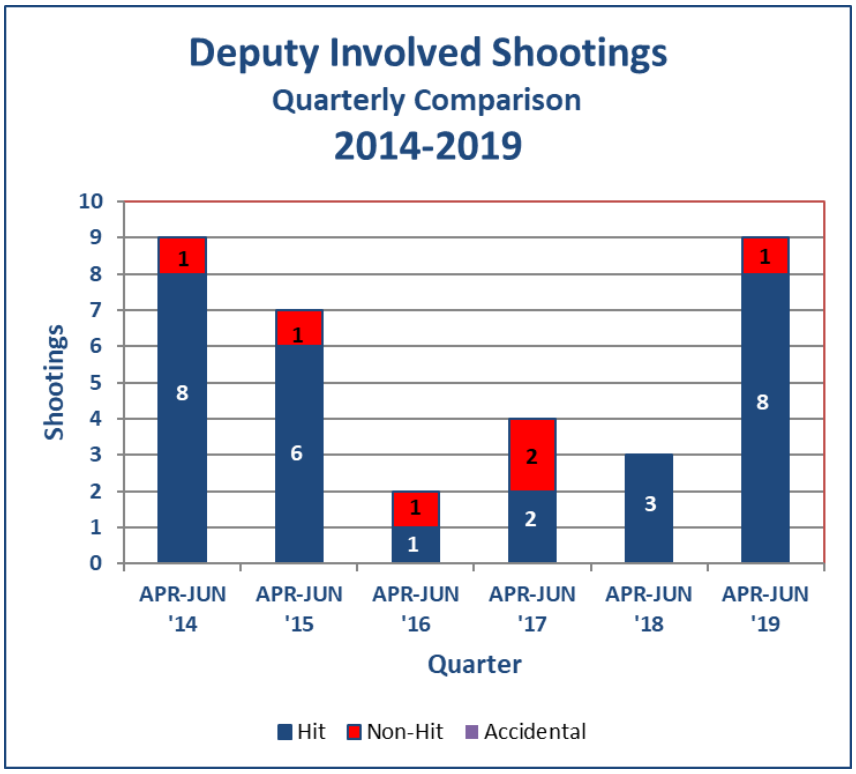
Both subjects sustained multiple gunshot wounds. They were taken to the hospital, and are expected to survive. A gun was recovered at the scene.

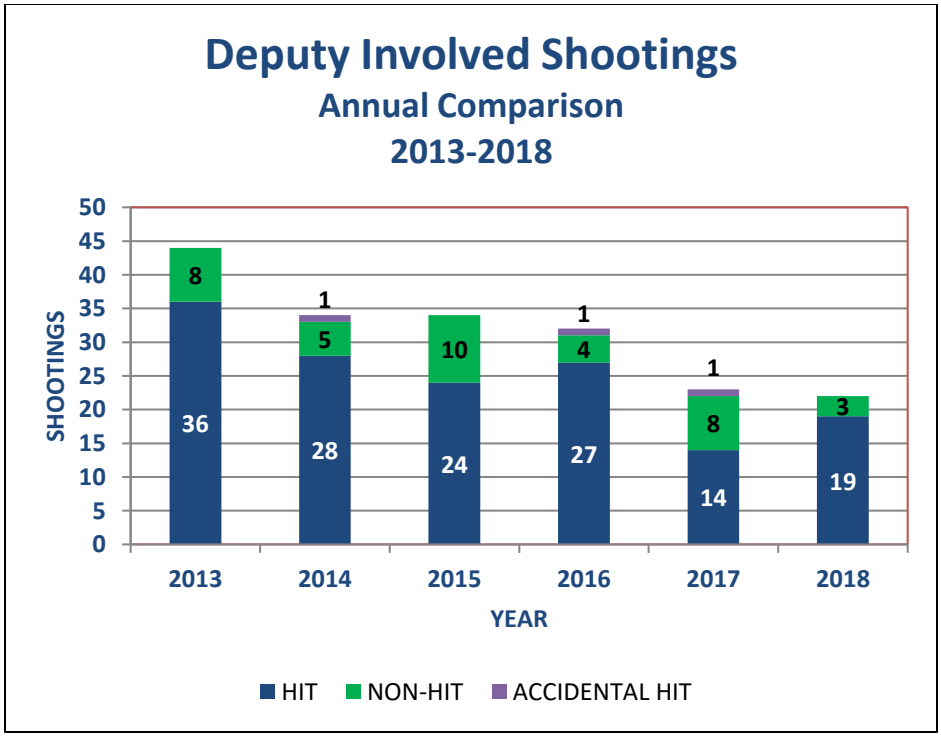
Los Angeles: The Department reported that on June 27, 2019, at approximately 10:58 p.m., two East Los Angeles Station deputies conducted a stop for traffic violations. One of the deputies approached the male Hispanic driver and asked him to step out. The driver complied and was placed in the back seat of the patrol car.

The other deputy approached the male Hispanic passenger. The passenger complied with the request to step out of the car; however, he began to pull away from the deputy as the deputy escorted him to the patrol vehicle. The subject punched the deputy in the face, and a struggle ensued. As the deputy sought to regain control, he felt what he thought was a handgun inside the subject's waistband. The deputy pushed himself away to create distance between him and the subject. The subject attempted to retrieve his handgun from his waistband, and the deputy shot the subject four times.

The subject was struck in the upper torso and immediately fell to the ground. He was transported to the hospital, where he was pronounced dead. A handgun was recovered at the scene.

Comparison to Prior Years





District Attorney Review of Deputy Involved Shootings

The Department's Homicide Bureau investigates all Deputy-Involved Shootings in which a person is injured, regardless of shooting category. The Homicide Bureau submits the completed investigation of each Deputy-Involved Shooting in which a person has been injured and which occurred in the County of Los Angeles to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office (LADA) for review and possible filing of criminal charges by the District Attorney's Office. This review is multi-faceted, and it can sometimes take months, if not years, for the District Attorney's Office to decide whether or not to file.

Between April 1 and June 30, 2019, the LADA issued findings in two deputy-involved-shooting case. In the February 13, 2017, non-fatal shooting of Peter Firchow the District Attorney opined in a memorandum dated April 8, 2019, that the deputy acted lawfully in self-defense. In the August 2, 2016, fatal shooting of William Bowers, the District Attorney stated in a letter dated June 6, 2019, that criminal charges against the shooting deputy would not be filed because in the opinion of the District Attorney's Office there was insufficient evidence to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the shooting was unlawful.

The District Attorney's findings may be found at the District Attorney's web site at: http://da.lacounty.gov/reports/ois.

Homicide Bureau's Investigation of Deputy-Involved Shootings

The Homicide Bureau is responsible for conducting the investigation into a hit shooting. Regardless of whether the deputy shot intentionally to hit the person injured or it was a result of an accidental discharge, if a person is hit, the Homicide Bureau is responsible for conducting that investigation. After completing its investigation, the Homicide Bureau submits its investigation to the LADA for consideration of filing criminal charges. If the LADA declines to file the case, the Department's Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) will then begin its investigation into whether the involved personnel violated any departmental policies in using force. Until that decision is communicated to the Department, the IAB investigation is suspended and POBR rights of any involved employees are tolled. The oldest case at the LADA awaiting a filing determination is a July 28, 2016, shooting in Lancaster that was presented by Homicide to LADA in August 2017.

For the present quarter, the Homicide Bureau reports seventeen shooting cases that involve Department personnel currently open and under investigation. The oldest case is an August 17, 2018, shooting in the Lennox area of South Los

Angeles. This shooting is described briefly in the OIG's October 2018 Reform and Oversight Efforts: Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department report.

This quarter, the Department reports that it has sent four cases that involve Deputy-Involved Shootings to the LADA for filing consideration.

Internal Criminal Investigations Bureau

The Department's Internal Criminal Investigations Bureau (ICIB) reports directly to the Sheriff and Undersheriff. It is responsible for investigating allegations of criminal misconduct by members of the Department.

Presently, the Department reports that ICIB has 75 active cases. The Department reports sending two cases this quarter to the LADA for filing considerations. The LADA has rejected filing six cases this quarter. The oldest open case ICIB has on its books is from 2015.

Internal Affairs Bureau

The Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) is responsible for conducting administrative investigations of policy violations by Department members. It is also responsible for responding to and investigating in Deputy-Involved Shootings and significant use-of-force cases.

For the present quarter, the Department reports that IAB opened 75 new cases. In the same period, IAB has closed 97 cases. OIG is looking into what exactly is meant by "closed," to determine if this means, "inactivated," "settled," "determined to have been unfounded," or something else. There are 300 pending cases on IAB's caseload, assigned to five teams of one lieutenant and anywhere between five and seven sergeants, which amounts to about 60 cases per team. As noted in prior reports, OIG continues to be concerned about insufficient staffing at IAB.

Executive Force Review Committee

The Department outlines in its MPP the tasks and duties of the Executive Force Review Committee (EFRC).[8] EFRC evaluates every shooting and force incident to which the IAB Force/Shooting Response Team has responded.[9]

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[8] *See* Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, *Manual of Policies and Procedures*, 3-04/10.00.

[9] For a detailed description of how EFRC is conducted, please refer to the Los Angeles County Office of Inspector General, *Reform and Oversight Efforts: Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department June 2018,* https://oig.lacounty.gov/Portals/OIG/Reports/June%202018%20Reform%20and%20Oversight%20Efforts.pdf?ver=2018-08-18-161006-867. (Last Accessed September 12, 2018).

This quarter, the Department held five EFRC meetings during which they heard twelve cases involving force. In particular there were eight hit-shooting cases, one non-hit shooting case, and three cases involved other types of force. The cases stemmed from incidents that occurred as far back as 2016 to as recently as 2018. In three cases, EFRC found further training was warranted. In two cases, EFRC imposed discipline on two department personnel. In the remaining cases, EFRC found the employees' conduct was within policy.

Civil Service Commission Dispositions

From April 1 to June 30, 2019, the Civil Service Commission issued a final decision in eight cases. In all eight cases, the Commission sustained the Department's discipline.

OTHER UPDATES

CCJV Recommendation 3.12: The Department should purchase additional body scanners

The Department continues to operate body scanners at CRDF, PDC North, PDC South, NCCF, and the IRC.

We previously reported that the Department had installed four body scanners at NCCF: three in the Inmate Processing Area (IPA) and one near the vocational shops. All four scanners are fully operational.

The final body scanner that will be assigned to MCJ was purchased in February 2019 and delivered on July 23, 2019. Barring any unforeseen issues, the Department anticipates having the machine operational in late August or early September. Training for the MCJ staff that will be assigned to use the machine is scheduled to take place on August 14.

As previously reported, the Department has developed an electronic tracking system for the contraband found by the body scanners and is in the process of finalizing the policy and procedures for gathering and tracking contraband found throughout all custody facilities into one report.

CCJV Recommendation 7.14: The grievance process should be improved to include added checks and oversight

See Handling of Prisoner Grievances in Monitoring section above.

CCJV Recommendation 7.15: The use of lapel cameras as an investigative tool should be broadened

As previously reported, the Department opted for an alternative implementation of this recommendation and embarked on a five-year program to install fixed cameras in the jail facilities. The Department continues to install Closed Circuit Television cameras at PDC South. As previously reported, the Department completed installation of 190 cameras throughout the PDC South compound, including classroom buildings and the visiting area. PDC South reports that it is still in the process of installing the cameras in the vocational shops and laundry areas, it is still working through wiring and infrastructure issues but continues to take steps toward completion.

Comments and Complaints

The OIG received sixty-six new complaints in the second quarter of 2019 from members of the public, prisoners, prisoners' family members and friends, community organizations and County agencies.[10] Each complaint was reviewed by OIG staff. Thirty-seven of these complaints were related to conditions of confinement within the Department's custody facilities, as shown below:

Complaint/ Incident Classification	Totals
Personnel Issue	
Discrimination	1
Failed to Take Action	1
Rude/Abusive Behavior	3
Use of Force	2
Off Duty Conduct	2
No Discernible subject	1
Medical/Dental Issue	5
Mental Health Services	4
Housing	2
Other Service Issue	16
Total	37

Thirty-five complaints were related to civilian contacts with Department personnel by persons who were not in custody.

[10] When complaints raise multiple issues, the OIG tracks and monitors the Department's response to each issue. As such, a single complaint may receive more than one classification as reflected in the referenced tables.

Complaint/ Incident Classification	Totals
Personnel Issue	
Discrimination	2
Failed to Take Action	5
Rude/Abusive Behavior	4
Unlawful Arrest	1
Unlawful Search	1
Unlawful Detention	2
Off Duty Conduct	3
No Discernible subject	1
Other Service Issue	10
Total	29

Five complaints were not about the Department or Department personnel and were referred to the appropriate agency or the complainant was directed to seek legal advice.