

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA**



**CIVIL + HUMAN RIGHTS AND
EQUITY DEPARTMENT**

200 N. Spring Street, 15th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 978-8354
www.civilandhumanrights.lacity.org

CAPRI MADDOX
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

ARACELI CAMPOS, CHAIR
LESLIE IVIE, VICE CHAIR

AZIZA HASAN
KANDEE LEWIS
HELENA MARISSA MONTES
KEITH PARKER
ABIGAIL ZELENSKI

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

MEETING MINUTES
June 10, 2021, 2:00 p.m.

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Commissioner Campos called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. She welcomed the newest member of the Commission, Ms. Kandee Lewis. Commissioner Lewis shared brief remarks and expressed her eagerness to work with fellow commissioners.

Commissioners in Attendance: Araceli Campos, Kandee Lewis, Aziza Hasan, Helena Marissa Montes, Keith Parker, Abigail Zelenski, and Leslie Ivie.

- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** April meeting minutes approved.

- III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Executive Director, Capri Maddox welcomed Commissioner Kandee Lewis to the Commission on Civil Rights.

Ms. Maddox provided staffing updates, including the following approved positions for the Discrimination Enforcement Division: Assistant General Manager - Legal, five Investigator positions, and a Human Relations Advocate. Ms. Maddox explained that the Department plans to engage a Public Rights Project Fellow. In addition, a FUSE Fellow will begin work to assist with the Office of Racial Equity, two UCLA Fellows will support policy work, and two Student Workers will assist with research. She also shared that the office construction project is near 90% completion. Lastly, Ms. Maddox highlighted the "LA for All" Citywide campaign is featured in multiple languages throughout Los Angeles.

- IV. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS:** Joumana Silyan-Saba noted the one-year anniversary of the commission's inaugural meeting on June 12, 2020. She shared an overview of the updated discrimination enforcement timeline and provided the following progress benchmarks:

- The amended LA Civil Rights Ordinance was approved by City Council, effective June 14, 2021. The amendments included:
 - ✓ Changing the Department's name to the Civil, Human Rights and Equity Department.
 - ✓ Moving the Human Relations Commission and Commission on the Status of Women to the Civil, Human Rights, and Equity Department.
 - ✓ Establishing the Civil, Human Rights and Equity Community Engagement Fund.

- The inquires webform was launched on May 3, 2021, which allows members of the public to submit inquiries online via the website. This is in addition to the inquiries being received via phone and general Department's email address.

- During the month of May, 22 inquiries were received: 11 were received via the webform, 10 were received by phone, and one was received through the Department's general email. Of the 22 inquiries, 14 were related to discrimination, one was requesting consultation, three were for referrals, and four were categorized as other. Commissioner Campos suggested future quarterly or annual inquiry reports once the operation is fully launched. The proposed reports would also provide analysis on the impact of the discrimination enforcement in assisting communities.

- The Administrative Rules and Procedures document development is on-going with support from the working group, which includes Commissioners Ivie, Campos, and Montes, along with Heather Aubry and Ms. Silyan-Saba. The final draft of the document will be provided to the Commission for final approvals.

- I. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Commissioner Zelenski announced the launch of a 5-part training series, "Know Your Rights & Bystander Intervention" training workshop. The series is being led by the Civil, Human Rights and Equity Department in partnership with the Philippine American Bar Association (PABA) and other City partners. The workshops will take place on the last Tuesday of every month at 5:30 p.m.

- II. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 3:07 p.m.