



LOS ANGELES COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE  
**RESOLUTIONS REPORT**

**June 8, 2021**

<b>RESOLUTION TITLE</b>	<b>POSITION</b>
<b>Holding the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Accountable</b>	<b>SUPPORT</b>
<b>Memorializing the Tulsa Race Massacre, and Supporting Restitution</b>	<b>SUPPORT</b>
<b>Oppose the Recall of Los Angeles District Attorney George Gascón</b>	<b>SUPPORT</b>
<b>Recall Whittier City Council Member Jessica Martinez</b>	<b>SUPPORT</b>

## Holding the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Accountable

WHEREAS on June 18, 2020, 18-year-old Andrés Guardado was shot five times by a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) deputy, after which nearby business owners reported [the warrantless seizure and destruction of area video surveillance footage](#) by sheriff deputies and Sheriff Alex Villanueva placed a "security hold" on the autopsy, but the [L.A. County Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner](#) defied that hold, released the autopsy that ruled Guardado's death a homicide, and initiated an inquest into Guardado's killing -- the first inquest of its kind in 30 years -- prior to the inquest, Deputy Art Gonzalez [testified](#) that the deputy who killed Guardado was a prospective member of the "Executioners," a deputy gang operating from the Compton Sheriff's Station and [one of 18 deputy gangs that have historically operated in LASD](#); and

WHEREAS the murder of Andrés Guardado by deputies was part of a [45% increase](#) in LASD [shootings in 2020](#) alone as compared to 2017-18 levels, joining the killings of [Dijon Kizzee](#), [Fred Williams III](#), [Dana Malik Young](#), and [at least 13 others](#) just since the murder of George Floyd, despite uprisings led by Black Lives Matter to demand police accountability and community investment, including in L.A. County, where [nearly 80% of the 928 people killed by police since 2000 were Black or Latinx](#), yet only two police officers have been charged;

WHEREAS Sheriff Villanueva [has been called to resign by the Civilian Oversight Commission](#); has [stonewalled](#) requests from the Office of Inspector General regarding deputy shootings; has sued the county to block and avoid a subpoena to be questioned about LASD's deputy gangs and has allowed deputies to [harass and intimidate grieving families](#) seeking justice; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Los Angeles County Democratic Party, in solidarity with the family of Andrés Guardado on the one-year anniversary of his death, condemns the murder of Andrés Guardado and acts of police brutality in Los Angeles County that disproportionately impact Black and Latinx communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Los Angeles County Democratic Party recognizes systemic police brutality in the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, including deputy gangs, such as the one that was accused of involvement in the death of Andrés Guardado, and calls for reform in the Sheriff's Department and holds Sheriff Alex Villanueva accountable for perpetuating a culture of police brutality and therefore calls for his resignation.

Authored by: Godfrey Santos Plata, AD-53; Alton Wang, AD-49 Vice Chair; Elise Moore, AD-46 and Judicial Interview Committee Co-Chair

Sponsored by: LACDP Labor Committee, Stonewall Democratic Club, Los Angeles County Young Democrats, Stonewall Young Democrats, San Fernando Valley Young Democrats, Pilipino American LA Democrats (PALAD), Korean American Democratic Committee, Progressive Democratic Club, Northeast Democratic Club of Los Angeles, Monterey Park Democratic Club, Democrats of Pasadena Foothills, Bruin Democrats, Los Angeles African American Women Political Action Committee, East Area Progressive Democrats, Long Beach Young Democrats, Democrats For Israel LA,

Feel the Bern San Fernando Valley Democratic Club, Heart of LA Democratic Club, Democratic Alliance for Action of Santa Clarita, Miracle Mile Democratic Club, Burbank Democratic Club

Community Sponsors: Black Lives Matter – Los Angeles; ACLU of Southern California; SEIU 2015; UNITE HERE Local 11; NUHW; UFCW 770; Roofers Local 36; Bend the Arc: Jewish Action Southern California; TransLatin@ Coalition; Centro CSO: Community Service Organization; La Defensa; Dignity and Power Now; Black Alliance for Just Immigration; National Immigration Law Center; Youth Justice Coalition; Khmer Girls in Action; Essie Justice Group; Check the Sheriff Coalition; Brothers, Sons, Selves Coalition; Social Justice Learning Institute; InnerCity Struggle; Community Coalition; Labor Community Strategy Center; Brotherhood Crusade; Reform L.A. Jails; Anti-Recidivism Coalition

Supported by: Franky Carrillo, AD-51 Chair and Judicial Interview Committee Co-Chair; John Erickson, City of West Hollywood Councilmember; Sepi Shyne, West Hollywood City Councilmember; Jasmyne Cannick, AD-53; Derek Devermont, AD-50 and DNC Member; Stacy Fortner, AD-38 Chair; Alton Reed, AD-46 Chair; Nick Greif, Vice-Chair AD-50; Jerilyn Stapleton, Region 2 Secretary; John Harabedian, Region 3 Vice-Chair; Logan Smith, AD-38 Vice-Chair; Patti Sulpizio, Region 1 Vice-Chair; Jenni Chang, Region 3 Secretary; Jeanine Rohn, AD-51 Vice-Chair; Leah Herzberg, AD-45; Isaac Lieberman, AD-36; Loraine Lundquist, AD-45; Dr. Emily Weisberg, Burbank Unified School Board Member

You can find [supplemental information to this resolution here](#).

## **Memorializing the Tulsa Race Massacre, and Supporting Restitution**

**WHEREAS** 100 years ago, the Greenwood District of Tulsa, Oklahoma was a thriving, vibrant African American community, the most prosperous in America; known as “America’s Black Wall Street,” it was devastated on May 31-June 1, 1921, by the Tulsa Race Massacre; a violent White mob, including many deputized by the police, terrorized and destroyed the area and those who lived there, employing everything from rifles and nitroglycerin to machine guns and airplanes dropping firebombs, burning and demolishing 191 businesses covering 35 city blocks over a 12-mile stretch; the Red Cross reported 1,256 houses burned and another 215 looted but not burned; estimates say that as many as 300 Black residents were killed, more than 800 hospitalized, and several thousand were rounded up and detained; 10,000 were left homeless; victims and survivors, and their families and descendants, suffered unspeakable trauma and loss, robbed of life, limb, property, security, and pride of place; and

**WHEREAS** Tulsa in 1921 was largely segregated with a significant Klan presence, and had many lynchings; on May 31 of that year, men from Greenwood — including Black World War I veterans — sought to safeguard an African American teenager from lynching at the hands of a growing and militant White mob; shots rang out and armed struggle ensued; the White mob, many now deputized, pursued the retreating African American guardians into Greenwood; full-scale war was then inflicted upon the innocent residents and community of Greenwood, many having no choice but to leave or lose life; not a single White person was prosecuted even though nearly 100 were indicted; and

**WHEREAS** almost immediately, and in the years that followed, promises of restitution were made but never fulfilled; land and property were appropriated; pain and loss continued unabated, through generations; the city and history books stayed largely silent; survivors — and there are still some! — and descendants report, including in recent Congressional testimony, receiving not even a penny in reparations;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** in this centennial year of the Tulsa Race Massacre, the Los Angeles County Democratic Party commemorates the massive pain and loss suffered 100 years ago and thereafter, and, in solidarity with victims, survivors, families and descendants, calls for just compensation and a truthful historical record; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** the Los Angeles County Democratic Party shall forward this resolution to Justice for Greenwood, and the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre Centennial Commission.

Author(s): Jimmie Woods-Gray (AD54), Bobbie Jean Anderson (AD59), Renee Nahum (AD43), Paul Neuman (AD43)

Co-sponsors: New Frontier Democratic Club, Councilmember Mitch O’Farrell AD51, Deana Igelsrud AD50, Annalisa Swan AD43, Angel Izard AD43, Margo Rowder AD43, Linda Perez AD43

## Oppose the Recall of Los Angeles District Attorney George Gascón

**WHEREAS** Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascón [campaigned](#) on a promise to implement [sweeping reforms](#) intended to move the District Attorney's office away from excessive [sentencing practices](#) and other [draconian policies](#) that [do not enhance public safety](#), which is beginning to correct long-standing racial and class-based inequities in the County's justice system, while decreasing the County's incarceration rates that have caused severe [overcrowding](#) of the jails, [human rights abuses](#), and multiple lawsuits, and since his election, DA Gascón has [taken immediate steps](#) to [follow through on the platform](#) for which he was elected by a clear majority of voters, as we should expect of all elected officials;

**WHEREAS** [Gascón's follow-through](#) on the mandate he was given [by voters](#) to effect [positive change](#) is now being attacked by a [Republican-led effort](#) to [recall](#) him from office by using scare tactics to [mislead voters](#), by manipulating data ignoring the voice of many [victim's](#) groups and by using exaggerations and lies misrepresenting the facts of Gascón's policy reforms;

**WHEREAS** leaders of the recall effort – which subverts democracy by seeking to remove a duly elected District Attorney – claim they are seeking this recall “[on behalf of crime victims](#)”, [however](#) a recent [survey from Californians for Safety and Justice](#) reveals that a huge majority of victims of violent crime in Los Angeles County feels a harshly punitive criminal justice system failed them in their time of need and that justice system resources should be invested in [rehabilitation and crime prevention, not incarceration](#).

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the Los Angeles County Democratic Party opposes the recall of Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascón.

Author: Elise Moore (AD46)

## **Recall Whittier City Council Member Jessica Martinez**

**WHEREAS** Republican Whittier City Council Member Jessica Martinez participated in the January 6<sup>th</sup> insurrection at our nation's capital, blatantly disregarding her oath of office to defend the Constitution of the United States; and

**WHEREAS** Martinez also attempted to prevent the most vulnerable constituents in her district from receiving COVID-19 economic relief; and

**WHEREAS** Democrats for Justice, along with Whittier Voters Coalition, were able to obtain over 7,000 signatures to support the removal of Jessica Martinez;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Los Angeles County Democratic Party finds Whittier City Council Member Jessica Martinez unfit for office because of her failure to observe her oath to defend the Constitution, instead choosing to support the January 6th insurrection; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** the Los Angeles County Democratic Party encourages local Democrats to continue organizing a recall effort to remove Jessica Martinez from office.

Author(s): Zenaida Huerta (AD57)

## **Free Public Transportation for all Students in Los Angeles County**

**WHEREAS**, Transportation is an essential need for students enrolled in academic programs and is critical to student success. According to a Los Angeles Community College District Student Survey conducted prior to the pandemic: • Twenty-six percent (26%) of students reported using public transportation • More than fifty percent (50%) of these students reporting difficulty paying for public transportation • 30% of Los Angeles College Promise students reported struggling to pay for transportation; and,

**WHEREAS**, A fareless transit system in Los Angeles is both an investment in social mobility and an important tool to assist in the fight against income inequality. For students, access to transit increases the probability of students becoming long-term transit riders, improves school attendance and academic performance, increases participation in extracurricular activities and employment, increases transit ridership, and adds social and environmental benefits to the LA region. Access to reliable transportation is crucial to maintaining stable employment, reaching educational opportunities, caring for family, and staying healthy; and,

**WHEREAS**, Free public transportation has the potential to be a way to solve all of the city's deepest challenges: climate change, closing income inequality gaps and addressing racial disparities, intense traffic and congestion problems; and,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Los Angeles County Democratic Party support a free public transportation system for Los Angeles County Students, and,

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that that the Los Angeles County Democratic Party urge the Metro Board to support a proposed 23-month pilot program which employs an incremental approach, beginning with K-12 and Community College in August 2021, and offering/extending the scope to include low-income riders on January 1, 2022. The pilot would conclude on June 30, 2023. This approach allows Metro to observe increases in ridership and gauge resource demands to more accurately forecast the true cost of a fully fareless system.

Author(s): Cecile Bendavid (AD45)