

# Community Review Commission

## Frequently Asked Questions

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### What is the mission of the Community Review Commission?

The mission of the Commission is to improve public transparency and accountability with respect to the Sacramento County Sheriff’s Office and provide greater community interaction and communication with the Office of Inspector General. Furthermore, the Commission is directed to perform its duties in a thorough, impartial and transparent manner that promotes credibility, and enhances trust and respect and that it welcome community involvement and provide opportunities for robust community engagement.

### Why was the Community Review Commission established?

On February 9, 2021, the Board heard from members of the public and discussed a draft proposed framework for the creation of a Community Review Commission. The establishment of such a Commission was authorized in Assembly Bill 1185. Specifically, Assembly Bill 1185 authorizes counties to establish a sheriff oversight board and also authorizes such an oversight board to issue a subpoena or subpoena duces tecum when deemed necessary to investigate a matter within the jurisdiction of the board. The Governor signed the bill on September 9, 2020, and it became effective on January 1, 2021.

On March 23, 2021, the Board had further discussion and received input on a revised draft framework. The Board directed staff to return to the Board with a resolution establishing the Commission, taking into consideration the input from the Board and members of the Community. On May 4, 2021, the Board of Supervisors approved Resolution 2021-0256 To Establish a Community Review Commission. Once Commission members were selected, the Community Review Commission held its first meeting in March of 2022.

## What are the Community Review Commission's powers and limitations?

The Commission acts as a conduit between the community and the Office of Inspector General. The Commission is directed to work with the Office of Inspector General to develop an annual review and report to the Board of Supervisors concerning complaints and public concerns received from the community related to Sheriff's Office operations, policies and procedures.

The Commission reviews, analyzes, and, where appropriate, solicits community input to make recommendations to the Office of Inspector General on the Sheriff's Office operational policies and procedures that affect the community. The Commission can also make recommendations to create additional operational policies and procedures affecting the community. The Commission is directed to obtain community input and feedback on specific incidents involving the use of force, detention conditions, or other civil rights concerns regarding the Sheriff's Department and to convey community complaints, concerns, and positive feedback to the Office of Inspector General.

The Commission can issue a subpoena or subpoena duces tecum in accordance with Sections 1985 to 1985.4, inclusive, of the Code of Civil Procedure whenever the Commission deems it necessary or important to examine the following: (1) Any person as a witness upon any subject matter within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (2) Any officer of the County in relation to the discharge of their official duties on behalf of the Sheriff's Department upon any subject matter within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (3) Any books, papers, or documents in the possession of or under the control of a person or officer relating to the affairs of the Sheriff's Department upon any subject matter within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

The Commission does not have the authority to manage or operate the Sheriff's Department or direct the activities of Sheriff's Department employees, including but not limited to the imposition of discipline.

Additional duties and limitations, as well as protocols for conducting business, are described in the Commission's Rules and Regulations.

## How can I learn more about the Office of Inspector General?

Community members can visit the [Office of Inspector General's website](#) for more information.

## Who serves on the Community Review Commission?

The Commission's membership is very diverse and includes two representatives appointed by each District's Supervisor, as well as an Ex-Officio Member appointed by the County Executive, for a total of 11 members. The current Commission members are as follows: Khaim Morton (Chair and District 3 Appointee), Paul Curtis (Vice Chair and District 1 Appointee), Theresa Riviera (Section 13 Media Liaison Designee and District 5 Appointee), John W. H. Stoller (District 1 Appointee), Bishop Chris Baker (District 2 Appointee), Michael Whiteside (District 2 Appointee), Darrel Lewis (District 3 Appointee), Thomas Scott (District 4 Appointee), Michael Martel (District 4 Appointee), Odette Crawford (District 5 Appointee), and Eric Jones (Ex-Officio, County Executive Appointee). Members serve two year terms, and may be reappointed at the discretion of the appointing Supervisor or the County Executive Officer for one additional two-year term.

## What does the Community Review Commission produce?

The Community Review Commission produces an Annual Review Report. The Annual Review Reports are posted to the Community Review Commission's website. The Commission also provides an annual update to the Board of Supervisors.

## How can the community provide input and information for the Community Review Commission?

The Commission welcomes public participation at the meetings and conducts meetings in the manner pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act, Section 54950, of the California Government Code. All agendas, materials, and recorded meetings are [publicly posted and accessible through the Clerk of the Board](#). Meetings are typically held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month, at 6 pm in the Board of Supervisors Chambers (700 H Street, Sacramento, CA 95814). Some exceptions apply; the meeting calendar is posted to the CRC's website.

Members of the public are encouraged to provide public comment in person or by phone. Public comment procedures for each meeting are posted with the agenda. Community members can also email Community Review Commission staff (Laura Foster, CEO Management Analyst II, Public Safety and Justice) at [crc@saccounty.gov](mailto:crc@saccounty.gov).

## How can I remain informed about the Community Review Commission's activities?

[Sign up to receive email and mobile # text messages when new Community Review Commission meeting information is available.](#)

## How can I tell others about the Community Review Commission?

The Community Review Commission has developed an informational flyer describing the Commission, its mission, activities, and commitment to community engagement. These materials are posted to the website and are also available in Spanish. Translations into additional languages (Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, Hmong, Russian, and Vietnamese) may be obtained upon request by contacting [crc@saccounty.gov](mailto:crc@saccounty.gov).