
From: Los Angeles Citizen <[REDACTED]>
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To: Police Commission
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Mayor Bass, LAPD Police Commissioners, and Chief McDonnell,

With anticipation, I saw the news announced on the underutilized and often not up to date LAPDONLINE.ORG website that a new Academy Class had just graduated. How many new graduates would be joining the ranks of the LAPD ready to protect and serve our city? Surely, we would be seeing a number going in the right direction and maybe even get halfway to the goal of 60 per class! Then I saw the number and I couldn't believe my eyes for a moment. Sixteen. SIXTEEN as in Sweet Sixteen. Not SIXTY but SIXTEEN! Is this the smallest class the LAPD has ever had? The goal is SIXTY per class, NOT SIXTEEN! This is pathetic! This is a crisis!

We need someone who knows what they are doing and can solve this problem of recruitment, retention and morale immediately. Time is of the essence and a sense of urgency is needed. The person who can save the LAPD in this crisis if it can be saved is Jerretta Sandoz, respected Vice President Director of the Los Angeles Police Protective League. Mayor Bass would be wise to appoint and empower Jerretta Sandoz either as a Deputy Mayor for Public Safety or Police Commissioner, presuming Jerretta Sandoz would even consider accepting such a position. Ideally, Jerretta Sandoz would be entrusted as Deputy Mayor to work with Chief Jim McDonnell, the Command Staff, and LAPPL to remedy the serious problems LAPD has with recruitment, retention, and morale. Mayor Bass should also seriously consider appointing a retired LAPD LAPPL Director, delegate as Police Commissioner. I know its a radical concept but we need people who actually know something about the LAPD and policing to address the myriad of issues plaguing the LAPD!

The LAPD is in crisis and desperate times call for desperate measures or at least a return to common sense and rationality.

Respectfully,
Steve Reilly