

Oversight Findings



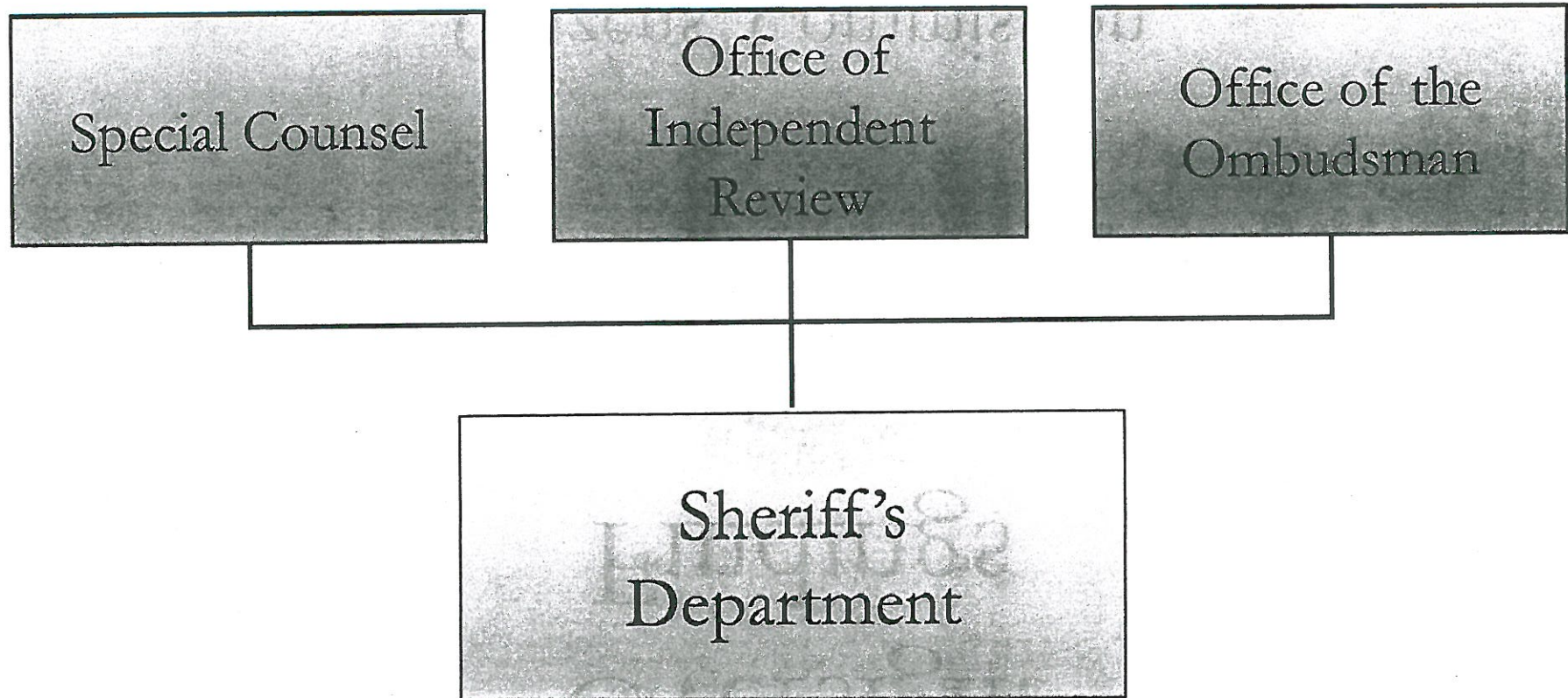
Citizens' Commission on Jail Violence

Presented by



O'MELVENY & MYERS LLP

Multiple entities are responsible for overseeing aspects of the Sheriff's Department



Special Counsel

- Created to oversee reforms recommended by the Kolts Commission.
- Has identified issues in both Patrol and Custody.
- Produced 31 reports over 19 years; more than half contain recommendations concerning Custody.

Office of Independent Review

- Created in 2001, OIR monitors Department investigations of misconduct to ensure they are thorough and fair.
- Provides input on discipline decisions.
- Primarily focuses on individual investigations but has addressed other issues as well.

Office of the Ombudsman

- The Ombudsman is appointed by the Board.
- By statute, is charged with reviewing unresolved complaints about Department personnel.
- One Assistant Ombudsman handles all complaints about the Department.

The Department failed to implement important recommendations about the jails

- Special Counsel
 - In 2003, Special Counsel recommended a series of reforms to the Personnel Performance Index, the Department’s “early warning system.” He noted that it was underutilized, and that reports sent to the PPI had serious flaws. (16th Report.) Six years later, in 2009, Special Counsel noted that his recommendations still had not been implemented. (27th Report.)
 - In 1994, Special Counsel expressed concerns about the amount of time deputies spend in the jails and recommended limiting the length of initial Custody assignments. (2nd Report.) His 2012 report notes that this reform is still needed. (31st Report.)
 - Special Counsel has also recommended that inmate complaints against a deputy should be investigated by someone other than the deputy’s immediate supervisor. This reform has not been implemented.

There are gaps in the existing oversight framework

- Special Counsel does not conduct recurring audits of important issues and has only a limited ability to revisit his recommendations to determine if they have been implemented.
- OIR does not monitor “unit level” investigations and lacks the authority to conduct its own independent investigations.
- The Ombudsman does not have the authority to independently investigate inmate complaints and does not publish any reports on the thoroughness and efficacy of the complaint process.
- All of the oversight entities have their own budgets and support staffs and occasionally their work overlaps.

Consolidating the existing oversight entities and creating a more unified approach to oversight would address many of these issues.

There is insufficient oversight of the inmate complaint process

- The Department has not implemented agreed-upon reforms.
- No oversight body regularly reviews the Department's operation of the inmate complaint process.
- The Ombudsman has not used the full array of its powers to address serious inmate complaints.
- The Ombudsman lacks the authority and resources to adequately oversee the process.

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
INMATE COMPLAINT / SERVICES REQUEST FORM**

Instructions:
Fill out the portion below as completely as possible. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. Once completed, fax off the last copy for yourself and then place the original and the second copy into the Request / Complaint Form Box. Some of the choices may or may not apply to you or your facility.

Only one request per form.

INMATE NAME	BOOKING #	FACILITY	BOOKING DOC.	DATE
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I WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK WITH A:

Sheriff's Staff representative Other

Medical Chaplain Religious Practitioner

Social Work Education Other

Correctional Treatment Unit I.A. Representative

Other

REQUEST TO SPEAK WITH THE APPROPRIATE PERSON REGARDING:

Property or personal effects Comming account Other

Mail Other

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION:

Other

I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE:

Other

I HAVE THE FOLLOWING REQUEST / COMPLAINT:

FOR DEPARTMENT USE ONLY - DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

Name of Inmate Receiving Request / Complaint	Employee #	Date
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Name	Employee #	Date	Other
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Complaint type	Disposition	Code	UFAN (if Applicable)
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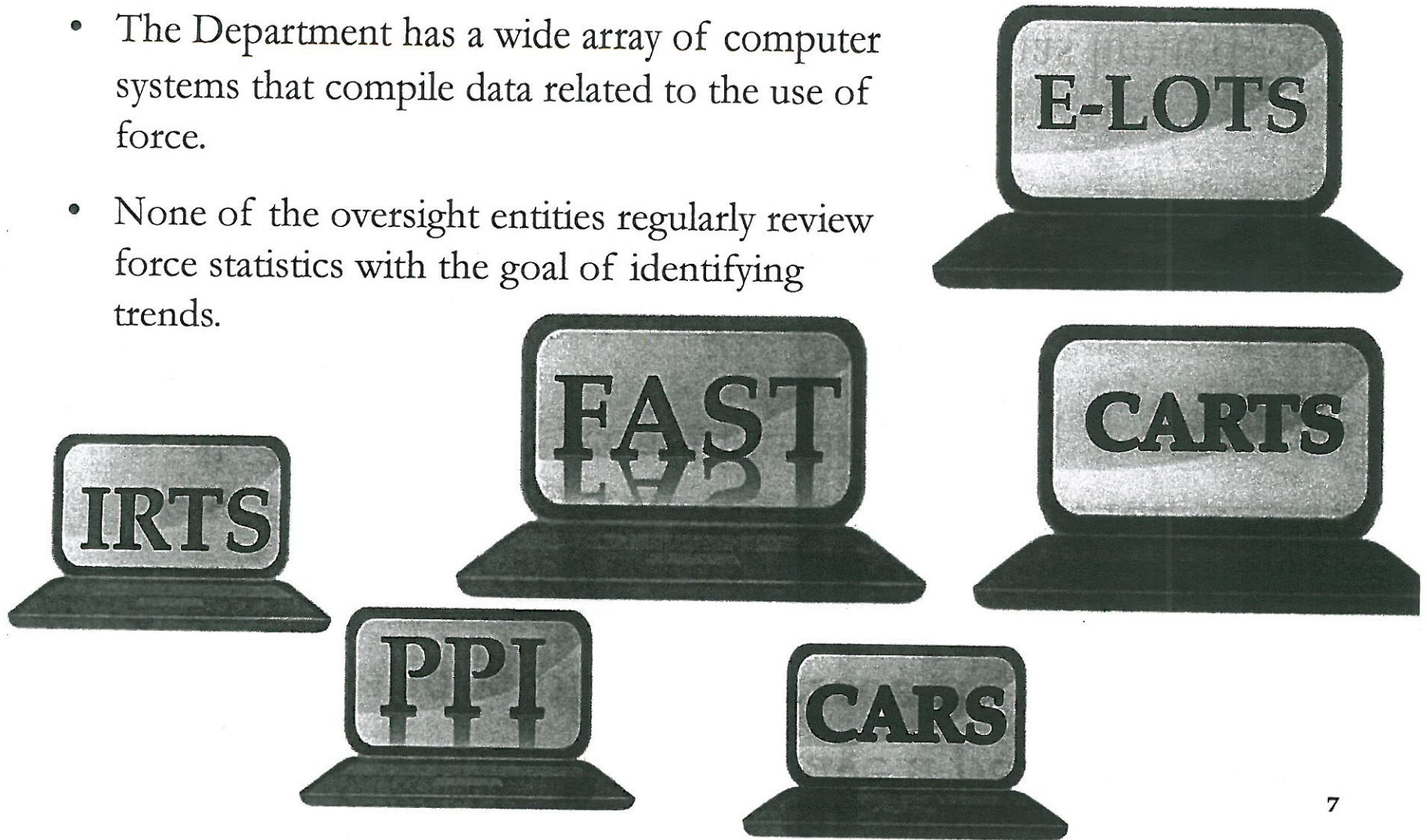
DISPOSITION

Requester Signature Booking # Date

When Filled When Closed When Closed

None of the oversight entities regularly review the Department's force statistics

- The Department has a wide array of computer systems that compile data related to the use of force.
- None of the oversight entities regularly review force statistics with the goal of identifying trends.



The Department does not have a permanent monitor responsible for overseeing the jails

- None of the oversight entities is responsible for regularly monitoring conditions in the jails.
- Historically, the Department has relied on the ACLU (an adversary in litigation) to monitor jail conditions.
- The ACLU is not a true jail monitor. It has limited access to Department records and personnel and has recently shifted its focus to litigation.

The Board of Supervisors' recent engagement has helped propel reform

- The Board of Supervisors' efforts to require the Department to implement recommendations made by Special Counsel have improved transparency and accountability.
- Some recommendations made by Special Counsel were implemented or advanced by the Department only after the Board's involvement.
- Continued involvement is needed to ensure meaningful reform.