

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Enri Marini

**Date Submitted:** 01/22/2026 08:14 AM

**Council File No:** 00-9999

**Comments for Public Posting:** The following attachment shows how Los Angeles City Council manipulates the queue of public speakers using a software system to violate the Brown Act and pretend certain names never registered in an attempt to suppress the first amendment and violate the Brown Act.

Investigations Jan 4

# Los Angeles City Council Violates California Brown Act and First Amendment Using a Digital Speaker Registration System



Nighttime photo of Los Angeles City Hall.

## I. ORIGINS AND PURPOSE OF THE BROWN ACT

The California Brown Act was enacted in 1953 following a series of local-government scandals that revealed city councils and local boards were routinely meeting and making decisions behind closed

doors. The legislation was sponsored by Ralph Brown, a California Assembly member who became aware of these abuses through press investigations and constituent complaints.

At its core, the Brown Act is straightforward and commonsense. It requires that all local legislative bodies—at the city and county level, including state-created bodies such as the California State Bar—conduct their decision-making meetings openly and in public. These meetings must allow public attendance, provide opportunities for public comment, and be properly noticed. The meetings are recorded, and public comments become part of the official public record.

The Act does more than set procedural expectations. It imposes criminal liability on government officials who knowingly violate its requirements, including violations of the public’s right to comment. Each violation may be charged as a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$2,000 and up to one year in jail, with each violation treated as a separate offense.

## II. EXPANDED PROTECTIONS WITH SENATE BILL 707

Over time, California legislators have expanded the Brown Act’s protections to address modern realities. Most recently, the Legislature enacted Senate Bill 707, which mandates that public bodies allow virtual attendance and accept public comment remotely.

All California government agencies are required to comply with these new mandates by early July 2026.

With these additions, California now has the strongest statutory protections in the nation for public participation in government meetings. In contrast, most other states’ open-meetings laws merely require that meetings be open to observation and that records be kept. They generally do not codify a statewide right to public comment at every meeting, nor do they impose meaningful penalties when officials suppress speech.

Some municipalities in other states have adopted local policies permitting public comment, but these policies typically lack enforcement mechanisms or penalties. As a result, in much of the United States, the public’s legal right is limited to watching government proceedings—nothing more.

Even New York City, one of the largest and most influential cities in the world, lacks a comprehensive legal framework guaranteeing public comment at every public meeting. In practice, this silences millions of voices. A system that allows the public only to observe, but not speak, is passive and fundamentally inconsistent with the democratic free-speech principles on which the United States was founded.

### III. VIRTUAL PUBLIC COMMENT

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the City of Los Angeles had no difficulty accepting virtual public comment across its public meetings. Using existing teleconferencing infrastructure, the city successfully allowed members of the public to participate remotely for years. That infrastructure still exists today.

Through public records requests, it has been confirmed that the City of Los Angeles continues to retain all necessary electronic hardware and software from that period, including microphones, speakers, cameras, and active software licenses. No additional equipment, configuration, or expenditure is required for the city to resume virtual public comment immediately—well in advance of the Senate Bill 707 compliance deadline of July 2026. Despite this, the city has chosen to delay reinstating virtual public participation.

Further public records obtained from the Los Angeles Information Technology Agency (ITA) reveal an even more striking fact: the city's teleconferencing platform—Zoom—is provided at no cost to all city agencies. This includes full access to features such as recording, virtual public comment, webinars, chat logs, automatic closed captioning, and related functionality.

This type of arrangement is common in government. Software companies frequently provide heavily discounted or free licensing to public agencies, similar to nonprofit pricing models, in exchange for long-term institutional adoption and future integration opportunities. In this case, the entire Zoom platform is free to the city.

However, public records show that despite this citywide free licensing, Los Angeles has required one specific category of city entities to pay for Zoom licenses out of their own budgets: the neighborhood councils.

Los Angeles is unusual in that its neighborhood council system is formally established in the City Charter. There are 99 neighborhood councils, each composed of volunteer board members who live and work in the communities they represent. These councils serve as a direct and accessible conduit between residents and city government, particularly in a city as geographically sprawling and decentralized as Los Angeles. Each neighborhood council receives a modest annual budget—approximately \$30,000—to support local initiatives and community needs.

Despite being an official city government agency, neighborhood councils have always been forced to pay for teleconferencing access themselves, even though Zoom was already licensed and available at no cost to all city agencies. This effectively forced neighborhood councils to divert scarce public funds to pay for software that the city already had.

The implications are significant. Neighborhood councils are often far more accessible to residents than City Hall itself. They meet locally, are staffed by volunteers from the community, and provide a public forum where constituents can realistically participate—especially for residents whereby traveling downtown is impractical due to distance, cost, work schedules, or mobility limitations. By imposing unnecessary costs on neighborhood councils and delaying the restoration of virtual public comment citywide, Los Angeles has further limited meaningful public participation.

Taken together, these facts undermine any claim that logistical, technical, or financial barriers prevent the city from restoring virtual public comment. The capacity exists. The infrastructure exists. The cost is zero. The delay is a choice.

**Received**  
September 24, 2025 via email

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**Requester**  
[info@filmthepoliceusa.com](mailto:info@filmthepoliceusa.com)  
[info@filmthepoliceusa.com](mailto:info@filmthepoliceusa.com)

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**Staff assigned**

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**Departments**  
No departments available

**Point of contact**  
ITA\_CPRA\_Coordinator

2025 at 8:00 AM

To: "ITACPRACoordinator@lacity.org" <ITACPRACoordinator@lacity.org>

From: Info@filmthepoliceusa.com Date submitted 9-24-2025

To: Public Records Officer and Custodian of Records  
Information Technology Agency City of Los Angeles

Dear Records Officer and Records Custodian,

Pursuant to the California Public Records Act and all other adjacent public records laws, I request records sufficient to show a complete and current inventory of all audio-visual and teleconferencing infrastructure used in official public meeting rooms of the City of Los Angeles, including but not limit...

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[Show more](#)

**Timeline** Documents

**Request closed** Anyone with access to this request

Hello info@filmthepoliceusa.com,

We have thoroughly searched for and identified the information you requested. Our response is as follows:

**\*\*ITEM 1:\*\*** The responsive record is attached. Please note that Room 1820 of City Hall East (200 North Main Street) is occupied by the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD). If you wish to submit your CPRA request to the LAFD, please visit [\[https://lafd.org/fire-records-cpra-request\]](https://lafd.org/fire-records-cpra-request) for more information.

**\*\*ITEM 2:\*\*** During the COVID-19 pandemic, Zoom was the preferred software for virtual meetings held in Rooms 340, 350, and 401 of Los Angeles City Hall. As **Zoom is a free service**, the City of Los Angeles has not obtained any licenses for it. Please be aware that virtual public participation in council and committee meetings ended in January 2025, and Zoom is no longer used for these meetings.

Screenshot of public records request submitted to the Los Angeles Information Technology Agency (ITA) back during September 24, 2025. The document shows that the Zoom platform is free for the City of Los Angeles to use. The full public records reply of the Information Technology Agency in PDF format can be found by clicking here.

**9-24-2025 CPRA Request****INVENTORY OF AUDIO/VIDEO INFRASTRUCTURE IN PUBLIC MEETING ROOMS**

Screenshot of a list of electronic hardware used in every public meeting room at the Los Angeles City Hall. This screenshot only shows a portion of the complete inventory. The inventory shows the quantity, make, and model of every microphone, sound system, and video camera system used by the Los Angeles city government. This document comes from a public records request submitted to the Los Angeles Information Technology Agency (ITA) on September 24, 2025. The complete inventory released from this public records request can be found in PDF format by [clicking here](#).

- 1) ROOM 340, LOS ANGELES CITY HALL (3RD FLOOR)
  - A. 12-inch Desktop Microflex Cardioid Gooseneck Microphone (Mfg: Shure, P/N: MX412D/C or equal), Qty: 30
  - B. Handheld Wireless Microphone Transmitter 470-636 MHz (Mfg: Shure, P/N: AD2/B58--G57 or equal), Qty: 2
  - C. Handheld Wireless Microphone System with SM58 (Mfg: Shure, P/N: Shure SLXD24/SM58 or equal), Qty: 2
  - D. 18" Desktop mounted cardioid gooseneck microphone (Mfg: Shure, P/N: MX418D/C or equal), Qty: 1
  - E. PTZ Network Camera, PoE, with HDMI and SDI output. Includes PTZWMB1 wall mount bracket. QSC 20x Optical Zoom 60Å° Horizontal Field of View (Mfg: QSC Audio, P/N: NC-20X60), Qty: 1
  - F. Network Core for AV&C processing built on Dell PowerEdge Server Technology offering 256x256 networked audio channels with 8x8 Software-based Dante (Mfg: QSC Audio, P/N: CORE 610), Qty: 1
  - G. Q-SYS 10.1" PoE Touch Screen Controller for In-Wall Mounting, Color - Black only" (Mfg: QSC Audio, P/N: TSC-101-G3), Qty: 1
  - H. Q-SYS PoE bridging endpoint for AV-to-USB Bridging. (Mfg: QSC Audio, P/N: I/O USB Bridge), Qty: 3
  - I. Software used in Meetings: Zoom
- 2) ROOM 350, LOS ANGELES CITY HALL (3RD FLOOR)
  - A. 18" Desktop mounted cardioid gooseneck microphone (Mfg: Shure, P/N: MX418D/C or equal), Qty: 1
  - B. 12-inch Desktop Microflex Cardioid Gooseneck Microphone (Mfg: Shure, P/N: MX412D/C or equal), Qty: 12
  - C. Q-SYS Network Unified Core Processor, Core 110F V2, Analog I/O Processor, 128 Audio Channels (Audio DSP) (Mfg: QSC Audio, P/N: CORE 110F-V2), Qty: 1
  - D. Q-SYS 10.1" PoE Touch Screen (Mfg: QSC Audio, P/N: TSC-101-G3), Qty: 1
  - E. Dual-Sided Intercom Headset - Stereo - Wired - 300 Ohm - 20 Hz - 18 KHz - Over-the-head - Binaural - Circumaural (Mfg: Shure, P/N: BRH440M-LC or equal), Qty: 1
  - F. Universal Ear Speaker -Mini-phone (3.5mm) - Wired - 32 Ohm Over-the-ear -Monaural - In-ear (Mfg: Listen Technologies Corp., P/N: LA-401), Qty: 16
  - G. Software used in Meetings: Zoom

## IV. REMEDIES FOR BROWN ACT VIOLATIONS

The Brown Act also provides a built-in mechanism to remedy violations when public speech is chilled. This takes the form of a "Demand for Cure and Correct," an administrative complaint submitted to the public body involved and typically to the city clerk. The demand requires only that the complainant identify:

1. The government body
2. The meeting date
3. The specific violation
4. A request for corrective action

The remedy itself is straightforward. The public body is required to halt proceedings and reset the public comment period to allow affected speakers to provide their full remarks. This remedy may be requested verbally during the meeting or formally in writing. If the body fails to cure the violation, any actions taken during that meeting are rendered void. The body must reconvene—no later than its next regular meeting—after providing proper public notice and must address and correct the violation, including restoring the affected speaker's opportunity to comment. Failure to do so exposes officials to both civil and criminal liability for acting in concert to violate the law. The City

Attorney's Office is obligated to accept these complaints, including on-site during meetings, and to advise officials of violations and recommend cessation of proceedings when necessary.

## V. LOS ANGELES CONTINUES REPEATEDLY VIOLATING BROWN ACT

Los Angeles is widely regarded as a center of activism and government reform. Many landmark laws and high-profile lawsuits originate there, and its status as the entertainment capital of the world ensures global attention. This visibility creates strong incentives for city officials to suppress dissenting and critical voices during public meetings.

Public comment in Los Angeles requires speakers to register in advance by entering a name into the speaker queue. Speakers are not required to use their legal names; fictitious names are permitted so long as the speaker responds when called.

There are two distinct public comment periods:

1. Agenda Item Comment - pertains to items listed on the agenda
2. General Public Comment - anything not on the agenda

Each category provides a defined amount of speaking time. These sections being distinct is more symbolic and to help the clerk organize comments and register whether speakers are for or against a particular item, NOT as a bar to limit what you can say during a particular segment.

One of the most common tactics used to cut speakers off is the arbitrary and unlawful assertion that a speaker is "off topic." This tactic is disproportionately used against speakers who are sharply critical of city officials. The purpose is not enforcement of decorum, but disruption—throwing speakers off their train of thought, provoking emotional reactions, and reframing the speaker as the aggressor rather than the victim. This tactic was directly addressed in federal court when David "Zuma Dogg" Saltsburg and Matthew Dowd, along with multiple co-plaintiffs, sued the City of Los Angeles for violating their First Amendment rights.

The lawsuit was filed on September 16, 2009, and culminated in an eight-day jury trial beginning in late January 2014 and concluding around February 10, 2014. The case spanned several years due to amended complaints, changes in representation, and the fact that some plaintiffs passed away or withdrew.

Initially self-represented, the plaintiffs were later represented by the Los Angeles chapter of the nonprofit known as Public Counsel. The jury found that the City of Los Angeles had violated the plaintiffs' First Amendment rights during public meetings. The court held that the public comment period belongs to the speaker for the full duration of their allotted time and that chilling speech during that period constitutes a violation of core First Amendment protections.

The court made clear that, absent criminal threats or unlawful conduct, speakers may criticize the government on any topic during their allotted time. Although the plaintiffs were awarded only nominal damages of one dollar, the case established a clear public record of unconstitutional conduct and created binding precedent for future claims.

### Documents from David Saltsburg lawsuit

1. [Lawsuit filed by David Saltsburg on September 16, 2009 against City of Los Angeles for First Amendment violation](#)
2. [List of all proceedings on the docket of David Saltsburg First Amendment lawsuit against City of Los Angeles](#)
3. [City of Los Angeles replies to David Saltsburg's lawsuit on October 8, 2009](#)
4. [City of Los Angeles replies to David Saltsburg demand for jury trial and injunctive relief March 10, 2011](#)
5. [David Saltsburg now represented by lawyers from Public Counsel nonprofit and files amended complaint on February 9, 2012](#)

## VI. MODERN DAY BROWN ACT VIOLATIONS USING SOFTWARE

Despite this ruling, Los Angeles continues to suppress public comment—now through digital means. The city replaced its paper-based speaker sign-in process with a computer kiosk system requiring speakers to register electronically. The system collects a name and the agenda items the speaker wishes to address. City council members, the city clerk, and the council president have direct control over this system. Its features include the ability to:

1. Delete registered speakers
2. Reorder the queue
3. Mark speakers as having already spoken

Council members access the system through single sign-on credentials tied to their official city accounts, meaning all actions are logged, time-stamped, and attributable to specific officials. The data is stored electronically and is auditable.

Although public records do not identify the platform, the system's appearance suggests it is either custom-built or implemented through Microsoft's Power Platform.

The city has leveraged this technology to introduce plausible deniability when speakers' names are skipped, deleted, or ignored. Compounding the issue, the system provides no receipt or confirmation record to speakers after registration, nor does it display a public roster of registered speakers.

By contrast, the former paper-based system allowed speakers to visually confirm their place in line and retain proof of submission.

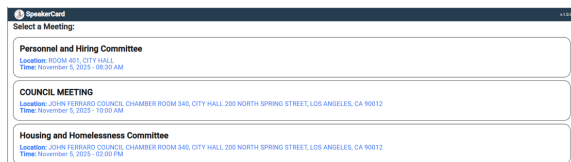
No public training is provided on how to use the kiosks, even though records show city officials receive formal training. The kiosks themselves are poorly labeled and difficult to locate.

This has produced a new “cat-and-mouse” dynamic in which speakers feel compelled to submit multiple entries to ensure they are called. Public records confirm the system is configured on a first-in, first-out basis, yet officials routinely claim names do not exist, have already spoken, or were “too far down the list.”

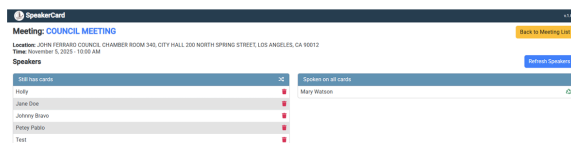
Ironically, all such manipulations are digitally recorded.

Most troubling, the City of Los Angeles has denied—through official public records responses—that this system exists at all, despite city council livestream footage clearly showing the software in use on officials’ computer screens. City officials have even taken to giving members of the audience and other council members instructions to not listen to certain comments given by members of the public before the public comment period begins. They do this by having the presiding Deputy City Attorney issue this warning. This is a classic example of prior restraint, a tactic intended to chill protected free speech.

Meeting Selection View:



Speaker List:



Screenshot of the Los Angeles City Council speaker queue software system seen from the perspective of an account logged in as a City Councilmember. The screenshot shows the name of the meeting, a list of all registered speakers, and buttons to delete a speaker, shuffle the order of speakers, and mark a speaker as having spoken. This image comes from a public records request submitted to the Los Angeles City Clerk on November 7, 2025. This document is available in PDF format by clicking here.

Screenshot of public records request submitted on October 22, 2025 to the Los Angeles Information Technology Agency (ITA) asking for proof of the public comment registration software. The ITA denied the existence of the software system but then simultaneously directs the requester to file the request with the Los Angeles City Clerk. This full document is available in PDF format by [clicking here](#).

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 City of Los Angeles  
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Request Visibility: Unpublished

**Request 25-15715**  Closed

**Dates**  
 Received  
 October 22, 2025 via email

**Requester**  
 info@filmthepoliceusa.com  
 info@filmthepoliceusa.com

**Staff assigned**  
 Departments  
 No departments available  
 Point of contact  
 ITA\_CPRACoordinator

**Request**  
**FilmThePoliceUSA** info@filmthepoliceusa.com via lacity.org  
 Oct 22, 2025, 11:54 AM  
 to ITACPRACoordinator@lacity.org  
 Subject: Public Records Act Request – Speaker Registration and Randomizer Software Used for Public Comment  
 To: Custodian of Records  
 City of Los Angeles  
 Information Technology Agency (ITA)  
 Date: 10-22-2025  
 Dear Custodian of Records,  
 Pursuant to the California Public Records Act and all relevant adjacent public records laws, I respectfully request access to and copies of public records described below.  
**Requested Records**  
 This request concerns the public comment registration and speaker randomization software referenced below.  
 To be clear, I am not requesting proprietary or security-sensitive information, such as source code, programming language, or system architecture. Instead, I request records

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City of Los Angeles  
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Request Visibility: Embargoed -- Will be auto-published November 07, 2025 at 1:51 PM

### Request 25-16150 Closed

#### Dates

**Received**  
November 01, 2025 via web

#### Requester

info@filinthepeaceusa.com  
 info@filinthepeaceusa.com

#### Staff assigned

#### Request

To: Custodian of Records, City of Los Angeles  
Date: 11-01-2025

Subject: 11-01-2025 Public Records Act Request - Speaker Registration and Randomizer Queuing Software Used for Public Comment During City Council Meetings

Dear Custodian of Records,

Pursuant to the California Public Records Act and all relevant adjacent public records laws, I respectfully request access to and copies of public records described below.

Based upon information and belief, the City of Los Angeles uses Speaker Registration and Randomizer Queuing Software Used for Public Comment During City Council Meetings. This has been repeatedly admitted live on video by prior and

#### Departments

City Clerk

#### Point of contact

Clerk CPRA Coordinator

current council members and deputy city attorneys. Video footage exists of council members interfacing with this system.

On October 29, 2025 the Information Technology Agency (ITA) was tasked with this same records inquiry. In direct contrast to the repeated video taped statements by city council members and deputy city attorneys, the ITA stated that no such system exists. Furthermore, the ITA specifically stated that your department (the City Clerk) may be in possession of the following records pertaining to the existence of this system.

To be clear, I am not requesting proprietary or security-sensitive information, such as source code, programming language, or system architecture. Instead, I request records sufficient to demonstrate the existence, deployment, and operation of this technology, including but not limited to:

#### Requested Records

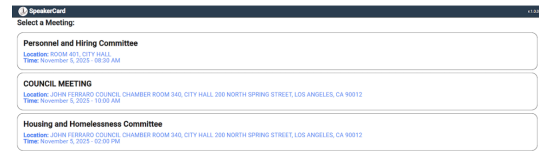
1. Records sufficient to show the existence of the software, including screenshots, interface views, or other visual documentation (e.g., a splash screen of list of registered speakers, even if the speaker list being used for demonstration purposes are mock ones).
2. Purchase, procurement, or contracting records, including:
  - a. Purchase orders or invoices related to the software.
  - b. The name of the vendor, if applicable.

Screenshot of the public records request submitted to the Los Angeles City Clerk on November 1, 2025 asking for proof of the existence of the public comment software system. This request was submitted after the Information Technology Agency denied the system's existence on October 22, 2025. This document is available for download in full in PDF format by clicking here.

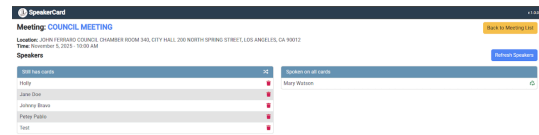
Screenshot of training instructions given to Los Angeles city council members on how to use the public comment software system. This record proves that the City of Los Angeles proactively teaches City officials how to use the public comment registration software system, namely council members and the City Clerks, with training coming directly from the City Clerk's office. This image comes from a public records request submitted to the Los Angeles City Clerk on November 18, 2025. This document is available in full to download in PDF format by clicking here.

**Randomizer Instructions:**

When the page loads there will be a list of meetings occurring today. Select your meeting from the list:



Once you have selected your meeting, you will see a simple interface with a list of all speakers that have signed up at the moment the page has loaded:



People that have active speaker cards will be listed on the left column. People that have been marked "spoken" (removed from speaking queue) will appear on the right column.

**Functions:**

- Click the **"Back to Meeting List"** button in the upper right corner to return to the meeting list
- Click the **"Refresh Speakers"** button to refresh the list of speakers. If any new speakers have signed up since the page was loaded or the last refresh, they will appear now. The list of speakers will not refresh automatically so this will need to be pressed for the most up to date list.
- Click the "Shuffle" icon in the top-right corner to randomize the list of speakers that haven't spoken yet. This will randomize the speakers currently shown in the "Still has cards" columns.
  - o You can randomize the list as many times as you want.
  - o The order is not saved or retained so it will be lost if you refresh the speakers or reload the page.
- Click the red "Trash" icon to the right of the speaker's name in the "Still has cards" column to mark all their cards as "spoken" (remove from queue). The speaker will then be moved to the right "Spoken on all cards" column.
- Click the green "Recycle" icon next to the speaker's name in the "Spoken on all cards" column to mark all the speaker's cards as "Unspoken" (queued to speak). This will move the speaker to the left "Still has cards" column.

**Speaker Card Report**

The names listed below reflect individuals who requested to speak on the specified Council file. These individuals may not have actually provided testimony during the meeting. Please refer to the audio and/or video recording of the meeting to determine which individuals actually provided testimony.

| Speaker Name      | Date:                     | Meeting         | Item                   | CF Number              |
|-------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Jelani Arriaga    | 11-12-2025<br>Time: 09:16 | COUNCIL MEETING | General Public Comment | General Public Comment |
| Jelani Arriaga    | 11-12-2025<br>Time: 09:16 | COUNCIL MEETING | Item no. (48)          | 25-1295                |
| Brenda Montes     | 11-12-2025<br>Time: 09:16 | COUNCIL MEETING | General Public Comment | General Public Comment |
| Brenda Montes     | 11-12-2025<br>Time: 09:16 | COUNCIL MEETING | Item no. (48)          | 25-1295                |
| Lizy Lopez        | 11-12-2025<br>Time: 09:17 | COUNCIL MEETING | General Public Comment | General Public Comment |
| Lizy Lopez        | 11-12-2025<br>Time: 09:17 | COUNCIL MEETING | Item no. (48)          | 25-1295                |
| Robert Dominguez  | 11-12-2025<br>Time: 09:17 | COUNCIL MEETING | General Public Comment | General Public Comment |
| Robert Dominguez  | 11-12-2025<br>Time: 09:17 | COUNCIL MEETING | Item no. (48)          | 25-1295                |
| Rebecca Dominguez | 11-12-2025<br>Time: 09:18 | COUNCIL MEETING | General Public Comment | General Public Comment |
| Rebecca Dominguez | 11-12-2025<br>Time: 09:18 | COUNCIL MEETING | Item no. (48)          | 25-1295                |
| Silvia Andrade    | 11-12-2025<br>Time: 09:18 | COUNCIL MEETING | General Public Comment | General Public Comment |
| Silvia Andrade    | 11-12-2025<br>Time: 09:18 | COUNCIL MEETING | Item no. (48)          | 25-1295                |
| Jose Silva        | 11-12-2025<br>Time: 09:18 | COUNCIL MEETING | General Public Comment | General Public Comment |
| Jose Silva        | 11-12-2025<br>Time: 09:18 | COUNCIL MEETING | Item no. (48)          | 25-1295                |
| Mary Urrutia      | 11-12-2025<br>Time: 09:19 | COUNCIL MEETING | General Public Comment | General Public Comment |
| Mary Urrutia      | 11-12-2025<br>Time: 09:19 | COUNCIL MEETING | Item no. (48)          | 25-1295                |
| Michael Torres    | 11-12-2025<br>Time: 09:19 | COUNCIL MEETING | General Public Comment | General Public Comment |
| Michael Torres    | 11-12-2025<br>Time: 09:19 | COUNCIL MEETING | Item no. (48)          | 25-1295                |
| Lilia Lopez       | 11-12-2025<br>Time: 09:20 | COUNCIL MEETING | General Public Comment | General Public Comment |
| Lilia Lopez       | 11-12-2025<br>Time: 09:20 | COUNCIL MEETING | Item no. (48)          | 25-1295                |
| Ramona Lopez      | 11-12-2025<br>Time: 09:20 | COUNCIL MEETING | General Public Comment | General Public Comment |

Screenshot of a list of names registered to speak during public comment at a routine public hearing of the Los Angeles City Council on November 12, 2025. The completed document shows the actions taken by each council member to each registered name and the timestamp for when they took said action. This proves that the software system saves all names and actions within the system for each and every meeting. This document was obtained by submitting a public records request to the Los Angeles City Clerk. This document is available in full to download in PDF format by clicking here.

Screenshot of public records request to Los Angeles City Clerk submitted on November 20, 2025 seeking the records for the data retention policies of the public comment software system. The Los Angeles City Clerk did not fulfill the policy portion of the request but provided other records pertaining to metadata of the software system, indicating that the clerk’s office does indeed store these records. Since the files are all electronic, it is highly likely they store these files permanently in electronic format. This document is available in full to download in PDF format by clicking here.

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Request Visibility: Published

**Request 25-17264**  Closed

**Dates**

Received  
November 20, 2025 via web

**Requester**

info@filmthepoliceusa.com  
info@filmthepoliceusa.com

**Staff assigned**

**Request**

From: info@filmthepoliceusa.com  
Date: November 20, 2025  
Subject: CPRA on Public Comment Registration Software – Data Retention, User Action Logs, Vendor Documentation, and Complete 11-12-2025 City Council Public Comment Speaker List

Dear Custodian of Records,  
Pursuant to the California Public Records Act (CPRA) and all other relevant laws, I am respectfully seeking true and accurate copies of the following records listed below. It is imperative that background context is provided to the agency

**Signing up for a Speaker Card**

1. Locate a Speaker Card Kiosk: Depending on the meeting location, these Kiosks will be positioned outside of the meeting room and/or within the room itself. For example, the John Ferraro Council Chamber Room 340 will have one Kiosk outside of the entrance and two Kiosks inside.
2. The Kiosks utilize a touchscreen interface. Tap the screen to begin.



3. Read the Rules of Decorum and acknowledge the rules of the Los Angeles City Council

I Acknowledge the [Rules of the Los Angeles City Council](#)

**Next**

- Click "Next" to proceed.
4. After accepting the rules, you will be presented a list of currently ongoing meetings. Choose the meeting you wish to speak at by tapping it.

Screenshot of an educational pamphlet now being provided in paper form at speaker kiosks to teach members of the public how to use the speaking queue software system. This pamphlet is new and never been done before by the city, a result of the pressure applied during this investigation. The computer kiosks still remain indescribable and without any signage labeling them for their intended purpose, but these pamphlets have been observed to be available at some kiosks at City Hall. This document came from a public records request to the Los Angeles City Clerk on November 26, 2025. This document is available in full to download in PDF format by clicking here.

## VII. ENFORCEMENT FAILURES AND PUBLIC CORRUPTION

Although there have been no recent prosecutions for Brown Act violations despite extensive documentation, the absence of charges does not mean the harm is theoretical. The purpose of these violations is deterrence—using fear and frustration to discourage public participation. Under the City Charter and formal agreements, the City Attorney is responsible for prosecuting Brown Act violations. However, when violations rise to the level of public corruption or civil rights abuses, the Los Angeles County District Attorney has authority to prosecute through its Public Integrity Division.

This is particularly significant given that violent crime in Los Angeles continues to decline, while public corruption—especially collusion involving land use, water rights, capital infrastructure projects, and homelessness programs—remains pervasive. By the city’s own reports and public testimony from residents, these forms of corruption constitute a substantial share of systemic harm in Los Angeles.

## CONCLUSION

The California Brown Act was designed to ensure government accountability through transparency and public participation. In Los Angeles, however, a documented pattern of suppression—now amplified by digital tools—continues to undermine those guarantees. The law is clear, the remedies exist, and the violations are recorded. What remains absent is meaningful enforcement. Thanks for tuning in. Please be sure to subscribe to our newsletter and support our work via the links below.

If any of the above links containing the documents do not work for some reason, you can access all of the documents via the DocumentCloud links below for free:

<https://www.documentcloud.org/projects/222985-los-angeles-city-council-proof-of-prior-restraint-during-public-council-meetings/>

# Los Angeles City Council Proof of Prior Restraint During Public Council Meetings

Public records requests showing the city of Los Angeles uses a software speaker name randomizer to discriminate against who gets to speak during the public comment period.

The screenshot displays a list of five documents in a DocumentCloud interface. Each entry includes a title, page count, author, date, and a project tag. The documents are:

- 11-26-2025 speaker kiosk instructions**: 6 pages - Enri Marini (filmthepoliceusa) - Wed Nov 26 2025
- 11-12-2025 speaker card report**: 20 pages - Enri Marini (filmthepoliceusa) - Wed Nov 26 2025
- 11-26-2025 correspondence on NextRequest platform seeking speaker data retention policies - Request 25-17264**: 6 pages - Enri Marini (filmthepoliceusa) - Wed Nov 26 2025
- 11-18-2025 los angeles public comment Randomizer software user Instructions**: 1 page - Enri Marini (filmthepoliceusa) - Tue Nov 18 2025
- 11-18-2025 NextRequest correspondence on CPRA asking for training instructions how to use speaker registration software - Request 25-16674**: 6 pages - Enri Marini (filmthepoliceusa) - Tue Nov 18 2025

All documents are associated with the project: "Los Angeles City Council Proof of Prior Restraint During Public Council Meetings".



Document Cloud file repository for proof of prior restraint during Los Angeles City Council meetings during public comment. If this embed does not display correctly, follow this link directly <https://www.documentcloud.org/projects/222985-los-angeles-city-council-proof-of-prior-restraint-during-public-council-meetings/>

<https://www.documentcloud.org/projects/222872-october-2025-los-angeles-city-council-virtual-public-comment-capability/>

# October 2025 Los Angeles City Council Virtual Public Comment Capability

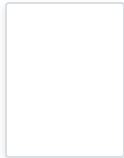
Public records showing the capabilities, inventory, and licensing of rooms within Los Angeles City Hall capable to hold virtual public comment.



## [october 2025 los angeles city hall zoom licensing costs are free](#)

4 pages - Enri Marini (filmthepoliceusa) - Thu Oct 16 2025

Project [October 2025 Los Angeles City Council Virtual Public Comment Capability](#)



## [10-16-2025 los angeles city hall virtual public comment teleconference hardware availability by room](#)

3 pages - Enri Marini (filmthepoliceusa) - Thu Oct 16 2025

Project [October 2025 Los Angeles City Council Virtual Public Comment Capability](#) [month october](#)

[city Los Angeles](#)

[year 2025](#)

[day 15](#)

[state California](#)

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Document Cloud hosted public records showing the capabilities, inventory, and licensing of rooms within Los Angeles City Hall capable to hold virtual public comment. If the visual does not display properly, follow this link directly to be taken to the project repository <https://www.documentcloud.org/projects/222872-october-2025-los-angeles-city-council-virtual-public-comment-capability/>

California Brown Act • Brown Act Violations • Open Meetings Law • First Amendment • Los Angeles • Public Corruption • Los Angeles City Council • Viewpoint Discrimination • Prior Restraint • Public Comment Suppression • Los Angeles City Attorney • Los Angeles District Attorney • David Saltsburg

Riverside County Sheriff  
Police Records Finally

# Released in Death of Stacy Moxon at Scientology Gold Base



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## Communication from Public

**Name:** Enri Marini

**Date Submitted:** 01/22/2026 08:26 AM

**Council File No:** 00-9999

**Comments for Public Posting:** The attached file shows a misconduct profile of City Attorney Hydee Feldstein Soto, who has aided and abetted a religious organization carry out heinous crimes and cover up a criminal case by violating Marsy's Law through entering a secret plea deal without ever conferring with the victims prior to entering the plea deal in court yet representing as such to the judge.

Government Official Misconduct Profiles Dec 29

## Hydee Feldstein Soto



Hydee Feldstein Soto profile photo taken during her swearing in ceremony on for Los Angeles Office of the City Attorney. Hydee was officially sworn in and assumed the office on December 12, 2022.

### INTRODUCTION

What follows is a consolidated misconduct profile of a city government prosecutor named Hydee Feldstein Soto, whose decisions repeatedly departed from constitutional obligations, victims' rights, and fundamental prosecutorial ethics. Each incident documented herein is supported by records, court filings, correspondence, or sworn testimony.

Individually, any one of these incidents might be dismissed as a discretionary judgment call. Taken together, they reveal something far more serious: a sustained and deliberate abuse of prosecutorial power used to suppress protected speech critical of government actors, shield favored political interests, silence whistleblowers, and disregard victims.

This profile is a living record. As additional documents are obtained, corroborated, and verified, they will be appended to this same profile so that the public, journalists, attorneys, and oversight bodies may evaluate the full scope of conduct in a single, continuously updated repository. The position of Los Angeles City Attorney is an elected office and carries with it extraordinary authority and public trust. The Office itself defines its mission as follows:

*"The mission of the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office is to serve the City by providing the highest caliber legal services, with clarity and consistency, promoting public safety, pursuing justice and equity in the City's criminal justice system, ... and protecting its people and communities from unlawful and unfair practices, and helping the City serve its constituents with integrity, accountability, efficiency and transparency."*

In a functioning system, those entrusted with such power are expected to safeguard the vulnerable, uphold the law impartially, and act as a check against abuse. This profile exists because the record of Hydee Feldstein Soto's legacy demonstrates the opposite: the knowing betrayal of that trust by someone fully aware of their obligations, yet willing to discard them in pursuit of power, tyranny, and control.

Taken together, the record reflects a classic example of a self-serving despot—someone hellbent on forcefully exerting their will over others without consent, at any cost, and willing to inflict lasting, generational fear and trauma through calculated, malicious acts carried out both overtly and covertly.

## MISCONDUCT 1 - DISREGARDING VICTIMS OF CHILD ABUSE AND SHIELDING CHILD PREDATOR

Case number 24CJCM07073-01, *The People of the State of California vs. Anthony Robert Damato Jr.* arose out of the targeted harassment of a minor boy and his mother. The perpetrator, Anthony Robert Damato Jr., is a self-admitted pedophile and Scientologist with a documented history of violent domestic abuse. He is legally barred from seeing his own daughter due to a restraining order obtained by the child's mother. On February 21, 2025, Anthony Robert Damato Jr. was charged in this matter with 26 separate misdemeanor counts consolidated under a single case, including Willful Cruelty to a Child, Stalking, and Disobeying a Domestic Relations Court Order, among other charges.

Anthony Robert Damato Jr. is also widely known online by the social media moniker "Zero Dark Tony," where, for years, his content has predominantly focused on harassing, intimidating, and threatening individuals who publicly criticize Scientology. Victims of Anthony Robert Damato Jr.'s targeted harassment include prominent public figures engaged in activism exposing the criminal conduct of Scientology, including Liz Ferris, Lara Anderson, Nora Ames, Aaron Smith-Levin, Mirriam Francis, Alexander Barnes-Ross, Serge Del Mar, and members of their respective families, among many others.

In case number 24CJCM07073-01, Anthony Robert Damato Jr. targeted an underage boy, Solomon Sassoon, and Solomon's mother, Yelena. Neither Solomon nor his mother are Scientologists. Their only connection to Scientology is that Solomon peacefully attended and video documented portions of an internationally viral protest movement that gained widespread traction on social media. The family are longtime residents of Los Angeles—the epicenter from which this international movement originated.

Solomon documented, among other things, the abuse of the 911 emergency system by Scientology through repeated false emergency calls, as well as instances of the LAPD intimidating and unlawfully arresting peaceful protesters under color of law at Scientology's behest. Solomon demonstrated a strong interest in civic engagement and activism and was mentored by respected local activist William Gude.

Following this documentation, Anthony Robert Damato Jr. began targeting Solomon—what can reasonably be understood as viewing the child as an easy target due to his underage status. The harassment campaign against Solomon was calculated, sustained, and deeply sinister. It included false Code 3 police calls to the family home, incitement of Anthony Robert Damato Jr.'s online audience to send threats to the family, stalking Solomon through social media in order to confront him in person, and issuing explicit threats of violence against both Solomon and his mother. These threats included, but were not limited to, threats of murder and rape.

These overt and covert acts by Anthony Robert Damato Jr. were extensively documented, often by Anthony Robert Damato Jr. himself through public video

recordings. His conduct openly signaled a belief that he would never be held accountable. Unfortunately, that belief proved correct.

The prosecution of this case was marked by contempt and disregard for the victims by Los Angeles City Attorney Hydee Feldstein Soto and her deputy prosecutor Ethan Greene. The family had already taken extraordinary steps to protect themselves, successfully securing a Civil Harassment Restraining Order against Anthony Robert Damato Jr., which went into effect in August 2024. To be clear, a restraining order is not a prerequisite for criminal prosecution of abuse—particularly in cases involving child victims. It is merely a supplemental legal tool, not a legal requirement.

By the time the case was filed, the family had already performed much of the investigative work typically undertaken by prosecutors, providing extensive and undeniable evidence of Anthony Robert Damato Jr.'s conduct. Among the most heinous of Anthony Robert Damato Jr.'s actions was his participation in an online Discord group in which child sexual abuse material (CSAM) involving the minor victim was heavily circulated. This included sexually explicit language, manipulated images, and AI-generated content depicting the child in a degrading and sexualized manner, with the minor being openly demeaned within the group.

This evidence was provided directly to prosecutors. All subsequent violations of the restraining order were meticulously documented by the family and promptly transmitted to Hydee Feldstein Soto and her office. Concerned members of the public also assisted in preserving and submitting evidence. Anthony Robert Damato Jr. was ultimately arrested on March 4, 2025, and posted bail. The victims were never informed which jail Anthony Robert Damato Jr. was taken to or when he was released.

Despite the issuance of a Criminal Protective Order at arraignment, Anthony Robert Damato Jr. continued to violate both the Criminal Protective Order and the existing restraining order. The victims repeatedly pleaded with prosecutors to file a motion to revoke bail. Prosecutors refused to act and disregarded the victims' wishes. It was not until October 2025 that prosecutors finally sought bail revocation.

At the bail revocation hearing on October 29, 2025, deputy prosecutor Ethan Greene addressed the court regarding nearly 100 new exhibits, in addition to the over 500 exhibits submitted with the original charges, documenting Anthony Robert Damato Jr.'s continued violations. The judge characterized the evidence of Anthony Robert Damato Jr.'s conduct toward the child and mother as incredibly disturbing and questioned why Anthony Robert Damato Jr. was not present in court as ordered.

Defense counsel stated that Anthony Robert Damato Jr. had skipped court at the last minute, citing a medical emergency, yet provided no documentation to the court or even to his own attorney. A private, off-the-record meeting lasting approximately fifteen minutes was then held in the judge's chambers involving the judge, Anthony Robert Damato Jr.'s counsel, and deputy prosecutor Ethan Greene. Upon reconvening, the court issued a \$500,000 bail and a bench warrant.

Subsequently, during a separate restraining order hearing on November 3, 2025, involving petitioner Nora Ames against Anthony Robert Damato Jr., a declaration was filed by Anthony Robert Damato Jr.'s other attorney, Steven Tamer, asserting that Anthony Robert Damato Jr. had been checked into Los Angeles Downtown Medical Center at the time he failed to appear in court. Prosecutors never disclosed this information to the Sassoon family. The victims only learned of it after Nora Ames publicly disclosed the information on social media.

Law enforcement never attempted to arrest Anthony Robert Damato Jr. at the claimed hospital location, nor was any verification conducted as to whether he remained hospitalized until his December 23, 2025 court date. It later emerged that Anthony Robert Damato Jr. had left the hospital prior to that hearing. Again, the victims were never notified.

On December 23, 2025, a secret plea agreement was negotiated between Hydee Feldstein Soto and Anthony Robert Damato Jr. The agreement imposed no jail time, provided three years of probation, community service, an \$800 fine, anger management counseling, and dismissed all substantive charges, including Willful Cruelty to a Child and Stalking. In exchange, Anthony Robert Damato Jr. pleaded guilty to two generic restraining order violations and accepted a ten-year Criminal Protective Order.

The victims were never consulted prior to the agreement, in direct violation of Marsy's Law. They were never permitted to deliver victim impact statements in open court. They were informed of the plea only after it had already been finalized. The victims clearly wanted the defendant to stand trial.

This conduct constitutes an unlawful disregard of victims' rights. Notably, it mirrors the same due process violation that resulted in the prosecution of Ghislaine Maxwell, after a court voided a non-prosecution agreement because victims had never been consulted.

This case is not an isolated incident. What makes it particularly alarming is that it is not the first instance in which Hydee Feldstein Soto has intervened to protect a known Scientologist. Equally notable is that Hydee Feldstein Soto personally inserted herself as lead counsel on this case—alongside Ethan Greene—rather than assigning it through standard supervisory channels. This pattern has been repeated in every Scientology-related case handled by her office, as this profile will further document.

#### Documents for this section

1. October 6, 2025 prosecutor pretrial motion to revoke bail
2. October 28, 2025 prosecutor pretrial supplemental add-on to motion to revoke bail
3. October 29, 2025 criminal case minute order issuing \$500,000 bail against Anthony Damato
4. November 4, 2025 Hospital letter declaration by lawyer Steven Tamer in Nora Ames Restraining Order case

MISCONDUCT 2 - RETALIATION AGAINST WHISTLEBLOWER MICHELLE MCGINNIS

MISCONDUCT 3 - HYDEE SANCTIONED \$250,000 FOR VEXATIOUS LITIGATION

### MISCONDUCT 4 - REFUSAL TO PROSECUTE CHILD PREDATOR

On May 7, 2024, at approximately 5:00 p.m., on Fountain Avenue directly in front of Scientology's Blue Building, a man paid by Scientology to harass protesters escalated his conduct into overt violence and sexual criminality. The protesters were peacefully busking, socializing, and live-streaming on a public sidewalk when the individual—identified as Wendell, a Black man in his late 50s—arrived wielding a machete. Video footage of the incident was captured by activist Danny on his YouTube channel called "[@Dannysimpact](#)". The LAPD was also called by activists present on scene, which included Jessica Palmadessa, YouTuber "[@PincheBecky0Effsgiven](#)", and Danny's significant other Leah to name a few. The activists demanded a Private Person's Arrest (PPA) be executed on Wendell for his behavior after showing the responding officers, who were all from LAPD Northeast Division. All responding officers refused to make the arrest despite the overwhelming evidence and left the scene altogether.

In a functioning system, those entrusted with such power are expected to safeguard the vulnerable, uphold the law impartially, and act as a check against abuse. This profile exists because the record of Hydee Feldstein Soto's legacy demonstrates the opposite: the knowing betrayal of that trust by someone fully aware of their obligations, yet willing to discard them in pursuit of power, tyranny, and control.

Taken together, the record reflects a classic example of a self-serving despot—someone hellbent on forcefully exerting their will over others without consent, at any cost, and willing to inflict lasting, generational fear and trauma through calculated, malicious acts carried out both overtly and covertly.

## MISCONDUCT 1 - DISREGARDING VICTIMS OF CHILD ABUSE AND SHIELDING CHILD PREDATOR

### MISCONDUCT 2 - RETALIATION AGAINST WHISTLEBLOWER MICHELLE MCGINNIS

The lawsuit filed by Michelle McGinnis, former Chief of the Criminal Branch of the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office, provides direct insight into internal policies and retaliatory practices under Hydee Feldstein Soto's leadership that are otherwise shielded from public view. The case, *McGinnis v. City of Los Angeles*, Case No. 24STCV25077, arises from McGinnis's unlawful termination after she reported and opposed explicit directives that violated prosecutorial ethics and the law.

According to the complaint, Michelle McGinnis—a thirty-year veteran of the Office with an unblemished and exemplary record—was appointed Chief of the Criminal Branch in May 2023 by Hydee Feldstein Soto herself. Shortly after assuming that role, McGinnis began documenting and objecting to a series of directives issued by Hydee Feldstein Soto that explicitly instructed prosecutors not to pursue criminal cases against corporate defendants, particularly those in the banking and real estate sectors. These instructions were not framed as discretionary case-by-case judgments, but as a standing policy position articulated during executive meetings.

Hydee Feldstein Soto repeatedly justified this position by referencing the Enron scandal and the Arthur Andersen prosecution, stating in substance that a single criminal charge can be sufficient to destroy a corporation. The complaint alleges that Hydee Feldstein Soto expressed fear of such outcomes and a corresponding unwillingness to initiate criminal prosecutions that could have systemic consequences for powerful corporate actors. This position is especially notable given that Hydee Feldstein Soto's entire professional career prior to becoming Los Angeles City Attorney was spent as a banking and corporate lawyer, representing precisely the class of defendants she later directed her office not to prosecute.

When Michelle McGinnis objected—warning that selectively refusing to prosecute corporate defendants while aggressively pursuing individuals and activists violated constitutional equal-protection principles, ethical obligations, and multiple state and federal laws—she was met with escalating retaliation. The complaint details adverse employment actions including heightened scrutiny, public humiliation, exclusion from decision-making, and ultimately her forcible removal from the office. McGinnis was placed on administrative leave without notice, stripped of access, escorted out in front of colleagues, and prohibited from contacting staff, despite Hydee Feldstein Soto and her Chief Deputy allegedly admitting they “didn't have anything” on her and were still searching for a justification after the fact.

The lawsuit further alleges that Hydee Feldstein Soto was **personally fearful of criminal exposure**, openly discussing how prosecutions—particularly of sophisticated entities—

could rebound onto prosecutors themselves. Rather than addressing this concern through lawful governance, the complaint describes a pattern of suppressing internal dissent, punishing whistleblowers, and consolidating decision-making authority to ensure that corporate defendants remained categorically insulated from criminal accountability.

McGinnis's termination was not the result of poor performance or misconduct; it was the culmination of her refusal to participate in an unlawful system that treated criminal prosecution as a political and career-preservation tool rather than a neutral application of the law. The case lays bare a retaliatory apparatus designed to silence those who attempted to enforce ethical boundaries from within.

As of this writing, jury trial is scheduled for January 11, 2027, at 10:00 a.m. in Department 52 of the Stanley Mosk Courthouse.

### Documents

1. 6-13-2024 whistleblower michelle mcginnis claim for damages lawsuit
2. 9-19-2025 michelle mcginnis declaration exposing hydee soto corruption

MISCONDUCT 3 - HYDEE SANCTIONED \$250,000 FOR VEXATIOUS LITIGATION

## MISCONDUCT 4 - REFUSAL TO PROSECUTE CHILD PREDATOR

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Wendell had been present in the area for multiple days. On May 7, 2024, he began actively swinging and swiping the machete at protesters on the public sidewalk. Also present at the scene was Solomon Sassoon, the same minor previously targeted in other Scientology-related incidents.

In addition to the armed assault, Wendell exposed his genitals to Solomon Sassoon, publicly masturbated, and defecated on the sidewalk in front of the minor. These acts were committed in broad daylight, in public view, and were documented on live video streams.

Despite the gravity of these offenses—including assault with a deadly weapon, indecent exposure to a minor, and lewd conduct—Hydee Feldstein Soto's office declined to prosecute Wendell, allowing the case to expire under the statute of limitations. Internally, the justification offered for declining prosecution of the sexual offense was that "because he [Wendell] was next to a tree when he exposed his genitals to a minor, it does not count."

This refusal to prosecute occurred notwithstanding additional evidence establishing Wendell's affiliation with Scientology. Wendell's personal belongings were later discovered on Scientology-owned property, located behind locked gates that require security escort access, conclusively tying him to Scientology personnel and facilities.

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#### MISCONDUCT 1 - DISREGARDING VICTIMS OF CHILD ABUSE AND SHIELDING CHILD PREDATOR

#### MISCONDUCT 2 - RETALIATION AGAINST WHISTLEBLOWER MICHELLE MCGINNIS

#### MISCONDUCT 3 - HYDEE SANCTIONED \$250,000 FOR VEXATIOUS LITIGATION

Description teThe divorce between Hydee Feldstein Soto and Peter James Gregora, Case No. BD576096, was filed in the Los Angeles County Superior Court Stanley Mosk Courthouse. The matter was classified as a dissolution without minor children, as the parties had no children together. Gregora initiated the dissolution following the parties' separation on December 31, 2012. After prolonged litigation, the case ultimately reached the California Court of Appeal, which issued its decision in 2017.

Central to the dispute were Hydee's allegations that Gregora had breached his fiduciary duties by concealing and diverting millions of dollars in marital assets. These claims became the dominant focus of the litigation and the subsequent trial, which lasted nine court days and centered almost exclusively on the alleged asset concealment. Gregora consistently denied the accusations, contending that they were unsupported by evidence. Following trial, the court agreed, expressly finding that Hydee failed to prove any diversion or concealment of community property assets.

The trial court thereafter imposed \$250,000 in sanctions against Hydee Feldstein Soto pursuant to California Family Code § 271, concluding that her litigation conduct had frustrated settlement and unreasonably increased the cost and scope of the proceedings. On appeal, the Court of Appeal affirmed both the judgment and the sanctions award, upholding the trial court's factual findings and its exercise of discretion.

The record reflects that the divorce was extraordinarily contentious, a condition the court ultimately attributed to Hydee Feldstein Soto's litigation conduct. Despite being represented by counsel for much of the case, Feldstein personally conducted cross-examination of her former husband in court. The court record also reflects Hydee fired multiple lawyers during the course of this divorce. She advanced expansive theories alleging secret cash reserves, foreign investments (including alleged Luxembourg accounts), and other hidden wealth. These claims drove years of aggressive discovery but were never substantiated at trial.

Family Code § 271 authorizes a family court to award attorney's fees and costs as sanctions when a party's conduct frustrates settlement or unreasonably increases litigation expenses. The statute is intended to promote cooperation, settlement, and efficient resolution of family law disputes, rather than to punish a party simply for

losing. Sanctions under § 271 are entrusted to the trial court's sound discretion, and an appellate court will disturb such an award only if no reasonable judge could have made it based on the record.

In this case, the trial court articulated specific findings supporting the sanction award, each of which was later upheld on appeal:

1. Excessive and Unnecessary Litigation Conduct

Feldstein served more than 480 subpoenas on third parties, many of which were exceptionally broad and burdensome. These subpoenas sought extensive financial records not only relating to Gregora, but also to his parents, former associates, clients, and alleged foreign entities. The resulting discovery produced over 100,000 pages of documents and yielded little of evidentiary value.

2. Discovery Abuse That Significantly Increased Costs

The litigation generated approximately \$3.6 million in legal fees for Feldstein and roughly \$2.1 million for Gregora. The court found that a substantial portion of these costs stemmed from needless discovery disputes and overly expansive demands that did not materially advance proof of Hydee's claims.

3. Failure to Prove Core Allegations

Hydee's central theory—that Gregora breached his fiduciary duties by concealing or diverting marital assets—failed entirely at trial. The court expressly found no credible evidence supporting asset concealment and concluded that the relevant community property assets had been jointly controlled by both spouses.

4. Lack of Meaningful Settlement Efforts

Although Hydee cited settlement proposals she made during the litigation, the court determined that these offers were not structured to resolve the case in its entirety. By continuing to press unproven breach-of-fiduciary-duty claims, the proposals left the primary source of conflict unresolved and ensured that litigation would persist.

5. Reasonableness of the Sanction Amount

Gregora initially sought \$2 million in sanctions. The court declined to impose that amount, finding it excessive under § 271, and instead awarded \$250,000. In doing so, the court calibrated the sanction to reflect the extent to which Feldstein's conduct frustrated settlement and increased litigation costs without justification. The appellate court agreed that § 271 permits sanctions even absent a finding of bad faith, where a party's conduct unreasonably escalates expense and obstructs resolution, and concluded that Feldstein's conduct met that standard. Hydee had also withdrawn money from their joint community fund during the divorce proceedings, even after the judge ordered her to cease and desist. Even absent a court order, the joint community funds are lawfully frozen and cannot be withdrawn from during the course of a divorce case.

When this section is read alongside the prior record, the conclusion is unavoidable: Hydee Feldstein Soto's conduct in this case exemplifies a despotic, authoritarian, and fundamentally tyrannical misuse of power. This was not zealous advocacy, emotional excess, or litigation gone awry—it was domination as strategy. The sheer scale of the discovery abuse, the baseless persistence of disproven accusations, the weaponization of subpoenas against innocent third parties, and the deliberate inflation of costs all reflect an insatiable lust for control rather than any legitimate pursuit of justice. Feldstein did not seek resolution; she sought submission.

She did not test evidence; she attempted to overwhelm institutions through volume, pressure, and attrition. The court's sanctions were not a matter of discretion or tone—they were a forced intervention against a litigant who repeatedly demonstrated contempt for limits, process, and proportionality. In short, the record exposes a power-hungry fundamental nature that treats legal systems as instruments of coercion and

views restraint, compromise, and shared authority as intolerable obstacles to dominance.

## Documents

1. 5-14-2015 declaration by citibank explaining Hydee's vexatious litigation - part 1 of 2
2. 5-14-2015 declaration by citibank explaining Hydee's vexatious litigation - part 2 of 2
3. 7-18-2017 appeal denied and sanctions are affirmed

## MISCONDUCT 4 - REFUSAL TO PROSECUTE CHILD PREDATOR

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### MISCONDUCT 4 - REFUSAL TO PROSECUTE CHILD PREDATOR

On May 7, 2024, at approximately 5:00 p.m., on Fountain Avenue directly in front of Scientology's Blue Building, a man paid by Scientology to harass protesters escalated his conduct into overt violence and sexual criminality. The protesters were peacefully busking, socializing, and live-streaming on a public sidewalk when the individual—identified as Wendell, a Black man in his late 50s—arrived wielding a machete. Video footage of the incident was captured by activist Danny on his YouTube channel called "[@Dannysimpact](#)". The LAPD was also called by activists present on scene, which included Jessica Palmadessa, YouTuber "[@PincheBecky0Effsgiven](#)", and Danny's significant other Leah to name a few. The activists demanded a Private Person's Arrest (PPA) be executed on Wendell for his behavior after showing the responding officers, who were all from LAPD Northeast Division. All responding officers refused to make the arrest despite the overwhelming evidence and left the scene altogether.

Wendell had been present in the area for multiple days. On May 7, 2024, he began actively swinging and swiping the machete at protesters on the public sidewalk. Also present at the scene was Solomon Sassoon, the same minor previously targeted in other Scientology-related incidents.

In addition to the armed assault, Wendell exposed his genitals to Solomon Sassoon, publicly masturbated, and defecated on the sidewalk in front of the minor. These acts were committed in broad daylight, in public view, and were documented on live video streams.

Despite the gravity of these offenses—including assault with a deadly weapon, indecent exposure to a minor, and lewd conduct—Hydee Feldstein Soto's office declined to prosecute Wendell, allowing the case to expire under the statute of limitations. Internally, the justification offered for declining prosecution of the sexual offense was that "because he [Wendell] was next to a tree when he exposed his genitals to a minor, it does not count."

This refusal to prosecute occurred notwithstanding additional evidence establishing Wendell's affiliation with Scientology. Wendell's personal belongings were later discovered on Scientology-owned property, located behind locked gates that require security escort access, conclusively tying him to Scientology personnel and facilities.

### LAPD HAS ALOT OF CORRUPTION WITHIN



On May 5, 2024, YouTuber “@DannysImpact” films paid Scientology agitator named “Wendell” assaulting protesters and committing indecent exposure in public.

Further insight into this pattern emerged in October 2024, when Enri Marini and activist “AuditLA” recorded a public meeting of the LAPD Northeast Division Community Police Accountability Board (CPAB). During that meeting, multiple board members disclosed that they themselves—and children they knew—had been victims of indecent exposure. These victims reported the incidents to law enforcement, and the cases were escalated to Hydee Feldstein Soto’s office for prosecution.

### CPAB SHENANIGANS WITH JANET



In October 2024, activist AuditLA attends LAPD Northeast Division Community Police Accountability Board (CPAB) meeting. Pictured are known Scientology agent from the Office of Special Affairs (OSA) Janet Weiland. Community members voice their concern about being victims of indecent exposure and City Attorney Hydee Feldstein Soto not prosecuting them.

In every instance, Hydee Feldstein Soto allowed the cases to expire under the statute of limitations, resulting in no charges, no accountability, and no protection for victims—despite timely reporting and law enforcement referral.

This was not prosecutorial discretion exercised in good faith. It was a consistent and knowing refusal to enforce the law in cases involving vulnerable victims, while simultaneously pursuing meritless prosecutions against activists and critics. The outcome was predictable: violent offenders remained free, victims were denied justice, and the public was left exposed to repeat harm.

## MISCONDUCT 5 - VINDICTIVE POLITICAL PROSECUTION OF ENRI MARINI ON BEHALF OF SCIENTOLOGY

The facts of *People v. Enri Marini* (24CJCM03837-01) demonstrate the extraordinary lengths to which the Hydee Feldstein Soto was willing to go to protect the Church of Scientology, suppress lawful protest, and bend law enforcement resources to serve a private organization's interests. **[All of the documents for this section can be downloaded in PDF format by clicking here.](#)**

### Timeline of Events

- **June 2, 2024**
  - Scientology Sea Org personnel erected illegal barricades—stakes and netting—along North Catalina Street. LAPD Lieutenant Gary Walters emailed multiple Scientology officials explicitly stating that the barricades were illegal, required permits that Scientology did not possess and never obtained, and were infringing upon First Amendment–protected protest activity. Scientology nevertheless falsely claimed that Sea Org members were assaulted when protesters removed the barricades. LAPD responded by confirming that no assault occurred.

00:00 / 13:20



June 2, 2024 Scientology Sea Org personnel erected illegal barricades—stakes and netting—along North Catalina Street by their large blue building compound where each Scientologist lives in packed rooms of 6 people using bunk beds.



June 2, 2024 email from LAPD Lieutenant Gary Walters to multiple Scientology officials explicitly stating that the barricades were illegal, required permits that Scientology did not possess said permits and never obtained said permits. The exact permit required by the city is a "Type R temporary permit". This file can be downloaded here in PDF form.

• June 10, 2024

- Scientology escalated the blockade by installing 252 heavy planters, damaging the sidewalk in the process. A wheelchair-bound activist known on YouTube as [AuditLA](#) became trapped due to the obstruction and damage.

• June 16, 2024 – approximately 1:00 a.m.

- Scientology erected additional netting barricades along Catalina Street. Video footage shows multiple individuals, including Enri Marini, removing the netting without damaging it—mirroring the events of June 2. LAPD Officers Fernando Galindo and an officer identified as "Garcia" responded to a private call placed by Scientology, deliberately bypassing recorded and logged official channels. No arrests were made. Officers initially lied, claiming Scientology had permits, before ultimately conceding that no permits existed.

**LAPD Officers Galindo 41803 and Garcia 45732 Lie For Scientology About Having Permits 6-16-...**



June 16, 2024 approximately 1am Northeast Division LAPD officers LAPD Officers Fernando Galindo serial number 41803 and Garcia serial number 45732 lie about existence of Type R permits.

**LAPD Officers Galindo 41803 and Garcia 45732 Lie For Scientology A Second Time And Harass...**



June 16, 2024 approximately 2am, Northeast Division LAPD Officers Fernando Galindo and Garcia return to harass and threaten protester Enri Marini with frivolous arrest. Galindo is challenged on his understanding of Private Person's Arrests (PPA) and Galindo admits he does not understand PPA laws.

- **June 16, 2024 – approximately 3pm afternoon**

- Additional video captured further netting removal. LAPD Officers Alexis Barajas De Villar and Justin Castro were privately contacted by Scientology and dispatched to the scene to intimidate and harass Enri Marini. Both officers falsely claimed Scientology possessed a required Type R permit, attempted to coerce Enri Marini into signing a preemptive trespass agreement (which he refused), and explicitly acknowledged that no crime had occurred. Enri Marini was never detained.

**LAPD Officers Barajas and Castro Harass Protesters And Lie On Behalf Scientology 6-16-2024**



On June 16, 2024 at approximately 3pm, LAPD Northeast Division Officers Alexis Barajas De Villar 44460 and Justin Castro 41320 arrive on scene at Scientology building on North Catalina Street in Los Angeles and proceed to harass Enri Marini on behalf of Scientology. Officers Alexis Barajas De Villar 44460 and Justin Castro 41320 are challenged on the existence of permits owned by Scientology and they both lie by stating that Scientology has permits all while failing and choosing to provide any proof. Both officers also try Enri Marini to sign a trespass letter on behalf of Scientology.

8-3-2024 marini explains vandalism case hydee feldstein soto political prosecution for scientol...



Enri Marini explains the June 16, 2024 incident involving blockades installed by Scientology around North Catalina Street and Fountain Avenue using netting and planters.

- **June 16, 2024 – evening (~6:15 p.m.)**

- Scientology Sea Org security guard Alexander Scott Ervin filed a police report at LAPD Northeast Division. Within an hour, a Northeast Division sergeant reviewed the report, and Detective Ismael Peinado was assigned to investigate.
- Despite this, extensive video footage from multiple vantage points around the Scientology compound conclusively shows that Alexander Scott Ervin was not present at the scene during the alleged incident. Nevertheless, Ervin falsely claimed in his report that he was personally assaulted by Enri Marini and personally witnessed the removal of netting from the public sidewalk. Scientologists are routinely coached by captive attorneys—such as Kendrick Moxon—to fabricate police reports.



## LAPD Northeast Fernando Galindo 418036 and Garcia 45732 Harass Children For Scientology ...



On 6-20-2024, two LAPD Officers Fernando Galindo 418036 and Garcia 45732 harass Solomon Sassoon on behalf of Scientology. This incident took place at the Big Blue building at the intersection of Fountain Avenue and L Ron Hubbard Way. Fernando Galindo falsely claims he was looking for an old woman while also barking unlawful directives to Solomon to not sit on abandoned property left on L Ron Hubbard Way unless he wants to be arrested. Galindo and Garcia's misconduct has deep roots to Scientology. They were also present on June 19, 2024 for the arrest of Scientologist Doctor Lidio Rainaldi after Lidio attacked a protester. Video of Lidio Rainaldi's arrest can be found [here](#).

- **June 25, 2024**

- Detective Ismael Peinado serial number 40873 authored an initial investigative report that knowingly falsified witness statements, invented threats of violence and bodily injury, and deliberately omitted interactions involving four other LAPD Northeast Division officers present on June 16. Peinado explicitly acknowledged in the report that no evidence of property damage existed. This [initial investigation document](#) can be downloaded here in PDF format or viewed below.







• July 12, 2024

- Los Angeles City Attorney Hydee Feldstein Soto filed misdemeanor charges against Enri Marini based entirely on the falsified police reports and without any supporting evidence. Notably, Hydee Feldstein Soto has exclusively pursued charges against Scientology critics while declining to prosecute Scientologists or their agents, despite repeated, documented assaults and criminal conduct. Hydee Feldstein Soto could not even spell “Scientology” correctly in official filings.

• August 7, 2024

- The Los Angeles Board of Public Works formally declared all Scientology barricades illegal and issued a removal order for every barricade placed on the public right-of-way.

August 7, 2024 Los Angeles Department of Public Works orders removal of all barricades installed by Scientology around the North Catalina Street, Fountain Avenue, L Ron Hubbard Way Blue Building campus. This file can be downloaded here in PDF format.

• August 15, 2024

- At arraignment in case number 24CJCM03837-01, Enri Marini pled not guilty to a single misdemeanor vandalism count related to the June 16 netting removal. Hydee Feldstein Soto personally appeared to handle the arraignment—an extraordinary and highly unusual intervention for a low-level misdemeanor case.

• December 5, 2024

- Scientologist Jennifer Krauskopf submitted a false witness statement to prosecutors, attempting to claim victim status. Video evidence definitively establishes that she was never present at the June 16 incident.

**WITNESS INTERVIEW FORM**

People v. ENRI MARINI Case Number 24CIKM03837  
 Name of Witness JENNIFER KRAUSKOPF Interview Date 12/5/24  
 Name of Interviewer LAUREN ROMERO Original Pretrial Date \_\_\_\_\_

Witness: Jennifer Krauskopf  
 Use Ballpoint Pen Only  
 White Sheet - CA File Yellow Sheet - to Defense after signed

interviewee works at the church, states that Enri Marini lives on the East coast (potentially more) and comes to LA to pastor her church, church of Scientology. Interviewee saw the footage from him ripping out parts of the landscaping next to her about the length of the white block. States that suspect was streaming while doing this and talking about the church.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature Defense Counsel Receiving  
 Signature Interviewer  
 Date Received 12/5/24

December 5, 2024 Scientologist Jennifer Krauskopf attends pretrial conference court hearing and files false witness statement claiming she was personally and directly harmed by Enri Marini. This file can be downloaded here in PDF form.

- **Mid-March 2025**

- Enri Marini covertly interviewed Hydee Feldstein Soto at a public event hosted by the Sherman Oaks Homeowner Association. During the interaction, Hydee Feldstein Soto discussed the Marini case—an act constituting unauthorized ex parte communication. She openly admitted that she knew the case was meritless, not a priority, and that she always expected it to result in diversion at most—yet she pursued it anyway.

- **May 2, 2025**

- Enri Marini was acquitted of all charges.

**Pattern of Selective Prosecution and Viewpoint Discrimination**

Each Scientology-related protest prosecution followed the same arc: meritless charges, months of stress and legal expenses, and eventual dismissal—but only after the target had been made an example of. These patterns, combined with months of public testimony by protesters during Los Angeles City Council sessions, ultimately prompted the California State Bar to open an investigation into Hydee Feldstein Soto and her deputies for abuse of prosecutorial authority. The prosecution of Enri Marini was never about vandalism. It was about viewpoint discrimination and the misuse of city power to benefit a private entity. The acts Enri Marini was charged for were identical to acts committed by others—on video, on the same days—yet only Enri Marini was prosecuted.

The City knew Scientology’s barricades were illegal; its own Board ordered their removal. LAPD officers functioned as Scientology’s private security, responding to off-the-books calls and attempting to enforce church-drafted paperwork. The police reports were riddled with fabrication, omissions, and internal contradictions. Smear tactics—including the Hollywood Division’s December 2023 labeling of protesters as a “criminal gang” and Detective Peinado’s later “hate group” claims—were consistent, coordinated, and strategic.

**Broader Context of Non-Prosecution**

From December 2023 through March 2024, numerous activists—including William Gude, Jessica Palmadessa, Scott Hochstetter, Kamrin Marino, Aaron Smith-Levin, Daniel Gonzalez, Jasiah Addler, and others—were violently assaulted, stalked, falsely arrested, or subjected to repeated fake Code 3 police calls placed by Scientology agents. Property was destroyed, people were beaten unconscious, teeth were knocked out, and lives were disrupted. Scientology agents responsible for these acts were never prosecuted, despite their identities being known.

By contrast, Enri Marini was aggressively prosecuted despite overwhelming exculpatory evidence. In the end, the truth prevailed—but only after a year of deliberate, punitive prosecution.

Hydee Feldstein Soto • Los Angeles City Attorney • Public Corruption • Whistleblower Retaliation • Prosecutorial Misconduct • Abuse of Office • Civil Rights Violations

< Keith Mozee

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