



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Jail Violence Settlement Statement

Today's settlement of *Rosas vs. Baca*, a federal class action suit that brought to light a pattern of unbridled violence by some Los Angeles County Sheriff deputies in the jails, closes a dark chapter in the history of the Los Angeles County justice system. No one -- not pretrial detainees, mentally ill inmates or those convicted of crimes -- deserves to be treated inhumanely while in the custody of his or her government.

This milestone agreement, which contains rigorous new protocols for training of deputies and sustained monitoring in the jails, will ensure that the department adopts the constitutional policies and practices that are the right of every resident in the County.

As the settlement closes a chapter, it also opens a new one for the County. We are poised to enter an era of lasting reform. The arrival of the new Sheriff, Jim McDonnell; the ongoing implementation of the recommendations by the Citizen's Commission on Jail Violence, the creation of an Inspector General's post and soon, a civilian oversight commission, will give us the tools necessary for the kind of ongoing scrutiny, and transparency essential to any well-run modern day law enforcement agency.

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