

From: **James Marks** <konnectink562@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Aug 2, 2023 at 12:10 PM

Subject: Re: LBAP

To: Kelly Colopy <Kelly.Colopy@longbeach.gov>, Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>, <district1@longbeach.gov>, Council District 6 <district6@longbeach.gov>, Council District 8 <district8@longbeach.gov>, <district3@longbeach.gov>, <district7@longbeach.gov>, <district5@longbeach.gov> <district5@longbeach.gov>, <district4@longbeach.gov> <district4@longbeach.gov>, <district9@longbeach.gov> <district9@longbeach.gov>, <citymanager@longbeach.gov>, Teresa Chandler <teresa.chandler@longbeach.gov>, Christina Boatwright <Christina.Boatwright@longbeach.gov>, Stephanie Chmelik <stephanie.chmelik@longbeach.gov>, Teresa Gomez <Teresa.Gomez@longbeach.gov>, Osie Leon Wood Jr. <osie.wood@gmail.com>, Rev. Wayne Chaney, Jr. <waynechaney@prodigy.net>, Pastor Kyle <Rev.KBlake@gmail.com>, Martha Cota | Latinos In Action <martha@latinosinactioncalifornia.org>, Martha Cota <latinosinaction09@gmail.com>, Dawn Modkins <dawnblm562@gmail.com>, Audrena Redmond <audredmond@gmail.com>, Melissa Morgan <mrsmelissamorgan@gmail.com>, Jesus Esparza <jesusesparzawna@gmail.com>, Jesvin Selda <jesvin.selda@gmail.com>, Jessica Quintana <jessica@centrocha.org>, Hilda Gaytan <hildagaytan@gmail.com>, Jonathan Gray <jonathan.gray@lbymca.org>, Dinesa Thomas <dthomas@habitatla.org>, Alma Orozco <Alma.Orozco@lbymca.org>, Paula Wood <paulawood@successinchallenges.com>, Adrian Toledo <Adrian.Toledo@longbeach.gov>, Eduardo Garcia <Eduardo.Garcia@longbeach.gov>, Isabel Olvera <Isabel.Olvera@longbeach.gov>, Jaime Ponce <Jaime.Ponce@longbeach.gov>

My name is James E. Marks II. I am a founding member of the Long Beach Advancing Peace Steering Committee (LBAP), which is a component of the Violence Prevention work here in the City of Long Beach under the Health and Human Services Collective Impact Division. I was unable to give public comment at the 8/01/2023 City Council meeting due to the change in the meeting time.

Last week the City of Long Beach terminated the only Violence Prevention Coordinator. I expressed my and other community members' concerns via email to the Department of Health and Human Services, Director Kelly Colopy. You can see my email and the response from Director Colopy below. Her response was inadequate. Hence, I have questions for the City Council and City Manager.

1. When has someone in the City of Long Beach been terminated when doing an effective job? Please articulate the standard practice when the decision was made to terminate the Violence Prevention Coordinator.

The City of Long Beach and the Health and Human Services Department continues to stand for racial equity and a discrimination-free workplace across the City and will continue to work to build community trust by listening, learning and fostering an environment of partnership.

We are committed to addressing violence in Long Beach and building a violence prevention team that reflects our communities. The Health and Human Services Department looks forward to continuing our work with you going forward to build on the Advancing Peace efforts.

For now, please contact Teresa Gomez, interim Violence Prevention Manager, on items related to LBASC.

Thank you,

Kelly

Kelly Colopy

Director

Pronouns: She, Her, Hers

Health and Human Services Department

2525 Grand Avenue | Long Beach, CA 90815

Office: 562.570.4016

www.longbeach.gov/health

To schedule a meeting or check my availability, please email Dennis Keith at dennis.keith@longbeach.gov

My working hours may not be your working hours. Please do not feel obligated to reply outside of your normal work schedule.



Again, the city has made a mockery of the Advancing the Peace Initiative with its latest action and its legitimacy on this issue is called into serious question if it fails to correct this egregious error. However, DHHS can redeem itself by reinstating Ms. Snuggs to her previous position and allow her to continue be an outstanding example of the type of staff the city needs who can build and strengthen relationships between the city and the community, and the Black community, in particular.

Respectfully submitted,

Lydia A. Hollie, JD/MAED
Community Advocate (1996-Present)
Retired 26-year Veteran Educator
Former Chair, Long Beach Human Relations Commission (2001-2003)
Co-Author, The State of Black Long Beach: A Call for a Black Agenda (2013)

"Whatever your life's work is, do it well. A man should do his job so well that the living, the dead, and the unborn could do it no better." - Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929-1968), Civil Rights Icon, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate (1964), Baptist Preacher, Orator, and Writer.

"Once you learn to read, you will be forever free. It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men. I prefer to be true to myself, even at the hazard of incurring the ridicule of others, rather than to be false, and to incur my own abhorrence." - Frederick Douglass (1818-1895), Self-taught and self-emancipated from American slavery, Abolitionist, Orator, and Writer.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
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From: James Marks <konnnectink562@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 26, 2023 6:23 PM
To: Cathy Snuggs <Cathy.Snuggs@longbeach.gov>
Cc: Ana Lopez <Ana.Lopez@longbeach.gov>; Adrian Toledo <Adrian.Toledo@longbeach.gov>; Diane Burbie <diane4aspiregrp@outlook.com>; Yonique Edwards <Yonique.Edwards@longbeach.gov>; Eduardo Garcia <Eduardo.Garcia@longbeach.gov>; Teresa Gomez <Teresa.Gomez@longbeach.gov>; Sherlyn

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principalgillis@gmail.com
Subject: Re: Zoom LBAP Collaborative Network Meeting- Violence Prevention

-EXTERNAL-

Christina,

The Black residents and community leaders will be responding immediately and forcefully about the Firing of Cathy Snuggs, we have been made aware of the racism she's faced while being there all along and how others have been promoted and hired permanently while her position has remained in limbo. We are a very close knit community and we do support, and communicate with the Black city workers, who have lawsuits against the city of Long Beach in various departments past and present, for racial discrimination and other concerning issues that we are very well aware of, and forewarned them while they were being onboarded to vigilant of the aforementioned. Cathy, being the only Black staff on your staff, we are anxiously awaiting to see who will now fulfill that role, their race and relationship within the Black community ? Now, I'm going to be very frank, Cathy and Adrian are the only ones who are / were and have been actively on the ground in this community building with and empowering the community, while many of you have been sitting in those positions with titles for many years, yet you have zero relations in the Black community while literally participating in Black Erasure at every level, abusing your positions and authority like you did today.

Cathy, has garnered more community credibility than many of your staff combined with your years of disservice to our Black community in her short time in that department.

Let me be clear, during the George Floyd death, community feedback and creation of the Framework for Reconciliation, we said:

Watch the city bring in a Black face, then phase that individual out, especially if they are having an impact in the community, while others maintain their livelihood and job security! And, I must say, you made me look like a Prophet, by your actions today!

We will be meeting with community leaders and organizations tonight for an emergency meeting to discuss the deep institutional racism and Black Erasure, that you all are participating in!

We forecasted this and were totally prepared for this action as history here in the city of long beach has always been a great predictor.

Furthermore, again you canceled today's violence prevention meeting with the community that Cathy Snuggs has facilitated over, for the past year, and said it was due to a scheduling conflict! Deception at it highest!

James E. Marks II

On Thu, Aug 18, 2022, 13:31 Christina Boatwright <Christina.Boatwright@longbeach.gov> wrote:

Good afternoon!

I hope that you had/having a wonderful summer. You are receiving this email as you attended one of the Community Crisis Response community sessions earlier this year. The last time we had the opportunity to meet, our team shared that the Health Department would be contracting with a local organization to run the Community Crisis Response Pilot and that Request for Proposals (RFP) would be released in the summer. Last month, the Health Department was informed that the team will now housed within the Health Department rather than be contracted out as a result of internal policies related to contracts and personnel. Thought this pivot results in a delay (launch in January 2023), the Health Department will now have more control of the pilots implementation and on-going investment.

Related to that, as of last night, four of the five Community Crisis Response job postings are now open!!! The last position, the Public Health Nurse, will post in a few weeks, as it will only be open only for a week based on its filling requirements. On average job bulletins such as this can take up to 8 weeks for approvals and posting, whereas these took less than four! This is a direct result of City leadership being very excited and eager for this team to launch.

Please share these positions with anyone you feel might be interested or apply yourself!! Attached are the job bulletins for reference.

CCR Program Manager; (CPS V) closes 9/7/2022 at 4:30 PM

CCR Team Supervisor; (PHP III) closes 9/7/2022 at 4:30 PM

CCR Crisis Intervention Specialist; (PHP II-III) closes 9/7/22 at 4:30pm

CCR Peer Navigator; (HE II) closes 8/31/2022 at 4:30 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: James Marks <konnnectink562@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Jul 26, 2023, 17:16

Subject: Re: Community Crisis Response Team Updates

To: Christina Boatwright <Christina.Boatwright@longbeach.gov>, L A Hollie <lydiahollie@outlook.com>, Gerald Johnson <chaplain.johnson@gmail.com>, Paula Wood <paulawood@successinchallenges.com>, Jerlene Tatum <jerlenetatum@outlook.com>, <cdiles@prepedprograms.org>, <stephanie.chmelik@longbeach.gov>, <tom.modica@longbeach.gov>

Cc: Steven Neal <steveneal4lb@gmail.com>, Erroll Parker <errollparker42@yahoo.com>, Senay Kenfe <senay562@gmail.com>, Keith Lilly <jeromelill62@gmail.com>, <Lillianparker2@yahoo.com>, <principalgillis@gmail.com>, Mae Bereal <maebereal@gmail.com>, Teresa Gomez <Teresa.Gomez@longbeach.gov>, Teresa Chandler <teresa.chandler@longbeach.gov>, Alanah Grant <Alanah.Grant@longbeach.gov>, Kelly Colopy <kelly.colopy@longbeach.gov>, Spit <billybrown321@gmail.com>, Travion Chamberlain <tchamberlain@lacada.com>, Mr. Scott <travisscott562@yahoo.com>, <champsup22@gmail.com>, Rev. Wayne Chaney, Jr. <waynechaney@prodigy.net>, Osie Leon Wood Jr. <osie.wood@gmail.com>, Derrick Mims <dmims18@gmail.com>, Logan III <overcomer257@gmail.com>, Love Beyond Limits <lovebeyondlimits13@gmail.com>, Jerome <j_romewilliams@yahoo.com>, Leonard Adams <leonadams21a@gmail.com>

Christina,

The Black residents and community leaders will be responding immediately and forcefully about the Firing of Cathy Snuggs, we have been made aware of the racism she's faced while being there all along and how others have been promoted and hired permanently while her position has remained in limbo. We are a very close knit community and we do support, and communicate with the Black city workers, who have lawsuits against the city of Long Beach in various departments past and present, for racial discrimination and other concerning issues that we are very well aware of, and forewarned them while they were being onboarded to vigilant of the aforementioned. Cathy, being the only Black staff on your staff, we are anxiously awaiting to see who will now fulfill that role, their race and relationship within the Black community ? Now, I'm going to be very frank, Cathy and Adrian are the only ones who are / were and have been actively on the ground in this community building with and empowering the community, while many of you have been sitting in those positions with titles for many years, yet you have zero relations in the Black community while literally participating in Black Erasure at every level, abusing your positions and authority like you did today.

Cathy, has garnered more community credibility than many of your staff combined with your years of disservice to our Black community in her short time in that department.

PCCR Crisis Intervention Specialist; (PHP II-III) closes 9/7/22 at 4:30pm

CCR Peer Navigator; (HE II) closes 8/31/2022 at 4:30 PMI will share updates and upcoming meetings when they are available.

Have a wonderful day!

Sincerely,

Christina Boatwright, MSW

Resource Connections Officer

Pronouns: she, her, hers

Department of Health & Human Services | Collective Impact

2525 Grand Ave | Long Beach, CA 90815

Office: 562-570-4209

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My rebuttal to her Firing. I sent put 30 cc's

----- Forwarded message -----

From: James Marks <konnnectink562@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Jul 26, 2023, 17:16

6. Public Comments :

a. Speak your mind, share your thoughts, and focus on solutions. #speakeasy

Advancing Peace is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Collaborative Meeting #2- second quarter of 2023 calendar year

Time: Jul 26, 2023 05:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://longbeach-gov.zoom.us/j/99239624387?pwd=aEVIYTFXUy9UTVQxWXZLc004dXIHUT09>

Meeting ID: 992 3962 4387

Passcode: 098073

One tap mobile

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Dial by your location

• +1 213 338 8477 US (Los Angeles)

Meeting ID: 992 3962 4387

Find your local number: <https://longbeach-gov.zoom.us/u/abYEsd7kmK>

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