



Long Beach City Prosecutor Doug Haubert

11/09/2023

Effective November 9, 2023, the Long Beach City Prosecutor's Office will be taking a number of actions in response to reports of crimes in the Downtown Long Beach area.

Statement from [Long Beach City Prosecutor Doug Haubert](#):

"If we do not proactively address so-called petty crime, we know it will persist and grow until it becomes more serious. We also know it is possible to show compassion and focus on providing services, while at the same time enforce the law. We are not only putting additional resources into enforcement in downtown Long Beach, we are doing this in a proactive and strategic way to target repeat offenders. We are also engaging our community partners so that our efforts are aligned with theirs."

Statement from Austin Metoyer, President & CEO, [Downtown Long Beach Alliance](#):

"These are tangible actions that downtown resident and business owners want and need to see. The truth is, issues like lewd conduct and petty theft persist because there is a system in place at the county level that doesn't deter these sorts of crimes. We are happy and extremely supportive of the steps the Long Beach City Prosecutor's team is taking to keep bad actors off the streets, improve the City's ability to help unhoused residents, and enhance the transparency of the County's judicial process. We'll continue partnering with them to ensure a collaborative and effective response."

First, the Long Beach City Prosecutor's Office has created a [Transparency Page](#) for Downtown Long Beach cases. Because residents had praise for the page created for case of [People v. Miguel Angel Avila Figueroa](#), this effort will be expanded. Now, the LBCP will maintain a general page containing cases of community interest in the downtown area.

Second, the LBCP will add resources to the downtown area for its [3P Neighborhood Program](#). Working closely with the [Downtown Long Beach Alliance](#) and downtown residents, the LBCP will expand this location-based strategy, which is used to solve problems in hot spot areas and focus on repeat offenders. The expansion of the [3P Neighborhood Program](#) will result in several proactive steps taken, including:

1. **Bail for Violent, Repeat Offenders**

On October 1, 2023, the LA Court initiated a ["zero bail" policy](#) for all except the most serious crimes. Police now have only two hours to request a judge to impose bail or conditions to prevent the release of offenders. LA Superior Court Executive Officer David Slayton recently announced that police may request bail/conditions on any misdemeanor case. Therefore, the LBCP will assign a Deputy City Prosecutor to work with the Long Beach Police Department on bail/conditions requests for downtown Long Beach arrests, focusing on persons arrested for violent offenses, those with a history of violence, those with multiple prior offenses, and those who are not likely to appear in court due to a history of past failures to appear.

2. GUIDES Police App

The LBCP will conduct a second training for officers to use of the [GUIDES](#) iPhone application, which police can use to enforce Stay Away Orders (see below). The GUIDES app can also be used to connect people with shelter housing, substance abuse rehabilitation, and mental health treatment. The GUIDES app was launched in 2023 in conjunction with the LBCP's [LEAD program](#) (also see below).

3. Use of Stay Away Orders

The LBCP has developed a “Stay Away” Order program to prohibit those convicted and placed on probation from returning to the location where the crime was committed. The LBCP will require “Stay Away” orders for repeat offenders or those who commit crimes in areas where an increase in crime is observed.

4. Mental Health and Drug Rehabilitation

The LBCP started the [Priority Access Diversion \(PAD\)](#) program in 2016. Then it helped start California's first [Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion \(LEAD\)](#) in 2017, and received its [own grant to expand LEAD](#) in 2022. LBCP will expand these and related programs to include all eligible offenders in the downtown Long Beach area. Working with our provider partners, LB Health Department, LA Centers for Alcohol and Drug Abuse (LA CADA), Tarzana Treatment Centers, Inc., Mental Health America, and others, the LBCP will take steps to ensure rehabilitation opportunities exist for those willing to accept services.

5. Jobs-Based Diversion (PATH)

The LBCP started very successful jobs-based program called [PATH](#) in 2016. This program was stopped due to the Coronavirus pandemic. With new staffing, the LBCP will restart this innovative program to create diversion opportunities for eligible, first-time offenders, with a new focus on downtown LB.

6. Homeless Court

The LBCP will expand its existing [Homeless Court](#) to assist qualified individuals who accept shelter and other services. Recent grant funding secured by LA County Supervisor Janice Hahn ensures this program will continue for at least one more year, and priority will be given to individuals from the downtown area.

The above steps are in addition to the normal prosecution efforts of the City Prosecutor's staff, which has never wavered in its approach to prosecuting crime in a fair, effective and ethical manner. The LBCP, like other city prosecuting agencies, is separate from the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office; therefore, the misdemeanor directives followed by the LADA do not apply to our office. LBCP is a leader in diversion and alternative sentencing programs, but takes a different approach on repeat and violent offenders.