


GENERAL OFFICE MEMORANDUM 21-041

TO: ALL DISTRICT ATTORNEY PERSONNEL

FROM: GEORGE GASCÓN 
District Attorney

SUBJECT: THE COMMUNITY VIOLENCE REDUCTION DIVISION (CVR)

DATE: APRIL 20, 2021

Effective April 15, 2021, the Hardcore Gang Division was reorganized and renamed the Community Violence Reduction Division (CVR).

The CVR Division will consist of experienced prosecutors assigned to numerous teams throughout the county. In its initial stage, CVR deputies will collaborate directly with the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and the community in some of the most challenged areas within the City of Los Angeles. These efforts will borrow from the well-established CLEAR model where deputies will be assigned to an LAPD division and work with law enforcement, community members, public health entities and social services in the investigation, prevention, disruption and prosecution of the most troubling incidences of street violence. The goal of these efforts is to treat community violence through a collaborative public health approach. The roll out of CVR will take place in the three LAPD divisions with the highest level of violence, 77th Division (South Bureau), Newton Division (Central Bureau) and Foothill Division (Valley Bureau). It is expected that the CVR model will be rolled out to other LAPD divisions, the County and smaller departments in future phases.

The reorganization also includes the creation of a Community Violence Prosecution (CVP) Coordinator Program in each of the branch and central trial offices throughout the County which would handle community violence cases outside of the CVR areas. The CVP Coordinators will evaluate, file, and prosecute violent crimes occurring in the areas not being handled by CVR. In addition, the CVP Coordinators will serve as mentors to less experienced line deputies who are interested in prosecuting these types of cases and provide them training on street violence prosecutions. The CVP Coordinators will familiarize themselves with the specific areas in their jurisdiction affected by street violence and work with local law enforcement, public health and the community to investigate and prosecute violent offenders.

The creation of CVR and CVP Coordinators in offices throughout the county will expand the Office's capacity to address the rising street violence in a targeted way. This approach will involve close collaboration with public health, law enforcement and community leaders who can provide information about the specific street violence issues affecting individual communities.

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