MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Directors of Health Services
Director of Mental Health

At its meeting held April 26, 2005, the Board took the following action:

S-1

Dr. Marvin J. Southard, Director of Mental Health and Dr. Bruce Chernof, Senior Medical Director, Clinical Affairs and Affiliations, Department of Health Services, presented an update to the Board on the issues and recommendations relating to emergency inpatient psychiatric services provided at County hospitals.

The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisors Antonovich and Molina:

> "The Psychiatric Emergency Services (PES) in all County hospitals has increasingly been challenged with overcrowded conditions. This situation is compounded by the fact that approximately 60% of individuals in need of emergent psychiatric services are indigent, homeless or at risk of homelessness, without adequate social support systems, and often suffering from co-occurring substance abuse disorders. The Directors of the Departments of Health Services and Mental Health have implemented a variety of measures to address this crisis, but further actions are needed to ensure that our systems of support for the individuals currently using PES are provided."

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After discussion, Supervisor Antonovich made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Molina, that the Board direct the Chief Administrative Officer, in collaboration with County Counsel, and the Directors of Health Services and Mental Health, to take the following actions to ensure that the County's systems of support for the individuals currently using Psychiatric Emergency Services are provided:

1. Develop a strategy to permit Lanterman-Petris-Short designation of specific Psychiatric Emergency Care facilities, including Urgent Care Centers, for evaluation of individuals transported involuntarily for psychiatric emergency assessment;

2. Review the adequacy of the physical facilities allocated to psychiatric assessment and treatment of patients in the emergency departments of County hospitals, and recommend a funding source for any restructuring needs;

3. Develop coordinated clinical documentation, claiming, and discharge policies and procedures that facilitate accurate claiming and reimbursement, appropriate discharges, and secure linkages to community resources for all psychiatric patients, with policies and procedures to address the proper documentation related to Medi-Cal medical necessity criteria, guidelines for selection of post-discharge residential care facilities, such as Institutions for Mental Disease, and appropriate coordination with post-discharge substance-abuse services;

4. Complete an analysis of the Psychiatric Emergency Services system, including, but not limited to, psychiatric patient entry and exit points, nature and results of clinical assessments and treatments, referral sources and dispositions, comparisons with other recognized state-of-the-art models, and existing and projected utilization by referral categories; and

5. Develop a methodology for settling cost issues that exist between the Departments of Health Services and Mental Health related to Psychiatric Emergency Services care, with the methodology to take into account the Department of Health Services' responsibility for the cost of alcohol and other drug-related care and identify other costs not directly connected with mental health services.

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S-1 (Continued)

Supervisor Yaroslavsky made a suggestion that Supervisor Antonovich's motion be amended to instruct the Director of Mental Health to provide a status report to the Board before implementation of Phase II of the Olive View Plan, addressing the San Fernando and Antelope Valley needs for adult psychiatric care and emergency child psychiatric care. Supervisor Antonovich accepted Supervisor Yaroslavsky's amendment.

Supervisor Antonovich's motion, as amended, was unanimously carried.

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Each Supervisor
Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel