



**MICHAEL N. FEUER**  
CITY ATTORNEY

REPORT NO. R 22 - 0 3 8 5

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**REPORT RE:**

**ADMINISTRATIVE CITATION ENFORCEMENT (ACE) PROGRAM  
STATUS REPORT**

The Honorable City Council  
of the City of Los Angeles  
Room 395, City Hall  
200 North Spring Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

**Honorable Members:**

In 2013, the City Council adopted the Administrative Citation Enforcement (ACE) Program Ordinance (Council File 10-0085) and requested that the City Attorney's Office develop an ACE Pilot Program involving the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and the Department of Animal Services (DAS). In 2014, the City Council adopted an implementation plan for the pilot program, and as part of that plan, requested that the City Attorney report on the status of the program. This report provides the most recent update for the program.

**Recommendation**

1. Receive and file this Annual 2021-2022 ACE Program Status Report.

**Program Implementation**

The ACE Program is currently utilized by the LAPD, Department of Animal Services (DAS), Department of Parks and Recreation's Park Rangers (Park Rangers), and the Bureau of Street Services (BOSS). In 2020, the Los Angeles Housing Department (LAHD) and Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety (LADBS) began issuing citations for advertising home-sharing without a City registration number.

Los Angeles Sanitation and Environment Bureau (LASAN) was approved and authorized to participate in the ACE program this past year.

The City Attorney's Office continues to review every citation issued and submitted for processing. To date, the Supervising Assistant City Attorney has reviewed approximately 69,448 citations.

#### LAPD Statistics

From July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, LAPD issued 3,779 citations. Over 54% were processed; the remaining citations were either referred to another program for handling or rejected after being reviewed. For example, in conjunction with the Clean Slate program in the Neighborhood Prosecutor's Program, the ACE Unit has dismissed 224 LAPD tickets for 24 clients at the Hope of the Valley Rescue Mission Help Center. In addition, the unit is waiting to hear back from the Clean Slate program regarding 23 LAPD citations for 21 individuals in order to verify that the individuals are receiving services through St. Joseph's Center. Once verification is received, the unit will be able to dismiss these citations as well. The following is a summary of the citations received from each LAPD division between July 1, 2021, and June 30, 2022.

77th	63
Central	48
Central Traffic	47
Devonshire	134
Foothill	111
Harbor	99
Hollenbeck	187
Hollywood	549
Mission	324
Newton	98
North Hollywood	59
Northeast	91
Olympic	145
Pacific	244
Rampart	51
Southeast	59
Southwest	221
South Traffic	27

Topanga	77
Valley Traffic	0
Van Nuys	555
West Los Angeles	28
West Traffic	24
West Valley	75
Wilshire	132
Commission Investigations Division	26
Security Services	20
Commercial Crimes Division	0
Detective Support and Vice Division	0
Metropolitan Division	0
Emergency Operations Division	0
Metropolitan Transit Authority	0
Major Crimes Division	0
Office of Operations/Film Unit	28
Transit Services Division	1

Of the LAPD citations processed in this reporting period of the ACE Program, offenses were recorded in the following general categories:

- Drinking in public 32.10%
- Possession of open container on or adjacent to ABC location 5.18%
- Required police commission permits 13.95%
- Street vending .49%
- Violation of City park ordinances 3.16%
- Spectator, speed contest 3.94%
- Loud parties 2.07%
- Noise 2.37%
- Fireworks 1.08%
- Gambling-related offenses 9.12%
- Marijuana enforcement citations 12.92%
- Miscellaneous offenses 13.12%

During this reporting period, 246 violators cited by LAPD requested an initial review out of a total of 2,028 citations processed.

The City's ACE Ordinance allows violators an additional appeal by requesting an independent hearing, which is conducted by an Administrative Hearing Officer. During this reporting period, 19 hearings were held for LAPD citations. Additionally, 215 LAPD

citations were referred to the Homeless Engagement and Response Team (HEART) program, and 2 LAPD citations were referred for criminal prosecution.

#### Park Rangers Statistics

The following represents the status of citations received between July 1, 2021, and June 30, 2022:

• ACE citations received	496
• Initial review requests	124
• Administrative hearings conducted	5
• HEART referrals	4

#### BOSS Statistics

The following represents the status of citations received between July 1, 2021, and June 30, 2022:

• ACE citations received	2,719
• Initial review requests	249
• Administrative hearings conducted	10
• Referrals to Neighborhood Justice Program	2

#### DAS Statistics

The following represents the status of the citations submitted by DAS personnel between July 1, 2021, and June 30, 2022:

• ACE citations received	1,553
• Initial review requests	387
• Administrative hearings conducted	2

#### LADBS Statistics for Home Sharing Violation

The following represents the status of citations submitted by LADBS personnel between July 1, 2021, and June 30, 2022:

• ACE citations received	43
• Initial review requests	55
• Administrative hearing requests	1

LAHD Statistics for Home Sharing

The following represents the status of citations submitted by HCID personnel between July 1, 2021, and June 30, 2022.

• ACE citations received	30
• Initial review requests	26
• Administrative hearing requests	1

Payment of Fines and Transfer of Fines to Code Compliance Fund

The City's citation processing company, Data Ticket, collects fines and late penalties from persons who have been cited through the ACE Program and whose citations have been screened and referred for processing by the City Attorney's Office.

The 2021-2022 fiscal year total of collections was \$815,976.24 for the ACE Program. The fines and penalties collected by Data Ticket are electronically transferred to the Office of Finance monthly for deposit to the Code Compliance Fund, which was established in the ACE Ordinance.

Out of this total amount, \$20,716.66 was collected through the 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Collection agency, Sequoia Financial Services. This is the first year ACE has utilized a third-party collection third-party. The third-party processor will send one to two additional notices as well as provide outbound calling if they are able to procure a phone number. This is contingency-based, so only if the vendor receives payment, then the City would be assessed 30% of that payment. As a result, ACE has received 70% of what has been collected so far, which is a total amount of \$14,501.66.

Data Ticket invoices the City Attorney's Office monthly for its citation processing services, in accordance with its contract. During the 2021-2022 fiscal year, a total of \$156,225.26 was paid by the City to the contractor for processing, noticing, and collection services.

Unpaid Citations Referred to Franchise Tax Board

Unpaid citations are referred to the Franchise Tax Board's Intercept Program. From July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, a total of \$374,954.13 has been deposited to the Code Compliance Fund from income tax refund intercepts by the Franchise Tax Board.

Unpaid Fines and Penalties:

The total of unpaid fines from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, was \$970,613.85

The breakdown by each of the participating departments is as follows:

- Los Angeles Police Department: \$368,044.30
- Department of Animal Services: \$427,491.57
- Department of Recreation and Parks: \$43,916.00
- Bureau of Street Services: \$85,771.00
- Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety (Home Sharing): \$22,554.56
- Housing and Community Investment Department (Home Sharing): \$22,836.42

#### Expansion of the ACE Pilot Program

The City's ACE Ordinance allows for the expansion of the ACE Program to include additional City departments upon City Council approval. LASAN was approved and authorized to participate in the ACE Program this past year. The ACE Unit is currently in discussions with LASAN regarding what types of citations are to be issued, as well as the facilitation of ticket/citation book printing and distribution for the department.

The ACE Unit recently had discussions with LASAN regarding the enforcement of and writing citations for three LAMC sections, 66.02, 66.03, and 66.17. These would involve enforcement of solid waste container specifications, minimum level of solid waste service requested by commercial establishments and multifamily dwellings and also establishing proof of solid waste collection services. Two central components of this enforcement would entail looking at those who do not have the aforementioned services or those who lack proper or sufficient service.

Furthermore, the ACE Unit also discussed potential program expansion with the City Planning department in the issuing of citations or enforcement activities involving applicants at bars, restaurants, etc., to sell alcohol utilizing the conditional use permit exemption. This would be a ministerial process that would revoke these permits and authorization if these establishments get three citations within a period of two years.

Lastly, the Bureau of Street Services (BOSS) began enforcement of Section 41.18 of the LAMC. This involves sitting, lying, or sleeping or storing, using, maintaining, or placing personal property in the public right of way. The following six LAMC sections also were added to the Bail Schedule this past fiscal year for enforcement and citation writing by BOSS and LAPD:

- Section 41.14(g) (Tampering with a water structure w/out permit)
- Section 56.08(a) (Vegetation Obstructing a Public Street/Sidewalk)
- Section 62.45(b)1 (Permit Required: Material/Equipment in Street)
- Section 62.45(b)2 (Permit Required.: Operating Helicopter as Crane)
- Section 62.62 (Permit required for electric wire on building/street)
- Section 87.69 (Permit required for a Generator or Search/Flood light in street)

If you have any further questions regarding the ACE Program, please contact Assistant City Attorney Rita Hernandez-Venegas at (213) 978-2021.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL N. FEUER, City Attorney

By 

DAVID MICHAELSON  
Chief Assistant City Attorney

DM:RHV:pj

cc: Honorable Eric Garcetti, Mayor  
Honorable Ron Galperin, Controller  
Sharon Tso, Chief Legislative Analyst  
Matthew Szabo, City Administrative Officer  
Michel Moore, Chief of Police  
Dana Brown, General Manager, Animal Services  
Michael Shull, General Manager, Recreation and Parks  
Greg Good, President, Board of Public Works  
Ann Sewill, General Manager, HCID  
Osama Younan, General Manager, LADBS  
Barbara Romero, Director, LASAN