

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
COMMISSION ON ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS**

**Meeting Minute Summary
January 14, 2026**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Commissioners, Adam Siegel, Alicia Garoupa, Amanda Cowan Brian Heyman, Bruce Boardman, Christina Gonzalez, Howard Winkler, Jack Hadjinian, Jake Fisher, Jerry Velasco, Johng Ho Song, Juan Navarro, Kanin Pruter, Paul Cheng, Rebecca Birotte, Ruben Rodriguez, Tony Bell, Tonya McKenzie (18)

COMMISSIONERS REQUESTING EXCUSED ABSENCES:

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES: Commissioners, Mark Mendoza Jr.

GUEST REGISTER: Gary Tsai, Darrell Santos, Toyetta Beukes, Roy Shioda

MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED: Commission on Alcohol and Other Drugs January 14, 2026 Agenda; Commission on Alcohol and Other Drugs December Meeting Summary – Draft, 2025 Strategic Priorities

Topic	Discussion/Finding
1. Call to Order & Introduction of Commissioners and Guests	Chair Tonya McKenzie, County of Los Angeles, the Commission on Alcohol and Other Drugs convened the meeting at 12:38 P.M. Chair Tonya McKenzie asked for self-introductions from all Commissioners and guests. Quorum present.
2. Public Comments	No Public Comment
3. Report from SAPC	Dr. Gary Tsai, Bureau Director of SAPC presented on: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health's Bureau of Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (DPH-SAPC) launched its Substance Abuse Service Helpline (SASH) in July 2017.• Key SASH metrics include:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Call Volume: Number of All Calls Received<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Number of inbound calls queued to be answered by an agent.• Key Takeaway: The number of SUD calls into the SASH has increased year-by-year.• Connection Rate: Percent of SASH Calls Screened & Connected to Care Among All Calls Received.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The connection rate refers to the percentage of calls that were screened and successfully connected out of all calls answered or handled. DPH-SAPC's target connection rate is greater than 30%.• Key Takeaway: There is room for demand-side improvement for SUD connection rates-many callers aren't yet ready for treatment and are simply calling for info.• Abandonment Rate: Percent of SASH Calls Missed Among All Calls Received.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The abandonment rate is defined as the total number of calls that were not answered divided by the total number of calls received. DPH-SAPC's target abandonment rate is less than 5%.• Key Takeaway: Abandonment is trending down, which signifies improved call center engagement with callers.• Service Level: Percentage of Calls Answered Within Service Level Threshold Among All Calls Received.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The State-mandated service level threshold is 60 seconds, and the target service level rate is greater than 80%. DOH-SAPC's target speed to answer a call is less than 60 seconds.• Key Takeaway: SASH consistently meets the state required 60-second service level threshold.

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4. Action on AB2449 and Excused Absences	<p>Commissioners Amanda Cowan and Paul Cheng are appearing remotely in accordance with AB2449 “emergency circumstances” for today’s meeting.</p> <p>Chair Tonya McKenzie entertained a motion which was moved to approve by Commissioner Howard Winkler and seconded by Commissioner Tony Bell.</p> <p>Motion was unanimously carried.</p>
5. Action on Meeting Minutes for December 10, 2025 meeting	<p>Chair Tonya McKenzie entertained a motion which was moved to approve by Commissioner Jack Hadjinian and seconded by Commissioner Jerry Velasco.</p> <p>Motion was unanimously carried.</p>
6. Action on Nominations	<p>The nominating committee provided the 2025 Nomination Slate as follows:</p> <p>Chair: Tonya McKenzie 1st Vice Chair: Christina Gonzalez 2nd Vice Chair: Juan Navarro Recording Secretary: Rebecca Birotte At Large Seat 1: Ruben Rodriguez At Large Seat 2: Bruce Boardman Policy and Planning Subcommittee Chair: Jack Hadjinian Education and Prevention Subcommittee Chair: Alicia Garoupa</p> <p>Chair Tonya McKenzie entertained a motion which was moved to approve by Commissioner Tony Bell and seconded by Commissioner Kanin Pruter.</p> <p>Motion was carried with one abstention from Commissioner Jack Hadjinian.</p>
7. Guest Speaker	<p>Dr. Toyetta Beukes presented on Sip Safe Solutions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reusable glow-in the dark drink lid covers + rapid drink testers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why it matters: drinking spiking & drug-facilitated harm • Substance Involvement in Sexual Assault (Estimated) • GHB vs Alcohol vs Ketamine vs Benzodiazepines • Common Stret Names for Drugs Used in Drug-Facilitated Assault • Water Bottle Tampering: Emerging Safety Risk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is happening • Why this matters • Public Safety PSA • How to recognize a drink that’s been spiked or tampered with • Chemsex: Public Health Context & Risk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is Chemsex? • Substances commonly involved • Public health concerns • Why this matters for prevention • Ed Buck was federally prosecuted for operating a drug-facilitated scheme involving vulnerable men. • Bill Cosby Substance-Facilitated Sexual Assault (DFSA) • Harvey Weinstein Sexual Assault Involving Incapacitation • Andrew Luster GHB-Facilitated Sexual Assault (1990s) • Sean “Diddy” Combs – No criminal conviction of DFSA, multiple civil lawsuits & federal investigations allege SA, trafficking & drug-related incapacitation • California policy context: AB 1013 (Type 48) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AB 1013 and AB 2375 (Lowenthal) Requires Type 48 venues to make drink-spiking drug testing devices available, Drink covers and post mandated signage. • Public-safety products for bars, restaurants, campuses, and events • Product 1: reusable glow-in-the-dark drink cover <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designed to reduce access to the drink surface

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Product 2: SipSafe Rapid Drink Tester (GHB – KET – BZO) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What it tests for • Interpreting results (and important limitations) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read results carefully: • Operational guidance for venues/programs • Implementation options <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type 48 venues • Festivals & events • Campuses • Community distribution • Training & trauma-informed response (venue playbook) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff training (15-20 minutes) • Messaging that helps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What to do if someone suspects they were drugged • Built around survivor-centered guidance
8. Chair's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask Commissioners if they'd like to discuss anything on the 2025 CAOD Annual Report. • Ask Commissioners to take a look at the 2025 Strategic Priorities and discuss any desired changes for the 2026 Strategic Priorities. • There have been new changes to the Brown Act, if you'd like to be up to date, please attend the New Commissioner Orientation Session, scheduled for January 29, 2026. • Ask for any questions or comments on the Legislative Report or Prevention Events.
9. Comments from Commissioners on Items of Interest	<p>Discussion on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Importance of Commissioners connecting with Health Deputies to advise that they are available to participate in Board meetings for any items related to Substance Use Disorders.
10. Adjournment	Meeting was adjourned at 2:30 P.M.

Next meeting date:
 February 11, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.
 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
 500 W. Temple Avenue, Sybil Brand Commission Room, Suite 372
 Los Angeles, California 90012