



# Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission

701 Ocean Street, Room 510, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

P: (831) 454-2772 F: (831) 454-2411 TTY/TDD 711

[commissions@santacruzcountyca.gov](mailto:commissions@santacruzcountyca.gov)

[www.scclatinoaffairs.org](http://www.scclatinoaffairs.org)

## Notice of Public Meeting and Agenda

DATE Wednesday, February 4, 2026

TIME: 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

LOCATION: United Way of Santa Cruz County

4450 Capitola Road, Ste 106, Capitola, CA 95010

***\*\*As a courtesy to those who are affected, kindly attend the meeting **scent-free** and **smoke-free**.\*\****

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review

2. Moment of Silence to Recognize the Many Individuals Who have Lost Their Lives under the Banner of Immigration Enforcement.

3. Approve *December 3, 2025 Meeting Minutes*

4. Public Comment

*Any person may address the Commission for a period not to exceed three minutes on an issue within the jurisdiction of the Commission.*

5. New Business/Continuing Business/Action Items:

5.1. County Health Services Update (*Connie Moreno-Peraza, Health Services Agency Director*)

5.2. Consider Immigration Solutions Advocacy Letter

6. Commissioner District/City Reports

6.1. District 1 (*Flores-Martinez*)

6.2. District 2 (*Sanchez*)

6.3. District 3 (*Flores*)

6.4. District 4 (*De Santos*)

6.5. District 5 (*Longoria*)

6.6. Santa Cruz City (*Nevarez*)

6.7. Watsonville City (*Lopez, Rocha*)

7. Staff Report

8. Adjournment

**Next Meeting Scheduled for 6:00 PM on Wednesday, April 1, 2026**

*The County of Santa Cruz does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs or activities. If you require assistance to participate in the meeting, please contact (831) 454-2772 or TTY/TDD: 711 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting to make arrangements.*



# Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission

701 Ocean Street, Room 510, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

P: (831) 454-2772 F: (831) 454-2411 TTY/TDD 711

[commissions@santacruzcountyca.gov](mailto:commissions@santacruzcountyca.gov)

[www.scclatinoaffairs.org](http://www.scclatinoaffairs.org)

## Meeting Minutes

DATE: Wednesday, December 3, 2025

TIME: 6:00PM

LOCATION: United Way of Santa Cruz County, 4450 Capitola Road, Ste 106, Capitola, CA 95010

PRESENT: Yadira Flores-Martinez (*1<sup>st</sup> District*), Kassandra Flores (*3<sup>rd</sup> District*), Cesar De Santos (*4<sup>th</sup> District*), Jaime Longoria (*5<sup>th</sup> District*), Emmanuel Nevarez (*City of Santa Cruz*), Bibianna Rocha (*City of Watsonville*)

EXCUSED: Micaela Lopez (*City of Watsonville*)

ABSENT: Oscar Sanchez (*2<sup>nd</sup> District*)

STAFF: Kaite McGrew (*Commissions Manager*)

GUESTS: Chris Clark (*Sheriff-Coroner*), Sven Stafford (*CEO Principal Administrative Analyst*) and 18 members of the public were present.

### 1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review

Meeting convened at 6:00 PM.

Commission welcomed new District 5 Commissioner Jaime Longoria.

### 2. Moment of Silence to Recognize the Many Individuals Previously Detained in Florida Whose Current Status Remains Unaccounted for in Publicly Accessible Records

### 3. Approve August 6, 2025 Minutes

**Motion to approve minutes as written.**

Motion/Second: Nevarez/Flores-Martinez

**Motion passed unanimously.**

### 4. Public Comment

### 5. New Business/Action Items

#### 5.1. Sheriff's Department Update

##### 5.1.1. County Law Enforcement Involvement with Immigration Enforcement

Sheriff Clark provided an overview of County Law Enforcement's strategies and policies related to immigration enforcement. The Sheriff's Office does not participate in immigration enforcement, does not share information for that purpose, and has declined immigration-related funding due to concerns about community trust and public safety.

Local law enforcement lacks jurisdiction over federal agents acting within the scope of their duties due to the supremacy clause therefore local action would be limited to rare, clear-cut violations of state law such as entering private healthcare facilities, for example.

Publicizing imminent ICE activity could constitute obstruction of justice. Sheriff's deputies, if present, would be there simply to keep the peace if requested as they cannot decline to respond when public safety is at risk. The County does not operate its own FLOCK system, though the Sheriff's Office may access shared law enforcement databases that contain

FLOCK data in addition to other data. He emphasized the importance of safeguards and accountability and stated that all use of technology is evaluated on a case-by-case basis and in consultation with County Counsel where appropriate. The Commission expressed concern that no official records of events would be available to them without intervention from local law enforcement and access to their bodycam videos.

5.1.2. Latino Representation in Sergeant and Special Assignments Update  
Item pended to a later meeting for time.

5.2. Consider Advocating for a County Ordinance Further Addressing Community Concerns Related to Immigration Enforcement

Commission reviewed their November 17, 2025 advocacy letter to the Board outlining community concerns related to immigration enforcement and discussed the potential ramifications establishing an ordinance could cause. The Commission expressed concerns about potential backlash and determined to advocate for internal policies changes at this time.

**Motion to establish an ad hoc subcommittee to draft a letter to the Board of Supervisors proposing potential solutions to the concerns raised in the Commission's prior letter.**

Motion/Second: Nevarez/De Santos

Ayes: Flores-Martinez, De Santos, Longoria, Nevarez, and Rocha

Nays: None

Abstentions: Flores

**Motion passed.**

**Chair appointed Nevarez, Rocha, De Santos, and Flores to the subcommittee.**

5.3. County Strategic Planning Discussion –

Stafford summarized the County's outreach efforts to help identify priorities for the County's Strategic Plan. The Commission reviewed the County Strategic Plan focus areas and discussed priorities specifically impacting the Latino community. Priorities included access to food services for individuals unable to provide a home address; protections for immigrants; housing services; Latino representation in law enforcement, increased transparency (data, progress, service improvements, etc.); milestone credits for inmates, law enforcement assisted diversion, funding for treatment options; and investigating potential County divestment from companies with known human rights violations.

5.4. Consider 2024-2025 Latino Affairs Commission Biennial Report

Commission reviewed the 2024-2025 Latino Affairs Commission Biennial Report and made the several small changes to fine tune the language in the goals and recommendations sections.

**Motion to approve and adopt the 2024-2025 Latino Affairs Commission Biennial Report as amended.**

Motion/Second: Rocha/ Flores

**Motion passed unanimously.**

6. Commissioner Reports: Pended

7. Staff Report: No Report

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Submitted by: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Manager*



Health Services Agency

# SB81 Overview for Latino Affairs Commission

Connie Moreno-Peraza, HSA Director

# Agenda

- **Requirements** of SB 81 and sharing HSA is in compliance and implemented policies prior to SB 81
- **Relevancy to HSA** and when they were put in place
- **Review of HSA policies**
- **Q&A**

# New Requirements under SB 81

## Sharing Medical Information (9/20/25)

- **Definition of Medical Information** now includes place of birth and immigration status
- **Disclosure of Medical Information** for immigration enforcement is prohibited
- **Limits Court Orders** which compel covered entities to disclose information
- **Clarifies Search Warrants** which compel covered entities to disclose medical information

## Access to Nonpublic Areas of Health Care Facilities (11/4/25)

- **Designates nonpublic areas** where patients receive care or discuss protected health information
- **Prohibits access to nonpublic areas**, disallowing immigration enforcement from entering these spaces
  - **Requires immediate notice to management or legal counsel** for immigration-related requests
- **Requires information to staff and volunteers** to ensure proper response to immigration-related requests
- **Requires procedures** for monitoring, documenting and receiving visitors consistent with SB 81 requirements

Covered Entities = health care providers, health plans, healthcare clearinghouse

Source: California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General [SB 81 Bulletin - October 2025](#)

## Relevancy to Santa Cruz County Health Services Agency (HSA)

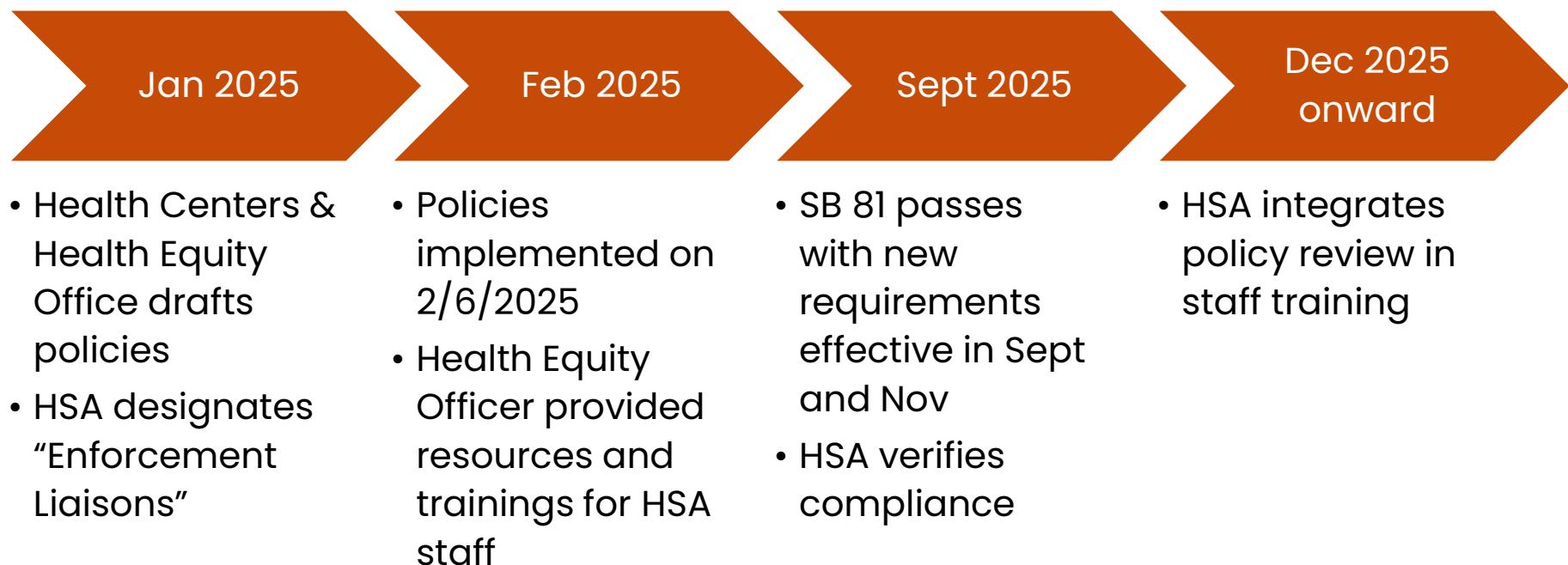
Health Services Agency is a health care provider and manages health care plans through the Health Centers and Behavioral Health Divisions:

- Watsonville Health Center
- Emeline Health Center
- Homeless Persons' Health Project
- Juvenile Hall Health Services
- Behavioral Health Psychiatry
- Behavioral Health Medi-Cal Plans  
(Specialty Mental Health, Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System)



*Members of the Homeless Persons' Health Project (HPHP) and the Street Medicine Team before heading out to provide care in their mobile clinic in Watsonville.*

# HSA Policy Development & Implementation



# HSA Staff Training

- Health Equity Officer provided Know Your Rights (KYR) trainings through February.

Training objectives:

- A general update and overview of HSA's staff response to immigration agents, including pending agency wide policy and procedure
- What Know Your Rights and Red Cards are, and how to use them
- Local tools and resources you can use to directly support your patients and clients
- Other activities through 2025: KYR Red Card distribution, Childcare Safety Planning, sharing legal resources



# **HSA Policy 406**

## **HSA Staff Procedure for Interacting with Immigration and Law Enforcement**

- Designates “Enforcement Liaisons” for each health care facility. These liaisons are the authorized staff to interact with law enforcement officers.
- Enforcement Liaisons receive training and required to be onsite during business hours. Duties include:
  - Notifying HIPAA Privacy Officer, HSA Leadership and County Counsel
  - Calling “Code Black” which alerts HSA personnel of immigration presence and notify the public of potential impacts to HSA operations

# **HSA Policy 407: HSA Staff Procedures for Responding to Requests for HSA Records**

- Reiterates HIPAA requirements
- Provides staff procedure for how to respond to law enforcement



# Questions?

Thank You





## Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission

701 Ocean Street, Room 510, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

P: (831) 454-2772 F: (831) 454-2411 TTY/TDD 711

[commissions@santacruzcountyca.gov](mailto:commissions@santacruzcountyca.gov)

[www.scclatinoaffairs.org](http://www.scclatinoaffairs.org)

February 4, 2026

Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors  
Attn: Chair Martinez  
701 Ocean Avenue, St. 500  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Subject: Follow-Up Recommendations Related to Immigration Enforcement and Community Impacts

Dear Chair Martinez and Members of the Board,

Under the provisions of Santa Cruz County Code 2.117.050(A), the Latino Affairs Commission is mandated to advise your Board of issues and concerns affecting the Latino community.

On November 17, 2025, the Commission issued a letter to your Board outlining community concerns related to immigration enforcement practices, access to services, public safety, and County investments. Since that time, federal immigration enforcement efforts continue to broaden and escalate, and the Commission continues to receive feedback from community members on related issues. Every day, the national news media report alarming events indicating that federal officers have, in some cases, detained U.S. citizens—including Dulce Consuelo Diaz Morales—and have conducted operations while wearing face coverings or disguising themselves as utility or construction workers.

As a follow-up to our prior correspondence, the Latino Affairs Commission respectfully offers the following potential solutions for your Board's consideration:

- Consider directing the Sheriff's Office to work with local law enforcement partners to provide public education on identifying legitimate local and federal law enforcement, recognizing potential impersonators, understanding required officer identification, and appropriate steps to take when impersonation is suspected.
- Consider updates to the County's investment policy to strengthen processes for identifying and divesting from companies with documented human rights concerns.
- Consider emergency or bridge funding for County and community programs that served previously as critical access points for immigrant residents seeking services and assistance, but have been either reduced or eliminated due to recent federal funding changes.
- Consider temporary eviction protections or other housing stability measures to support immigrant residents experiencing barriers to employment or access to resources because of immigration enforcement activities.
- Consider updating Sheriff's Office hiring policies to preclude applicants with prior federal immigration enforcement experience where legally permissible, ensuring compliance with federal anti-discrimination and equal employment laws, and using structured background and screening procedures to safeguard community trust.

- Consider appropriate policy or operational limitations on the Sheriff's Department's access to or use of Flock Safety and Fusion Center data, with attention to privacy, civil liberties, and potential community impacts while still safeguarding public safety.
- Consider encouraging the Sheriff's Office to adopt internal guidance clarifying officer responsibilities in situations where it is clearly evident that federal immigration enforcement is in violation of constitutional, state, or local law, and ensuring that any lawful response occurs only to the extent authorized under officers' jurisdictional and legal authority.

The Commission shares these potential solutions to support your Board's ongoing deliberations regarding policies impacting immigrant communities in Santa Cruz County. We respectfully encourage careful evaluation of these proposed solutions as part of the County's continued commitment to equity, safety, and community well-being.

Respectfully,

Emmanuel Nevarez  
*Commission Chair*  
*Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission*

*Enc. Latino Affairs Commission's November 17, 2025 Letter*



## Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission

701 Ocean Street, Room 510, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

P: (831) 454-2772 F: (831) 454-2411 TTY/TDD 711

[commissions@santacruzcountyca.gov](mailto:commissions@santacruzcountyca.gov)

[www.scclatinoaffairs.org](http://www.scclatinoaffairs.org)

November 17, 2025

Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors

Attn: Chair Hernandez

701 Ocean Avenue, St. 500

Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Re: Community Concerns Related to Immigration Enforcement and Access to Services

Dear Chair Hernandez and Members of the Board,

Under the provisions of Santa Cruz County Code 2.117.050(A), the Latino Affairs Commission is mandated to advise your Board of issues and concerns affecting the Latino community. The following concerns impacting the Latino immigrant community were brought forward during the last Commission meeting:

- The presence of masked ICE officers undermines trust, unnecessarily increases anxiety, (particularly around whether the masked individuals are imposters), and makes County residents feel unsafe in public spaces.
- County investment funds may include investments in companies with problematic human rights records which raises concerns that County government may be indirectly supporting entities whose practices conflict with their expressed values of equity and human dignity.
- Community members impacted by ICE activities have expressed challenges accessing medical care, food security programs, and other supports essential to family stability and wellbeing.
- There are concerns that current Sheriff's Office hiring practices may not sufficiently account for prior ICE employment which could erode trust in local law enforcement and discourage residents from seeking help when needed.
- Community members are worried about how information—particularly that collected by automatic license plate readers—may be stored, shared, or accessed, and whether it could be used in ways that harm immigrant residents.

The Commission shares these concerns with you to help inform your deliberations and policy decisions impacting County immigrants. We respectfully urge your Board to weigh these community concerns carefully as part of your ongoing commitment to equity, safety, and inclusion in Santa Cruz County.

Respectfully,

Signed by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Emmanuel Novarez".

Emmanuel Novarez

Commission Chair

Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission



## Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission

701 Ocean Street, Room 510, Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
P: (831) 454-2772 F: (831) 454-2411 TTY/TDD 711  
[commissions@santacruzcounty.us](mailto:commissions@santacruzcounty.us)  
[www.scclatinoaffairs.org](http://www.scclatinoaffairs.org)

## Scheduled Meetings

Unless otherwise specified, regularly scheduled Latino Affairs Commission meetings are generally held as follows:

DAY: First (1<sup>st</sup>) Wednesday  
MONTH: Every other month (February, April, June, August, October and December)  
TIME: 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM  
LOCATION: **United Way of Santa Cruz County\*\***  
4450 Capitola Road, Ste 106, Capitola, CA 95010

**\*\*Changes to the schedule**, including special meetings, changes of location, or meeting cancellations, will be listed on the website at [www.scclatinoaffairs.org](http://www.scclatinoaffairs.org) as soon as information becomes available.

2026 Meeting Dates		
DATE	TIME	LOCATION
February 4, 2026	6:00 – 7:30 PM	United Way
April 1, 2026	6:00 – 7:30 PM	United Way
June 3, 2026	6:00 – 7:30 PM	United Way
August 5, 2026	6:00 – 7:30 PM	United Way
October 7, 2026	6:00 – 7:30 PM	United Way
December 2, 2026	6:00 – 7:30 PM	United Way

### Public Participation

- Please check the meeting agenda to learn details about how to participate in the commission meeting.
- If you need special accommodations, please call 454-2935 or TDD: 711 (California Relay Service) at least 48 hours before the meeting.