

**NAME OF CONFERENCE CALL:** LA District Attorney Practices in the Time of Covid-19:  
What Needs to Happen to Save Lives  
(1.5-hour CLE credit)

**DATE | TIME | LOCATION:** May 12, 2020 5:00pm-6:30pm PT

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION:** COVID-19 is an unprecedented crisis and one where district attorneys must take immediate and continued action to save lives. We've gathered together a group of panelists to provide an overview of what is happening inside the jails, what the LA County DA's office is currently doing, and what it should do to keep people and their loved ones safe.

Join us to hear more on the LA DA's practices during COVID-19 and learn more about the candidates running for the most powerful elected position in our local criminal legal system: George Gascón (attending); Jackie Lacey (declined).

**PANELISTS' NAMES AND BIOS:**

Greg Akili, *BLM-LA* (opening remarks)

Summer Lacey and Michael Saavedra,  
*The Justice Collaborative / Dignity and Power Now, Youth Justice Coalition, and Justice LA*

Dr. Shamsheer Samra, clinical health care provider for *LA Jail System*

Nikhil Ramnaney, *President of Local 148 & public defender in Long Beach court*

Robin Steinberg, *Founder and CEO of The Bail Project*

Diana Zúñiga, *Associate Director of Regional Collaboration for the [Whole Person Care Initiative](#), LA County Department of Health Services*

George Gascón, *Candidate for LA County District attorney*

Pastor William Smart, *Southern Christian Leadership Conference of Southern California*  
(Closing remarks)

**MATERIALS FOR CONFERENCE CALL:**

City News Service, [LA County Sued Over Danger to Jail Inmates from COVID-19](#), (April 25, 2020).

Richard Winton, [Warning that coronavirus cases could rise, ACLU sues O.C. sheriff to free more inmates](#), Los Angeles Times (May 1, 2020).

The Bail Project, [\*The Bail Project Urges Jail Releases Amid Coronavirus Spread\*](#) (2020).

Udi Ofer and Lucia Tian, [\*New Model Shows Reducing Jail Population will Lower COVID-19 Death Toll for All of Us\*](#), ACLU (April 22, 2020).

The Editorial Board, [\*No One Deserves to Die of Covid-19 in Jail\*](#), N.Y. TIMES (April 23, 2020).

Kanya Bennett and Charlotte Resing, [\*Federal Bill Would Release Vulnerable People from Prisons to Help Stop Spread of COVID-19\*](#), ACLU (April 29, 2020).

Lauren-Brooke Eisen, [\*Covid-19 Continues Its Toll on Jails and Prisons\*](#), Brennan Center for Justice (May 4, 2020).