

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

CIVIL MINUTES – GENERAL

Case No. 2:20-cv-02291-DOC-KES

Date: May 25, 2025

Title: LA ALLIANCE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, ET AL., V. CITY OF LOS ANGELES,  
ET AL.

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PRESENT:

THE HONORABLE DAVID O. CARTER, JUDGE

Maria Barr for  
Karlen Dubon  
Courtroom Clerk

Not Present  
  
Court Reporter

ATTORNEYS PRESENT FOR  
PLAINTIFF:  
None Present

ATTORNEYS PRESENT FOR  
DEFENDANT:  
None Present

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**PROCEEDINGS (IN CHAMBERS): ORDER HOLDING IN ABEYANCE  
CITY’S EX PARTE APPLICATION  
TO QUASH SUBPOENAS [928]**

The City of Los Angeles filed an Ex Parte Application for an Order Quashing Subpoenas on May 23, 2025 (Dkt. 928). Plaintiff LA Alliance opposed the Application on May 24, 2025 (Dkt. 934) and the City filed a Reply in Support of its Application the same day (Dkt. 935). In its Application, the City reiterates its objections to Mayor Bass and city councilmembers testifying at the upcoming evidentiary hearing. *See also* Dkt. 918, 925. The City argues the Court should quash the subpoenas of Mayor Bass, Councilmember Rodriguez, and Councilmember Park because the subpoenas impose an undue burden on high-ranking officials under the Apex Doctrine, violate the deliberative-process privilege, and do not allow a reasonable time to comply.

At this time, the Court does not quash the subpoenas or stay enforcement of them. The Court, however, holds that other witnesses must be called first before the Court decides if the Mayor or councilmembers’ testimony is necessary. For example, City Administrative Officer Matthew Szabo and Deputy Mayor of Homelessness and

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Community Health Dr. Etsemaye Agonafer, who the City argues are the most knowledgeable about the City's compliance, must testify before any potential testimony from the Mayor or councilmembers would be required. If, after hearing testimony from the other witnesses, the Court determines that the Mayor and/or councilmembers are still needed, the Court will accommodate their schedules through evening or weekend sessions.

For the foregoing reasons, the Court holds the City's Application in abeyance pending the outcome of other testimony at the evidentiary hearing.

The Clerk shall serve this minute order on the parties.

MINUTES FORM 11

CIVIL-GEN

Initials of Deputy Clerk:  
mba/kdu

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