



Ensuring Your Security

PICK-UP COVID-19 TESTING KIT PROGRAM



Dear Friends,

As the Omicron variant spurs a record number of new daily cases in our communities and as residents return to work and school after the holidays, staying protected is as important as ever.

If you need to get a COVID-19 test, you have multiple options. Those with insurance are encouraged to contact their doctor or visit their local pharmacy as

their first plan of action. If your employer or school requires a test, you can go through that entity to get tested. For all other residents, you can take advantage of a County-sponsored test. Come to one of our testing sites to get a [pick-up test](#) that you can either take onsite or from the comfort of home. The best part is that you won't need to make an appointment or wait in a long line. Fifth District locations include College of the Canyons in the Santa Clarita Valley or the Palmdale Hammack Center in the Antelope Valley, as well as other locations in the San Gabriel and San Fernando Valleys. You can learn more about your testing options [here](#).

With an increased need for COVID-19 tests, we have to ensure their legitimacy and protect ourselves against fraud. [I introduced a motion](#) at this week's Board of Supervisors meeting to crack down on fraudulent tests kits and testing sites and to prevent identity theft. I am committed to helping residents be confident they are receiving an accurate and legitimate test without risking their private information.

As we navigate health and safety during this surge, I appreciate your commitment to protect yourself, your family, and your neighbors.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathryn". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kathryn Barger

Supervisor, Fifth District

Give Blood, Give Life



"I can't emphasize enough just how urgent and critical this blood shortage is for Los Angeles County residents," said Dr. Gausche-Hill.

For the first time in 30 years, The Los Angeles County Department of Health Services had to close a trauma center for a few hours because of low blood supply. You can save a life and make a difference. Please consider signing up to donate.

[Donate to the Red Cross.](#)

[Donate to Huntington Hospital.](#)

Budget Priority



This week, I saw that Governor Newsom is focusing on conservatorships in his proposed budget. In Los Angeles County, we've been building mental health infrastructure, but we need to do more. L.A. County needs the state's support and legislative action to change the definition of "gravely disabled." Until we redefine it, we will remain legally unable to serve thousands of people who are in dire need of compassionate care.

I believe conservatorships can be used in a humane and compassionate way to help people experiencing homelessness. Do you agree?

[Respond to our survey.](#)

Cannabis Enforcement



The growth of unpermitted cannabis dispensaries and cultivation continues to outpace the County's enforcement efforts. In response, we're implementing a nuisance abatement ordinance and charging offenders up to \$30,000 per day as a result of [a motion I presented at this week's board meeting](#). Dangerous operations put our neighborhoods at risk and undermine the work underway to ensure communities' safety.

Community Forum

My office is hosting a community forum to talk about tackling illegal cannabis in the rural Antelope Valley. I invite you to join us for this discussion about the work we have underway. The event is Saturday, Jan. 22 from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Westside Christian Fellowship in Leona Valley. We hope to see you there.

[Learn more about this issue.](#)

Intern with our Team



- ✓ Get firsthand experience working alongside passionate public servants.
- ✓ Serve your neighbors and give back to your community.
- ✓ Receive class credit and get paid!

Calling all college students! If you want an internship that helps you learn more about public service, we have the perfect position for you. We're hiring for both our field offices and downtown office in person and online. We'd love for you to join our team!

[Apply today.](#)

Final Weekend



Have you seen the gorgeous Lightscape display at the Arboretum yet? It's not too late to get tickets! This is the final weekend to enjoy this magical event until next winter.

[Buy tickets.](#)

Mortgage Relief



If you're falling behind on your housing payments, you're not alone. Help is here for homeowners through the California Mortgage Relief Program. This effort helps homeowners who are currently experiencing pandemic-related hardships get caught up on their housing payments. The program is absolutely free and the funds do not need to be repaid.

[See if you qualify.](#)

Innovation Grants



The Los Angeles County Office of Education and the Greater L.A. Education Foundation are partnering to offer immediate support to public school educators through the Equitable Innovation Grant program. Grants can fund classroom projects, social and emotional learning, new technology, and teacher mental health and retention. These grants are available to all educators, including teachers, counselors, administrators, aides, and more. They are available for all grades, disciplines, and content areas. Educators can apply for up to \$1,000 as individuals or up to \$3,000 as a team from a school or district. The application is open through Jan. 21, so make sure to apply before the deadline.

[Get a grant.](#)

Explore Opportunities

Explore Your Options

Be a Fire Explorer!

Join our virtual recruitment and open house event to learn about the opportunities available through the Los Angeles County Fire Department's Fire Explorer Program.

Becoming a Fire Explorer provides participants with basic safety training, first aid skills and CPR certification, and valuable hands-on experience, including ride-alongs.

**TO REGISTER FOR ONE OF THESE MEETINGS,
VISIT [LACOFD-FIRE-EXPLORER-2022.EVENTBRITE.COM](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lacofd-fire-explorer-2022).**

- Wednesday, January 12, 2022 — 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, January 15, 2022 — 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.



If you know a student who is interested in firefighting and wants to learn more about safety skills, encourage them to tune in for tomorrow's Fire Explorer open house! The event will show them all the opportunities available through the Los Angeles County Fire Department's Explorer Program. Becoming a Fire Explorer provides participants with basic safety training, first aid skills, CPR certification, and valuable hands-on experience.

[Explore your options.](#)

Downtown:

500 W. Temple St. #869
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 974-5555

Santa Clarita Valley:

27441 Tourney Rd. Suite 120
Santa Clarita, CA 91355
(661) 287-3657

Antelope Valley:

42455 10th Street West, Suite 104
Lancaster, CA 93534
(661) 726-3600

San Gabriel Valley:

215 N. Marengo Ave. Suite 120
Pasadena, CA 91101
(626) 356-5407

East San Gabriel Valley:

615 E. Foothill Bl. Suite A
San Dimas, CA 91773
(909) 394-2264

San Fernando Valley:

21943 Plummer St.
Chatsworth, CA 91311
(818) 993-5170
