



March 12, 2021

VIA EMAIL

Honorable Board of Supervisors
Los Angeles County
Hall of Administration, Room 383
Los Angeles, CA 900012

**Re: Support for Community-Based Services for
Felony Incompetent to Stand Trial Individuals**

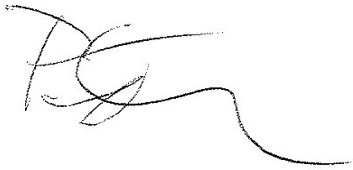
Dear Chairperson Solis and Esteemed Board of Supervisors:

The ACLU of Southern California, Justice LA, and Disability Rights California are extremely disappointed that the Board continued its motion to consider approve an agreement with California's Department of State Hospitals to provide \$34.7 million in state funding for the Office of Diversion and Reentry to expand its program for felony incompetent to stand trial (IST) individuals. ISTs are some of the most vulnerable people in the jails, and intolerable wait times for them to be transferred to state mental hospitals continue to grow. Allowing ISTs to languish in the jails as opposed to being transferred to humane and effective community placements causes unnecessary suffering and hampers the effort to close Men's Central Jail.

(over)

We call for full public disclosure about any perceived obstacles to continuing the program as it currently exists. Further, we respectfully again ask the Board to approve the motion at its next hearing on March 23, 2021.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'PE', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Peter J. Eliasberg
ACLU Foundation of Southern California

Eunisses Hernandez
Justice LA

Pamila Lew
Disability Rights California