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## The Register of Latino Community Justice Center Records, 1987-1991

### Collection number: MSS 079

Southern California Library for Social Studies and Research

Los Angeles, California

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#### Descriptive Summary

**Title:** Latino Community Justice Center Records,

**Date (inclusive):** 1987-1991

**Collection number:** MSS 079

**Creator:** Latino Community Justice Center

**Extent:** 3 legal document boxes; 1 linear foot

**Repository:** Southern California Library for Social Studies and Research

Los Angeles, CA 90044

**Abstract:** This is a collection of case files from the Latino Community Justice Center. Each of the case files documents a complaint regarding misconduct/abuse on the part of police or sheriffs department personnel or misconduct/abuse on the part of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (I.N.S.). This collection also contains one administrative file from the Center.

**Language:** English

#### Access

The collection is available for research only at the Library's facility in Los Angeles. The Library is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. Researchers are encouraged to call or email the Library indicating the nature of their research query prior to making a visit.

#### Publication Rights

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### Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Latino Community Justice Center Records, Southern California Library for Social Studies and Research, Los Angeles, California.

### Provenance

Cynthia Anderson, an employee of the Latino Community Justice Center, donated these materials to the Library in 1993.

### Organizational History

The Latino Community Justice Center was formed by Antonio H. Rodriguez, Father Greg Boyle, S.J. and other community activists in 1987. It was established with the mission to provide amnesty and other legal services to the East Los Angeles community in general, and immigrant workers in particular. From their offices on Brooklyn Avenue in East Los Angeles, Antonio H. Rodriguez, Executive Director of the Center, and his staff conducted legal aid clinics for members of the community who had been victims of police misconduct or abuse.

Antonio H. Rodriguez, both lawyer and activist, began practicing law in 1972, representing various community activists, who had been charged with failure to disperse, in a series of trials. That same year he also took over the appeal of one of the three community activists known as "Los Tres del Barrio". In 1974 Antonio traveled to Kansas to represent one of the Leavenworth Brothers, a group of inmates charged with several counts of kidnapping prison guards during a prison strike for better prison conditions. Antonio Rodriguez practiced public interest law exclusively, working at various times for Legal Aid, the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Education Fund and the Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice, before joining with Father Boyle and others in 1987 to form the Latino Community Justice Center.

Father Greg Boyle, S.J., once pastor of Dolores Mission, has devoted his time, energies and influence to the Pico/Aliso District community of East Los Angeles. Nicknamed G-Dog by the gang members he ministers to, Father Boyle joined the Jesuit Order in 1984 because of its social-activist bent. He has spent his years serving both his community's religious needs and its economic and social needs as well. In 1994 Father Boyle received the assignment to concentrate exclusively on job development and related ministries with neighborhood gangs. Through Jobs For a Future (JFF), Father Boyle has begun Homeboy Industries, Homeboy Bakery, Homeboy Landscaping, Homeboy Cleaning Service and Homeboy Artesania.

These two men, along with local community activists, recognized their impoverished community's desperate and vital need for legal services. Being men accustomed to action, they discovered a solution and worked together to form the Latino Community Justice Center, which served the communities of East Los Angeles and beyond from 1987 until 1991.

### Scope and Content

The Latino Community Justice Center Records are comprised of 175 case files from the Center, dating from 1987-1991. Each file contains documents relating to a claim of misconduct/abuse on the part of either a police or sheriffs department in the Los Angeles area or the Immigration and Naturalization Service (I.N.S.). Most files contain a citizen's complaint declaration, a questionnaire and a description of the incident(s) of misconduct or abuse. Some files contain correspondence from the Center and from the various police or sheriffs departments involved. One administrative file containing correspondence regarding a copier machine lease is also included in this Collection.

### Arrangement

The collection is divided into 2 series: 1. Case Files, 1988-1991 and 2. Administrative Files, 1987-1989.

### Arrangement

The collection has been arranged alphabetically according to clients' last names.

### Separated Material

No items have been removed from this Collection.

**Title:** Los Angeles Committee for Protection of Foreign Born Records,

**Date (inclusive):** 1938-1973;

**Physical Description:** 5 2/3 linear feet

**Title:** Myerson vs. City of Los Angeles Records,

**Date (inclusive):** 1971-1985;

**Physical Description:** 2 1/3 linear feet

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**Title:** Urban Policy Research Institute Records,

**Date (inclusive):** 1970-1985;

**Physical Description:** 48 cubic feet

**Title:** Christopher Commission Report on the LAPD,

**Date (inclusive):** July 1991

**Title:** *State of Emergency: Inside the Los Angeles Police Department*, Elizabeth Canner and Julia Meltzer,

**Date:** 1993,

**Location:** Video Collection # 233

Domanick, Joe. *To Protect and Serve: LAPD's Century Long War in the City of Dreams*, New York: Pocket Books, 1994.

Herbert, Joe. *Policing Space: Territoriality and the Los Angeles Police Department*, Minneapolis, Minn.: University of Minnesota Press, 1997.

Series 1. **Case Files, 1988-1991**

**Physical Description:** 175 folders

**Scope and Content Note**

This series is comprised of case files from the Latino Community Justice Center, arranged alphabetically by client's last name. These files contain materials such as citizen complaint declarations, incident descriptions, questionnaires, correspondence from various police and sheriffs departments, correspondence from the Latino Community Justice Center, claims for damages, prisoner and bail receipts, and "Action Sheets", which the Center used to document the progress of these cases.

Series 2. **Administrative Files, 1987-1989**

**Physical Description:** 1 folder

**Scope and Content Note**

This series includes correspondence regarding a copier machine lease.