



**Agenda**  
**County of Sonoma**  
**Commission on Human Rights – Regular Meeting**

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**Tuesday, April 22, 2025**

**5:30PM**

**Hybrid**

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**First District:** Howard Sapper, Maria Barakat (Leave of Absence), Daniel H Sohn

**Second District:** Nichole Warwick (Vice Chair)

**Third District:** Katrina Phillips (Chair), Liz Cruz Reyes (Officer-at-Large)

**Fourth District:** Irmina Benson, Cecilia Sofranko

**Fifth District:** Lyndsey Burcina, Nick Thayer, Susan Hirsch

**Meeting Information:**

The April 22, 2025, Commission on Human Rights Meeting will be facilitated in person.

Members of the public can watch, listen, or join the meeting using one of the three following methods:

**1. Join in person:**

Human Resources Large Training Room  
575 Administration Drive, Suite 117C, Santa Rosa, CA 95403  
Limited seating is available for public participants.

**2. Join virtually via Zoom:**

Participate by computer, table, or smartphone application. Go to:  
<https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/j/99356615285?pwd=UUISNIIDQkUvTitzTWQ5bnNkL2NBUT09>  
Webinar ID: 993 5661 5285  
Passcode: 575862

**3. Join in Zoom by telephone:**

Dial +1 (669) 900 9128  
Webinar ID: 993 5661 5285  
Passcode: 575862

**Instructions for the Public:**

In accordance with AB 361, Governor Newsom’s March 4, 2020 State of Emergency due to COVID-19 pandemic, Sonoma County Public Health Officer’s Recommendation for Teleconference Meetings, and the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors Resolution 21-0399, the Commission on Human Rights meetings will be facilitated using a dual format with listening and participation available through Zoom and in person.

**Agendas and Materials:** Agendas and most supporting materials are available on the Commission’s website at <https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/Human-Rights/Calendar/> Due to legal, copyright, privacy or policy considerations, not all materials are posted online. **Materials that are not posted will be available directly from the Commission at [chr@sonoma-county.org](mailto:chr@sonoma-county.org).**

**Disabled Accommodation:** If you have a disability which requires an accommodation, an alternative format, or requires another person to assist you while attending this meeting, please contact the Deputy Clerk at (707) 565-1851, as soon as possible to ensure arrangements for accommodation.

**Approval of the Consent Calendar:** The Consent Calendar includes routine financial and administrative actions that are usually approved by a single majority vote. There will be no discussion on these items prior to voting on the motion unless Commission Members request specific items be discussed and/or removed from the Consent Calendar.

**Public Comment:** Any member of the audience desiring to address the Commission on a matter on the agenda: Members of the public are invited to join this meeting via Zoom teleconferencing. In order that all interested parties have an opportunity to speak, please be brief and limit your comments to the subject under discussion. Each person is usually granted three minutes to speak; time limitations are at the discretion of the Chair. While members of the public are welcome to address the Commission, under the Brown Act, Commission members may not deliberate or take any action on items not on the agenda, and generally may only listen.

**Commitment to Civil Engagement:** All are encouraged to engage in respectful dialog that supports freedom of speech and values diversity of opinion. Commissioners, Staff, and the public are encouraged to:

- Create an atmosphere of respect and civility where Commissioners, County Staff, and the Public are free to express their ideas within the time and content parameters established by the Brown Act and CHR's standard Parliamentary procedures (Robert's Rules of Order);
- Establish and maintain a cordial and respectful atmosphere during discussions;
- Foster meaningful dialogue free of attacks of a personal nature and/or attacks based on age, (dis)ability, class, education level, gender, gender identity, occupation, race and/or ethnicity, sexual orientation;
- Listen with an open mind to all information, including dissenting points of view, regarding issues presented to the Commission;
- Recognize it is sometimes difficult to speak at meetings, and out of respect for each person's perspective, allow speakers to have their say without comment or body gestures, including booing, whistling, or clapping.

**I. Call To Order – Mission Statement – Roll Call – Phillips**

**II. Community Spotlight**

This month's community spotlight is Princess Brianna Thea Caradja presenting on the work she is doing internationally to support the mission of Human Rights.

**III. State of California Civil Rights Conflict Resolution Unit Presentation**

Kendra Tanancea and Marquez will educate the Commission on their work and provide resources.

**IV. Consent Items– Phillips**

1. Approval of the March 25, 2025, meeting minutes.

**V. Openings and appointments– Phillips**

1. Openings – two (2) in the Second District, one (1) in the Third District, and one (1) in the Fourth District.

**VI. Public Comment on Non-Agendized Items – Phillips**

Public comment is limited to **two** minutes per topic or **four** minutes when using interpretation services.

**VII. Officer Reports and Administrative Updates**

Officers and Staff to discuss administrative-related matters including, but not limited to, field trip ideas and speaker coordination.

1. Fiscal year ends June 30, 2025, but please submit all reimbursements by June 6<sup>th</sup>.
2. Nominations for Officers occurring on May 27, 2025
3. Strategic planning meeting occurring on May 27, 2025

**VIII. Ad Hoc Committee and Project Committee Updates**

Commissioners to provide reports and/or updates from the work being done by their ad hoc committee(s) and/or project committee(s).

1. Sonoma County Human Rights Visibility Project 2.0
2. Housing and Homelessness
3. Disability Justice
4. Racial Equity and Social Justice Framework
5. Adult Prom
6. Youth Commission on Human Rights

**IX. Regular Calendar – Discussion and possible action on items below**

1. **Pride Resolution-** Phillips  
Review the content and vote on the resolution
2. **Youth Commission Resolution-** Cruz Reyes  
Review the content and vote on the resolution
3. **Kathleen Finigan Award -**Phillips  
Seeking a committee of 2 or 3 Commissioners to work on this project with Staff.
4. **Endorsing Community United to Resist Fascism (CURF) Statement of Purpose**  
Review the language of the statement and possibly endorse it.

**X. Additional Agenda Items for The Next Commission Meeting– Phillips**

**XI. Adjournment**

**DRAFT MINUTES**  
**COUNTY OF SONOMA**  
**COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS – REGULAR MEETING**

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**Tuesday, March 25, 2025**

**5:30PM**

**Hybrid**

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**Commissioners Present:**

**First District:** Howard Sapper (Officer-at-Large)\*, Daniel H. Sohn

**Second District:** Nichole Warwick (Vice Chair)

**Third District:** Katrina Phillips (Chair), Liz Cruz Reyes (Officer-at-Large)

**Fourth District:** Cecilia Sofranko

**Fifth District:** Nick Thayer, Susan Hirsch

**Commissioners Absent:**

**First District:** Maria Barakat (Leave of Absence)

**Fourth District:** Irmina Benson

**Fifth District:** Lyndsey Burcina

\*Commissioner Sapper attended via Zoom per AB2449 late. He arrived late at approximately at 5:35pm and left early at approximately at 6:58pm.

**Meeting held virtually and in person.**

**I. Call To Order – Mission Statement – Roll Call – Phillips**

Meeting called to order by Chair Phillips at 5:32PM. Roll call taken by Staff.

**II. Youth Commission Educational Project Presentation**

The Youth Commission presented on their four ad hocs and projects.

- **Fentanyl Awareness**

This ad hoc plans on hosting an event at the Arlene Center to educate the youth of fentanyl.

- **Immigration & Education**

This ad hoc is focusing on bringing forth a resolution that would assure Sonoma County students and parents of their right to education, without discrimination.

- **Gaza**

This ad hoc is promoting awareness and fundraising for victims of Human Rights Violations in Gaza.

- **Food security**

This ad hoc is working with restaurants to haul food to VOICES Youth Program-Supports foster, probation, and homeless youth access to services in Sonoma County.

**III. Consent Items- Phillips**

1. Approval of the January 28, 2025 meeting minutes

Motion to approve the January 28, 2025 meeting minutes. No Public Comment.

Motion: Commissioner Sofranko  
Second: Commissioner Thayer

Ayes: 6  
Absent:3

Noes: 0  
Abstained: 2

Commissioner Barakat (Leave of Absence), Benson and Burcina were absent. Commissioner Hirsch abstained as she was recently appointed to the Commission. Chair Phillips abstained as Chair. Motion passed.

#### **IV. Openings and Appointments – Phillips**

1. Staff performed Commissioner Hirsch’s oath of office.
2. Chair Phillips announced two (2) opening in the Second District, one (1) opening in the Third District and one (1) in the Fourth District.

#### **V. Public Comment on Non-Agendized Items- Phillips**

No Public Comment.

#### **VI. Officers report and Administrative Updates.**

Officers and Staff to discuss administrative-related matters including, but not limited to, field trip ideas and speaker coordination.

1. Staff reminded everyone to use their allocated funds because the fiscal year ends June 30<sup>th</sup>.
2. Commissioner Cruz Reyes announced different tabling events opportunities: Santa Rosa Pride, Juneteenth, Social Justice on April 18<sup>th</sup> from 9-2, Cinco de Mayo, and Earth Day on April 20<sup>th</sup> was added by Commissioner Thayer.

#### **VII. Ad Hoc Committee and Project Committee Updates**

1. **Youth Commission Project** attended a Petaluma High School Club meeting and discovered that the focus of the students was on Gaza, ice and immigration, freedom of speech, and the right to bear arms.
2. **Sonoma County Visibility Project** is seeking a new program manager to lead the project. In the 5-year period, the most reporting occurs from 12pm-6pm and in October. The library and in the jail are the two most mentioned locations.

#### **VIII. Regular Calendar**

##### **1. Commissioner Service Acknowledgement**

Chair Phillips read the resolution honoring Isabel Lopez for her years of service on the Commission on Human Rights. Motion to approve the resolution as written. No Public Comment.

Motion: Commissioner Sohn  
Second: Commissioner Sofranko

Ayes: 5  
Absent:4

Noes: 0  
Abstained: 2

Commissioner Barakat (Leave of Absence), Benson and Burcina were absent. Commissioner Sapper left early. Commissioner Thayer abstained. Chair Phillips abstained as Chair. Motion passed.

##### **2. Pledge Invitation**

John Trombetta and Monica with Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) seek support from the Commission to ratify a pledge “Protect and Resist to Stand Up for Human Rights” on behalf of all Sonoma County constituents who value human rights. The Commission voiced their concern about the language of the pledge and how the way it’s written, it doesn’t align with the Commission’s mission. The Commission agreed to not ratify the pledge instead individual Commissioners can do so representing themselves. No action was taken.

**3. Immigration and Sanctuary Support**

Commissioner Cruz Reyes read the draft of the talking points. Recommendation in editing “we stand” to “we reference.” The Commission discussed and agreed on the talking points and suggested to release the talking points as a statement. Two motions were taken.

1. Motion to approve the talking points for commissioners to use when talking on immigration and sanctuary support.

No Public Comment

Motion: Commissioner Sohn                      Ayes: 6              Noes: 0  
Second: Commissioner Sofranko              Absent:4              Abstained: 1  
Commissioner Barakat (Leave of Absence), Benson and Burcina were absent.  
Commissioner Sapper left early. Chair Phillips abstained as Chair. Motion passed.

2. Motion to release a statement of the talking points.

No Public Comment

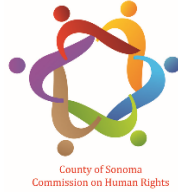
Motion: Commissioner Warwick                      Ayes: 6              Noes: 0  
Second: Commissioner Cruz Reyes              Absent:4              Abstained: 1  
Commissioner Barakat (Leave of Absence), Benson and Burcina were absent.  
Commissioner Sapper left early. Chair Phillips abstained as Chair. Motion passed.

**IX. Additional Agenda Items for the Next Commission Meeting – Phillips**

No items were mentioned.

**X. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.



## 2025 Sonoma County Pride Month Resolution

**Whereas**, there are currently 569 Anti-LGBTQ+ bills as of April 11, 2025, and while not all will pass, it is frightening and disheartening that people dedicate so much time and money on hate;

**Whereas**, the AIDS crisis was devastating in Sonoma County, with a critical spike in 1987 as we had one of the highest rates in California, we are still feeling the ripples of those who passed away from AIDS, individuals affected, their caretakers, our pride and progress is here,

**Whereas**, Sonoma County's LGBTQ community protested for visibility and care during the AIDS crisis, after four decades of progress, we are still here due to the sacrifices of those we have lost and those who have tenderly cared for a future where homophobia does not exist,

**Whereas**, we acknowledge mental health challenges and risks that LGBTQ+ youth and adults may face including, high suicide rates for transgender individuals, attacks on personal safety, hate crimes, family rejection, cultural stigmas and homophobic slurs,

**Whereas**, we call for unity to protect transgender community members, as we honor the 57th anniversary of Marsha P. Johnson leading the 1969 Stonewall Riots in New York City,

**Whereas**, we are still fighting for a brighter future, as the 2024 Youth Truth surveys estimate that a quarter of high school students at Sonoma County schools face bullying due to homophobia,

**Whereas**, despite the challenges, our joy and pride persists as Sonoma County is strengthening youth to be proudly themselves, where 4% of high schoolers identify as transgender and 21% do not identify as heterosexual,

**Whereas**, Sonoma County has a vivacious LGBTQ community spanning decades of achievements and personal contributions, our presence has persevered,

**Whereas**, LGBTQIA2S+ folx are joyful, loving, resilient and uplifting members of Sonoma County's fabric, we are here and our joy persists,

**Whereas**, in spite of hatred, we call for the protection of human rights, liberation and rest for our LGBTQIA2S+ sisters, brothers and siblings, as nobody should be afraid to love or be loved,

**Whereas**, local organizations such as the Arlene Francis Center, West County Community Services, Rainbow Cattle Company, Positive Images, Amor Para Todos, LGBTQ Sonoma, Face2Face, LGBTQI History, Buckelew, the Living Room, and the Sonoma County Libraries have been supporting and championing LGBTQ+ rights in Sonoma County,

**Let it be known that** the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors with the Commission on Human Rights supports LGBTQIA2S+ Rights, and the Behavioral Health of those suffering from Federal hardships and harassment.

## References

Barnard, Cornell. 2024. "‘We Were Here’: Sonoma Co. Historians Look to Preserve LGBTQ History in North Bay." ABC7 San Francisco. June 30, 2024. <https://abc7news.com/post/pride-month-sonoma-county-historians-look-preserve-lgbtq/15011011/>.

Lindsey, Robert. 1987. Review of A CALIFORNIA COUNTY STRUGGLES as AIDS MOVES beyond the CITY. New York Times, February 16, 1987. <https://www.nytimes.com/1987/02/16/us/a-california-county-struggles-as-aids-moves-beyond-the-city.html>.

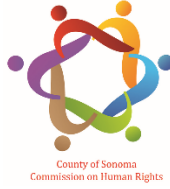
NAMI Sonoma County. 2019. "NAMI Family Support Group (in Person)." NAMI Sonoma County. July 2, 2019. <https://namisonomacounty.org/your-journey/identity-and-cultural-dimensions/for-lgbtq/>.

"About HIV and AIDS - Face to Face | Sonoma County." Face to Face | Sonoma County. 2022. <https://f2f.org/about-hiv-and-aids/>.

"#Out4MentalHealth." n.d. California LGBTQ Health & Human Services Network. <https://californialgbtqhealth.org/about-us/out4mentalhealth/>.

"Sonoma County YouthTruth." 2025. Surveyresults.org. 2025. <https://youthtruth.surveyresults.org/public/#/reports/76008/sections/2422205>.





## **Sonoma County Youth Commissioners on Human Rights Acknowledgement Resolution**

**Whereas**, the Sonoma County Youth Commission on Human Rights (formerly known as Junior Commission on Human Rights) has engaged high school youth in education and activism around human rights issues within Sonoma County since 2013,

**Whereas**, the Junior/Youth Commission on Human Rights has mentored and provided human rights education for over 100 students, many of whom are still providing human rights services, education, advocacy and leadership within their communities across the country,

**Whereas**, the Youth Commission on Human Rights was developed to provide an opportunity for youth to foster leadership skills by educating their peers, develop a voice for advocacy, and bring awareness to human rights issues affecting members of our community,

**Whereas**, Youth Commissioners are human rights students, advocates and leaders representing schools like Maria Carillo, Sonoma Academy, Casa Grande, Rancho Cotate, Cardinal Newman, Sonoma Valley, Petaluma, Credo, Tech and Piner High Schools,

**Whereas**, Youth Commissioners dedicate an academic year to meet about once a month for field trips, to listen to local speakers, connect with community groups and to work on their human rights ad hoc projects,

**Whereas**, Youth Commissioners are leaders of their own ad hoc projects and choose their focuses for the year, giving them the opportunity to lead groups of peers and pursue their interests unimpeded by external influence,

**Whereas**, it is crucial to encourage our community and people's power against human rights violations, and youth are actively shaping our future in spaces where they are re-empowered,

**Whereas**, Youth Commissioners continue to bring awareness to human rights issues, provide a youth perspective to human rights in our county and exemplify extraordinary service to the community, Youth Commissioners have provided Sonoma County with countless hours of volunteerism through project meetings and supporting local human rights events,

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved**, that the Board of Supervisors, recognizes the significant service by the Sonoma County Youth Commissioners on Human Rights, whose passion, curiosity and initiative lead the wave for a positive human rights change in the world.



## COMMUNITY UNITED TO RESIST FASCISM STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

We come together to safeguard the equal and inalienable rights and inherent dignity of all people that is the foundation of the relationship between a government and its people, because we recognize that those rights and dignity are under threat from the Trump administration.

Our humanity calls us to pledge to protect all community members and resist all undemocratic and inhumane practices in alignment with our commitment to inclusivity, respect, and dignity.

Therefore, we will resist and refuse to cooperate with any demands from the federal government to support detentions, deportations, registries, conversion therapies, imprisonment or any other acts that target or discriminate based on immigration status, race ethnicity, religion, country of origin, ability, political affiliation, economic status, age, gender-identity or sexual orientation. We expect the same from our representatives at every level of government.

With these guiding principles, we will work to bring together groups, organizations, businesses, and individuals to plan actions and programs which promote

- Elections free from corporate donations;
- The Constitutionally-guaranteed separation of federal government powers;
- Equal voting rights and bodily autonomy;
- Protection of social programs and agencies designed to promote equity;
- Protection of the social safety net, including, but not limited to Social Security, Medicare, Disability Insurance, Medicaid, Veterans Administration, and Workers' Compensation;
- Uplifting of all marginalized communities through diversity, pluralism and multiculturalism;
- The U.S. Constitution's Bill of Rights, protecting individual rights and freedoms, including the separation of church and state, freedom of speech, and freedom of assembly.

We seek broad inclusion of local communities and organizations in the planning of what might become a series of protests, direct actions, marches, and cultural events.

We embrace a process of consensus, horizontal leadership, and group autonomy as we create a coalition of resistance for bold, big, sustained actions in May and beyond. Let's stand up together, throw off fascism and create a just society.

The Peace & Justice Center of Sonoma County  
[may3rd@pjcsoco.org](mailto:may3rd@pjcsoco.org) ~ 707-575-8902

You Are a Crucial Member of the  
Sonoma County Resistance Coalition

**Join**  
**SoCoRESIST!**



scan QR Code  
or email: [socoresist@proton.me](mailto:socoresist@proton.me)  
Sign on to SoCoRESIST! Today

***Together in Solidarity***  
***towards Justice & Democracy!***

# **Santa Rosa Protests: MAY 1<sup>st</sup> thru the 5<sup>th</sup>**

COMMUNITY UNITED to RESIST FASCISM or (CURF)

## **5 DAYS OF ACTION AND PROTEST!**

- **MAY 1<sup>ST</sup>**- 3pm -5pm International Workers' Day March calling for immigrant rights, May 1st Coalition starts at Sheriff's Office march downtown
- **MAY 2<sup>nd</sup>**, 11am & every Friday, Rally to Support Veterans, VA Clinic, 2285 Challenger Way, Santa Rosa,  
*Also, Evening Program, Arlene Francis Center, 99 6<sup>th</sup> St., Santa Rosa*
- **MAY 3<sup>RD</sup>** – ALL DAY CRITICAL MASS MARCH & RALLY – March starting early from multiple locations, joining up at a Free Speech Rally in Juilliard Park, bring your signs, friends, family and a picnic
- **MAY 4<sup>TH</sup>** – Palestine Solidarity Sunday 2pm -3:30pm, Old Court House Square
- **MAY 5<sup>TH</sup>** – Cinco de Mayo, visit city, state and federal offices, Drop Banners, street theater, do your thing.

**TOGETHER  
WE RISE**



For more info, time/location or  
to get involved contact  
The Peace & Justice Center  
[peace@pjcsoco.org](mailto:peace@pjcsoco.org) or call 707-575-8902

**Unite To Make Our Voices Heard**