

 OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY COUNSEL



MARY C. WICKHAM

2015 – 2020

Mary C. Wickham was appointed to the position of County Counsel in November 2015. She was the 15th County Counsel in the history of the office and the second woman to hold that position.

Ms. Wickham received her Bachelor of Arts in Public Administration in 1986 from the University of Southern California, Los Angeles and received her Juris Doctor in 1989 from the Whittier College School of Law, where she was a Merit Scholar and the Managing Editor of the law review.

Ms. Wickham began her career with the Office of County Counsel in November 1995 as a contract attorney with Auxiliary Legal Services, Inc. In 1998, she was appointed as a Deputy County Counsel. During her career with County Counsel, she advised on a variety of employment law matters. Ms. Wickham assisted in the development and implementation of the Policy of Equality for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and the creation of a unique equity infrastructure within that organization. She developed and implemented the County Policy of Equity (CPOE), including its centralized equity complaint reporting and investigatory program.

Ms. Wickham was appointed Acting Executive Director of the then newly created County Equity Oversight Panel in January 2013, and went on to become the Executive Director in May 2014. In that role, she oversaw all aspects of the Countywide workplace equity program and created Countywide and internal policies and practice manuals to ensure the successful operation of the CPOE program.

Two years later, she was appointed County Counsel, where she focused on forming teams and divisions to address Board-specific initiatives and directives. As a result, she created several new divisions within the office, including Affirmative Litigation and Consumer Protection, Appeals, and Board Liaison. She successfully navigated the office through the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, which required the office to address complex, novel health-related issues, pivot to remote Board hearings, and implement emergency telework immediately. Fortunately, due to Ms. Wickham's forethought, she had already rolled out a telework program several years earlier, which made the officewide transition easier. Ms. Wickham retired from County service in 2020 to serve as a Los Angeles County Court Commissioner.