



Los Angeles County
Sheriff's Department



Karen Dalton, Director
Custody Services Division

Karen Dalton is a Director for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. Assigned to the Custody Services Division, Specialized Programs, Director Dalton is responsible for the development and implementation of the Inmate Services Bureau. This consists of programs and services throughout all jail facilities.

As the Director for the Inmate Services Bureau, Dr. Dalton serves as an executive appointee to the Inmate Welfare Commission, a 10-member commission appointed by Sheriff Baca to make recommendations on the expenditures of the Inmate Welfare Fund. Revenues from the Inmate Welfare Fund are generated through inmate commissary, vending, and telephone contracts. In turn, those funds are spent on the welfare and benefit of the inmates. The Jail Enterprise Unit and Jail Mental Health Programs are also under the command of Dr. Dalton.

Karen earned her Doctor of Public Health degree from Loma Linda University, and her Master's and Bachelor's Degrees from California State University, Chico. Her areas of study focused on the health sciences, specifically looking at crime as a public health issue. Director Dalton has conducted research in the areas of perinatal substance abuse, and factors predicting recidivism in county jail inmates. She has been in the field of Corrections for over 20 years.

Director Dalton has been involved in developing reentry programs, gender responsive programs, and served as the Department's liaison for the Mental Health Services Act implementation. Dr. Dalton is a Certified Health Education Specialist and a Certified Jail Manager. She speaks throughout the country on issues pertaining to inmate education, rehabilitation and reentry. Karen is a published author on correctional education and public health.