LARRP June 2024 Newsletter

Restoring People! Rebuilding Community! Reshaping the Nation!



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In this Issue

LARRP Committee Meetings * LGBTQ & Pride month * Policy Updates * LARRP Is Growing * DOORS * May General Meeting Recap * Joe Paul Farewell* Featured Jobs and Opportunities * Partner Events *Reports * In the News *

This newsletter is packed with information. When you get to the place where it says "Message clipped" make sure to click "View entire message"

LARRP Meetings

Integrated Health Committee

June 3, 2024,
2:00-3:00 pm

Register Integrated Health

LARRP General Meeting

June 20, 2024
10:00 - 11:30am

Register General Meeting

Community Safety Committee

June 12, 2024
1:00-2:00 pm

Register Community Safety

Joint Education and Employment Committee Meeting

June 26, 2024
2:00-3:30pm

Register Joint Education and Employment

AV LARRP

June 18, 2024
11:00am-12:00 pm

Join Meeting - AV LARRP

Housing Committee

July 26, 2024
10:00-11:00am

Register Housing

June is LGBTQ and Pride month



For formerly incarcerated LGBTQ people, ***unique health care needs*** and ***ubiquitous discrimination*** compound and intersect with the thousands of barriers to reentry, presenting persistent challenges as people rebuild their lives after incarceration. Sexual minorities are incarcerated at a rate ***three times higher*** than the general U.S. incarceration rate, and transgender people are also incarcerated at disproportionate rates, with Black transgender women incarcerated at approximately ***10 times*** the rate of the general population incarceration rate.

This month we would love to uplift LARRP members and partners who are part of the LGBTQ+ reentry community, including service providers, advocates, researchers, government partners, and individuals in reentry. Please send any LGBTQ+ events, resources or collaboration ideas that you would like to be promoted to the LARRP community to ***Fiona@lareentry.org***



Advancing Transgender Justice Illuminating Trans Lives Behind and Beyond Bars

Vera Institute of Justice, February 20, 2024, By Kelsie Chesnut and Jennifer Peirce, Illustrated by Bea Hayward

Transgender people are especially at risk for contact with the criminal legal system and, once in detention, at risk of harassment and violence inside prison. According to a 2022 survey of LGBTQ+ people in the United States, 31 percent had been in some form of incarceration at some point in the last five years.

Read the Report

Policy Updates

Great News! LARRP's Co-Sponsored legislation AB 1810 (Bryan) passed the Assembly!



"Look no further than the commissary where we still sell menstrual pads because women who are incarcerated would rather pay the commissary than ask their jailer for what the state already should provide for them. What this bill does is it changes 'upon request' to 'readily available', aligning us with other states across the country that do not make access to menstrual care contingent upon you asking your jailer, but readily available for those who need it." Asm. Isaac Bryan speaking before the bill's passage, watch ***Bryan's speach on Instagram***

Bill 1810 info and Progress

Other LARRP Policy Priorities

LARRP is closely montoring 7 of our piority bills that are still active, ***AB 1810, AB 2740, SB 950, SB 987, SB 1069, SB 1133, SB 1254***. Stay tuned for updates and requests for letters, as these bills move through the State Legislature. Peep the graphic below to see the many stops a bill must make before becoming law.

Policy Priorities 2024

The Journey of an Assembly Bill



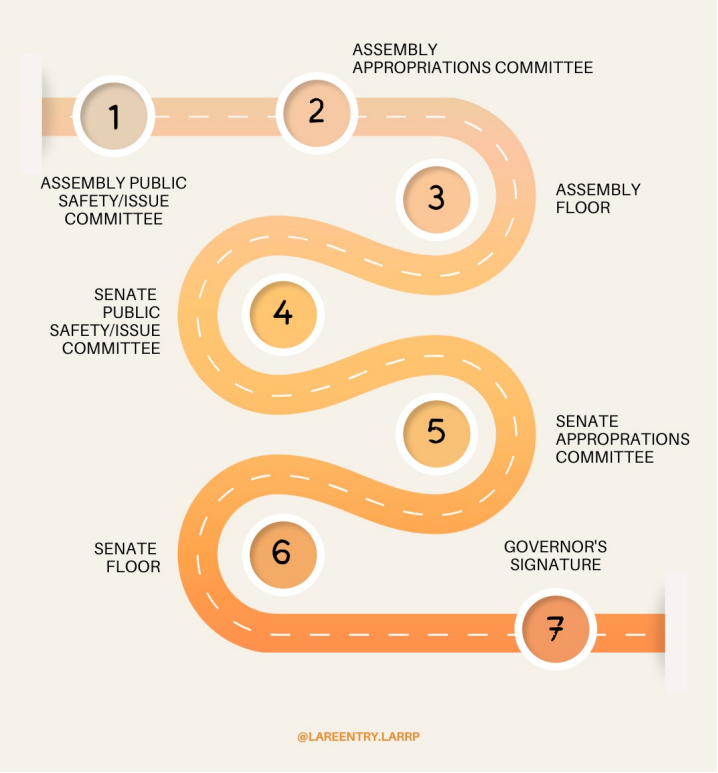
Take Action to support AB 1810 (Bryan): Submit a Support Letter to the Senate Public Safety Committee.

Now that AB 1810 (Bryan) has passed the Assembly, the bill will have its first hearing on the Senate side Tuesday, June 11th. **Letters of support must be submitted by Tuesday, June 4 the COB!**

Draft Language can be found ***HERE***

SUBMIT your letter of support here

Make sure to select “support” under position, and ensure the “Senate Public Safety Committee” is selected as its designated recipient.



Fair Chance Housing

We are working with the City of LA City Council to fight for a Fair Chance Housing ordinance, and are looking for folks who live in the City of LA who can speak to their struggles and experiences with being denied housing due to their conviction history. Join the effort to push for stronger and more resilient protections for housing applicants who have conviction records. Please contact ***charles@lareentry.org*** with any questions

LARRP is growing!

LARRP welcomes two exceptional new hires



Our new Program Coordinator for the TAY LEADERS Training Academy**,** Betty Mills, is a LARRP LEADER Alumnus (Cohort 2), who is a passionate advocate for criminal justice reform and brings a wealth of experience and educational accomplishments to the job. Released from prison ten years ago, Betty now has a BA in Criminology, is pursuing her MPA, and has been supporting crucial reentry work at the Prison Education Project and the Reintegration Academy. Betty brings her dedication to education, diversity, and equity to her new



Our new Director of Community and Fund Development, **Nicholas Fisher,** brings years of experience in growing budgets and programs with leading youth advocacy organizations Children's Fund and CASA. Nicholas's expertise in expanding resources for system-involved youth and his years of social justice advocacy will be invaluable in expanding LARRP's network and advancing our mission to strengthen the

role where she will empower and equip LARRP's new Transitional Age Youth (TAY) LEADERS Training Academy.

reentry sector to help our loved ones come home with dignity and services.

Welcome to the LARRP family Betty and Nicholas!

D.O.O.R.S. The one-stop shop for reentry in Los Angeles



D.O.O.R.S. provides supportive services to address and assist the reentry community and their families. These services are provided in a welcoming environment by County partners and community-based organizations that are leaders in reentry and experienced professionals with high-risk communities.

Services offered include:

- housing
- employment
- educational
- services
- legal aid
- mental health assessments
- healing through the arts
- substance use health and counseling.



DOORS Fact Sheet

Información en español

Located at: 3965 Vermont Ave., LA
Hours: Monday-Thursday in office hours 8 am-4 pm and closed for lunch 12 pm-1 pm

The Recap: May General Meeting

Grounding Us In Our Space

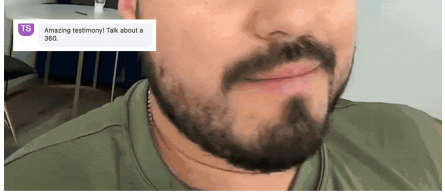
LARRP opens every General Meeting with a justice impacted person telling their story, reminding us why we do what we do!!







Watch the Full May General Meeting



"Two years ago, I was in prison with a life sentence. Today, I'm an ARC member and work as a tutor and mentor with Amity for the Hollywood CPR program, a film school through West LA College. I'm excited because it's something I never thought I could achieve." - Angel Isarraras

Is there something you would like to learn or have discussed on our next General Meeting? Let us know! Email your ideas to ***info@lareentry.org***

Where was LARRP in May?





LARRP's Evelyn Garcia at the 2nd Chance Job Fair & Resource Expo

LARRP was out and about staffing Resource Fairs throughout the county!

- **Los Angeles Mission Cinco de Mayo Fiesta Resource Fair** - May 3
- **2nd Chance Job Fair & Resource Expo** May 8
- **2nd Chance Job Fair & Resource Expo** - May 16
- **A New Way of Life Legal Clinic** at DOORS LA - May 22
- **Five Keys Graduation** at D.O.O.R.S. LA - May 23



Joe Paul Farewell



This month we are sad to say goodbye to our VP of Network Partnerships and Government Relations Elder Joe Paul. Joe Paul is a seasoned reentry professinoal with 3 decades of working with formerly incarcerated people and other high risk communites. Since he joined LARRP in 2018, Elder Paul helped launch and lead LARRP's Voter Engagement Committee, the Faith Committee, and the Community Safety Committee, in addition to working with the Governor's office to help form a statewide version of the LARRP network. We celebrate and congratulate Joe Paul as he embarks on a new chapter in his career. His innovative ideas and tireless dedication have significantly advanced our mission, and his legacy will continue to inspire us. Thank you, Joe, for your incredible work and for being a part of our LARRP family for 6 years!

Featured Jobs

A New Way of Life

ANWOL the Following Jobs open:

- ***Accounting Analyst – A New Way of Life***
- ***Supervising Staff Attorney (Legal Expungement Clinic) – A New Way of Life***
- ***Social Worker (Family Reunification) – A New Way of Life***
- ***Staff Attorney (Legal Expungement Clinic) – A New Way of Life***
- ***Real Estate Asset Manager – A New Way of Life***
- ***LCSW Social Worker – A New Way of Life***



LARRP Is Hiring!!!

Join Our Team!

One Full Time Jobs is Still Available:
Program Assistant

Don't miss out! Upcoming events in JUNE

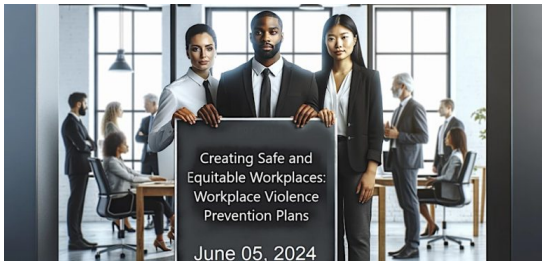
Proposition 1 Webinar

June 3rd, 2:00pm
Learn about California's newly passed Proposition 1 at an informational webinar, Mental Health for ALL: California's Behavioral Health Transformation, on Monday, June 3rd, 2024, at 2:00pm. Representatives from the following state agencies and departments will provide an overview of its provisions, major milestones, and where to learn more:

- California Department of Health and Human Services Agency (CalHHS)
- Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)
- Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD)
- California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet)

Advance registration **is required**
Please reach out to Julia Csernansky at ***j.csernansky@csus.edu*** if you experience difficulties when registering. Inquiries about Proposition 1/Behavioral Health Transformation may be sent to

BHTinfo@dhcs.ca.gov.





ANWOL Legal Clinic at DOORS

June 12, 2024
10:00am-3:00pm
3965 S Vermont Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90037
3rd Floor Reception: 323.730.4442

This month's in-person clinic will feature free LiveScan services and special guest Public Counsel Audrey Irmas Gender Justice Project Workplace Rights Advice Clinic.

Creating Safe and Equitable Workplaces:
Workplace Violence Prevention Plans and Ban the Box

June 05, 2024, 8:30 - 10am
New legislation at the state and local level requires many California employers to make critical changes in the operation of their businesses pertaining to their workplace safety and hiring practices. This presentation will focus on key points under the new Workplace Violence Protection Plan requirements going into effect July 1, 2024 and updated “Ban the Box” requirements
Presented by Aspen Ferber-Paxson, Associate Attorney, Lewitt Hackman Shapiro Marshall & Harlan

Buy Tickets Here



Country Charm Resource Fair
June 6, 2024, 2pm - 5pm
45111 Fern Avenue Lancaster, CA 93534
Join us for an afternoon of country charm, good food and line dancing fun! Learn about resources dedicated to supporting the justice-impacted community. Guest of Honor: Judge Songhai Armstead (Ret.), JCOD Director

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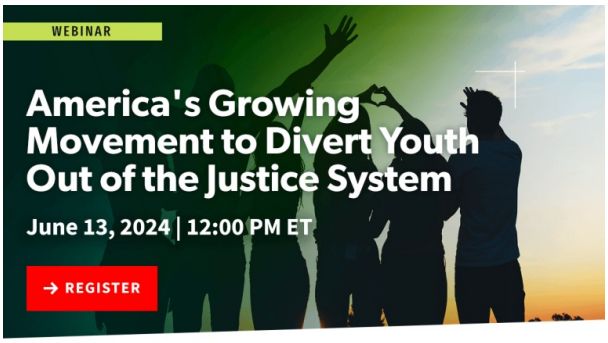


Webinar: America’s Growing Movement to Divert Youth Out of the Justice System
Jun 13, 2024 09:00 am
Please join he Sentencing Project for a webinar highlighting the importance of diversion as well as strategies for states and localities to expand diversion opportunities and reduce disparities at this critical stage of the juvenile court process.
More Info and register



DOORS Client Celebration & Summer Kick Off
June 20th, 2024





Father's Day CARE:

June 9, from 12pm to 4 pm
Earvin "Magic" Johnson Community Center,
905 E. El Segundo Blvd., 90059
JOCD Event Celebrating Advocacy, Resilience and Empathy, designed to honor justice-involved fathers and their families, providing an afternoon of celebration, support, resources, food, and entertainment.
RSVP (Free)

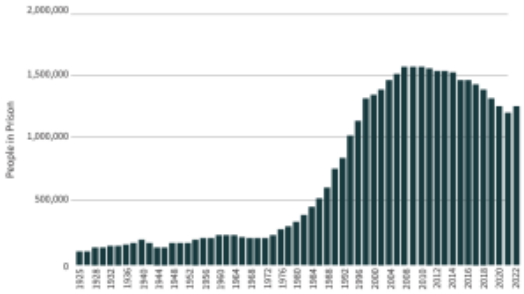


4th Annual Juneteenth Celebration & Resource Fair

Friday, June 21, 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm Victoria Community Regional Park
419 Martin Luther King Jr. St, Carson, CA 90746

Join Los Angeles County Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell for a celebration featuring music, food trucks, live performances, access to County services and resources, fun activities and more! All residents are welcome to attend this FREE
Register

Featured Reports



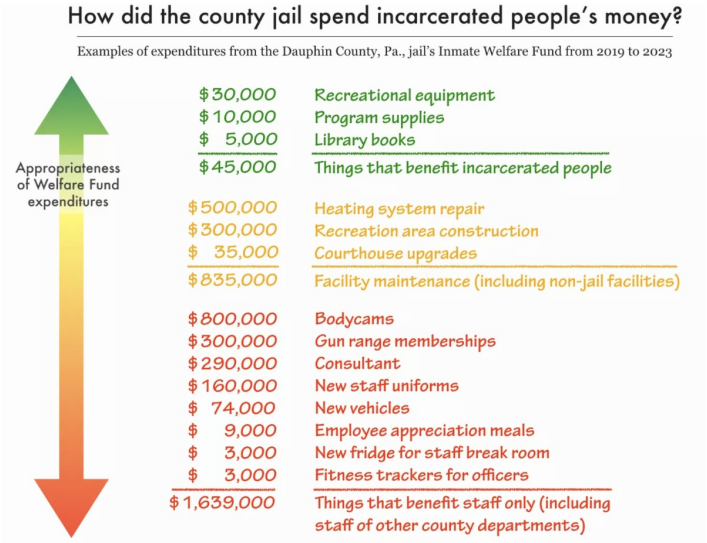
Mass Incarceration Trends (New Update)

The Sentencing Project, By Ashley Nellis, Ph.D., May 21, 2024
Report findings include:

- Nearly two million people are living in prisons and jails instead of their communities. Compare this figure to the early 1970s when this count was 360,000 people.
- Black men are six times as likely to be incarcerated as white men and Latinx men are 2.5 times as likely.
- One in 7 people in prison has a life sentence.
- 4.4 million Americans are barred from voting due to laws restricting this right for those with felony convictions.

The social, moral, and fiscal costs associated with the large-scale, decades-long investment in mass imprisonment cannot be justified by evidence of its effectiveness. Misguided changes in sentencing law and policy – not crime – account for the majority of the increase in correctional supervision.

Read Report



Shadow Budgets: How mass incarceration steals from the poor to give to the prison

Prison Policy Initiative, By Brian Nam-Sonenstein,

May 6, 2024
Revenues from communication fees, commissary purchases, disciplinary fines, and more flow into "Inmate Welfare Funds" meant to benefit incarcerated populations. However, our analysis of prison systems across the U.S. reveals that they are used more like slush funds that, in many cases, make society's most vulnerable people pay for prison operations, staff salaries, benefits, and more.

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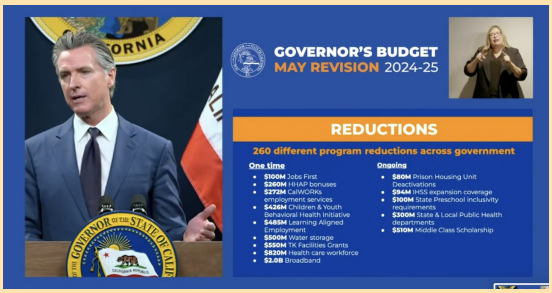
In the News - June 2024

Featured News Article



Advocates Say CA Governor Should Address Budget Deficit By Closing More Prisons

WitnessLA, May 17, 2024 by Taylor Walker
Faced with a budget deficit of approximately $56 billion over the next two years, California Governor Gavin Newsom has proposed, in his May budget revision, significant cuts to spending on homelessness prevention programs and affordable housing, CalWORKS, child care, education, public health, and climate programs. The governor stressed that he was filling the budget gaps without "proposing new taxes on hardworking Californians and small businesses."
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Juvenile hall fight videos raise question: Can L.A. County probation reports be trusted?

LA Times, By James Queally, May 30, 2024
The report from L.A. County probation officer Tanesha Brooks described a series of fights during breakfast inside Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall last December. One teenager, she wrote, got into eight separate altercations in just seven minutes. But key details were missing from the document
Read More



Potential tough-on-crime ballot measure promises less homelessness. Experts aren't convinced

CALMatters, By Marisa Kendall And Yue Stella Yu, May 20, 2024
The initiative proponents are calling the "Homelessness, Drug Addiction, and Theft Reduction Act" would increase penalties for some drug and theft crimes, by rolling back Proposition 47 — the criminal justice changes California voters passed a decade ago. It also would force some people arrested three or more times for drug crimes into treatment. But where does homelessness factor into this tough-on-crime measure?
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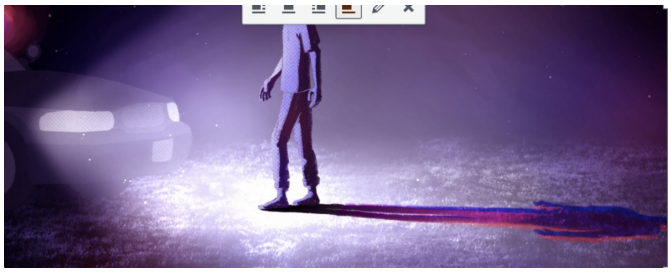
Yes, Criminal Justice Reform Is Still a 'Thing,' and It Might Be Yours | Opinion

Newsweek, By Marc A. Levin, Chief Policy Counsel for the Council on Criminal Justice, May 29, 2024



Nearly A Third Of LAPD Shootings Since 2017 Involved A Person In A Mental Health Crisis

The LAist By Robert Garrova, May 21, 2024
The Los Angeles Police Department has said for decades it was doing more to de-escalate confrontations with people struggling with mental illness, but an LAist analysis has found little change in recent years.

for the Council on Criminal Justice, May 29, 2024
As President Joe Biden and former President Donald Trump prepare for their first debate, one commonality is that each has in some contexts backed criminal justice "reform." Biden is enumerating his executive actions on policing and touting billions made available for violence prevention. Trump embraced his signing of the First Step Act in a Super Bowl ad and more recently on the campaign trail in portraying himself to Black voters as someone who understands what it is like to be a victim of the criminal justice system.

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Debunking the Myth of the 'Migrant Crime Wave'

Brennan Center for Justice, by Brianna Seid, Rosemary Nidiry, Ram Subramanian, May 29, 2024
The research does not support the view that immigrants commit crime or are incarcerated at higher rates than native-born Americans. In fact, immigrants might have less law enforcement contact compared to nonimmigrants. Focusing on the facts is imperative, especially given that immigration has become a top issue for voters ahead of the election.

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Four years later, has the racial-justice movement lost the fight?

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L.A.'s accidental homelessness 'czar'? U.S. District Judge David O. Carter

LA Times, By Doug Smith, May 17, 2024
It's an idea that always beguiles but never delivers. Why can't L.A. have a homelessness "czar," a single person with the power to corral and direct the hodgepodge of agencies, as well as bridge the political divides that stymie government's best intentions?

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LA County Probation Puts 66 Officers On Leave Pending Disciplinary Investigations

WitnessLA, May 13, 2024, by Celeste Fremon
According to the email sent by Chief Viera Rosa, the department has released the information "to regain public trust" in the nation's largest probation agency, "as it roots out employees who cultivate or contribute to a culture of violence, drug use, neglect and sexual misconduct," he wrote.

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California is spending more on fewer inmates

Washington Post, Perspective by Robert Samuels and Toluse Olorunnipa, May 25, 2024
Four years after George Floyd's murder, two Washington Post reporters reflect on the retrenchment of the racial-justice movement sparked by his death.

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Why LA County Is Spending $1.8M To House People Released From Jail With Nowhere To Go

The LAist, By Robert Garrova, May 24, 2024
The L.A. County Board Of Supervisors approved a plan this week to purchase a $1.84 million building across the street from the Men's Central Jail and turn it into interim housing for people who are leaving jail and have nowhere to go.The county plans to turn the building at 955 North Vignes Ave., which has 4,760 square feet of office space into accommodations for 10 to 15 beds and round-the-clock staff — part of its Warm Landing Place program. The move is in line with the county's larger "Care First, Jails Last" plan, which prioritizes jail diversion programs over incarceration.

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California is spending more on fewer inmates. Why isn't Newsom closing more prisons?

CALMatters By Nigel Duara, May 11, 2024
Gov. Gavin Newsom faces a huge deficit this spring, and he has one especially big money-saving option that he's not using. California's rapidly falling inmate population could allow Newsom to close as many as five more prisons, analysts say, saving $1 billion a year at a moment when he's pulling from reserves to bring the state budget into the black.

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New Book:
Excessive Punishment: How the Justice System Creates Mass Incarceration

Brennan Center Justice Program Senior Director Lauren-Brooke Eisen unpacks why our criminal legal system is so punitive. Excessive Punishment contains 38 essays, by 45 contributors — practitioners, activists, academics, and thought leaders — who contributed their critical voices to highlighting the harms of the status quo and providing valuable insight into how we can move toward a criminal legal system that is smaller, more effective, and more humane. All proceeds of book sales will go to the ***Women's Prison Association***

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