

**Statement of Bobby Shriver**  
**Announcement of Candidacy**  
**LA Board of Supervisors**  
**January 21, 2014**

Thank you for coming.

I am running for the Board of supervisors because I want to fix things, I want to shake things up at the county, to get it done, make it transparent, and get projects done on time and on budget. I am an entrepreneur and outsider not a career politician, and I am committed to solving tough problems in LA County.

I can do this because I have done it before. In Santa Monica we balanced every budget and retaining the city's AAA rating; I fought to build housing and services for homeless vets; and I led the effort to clean up the Santa Monica Bay so that kids do not get sick when they swim.

I served as Chairman of the California State Park and Recreation Commission and fought against a six-lane toll road that would have decimated San Onofre State Beach and Trestles surf break. We won and protected one of our great coastlines.

I co-founded DATA, ONE and (RED) to fight poverty and disease in Africa. These are successful entrepreneurial organizations. In Santa Monica, I helped cut red tape for restaurants, gyms and other small businesses. We need to help small businesses get started and create jobs.

I come from a family tradition of making a difference in people's lives. And let me tell you, Los Angeles County needs that difference.

- Homelessness in LA County has increased by 15% in the last two years. We have the nation's largest population of homeless veterans with 6,291 on a given night including women combat veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan.
- 18 top sheriff's deputies were recently indicted by the federal government for abuse and misconduct inside our jails.
- Employment in the County has dropped by over 200,000 jobs in the past twenty years. Working men and women have lost their homes.
- More than 30,000 children are now in foster care, including more than 7,500 under the age of two.
- Traffic and gridlock drives away business and steals time we could spend with

our families.

- The drought emergency underlines that Los Angeles County must protect its local water now.
- Millions depend upon the county for police and fire protection that must be modernized.
- Education and arts funding must be protected.

I am committed to tackling these tough issues with hard work, innovation and heart.

I will continue my ten-year effort to end homelessness among veterans in Los Angeles. Phoenix and Salt Lake City have literally ended homelessness among vets. So can we.

I will not settle for anything less than a rail line into LAX so that you can take rail to your flight and wheel your bag to check in. And I will fight for the Valley's fair share of transportation funding.

I will move the county government into the 21<sup>st</sup> century making it more transparent and accessible to voters with meetings throughout the county. I will make the public's access to information timely instead of putting them on hold.

I will bring citizen oversight to the Sheriff's Department bringing immediate and real reform.

I will make a single individual accountable for reforming our Foster care system as outlined by the Blue Ribbon Commission to save children's lives.

I will fight for a clean local water supply and work to reduce our reliance on imported water. We must begin to stop the disastrous effects of drought.

I cannot do any of this without your help. We are Los Angeles. Many of you make your living from your imaginations, we are the largest population of entrepreneurs in America. We can solve these problems. We are at a historic moment in Los Angeles: four of the five seats at the county board of supervisors will change in the next two years. It's time for fresh eyes on old problems, for measuring outcomes, for smarter financial plans and impatience with injustice.

We are made great by great work. In fact that is the only thing that matters, the work.

I want your vote. I want your neighbor's vote. I want to work with you to make our county great again.

Thank you.