Los Angeles County Medical Association's Coroner's Committee campaign records

Finding aid prepared by Brooke M. Black.
The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens
Manuscripts Department
The Huntington Library
1151 Oxford Road
San Marino, California 91108
Phone: (626) 405-2191
Email: reference@huntington.org
URL: http://www.huntington.org
© 2011
The Huntington Library. All rights reserved.
Descriptive Summary

Title: Los Angeles County Medical Association's Coroner's Committee campaign records
Inclusive Dates: 1950-1956
Collection Number: mssLACMA coroner committee
Creator OR Collector: Los Angeles County Medical Association. Coroner’s Committee
Extent: 152 items in two boxes.
Repository: The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens. Manuscripts Department
1151 Oxford Road
San Marino, California 91108
Phone: (626) 405-2191
Email: reference@huntington.org
URL: http://www.huntington.org
Abstract: Records from the Los Angeles County Medical Association's campaign to find a new coroner for Los Angeles County.
Language of Material: The records are in English.
Access
Open to qualified researchers by prior application through the Reader Services Department. For more information, contact Reader Services.
Publication Rights
The Huntington Library does not require that researchers request permission to quote from or publish images of this material, nor does it charge fees for such activities. The responsibility for identifying the copyright holder, if there is one, and obtaining necessary permissions rests with the researcher.
Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Los Angeles County Medical Association's Coroner's Committee campaign records, The Huntington Library, San Marino, California.
Acquisition Information
On long-term loan from the Los Angeles County Medical Association, 1992.
Biographical Note
In 1956, the Coroner's Committee of the Los Angeles County Medical Association ran a campaign to hire a new coroner for Los Angeles County and bring in a medical doctor to fill the position (medical examiner). In order to do this, the Coroner's Committee had to get a Los Angeles County Charter Amendment passed that stated that the Coroner shall be a physician who is a certified pathologist (LA County Charter Amendment "D"). The amendment also separated the office of the Coroner from the Public Administrator. The committee also wanted to change some policies regarding the Coroner's role and responsibilities in autopsies.
Arrangement
The collection is in the original arrangement done by LACMA.
Scope and Content
The collection contains the material the committee used in running the campaign to get County Charter "D" passed in Los Angeles County. The collection includes campaign reports, correspondence (chiefly by committee chairman Lewis T. Bullock), committee minutes, printed materials, publicity information, applications, and memoranda. There is also material used in the search for the first coroner which includes correspondence between the committee and Theodore J. Curphey, who was eventually hired and became the first Coroner of Los Angeles County in March 1957. There are also manuscripts by Los Angeles County Deputy Coroner Ben H. Brown and Dr. R. B. H. Gradwohl regarding the professional role of a coroner.
Personal Names
Brown, Ben H.
Bullock, Lewis, T., 1906-1983
Curphey, Theodore J.
Gradwohl, R. B. H. (Rutherford Birchard Hayes), 1877-1959
Corporate Names
Los Angeles County Medical Association
Subjects
Autopsy -- Law and legislation
Coroners -- California -- Los Angeles County
Forensic pathologists -- California -- Los Angeles County
Medical examiners (Law) -- California -- Los Angeles County
Physicians -- California -- Correspondence

Geographic Areas
California, Southern -- History --20th century -- Sources
Los Angeles County (Calif.) -- Poliics and government

Genre
Letters (correspondence) -- California -- 20th century
Report -- California -- 20th century
Manuscripts -- California -- 20th century

Box 1
Folders 1-4

Coroner’s Committee Campaign - 1956: Report, Folder 1 (1956)
2 items. Contains the following sections: Outlines Minutes: General, Endorsement Requests, Speaker’s Bureau, Printed Materials Used, and Newspaper, Trade, Other Publicity. Includes memoranda from Lewis T. Bullock to Edward C. Rosenow, 1909-2002.

Folder 2
Coroner’s Committee Campaign - 1956: Report, Folder 2 (1956)
2 items. Contains section “Publicity Clippings.” Includes “Report on Speakers Bureau.”

Folder 3
Coroner’s Committee Campaign - 1956: Report, Folder 3 (1950-1956)

Folder 4
Coroner’s Committee Campaign. Miscellaneous Papers (1956)

Box 2
Folders 5-12

Request for News Mat’l (Trades, House Organs) (1956)
1 item.

Folder 6
Coroner’s Committee Applications (Inactive) (1955-1956)
24 items. Contains correspondence between Lewis T. Bullock, Arthur J. Will, and other medical doctors. Also includes several resumes and data sheets for possible Los Angeles County coroner position.

Folder 7
Coroner’s Committee Applications (Active) (1956)
8 items. Contains correspondence chiefly between Lewis T. Bullock and Theodore J. Curphey about possible Los Angeles coroner position.

Folder 8
Endorsing Organizations (1956)
72 items. Contains correspondence and resolutions by organizations regarding support of the charter amendment.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder 9</th>
<th>Endorsements (Correspondence) (1956)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>33 items. Contains correspondence between Lewis T. Bullock and organizations and individuals regarding support of the charter amendment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 10</td>
<td>Individual Endorsees (1956)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8 items.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 11</td>
<td>Coroner's Committee. Committee Correspondence (1955-1956)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5 items. Contains memoranda by Lewis T. Bullock.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 12</td>
<td>Coroner's Committee Campaign - 1956: Report (1956)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 item. Contains the following sections: General, Endorsement Requests, Speakers’ Bureau, Printed Materials Used, and Newspaper, Trade, Other Publicity.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>