

Permafrost-32

A Crisis Committee



Inspired by “The Rookie”

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Chairs Message:

Hey delegates, I'm Adithya Mahesh (Adi), your Head Chair for this committee! I'm a junior at Amador Valley High School in Pleasanton and I've been doing MUN for 3 years. I started in freshman year without really knowing what it was all about but it quickly piqued my interest as the aspect of public speaking and diplomacy really attracted me. I do a lot of crisis and specialized committees, and I enjoy funny speeches and chaos in crises, so run wild with your directives! When I started MUN, I was a decent public speaker but these 3 years have helped me to further enhance my skills and grow as a person both in and out of the committee room. I didn't really know much about MUN at first, but I've experienced it enough to not just see it as something you put on college applications, which I'm sure some of you do:), but as an activity that helps your social and speaking skills. One last thing I want to add: when I first started MUN I had no one to teach me and I had to learn on the fly at my first conference. I don't want that to be the case for any of you, so if you have any questions at all, you can reach me at adithya.priyya@gmail.com or on Instagram at adi_mahesh1. I look forward to seeing you in committee!



Hey everyone, this is Shree Vardhan your Vice Chair and I'm so excited to introduce you to a world-Los Angeles- of chaos with *The Rookie* committee! I'm a senior from Granite Bay High School in Sacramento and I've been doing MUN for 4 years with a huge love for crisis and specialized. MUN has forced me to stick with it for this long not entirely because of the



love of the competition - well kind of- but also for what it has taught me and transformed me into. Before MUN I despised the thought of working with others and public speaking even more but MUN made me realize that these aren't terrible or that scary. Through each conference and experience I've seen my speaking skills grow, my creativity grow, a growth in so many deep friendships outside of my school, and most importantly a much more confident person that I wouldn't have recognized as myself 4 years ago. So, whether this committee is your first or last, I hope all of you grow yourself even just a little or find a token memory that makes you smile a year from now with this committee. As you set off to read the guide, remember to be creative, ask questions, and most importantly have fun! Can't wait to see you all soon and make memories with you and feel free to reach out to me for any questions!

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I. Background

Looking into the history of Los Angeles, we see a vast history of cosmopolitan growth in Los Angeles starting from a normal town and eventually expanding to a global powerhouse with vast commerciality. With this economic growth, more people started to populate the town, more corporations entered the city, and of course, all that's good does have bad. And that bad equates to a gang network so vast that it rivals Los Angeles's commercial importance. As part of the Los Angeles Police Department, the department faces challenges regularly ranging from corporate cases, investigations, and criminal crackdowns.

- 1. History of Gangs Within LA:** Currently known for being the world's most dangerous city gangs- aka "Gang Capital"- Los Angeles's history of gangs includes a series of violence and crimes. The roots of Los Angeles's gangs stem from the 1920s with a rage against segregationist systems placed by the government, which continued until the 1970s with a new goal to protect marginalized communities. Following the 1970s, the LA gangs of the 1980s found a new cash king for their power: cocaine. The power of cocaine eventually expanded into a series of other drugs, which the gangs took on in full force, giving them massive amounts of profits and power over LA with new access to arms and the ability to recruit more and more individuals. The power of drugs allowed LA gangs to expand their operations across the nation. Although there was much profit grown by all the gangs, this era of peace and profit came to a close with socioeconomic tensions breaking in 1992, with LA Riots causing animosity and truces between gangs. Following the 1990s into today, the gangs have organized themselves in different turfs within LA based on allyship and continue to have gang wars with one another. Additionally, they have expanded into work with cartels globally.

The systems of LA gangs differ based on the two main types: The African American Gang Model- Crips, Bloods, Hoover Criminals or the Latino Gang Model-Surenos, 18th Street, MS-13. African American gangs are described as decentralized and highly democratic without an exact boss. Instead, they are organized into age groups with leaders there, and have the most senior age group serve as advisors, coordinators, and influencers. On the other hand, the Latino Gang Model works in a much more structured and military-like manner. The main gang in charge is the Surenos, whom every other gang answers to, and then all of them receive advice from the main mafia in power, La Eme. Individual leaders in the gangs are called Street Lieutenants who coordinate each neighborhood's actions according to the overall goal and also carry out punishments to those who betray. Senior members are called the Veteranos, who simply guide younger members and influence them through networks they've built. Today, operations of LA gangs are driven by influencing recruitment on social media, systems of extortion, and international networks of all illegal activity.

2. **Pharmaceutical Company Scandals:** The US has many private pharmaceutical companies and a long history of large settlements over scandals regarding them. Often, pharmaceutical companies come under fire for illegal kickbacks, a payment of money which is part of a larger payment to an illegal third party, fraud, false advertising, and price manipulation. Companies may try to conceal or selectively publish clinical trial results or research into their medicine, or give bribes to government officials, regulators, and inspectors to approve the usage of a harmful drug. Almost all of this is done with the motivation of profits in mind, as all of these means have an end goal of increasing sales and reputation of their company and products.

For example, Forest Pharmaceuticals bribed a key investigator at the STAR*D study, a large study on antidepressants at the time, which led to an overestimation of Celexa's, an antidepressant produced by Forest Pharmaceuticals, effectiveness. Another example is the Pfizer scandal in 2009, regarding the inaccurate promotion of their products. They agreed to a 2.3 billion dollar settlement and pleaded guilty to a felony charge of falsely advertising their product Bextra and recommending dosages that the FDA specifically denounced for safety reasons. This was the largest healthcare fraud settlement in the history of the DOJ at the time. In addition, there was a scandal regarding Schering Sales Corp. when they paid a kickback of 1.8 million dollars to a health maintenance organization so that they would keep Claritin on their formulary, a list of medicines covered for beneficiaries. In the end, Schering Sales Corp. pleaded guilty and agreed to pay a \$52 million fine. These are just a few examples in a long history of medical scandals.

3. Previous Gang Crackdowns:

The police and gangs have had frequent conflicts in Los Angeles and around the US. Many times crackdowns on gangs stem from the issue of illicit financial means as well as a spike in homicides. In California alone, 20% of all homicides are attributed to gang activities, often stemming from trafficking. In the past, the police have used methods of short-term -parole sweeps, undercover identification of criminals, and city data analytics- and long-term - FBI & CIA partnership, digital intercepts, Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO) consultation, and financial asset forfeiture.

A good example of this in the past is Operation Broken Blade in Southern Los Angeles this year. Operation Broken Blade started as a targeted attack towards the Hoover Gang,

who had trafficking rings in the area. Initially, the police were investigating the issue and managing it; however, they soon realized that it was more than they could handle and allowed the US Attorney's Office to bypass their abilities and work alongside them. They also involved the FBI, the IRS, SWAT, and RICO to move along the process of recognizing crimes and finding the necessary evidence on the case. The operation took a total of 11 months with a resulting rescue of 51 victims, 25 defendants, involvement with other gangs, an arrest of a motel manager facilitating the trafficking, and a total sixty-five-count federal indictment. This is just one example of how the police can work to solve a large case of illegal gang activity,

II. Current Issue

Beneath the Antarctic ice sat a virus that had been dormant for millions of years. It stayed that way until 2017, when a team of scientists finally uncovered it. The sample was brought to Los Angeles, to a young biotech company called Scan Medicals, and it was engineered into something new entirely: a transformable and endlessly reproducible bioweapon that came to be known as the Permafrost-32 Strain, or P-32. First thought to become a biologist's dream guinea-pig, the specimen became one of the largest scandals and emergencies in the nation within a decade.

The progression seems simple with dizziness, fever, diarrhea, delirium, aggression, then death. However in reality it's anything but straightforward. P-32 doesn't behave the same way twice. Different strains attack the body differently and a few strains don't even kill their host. The one constant is that every strain mutates, and every strain produces a phase of aggression somewhere along the way. It isn't airborne or contagious; it only spreads through direct physical entry into the body, ingestion, injection, open wound, etc. But its capacity to mutate, and further, makes it almost impossible to pin down or cure. Though not all mutations are beneficial, it's also far cheaper and more effective than most chemical weapons on the market, which is exactly what makes it so dangerous. A weapon like this doesn't stay contained to a lab. It changes what war looks like.

P-32 isn't as simple as it sounds. Researchers such as Nill Bye, Dr. Apartment, and Mexter Doran became some of the leading figures studying the virus.

Further research conducted in 2023 by Mexter Doran shows that P-32 seems to excrete a non-lethal secondary virus, which he informally named "P-32 Poop" or more officially "P-32D (Permafrost-32 Docile Strain)". When P-32D enters a new host, it spreads at similar rates as

P-32. However, unlike P-32, P-32D seems not to show any severe symptoms, only showing prolonged cold-like symptoms when injected separately from its counterpart. It has been repeatedly shown to increase the chances for influenza and other viruses to take the place of P-32D. P-32D is often found in stomach acid, blood, gut, and bowels and can sustain homeostasis for long periods of time. Researchers have proposed numerous explanations, including immune suppression, evolutionary competition with other pathogens, or an unknown secondary function. None has been experimentally verified. The research and leading theories were later backed by Nill Bye and Dr. Apartment; but neither have been able to determine why P-32 produces this secondary strain or what evolutionary purpose it serves.

Some university papers by UCLA theorize that P-32 may have two additional strains, dubbed P-32A (Permafrost-32 Aggression Strain) and P-32R (Permafrost-32 Refraining Strain). These theorized strains are thought to attack two separate entities entirely and are backed by evidence shown by P-32's unpredictable nature and the discovery of P-32D. P-32A and P-32R were both theorized before P-32D was discovered and gained popularity among professors.

P-32A is a hypothesized strain thought to be directly correlated with the aggression stage of the virus, where the host seems volatile, aggressive, and inhumane in nature. P-32A has been theorized to travel into the neurological system of the human body and directly destroy neurological pathways in the central nervous system. This, in turn, creates the aggressive nature and further explains the violent and hyper-activity shown by local cells. P-32A is theorized to be the smallest of the strains and grow in sporadic patterns, making them hard to spot. Using its theorized similar nature to rabies, Bye was able to create a treatment pathway which reduces the aggression exhibited by patients.

P-32R is another strain theorized as a result of P-32D. Originally thought to be directly

correlated with the emergence of virus susceptibility, P-32R is thought to restrict viruses from becoming major threats to the human immune system and restrict other viruses. They are thought to be made inside P-32D and are directly responsible for the prolonged cold-like symptoms, keeping both the virus and the human alive. It is unclear why this may occur; however, scientists believe this may be a result of P-32R trying to preserve a human for its P-32 counterpart. Though its functions are not confirmed in the field, professors from UCLA back this claim, providing ample evidence to back them, from the history of the virus to case studies. Though P-32A is still highly controversial, in 2025 P-32R has been identified in a joint study with Scan Medicals, Dr. Apartment, and Logic Medics Group; however, P-32R has not been identified nor observed moving or providing any active measures against other viruses.

In total, the virus seems to take full control of its mutation-like ability, making these two strains more difficult to identify and observe. Looking at the cell structure, it has revealed characteristics unlike those observed in any currently classified viral family. It seems to have a surplus of materials; but it doesn't appear to be the virus's DNA. Further, it's seen to hold almost an excess of nucleotides. They seem to float around the virus, with researchers believing it to have something to do with P-32's ability to mutate frequently but when observed don't actually serve a purpose.

The first crack in Scan Medicals' credibility came in 2021, when leaked documents revealed that the company's CEO, Rick Iteer, had cut a deal with an organized criminal syndicate known as the Mafia. This deal included trading samples of the virus for a large payout and the promise of long-term partnership. He was tried and convicted, and Scan Medicals found itself in many lawsuits. Michael Scam took over as CEO and has maintained ever since that Scan Medicals itself had no institutional role in the deal, rather that it was one man acting alone.

Nothing has ever confirmed or disproved that claim. Similarly, the claim of an organized criminal syndicate hasn't been backed by many analysts, stating that if the Mafia were a singular syndicate, it would be improbable for no leads, no evidence, nor any other accounts of documented existence to not exist. Some defend Scan Medicals, saying P-32 came from foreign powers, a corrupt government, and/or was framed on Scan Medicals. Others claim the research done by Scan Medicals never should have occurred. Either way, the damage was already done. The public now knows that a highly dangerous virus is sitting somewhere in the hands of organized crime, and nobody knows what happens next.

From there, intelligence suggests the Mafia moved fast, quietly supplying P-32 to local gangs, black market dealers, and human trafficking networks across the city. The virus gets marketed differently depending on the buyer, sometimes as a devastating bioweapon, sometimes downplayed as a temporary illness with a small risk of death. What's stranger is the pattern behind it: rather than releasing P-32 directly, the Mafia has routed it exclusively through selected middlemen. Analysts can't agree on why.

As street-level violence tied to the virus escalated and researchers still couldn't fully classify what they were dealing with, the situation kept sliding. It got worse when new intelligence suggested anonymous individuals inside the Mafia were reaching beyond the criminal world and trying to establish backchannels with government officials, the kind of power a weapon like this can buy being too tempting for some people in positions of influence to ignore. However, no such backchannels have ever been confirmed, allowing rumors, misinformation, and propaganda to flourish, fueling public distrust and political tensions. Conflicting reports from traditional news outlets, independent journalists, and social media have made it nearly impossible for the public to distinguish fact from rumor. For the average citizen,

the entire P-32 situation is full of lies, misrepresentations, propaganda, and exaggerations.

For nearly five years, P-32 remained a shadow threat, confined to isolated incidents, sporadic clusters among gang-affiliated populations, and whispered rumors in street-level trafficking networks. A chemical stabilization protocol by Nill Bye was proposed though he ended it thinking there's no possible cure following this research. Instead, he brainstormed a highly controversial solution of a counter-bioweapon recognized as too risky and most likely unsuccessful. The LAPD, FBI, or any intelligence agency never found any leads on the whereabouts or motives of the Mafia, mainly due to sporadic incidents and unfortunate timing. What was certain was that the Mafia only targeted LA and nowhere else. The threat never escalated beyond manageable, and the city never quite felt the full weight of what sat in their midst. Then, in early 2026, everything changed. Cases grew exponentially, with many hospitals reporting highs of thirty to fifty cases of P-32 at a time. Lead scientists and doctors had more cases to study, with many, more questions left unanswered and almost no clear answers.

In March of 2026, a man calling himself Dark walked into an LAPD station unarmed and said he had information straight from the Mafia. Security footage later showed an unidentified sniper had tracked him the entire way in, which told investigators someone with real resources was watching him closely. He wasn't carrying much but he had a letter. The letter held one line: "Darkness and destruction will always find you, even when we can't." Investigators believe that message was meant to establish Dark as a deliberate go-between linking the Mafia to the government, though there's still no proof of whether he's doing this willingly, under threat, or something else entirely. His real identity and motives remain completely blank. However, his history with the police is not clean. Records later revealed that he was allegedly connected to numerous high-profile organized crimes under the alias Rudra, including laundering operations

tied to criminal organizations, corrupt officials, and international actors. To complicate things further, Dark claims to suffer from partial memory loss following a head injury, and he cannot, or will not, recall many of the specifics of his contact with the organization. Dark has repeatedly denied these accusations, claiming he learned about much of his supposed criminal history only after being taken into custody, leaving investigators uncertain whether he is hiding the truth, suffering from memory loss, or was placed into this situation without understanding his own past making him somewhat unreliable. For six weeks, the government held him under constant federal watch, but with no further contact from the Mafia and no legal basis to keep detaining him, he was released. Since then he's tried to live something close to a normal life, though surveillance teams describe him as anxious, withdrawn, and constantly checking his surroundings. Despite round-the-clock monitoring, no one has ever caught how messages actually reach him. And yet weeks after his release, a new note arrived: "Scene 1: Almost time." Coincidentally, or not, P-32 cases spiked sharply across the city almost immediately after, triggering a wave of emergency legislation and a dramatic expansion of government authority. The P-32 case surge crippled emergency services and critical industries alike as workers either became infected or refused to report for duty out of fear. Further, a recent raid by LAPD on a recently found Mafia warehouse has been seen empty with a red graffiti-painted letter: K. Top investigators have linked the symbol with the international crime prodigy who goes by the name "K". Very little is known of K, except that he works from shifting infrastructure and he is in contact with the Mafia. Investigators found no evidence on how the warehouse was used over the previous decade, raising further questions about how the organization avoided detection for so long. Whether Dark is unknowingly setting these events in motion, actively coordinating them, or just a pawn in someone else's plan is still one of the biggest open questions in the entire

investigation. Keeping him alive has become something close to a matter of national security being the only connection to the Mafia. Others in the intelligence community aren't convinced he's just a pawn at all, and think he may be playing both sides for reasons nobody has figured out yet.

Internationally, the Mafia's actions have already been labeled a war crime, with growing calls for international intervention, and there's mounting pressure on both the US and the Los Angeles government to act. Last week, Mayor Cupt's ordered to put all of the Los Angeles region in full quarantine: all movement was restricted, with the port and airport serving as the only authorized entry and exit points with heavy inspection. Desperate families, worried about running out of food, have started paying off guards to speed up shipments. As conditions deteriorated, thousands of Los Angeles residents attempted to leave the city despite the quarantine. Federal and state authorities reinforced checkpoints along major highways. Long lines formed at inspection points as families pleaded to leave, leading to protests, attempted breaches of checkpoints, and increasing confrontations between civilians and security. Eventually, the mayor ordered no civilian movement was allowed out of the city. Civil unrest became extremely high, with many small fights over food and water occurring. Every shipment in or out of the city is technically supposed to go through mandatory biological screening overseen by federal and military personnel, and so far, no confirmed P-32 sample has ever been detected leaving or entering Los Angeles. Of course, all of these events could not escape the attention of international affairs as well. Having been stung by the unforeseen U.S. military intervention in Venezuela earlier this year, which led to the arrest of the former Venezuelan leader and the appointment of the interim government, several governments became suspicious about any story related to the sudden decision-making and quick response to the crisis. This

suspicion increased even further due to the growing popularity of P-32 among the international community. Some Middle Eastern countries, with US conflicts, have started whispering about another view regarding this crisis: P-32 is not really a leaked biological weapon; instead, it is a released one by the United States to give it more justified control both within the country and abroad to get more power. This view is based on unclear evidence, like the fact that the virus didn't spread from Los Angeles and that there are recently more cases than ever before.

Although there has been no single piece of intelligence information fully supporting such a hypothesis from either domestic or foreign intelligence agencies, most analysts consider it to be just opportunistic propaganda. Advocates of this theory continue to claim that if the virus ever escapes America's boundaries, it will be the fault of the mysterious Mafia organization and not that of the U.S. government or President Donald Duck, which is a part of the plot right from the start. Echoing the discrimination faced by Asian citizens during the COVID-19 pandemic, US citizens abroad are now facing similar hostility and suspicion. Nevertheless, this accusation has spread widely across the world via state-run media and social networks.

What began as a public health crisis has transformed into a full-scale failure of local governance. In exploiting the opportunity afforded by the quarantine, reports identify that the Mafia may have managed to increase its control via local criminal gangs, drug cartels, and black market deals to destabilize Los Angeles, Medical centers and research facilities alike struggle to cope with both increasing crimes and a constant flow of potential P-32 infections. At the same time, corruption accusations from within the government and private companies continue to erode any remaining public trust due to suspicions of the mafia's attempt to capitalize politically and financially on the outbreak. No sample of the pathogen has been smuggled in or out of the city as yet, but this containment is tenuous, and it may only be one mistake on the part of anyone

involved (security personnel, scientists, politicians) that would make the situation a global one. Many biohazard bags appear to be missing inside many hospitals, not seen anywhere. Though many fingers were pointed at the Mafia, no evidence backed them. Supermarkets routinely empty within hours of restocking. Sewers feel more clogged than usual. Traffic is at an all-time low. Crime rates have increased. Water treatment facilities are working overtime. LAPD and other emergency services are understaffed. The job of this committee is to find out how to control this virus, how to dismantle the network exploiting it, and prevent Los Angeles from becoming the beginning of a new biological war and turning into an apocalyptic total anarchy.

Even within the government, there's no consensus on what to do next. The LAPD wants aggressive policing: more arrests, and a real push to dismantle the gangs distributing the virus before it spreads any further. Mayor Cupt favors negotiation and tight containment, worried that heavy military action could spark panic that destabilizes the city further. The FBI takes yet another position, arguing that local authorities have already lost control and pushing hard for a full federal takeover of both the investigation and the emergency response. Military leadership and the California National Guard are focused almost entirely on sealing the city off from the outside world, even if that means restricting liberties and slowing the flow of essential supplies. The scientific community is just as divided: some researchers want every last sample of P-32 destroyed immediately to remove the threat for good, while others argue that destroying it now would waste the only chance anyone has to actually understand the virus and treat it. International organizations have added even more friction, with some pushing for immediate intervention and others arguing for restraint until there's more solid evidence. Neighborhoods themselves have been taking action due to self-proclaimed government incompetence with watch groups forming across the city, often mistaking innocent civilians for infected carriers or part of

the Mafia; many get hurt. All of this disagreement has slowed decision-making, created fights, and given criminal organizations exactly the kind of gap they need to keep operating in the open.

As of May 2026, Los Angeles is a city under siege from every direction: the threat of mass death, a public on the edge of open unrest, a Mafia wielding more power than it ever has before, a justice system straining under the weight of rising crime, hospitals and emergency services running out of room, a scientific community losing confidence by the day, and the very real possibility that parts of the government itself may already be compromised. For now, the crisis is contained within city limits and the 13 million people who reside inside the greater metropolitan area. But if this country wants to keep it that way, a real solution can't wait much longer.

III. Questions to Consider:

1. Given the unpredictable nature of the P-32 virus, how could the government balance research in containing and/or eliminating the threat while simultaneously maintaining public safety and addressing civilians' concerns? How can governments balance public health with socioeconomic stability, ensuring future policies are tailored to P-32 rather than repeating outdated playbooks?
2. Considering the allegations of corruption involving pharmaceutical companies, government officials, and criminal organizations, what steps and/or guidelines should be made to guarantee transparency, accountability, and ethical oversight throughout medical research and emergency decision-making?
3. Looking back at the way cities have handled COVID-19, influenza, and other public health emergencies in the past, what are the things that governments should learn, and what are the influences and biases that they should not fall into when facing the new challenge presented by P-32? What do you imagine the public, political, and media response would be if something like P-32 occurred right now? Would life just continue, or would a pandemic once more take centre stage in our world?
4. When all the possible solutions for the problem have significant moral, social, and political pressures, how and who can determine the actions of the state? In what circumstances can the interests of an individual, economy, civil liberties, and even the survival of citizens and the city be disregarded in favor of the safety and security of something greater?
5. Keeping in mind that the Mafia is using unethical ways to spread the P-32 virus, what strategies can the local law enforcement use to bring down these criminal networks and

restore peace within the city while minimizing civilian harm from said organizations?

6. With limited resources, hospital capacity, and emergency personnel, how should resources be distributed, maintained, and controlled to combat public panic and effectively respond to the P-32 outbreak?
7. How can governments encourage private investments and effectively utilize those investments to safely support the response to the outbreak of the P-32 Virus and protect Los Angeles' citizens?

IV. Characters

1. **John Nolan:** The oldest rookie of the LAPD, John Nolan happens to be an incredibly well-respected officer known for being mature and empathetic. Currently, he works on the frontline of the containment zones of the P-32 virus, and though it's his job, he finds himself struggling to see many people with friends and family unable to see them and suffering daily. He has seen many contained individuals lose themselves more and more to the virus and depression, leading him to be largely sympathetic to their case and upset at orders from the National Guard. Additionally, John is someone who frequently puts his life on the line for others and the greater good, never bending to corruption. Because of his reputation as one of the department's most compassionate officers, John has earned the trust of community leaders, volunteers, religious organizations, and ordinary citizens across Los Angeles, giving him access to information and cooperation that no warrant or tactical operation could ever obtain.
2. **Angela Lopez:** The master of criminal investigations, Angela Lopez is an incredibly confident and disciplined officer known for her abilities to investigate suspects and interrogate them successfully. Angela also has a vast knowledge of criminals and criminal organizations, making her a key player for all organized crime cases. Despite her many strengths, Angela is known to struggle while asking for help, being someone incredibly strong-willed, independent, and skeptical of others from her experiences investigating criminals. LAPD heavily relies on her knowledge to understand the criminal world, making her a key driver of actions against criminals. If there's one thing Angela fights for the most, it's to keep the ones she cares about safe. She will go through any costs to keep her loved ones safe, which can sometimes cloud her reasoning. This sometimes can enable her stubborn pride and means she'll relentlessly chase a lead on her own terms, bypassing administrative oversight entirely if she thinks it will secure a conviction.
3. **Wade Gray:** Wade Gray is a commanding, fiercely principled LAPD Watch Commander and the structural backbone of the Mid-Wilshire Division. Officially, he's a fair but uncompromising bureaucratic leader who demands strict adherence to procedure. Among the rank and file, the whisper is that his rigid enforcement is a calculated shield against the volatile political pressures coming from city leadership. Before the executive desk, he spent decades as a seasoned patrol veteran, and that raw front-line experience left him with zero patience for rookie idealism or reckless shortcuts. He's imposing and intimidating, able to silence a briefing room with a look, but underneath it is a deep, protective concern for the safety and moral integrity of his officers. His job right now is a delicate balancing act: managing the everyday chaos of metropolitan policing forces him to constantly choose between backing his officers' unconventional field instincts and satisfying the risk-averse demands of his superiors. He wants to prevent the spread of P-32, while simultaneously maintaining the narrative that the police can and will handle all incidents in LA, no matter the priority, to ensure the LAPD remains the city's primary law enforcement authority rather than ceding control to federal, military, or foreign forces. The department depends on his brilliant situational management to coordinate emergency responses across the city, but his unwavering commitment to accountability means he won't hesitate to ground an entire operation if he catches even a hint of institutional compromise. Nearly every major police operation in Los Angeles ultimately requires his approval, making him the bridge between frontline officers and city leadership. Through official channels, he has access to virtually every report, incident log, body camera review, and intelligence summary generated within his division, making him a critical gatekeeper for verified police information.
4. **Jackson West:** Jackson is one of the current rookies trained under Angela Lopez, and the proud son of the Commander of Internal Affairs. He's fiercely committed to bringing true justice to the streets of Los Angeles, widely known for being highly intelligent, deeply compassionate, and immovably principled, routinely advocating for the fair and ethical treatment of everyone he meets on patrol. But graduating at the absolute top of his academy class has left him with a crushing weight of expectation and a naive, textbook idealism that's completely unsuited for a city gripped by biological warfare. The outbreak of the P-32 virus shattered his structured worldview, forcing him to watch citizens starve and police bureaucracy decay into systemic corruption. He's under intense psychological pressure, trying to uphold his family's legacy and strict departmental rules, even as his training officer, Angela Lopez, demands he cut corners to survive. He's a vulnerable moral anchor on the streets: his stubborn refusal to compromise his ethics makes him a direct target for the ruthless extortion networks of the street gangs, leaving him dangerously exposed on the front lines of a crumbling city. Through his family's connections to Internal Affairs, he occasionally gains access to sensitive misconduct investigations and corruption allegations unavailable to most officers. Furthermore, he has access to many criminal informants, giving him insight to the perspective of the underground world. Further, due to his father's position and his Internal Affairs connections, Jackson is often the first to learn about corruption allegations involving officers, public officials, and federal agents; however, he may not have the rank, reputation, or political power to prove these.
5. **Lucy Chen:** Lucy is a dedicated, highly resilient LAPD detective who protects her city with an innate sense of empathy and a strong moral compass. Officially, she's known for exceptional psychological insight, mastery of undercover work, and unmatched emotional intelligence. Unofficially, people whisper that her deep belief in rehabilitation and human goodness is a radical defiance against a cynical system. Before her gold shield, she spent years on patrol, enduring trials that forced her to build an unyielding emotional core without hardening her heart. Despite a harrowing past, including surviving a near-fatal entrapment by a notorious serial killer, she remains surprisingly open, choosing vulnerability and systemic reform over rigid punishment. Her effectiveness in a crisis is complicated by a delicate psychological tightrope: the emotional toll of deep undercover assignments frequently forces her to blur the line between her true identity and the criminal personas she adopts. The LAPD relies heavily on her elite tactical combat proficiency and brilliant negotiation skills to de-escalate the city's most volatile standoffs, but her fierce commitment to protecting the vulnerable means she'll boldly challenge command authority if she believes a tactical strategy lacks humanity.
6. **Timothy "Tim" Bradford:** Tim is a stoic, fiercely protective LAPD sergeant who views the world as a harsh environment where rules and discipline are the ultimate shield against chaos. Guided by a rigid moral code centered on duty, accountability, and the absolute protection of his fellow officers, he expects nothing less than excellence from himself and his subordinates. Before his veteran role at Mid-Wilshire, he forged his elite combat tactics, master-level interrogation, and sharp tactical intuition during high-stakes

deployments as a Marine Corps squad leader. Despite his intimidating, hyper-intense training methods and notoriously gruff exterior, he's anchored by a deep, unspoken loyalty to those under his command. His effectiveness in a crisis is complicated by a rigid, unyielding commitment to protocol that frequently pushes him into direct conflict with modern, adaptive field strategies; a history of weathering severe operational trauma has made him fiercely protective, occasionally to a fault. The LAPD relies heavily on his brilliant situational leadership to anchor joint operations during citywide emergencies, but his instinct to take the brunt of the danger himself means he'll completely disregard his own safety if it means pulling a fellow officer out of a hot zone. Commanders frequently seek his operational recommendations before approving high-risk raids, evacuations, or tactical deployments.

7. **Nyla Harper:** Nyla is a sharp, fiercely independent LAPD detective and former training officer who guards herself, at first, with a cynical, no-nonsense exterior. Her official records commend her master-level social engineering, advanced hand-to-hand combat, and keen deductive reasoning. Unofficially, the whisper is that her extreme hyper-vigilance is an unyielding defense mechanism forged in the trenches of deep undercover operations. Before returning to patrol and detective work, she spent years completely submerged in the criminal underworld, living a double life where emotional walls and absolute self-reliance were the only things keeping her alive. Despite that hardened, cynical facade, she's anchored by an intense, protective moral duty to shield her loved ones and relentlessly bring down systemic predators. Her effectiveness in the field is complicated by the residual psychological weight of her past; the line between police protocol and undercover survival instincts often blurs for her, leaving her highly suspicious of institutional oversight and prone to operating on her own terms when a case gets personal. The LAPD relies heavily on her elite tactical instincts to crack the city's most volatile cases, but her fiercely autonomous streak means she'll seamlessly bypass authority the moment she catches a hint of institutional compromise.
8. **Wesley Evers:** Wesley is an idealistic and deeply principled defense attorney turned prosecutor who champions civil liberties and constitutional rights within the justice system. Officially, he's a brilliant legal mind who firmly believes the system must protect the innocent and keep police authority in check. Rumors call his steadfast defiance of institutional overreach polarizing among old-school law enforcement. Before his current role, he spent years aggressively fighting from the defense table, dismantling flawed state evidence and securing second chances for people the city had written off. Despite being born into immense wealth and privilege, he's surprisingly grounded, refusing to rely on his family's elite status or physical brawn to fight his battles. His effectiveness in a crisis is complicated by a severe conflict of interest: having recently crossed lines to protect his loved ones from a ruthless criminal syndicate, he's forced to navigate a razor-thin tightrope between upholding the law and managing dangerous, classified compromises. The LAPD and District Attorney's office rely heavily on his masterful courtroom litigation, sharp analytical reasoning, and deep command of constitutional law, but his uncompromising moral compass often drives him to expose systemic corruption, threatening to blow the lid off joint agency operations if he catches even a hint of foul play.
9. **Bailey Nune:** Bailey is a highly capable, resilient public servant who seamlessly bridges the operational gap between emergency fire rescue and the military reserve. Her official records highlight an extraordinary, near-superhuman skill set in advanced emergency medicine, structural firefighting, and tactical combat leadership. Rumors in the department suggest her restless drive to master countless fields is a carefully constructed defense mechanism, a way to maintain absolute personal autonomy. Before settling into her current role with Engine 113 and the National Guard, she spent years quietly building a formidable wall of practical, high-stakes capability, making sure she'd never find herself vulnerable or trapped again. Despite that intense, hyper-focused overachiever mindset, she's deeply grounded by a selfless moral code and an innate need to protect others from harm. Her effectiveness in the field is complicated by a series of near-fatal operational traumas; a history of surviving extreme, targeted crises, including a brutal trap orchestrated by a notorious serial killer, has left her on high alert, refusing to sit idle when chaos erupts. The LAPD and fire department routinely rely on her specialized tactical expertise during joint disaster responses, but her instinct to directly step in and solve problems independently often pushes her into highly volatile, unauthorized situations where the line between rescue and extreme danger entirely blurs. During the outbreak, she serves as one of the few people capable of coordinating emergency medical, firefighting, and military resources simultaneously. She hopes to continue the quarantine of LA while maintaining a high budget for emergency departments across LA.
10. **Dark Beyond:** Dark is the designated communicator between the Mafia and the government. The exact mechanics of his arrangement remain classified, but rumors suggest his extensive criminal record and his family's safety are being weaponized against him as blackmail. Before being forced into this role by the Mafia, he operated as an elite money launderer, orchestrating illegal financial transfers for political entities, corrupt government employees, international war criminals, and rogue states with the alias of Rudra. This alias has been mentioned in dozens of cases in the past decade, almost like a legend or myth, as someone who influenced LA in ways that reshaped the criminal underworld in countless ways. Despite that high-stakes criminal history, Dark is surprisingly humble and highly skittish, seemingly learning these facts during his time in jail. His effectiveness is complicated by a severe gap in his memory he claims to have: a minor concussion sustained during a volatile information exchange with presumably the Mafia has left him with localized amnesia, unable to remember the precise details of his interactions with the criminal syndicate or his previous career. The government currently allows him to roam free under strict, specialized federal supervision, but the Mafia keeps contacting him through hyper-discrete channels, threatening to leak devastating classified state documents if the government or LAPD interferes with Dark's communications.
11. **Michael Scam:** Michael is the current CEO of Scan Medicals, driven by an insatiable desire to restore his company's ruined reputation among medical experts and expand its operations at any cost. He was once ranked among the top one hundred richest men in the world, leaving him with an immense, fragile ego. A recent high-profile lawsuit heavily restricted Scan Medicals' operations and severely drained the company's financial reserves. He is aware that internal incidents occurred during early P-32 research, but he actively avoids investigating them further, prioritizing the company's survival and public image over uncovering uncomfortable truths. This isn't his first brush with disgrace either; he was previously fired from his executive role at another firm after getting caught coordinating a massive Olympic scandal, directly supplying illegal steroids to elite athletes. After that legal defeat, he was relegated to a minor board member seat at Logic Medics Group before pivoting to Scan Medicals. Now facing financial ruin and legal scrutiny over the

Antarctic bioweapon leak, he's highly volatile, desperate to regain his global standing, and willing to cut underground deals with anyone to save his empire.

12. **Mayor Rur Cupt:** Cupt is the current Mayor of Los Angeles, heavily criticized by the public for his passive handling of the P-32 virus and escalating gang warfare. A former elite defense attorney, he built his career successfully defending infamous criminals for astronomical fees, and that background shapes his political philosophy: he favors legal containment and quiet negotiation over direct police confrontation with the Mafia. Currently panicking behind closed doors, he's desperate to engineer a peaceful resolution. His primary goals are avoiding bloodshed, minimizing public scrutiny, and keeping outside federal intervention out of his city to protect his political future. Although many factions now operate independently, nearly every long-term response to the P-32 crisis ultimately requires the Mayor's political backing, approval, funding, or public endorsement to gain legitimacy in the eyes of Los Angeles.
13. **Nill Bye:** Nill is a world-renowned rabies specialist and the designated lead researcher on the P-32 virus in Los Angeles, and his specialized scientific insights are absolutely invaluable to the government's containment efforts. Intellectually superior and fiercely cynical, he views politics as a massive sham; he cares nothing for the civic stability of Los Angeles, choosing instead to focus entirely on the unrestricted future of scientific exploration. Despite his genius, he's severely unraveled by the stakes of the crisis. He's highly stressed and struggles with an alcohol dependency, which makes him volatile and prone to accidentally leaking classified laboratory information during random confrontations. Ironically, he's famous for hosting entertaining, educational field trips and tours of his facility for local youth. Leveraging his extensive rabies expertise, he's produced breakthrough research and treatment on the hyper-aggression phase of P-32, formulating a theoretical combination of chemicals that could chemically pacify infected patients. Nill Bye has repeatedly argued that this research and treatment are not a viable solution and will not lead to the potential treatment pathway. His only hope is potentially creating a counter-bioweapon that targets P-32 and evolves alongside it, but that's almost impossible to create, with very little evidence of proof and having high risks of making P-32 even stronger. Further, it may not solve the problem, just decrease the damage or potentially cause more. He's tired of the constant struggle to find a solution, and he desperately needs a break. He's ready for vacation.
14. **Thunder McKing:** Thunder is a fast-talking, hyper-aggressive FBI Special Agent in Charge deployed to Los Angeles to take over the P-32 investigation from the LAPD. Guided by an absolute obsession with speed and results, his operational motto is "Speed. I am speed." He believes the local government is moving far too slowly, viewing Mayor Rur Cupt as an incompetent bureaucrat and the LAPD as outmatched. His specialized abilities include high-speed tactical pursuit coordination, rapid federal evidence seizure, and aggressive media manipulation. He doesn't care about local jurisdictions or city politics; he wants to blast through the Mafia's networks, seize Scan Medicals' assets, and secure a quick, loud victory for the federal government to fuel his own career advancement.
15. **Rike Moss:** Rike is a brilliant, razor-sharp attorney who is employed at an extensive, high-powered private law firm called "Specter's Law". He's a rare legal prodigy, holding mastery across multiple complex fields of law, ranging from predatory corporate litigation to high-stakes criminal defense. His courtroom win rate and analytical abilities are unmatched, but his immense success has alienated him from his peers. Within the legal community, he's deeply disliked, facing intense jealousy from colleagues who resent his talent, influence, and arrogant efficiency. Unbothered by his lack of friends, he operates with absolute precision, utilizing his firm's massive resources, legal researchers, and deep institutional knowledge to manipulate the legal system to his exact specifications. Currently, his family is experiencing trouble, as his sister and mother have caught P-32, making Rike ever more paranoid for his own life and further wanting revenge against Scan Medicals who made the virus.
16. **Mr. Frizzle:** Mr. Frizzle is a fiercely dedicated local schoolteacher propelled into the political spotlight by his terror for the safety of his students. He views youth protection as the government's absolute priority, deeply devastated by the teenagers already lost to street gangs and Mafia violence. An intellectual advocate, he recently published a highly publicized research paper documenting the tangible rise of gang-affiliated behaviors inside his own classrooms and outlining evidence-based prevention methods. Backed by a powerful grassroots coalition of parents and young citizens, he's actively campaigning to unseat Mayor Rur Cupt as quickly as possible. He began to organize Neighborhood watches and multiple programs encouraging rehabilitation and STEM growth for teenagers. His biggest obstacle is his low personal income and severe lack of corporate financial backing, leaving his campaign chronically underfunded against entrenched political machines. Despite that, he remains a symbol of resilience, universally recognized across LA for driving a bright yellow school bus decorated with googly eyes to offer free, joyful, and safe rides to local students. Highly resourceful, he personally engineered the bus with a refined, dual-combustion hybrid engine capable of running on conventional food scraps and petrol at extreme efficiency.
17. **Elona Musket:** Elona is the cold, calculating Chinese-born CEO of Logic Medics Group and Michael Scam's ultimate corporate rival. She views Scam as a reckless amateur and considers firing him from her company to be her proudest achievement. After the merger of Logic Medics Group into a small biotechnology firm based in Los Angeles, Elona found herself in Los Angeles as part of the process of expanding the operations of the firm. Unfortunately, the new P-32 quarantine left her stranded in the city. Elona has many contacts with China's politics and economics, making her a highly influential player in biotechnology negotiations on the international stage. She has been a very controversial person during the P-32 affair because she is accused of representing foreign interests in America while others defend her because of the nature of her business. Masterful in corporate warfare and public relations, she publicly condemned Scan Medicals to position Logic Medics as the ethical savior of the medical world. Privately, however, she's using her company's minor board seat inside Scan Medicals to spy on Scam. Rather than destroying the Antarctic bioweapon, she intends to steal its genetic blueprint, patent the cure, and auction it off to the highest-bidding government. Currently, she holds the largest research facility, with the lowest number of researchers. She recoiled Logic Medics Group into a stable upward net worth, but that was the result of mass layoffs and completion of small contracts.
18. **Po Tiger:** Po is a fiercely independent, street-smart private investigator operating in the underbelly of Los Angeles. Unlike the structured LAPD or the high-powered federal agents, he works entirely in the shadows, unbothered by bureaucratic red tape or legal boundaries. Having spent years navigating the city's worst neighborhoods, he possesses an

unparalleled understanding of LA's street-level gang networks, turf lines, and illicit black markets. His specialized abilities include master-level surveillance, urban tracking, stealth reconnaissance, and a knack for extracting secrets from tight-lipped informants. Because Po has spent years operating outside the legal system, criminals, civilians, and even corrupt officers regularly approach him before they would ever speak to law enforcement. His effectiveness in the P-32 crisis is complicated by his complete lack of official authority; while his investigations routinely uncover critical leads long before government agencies do, the evidence he gathers is often inadmissible, forcing him to rely on persuasion and back-channel negotiations rather than legal power. The LAPD, federal agencies, journalists, and even rival criminal organizations quietly seek his intelligence when conventional investigations stall, but his refusal to permanently align himself with any single faction means his loyalty is always uncertain, making him as unpredictable as he is invaluable.

19. **Jimanthony Gordon:** Gordon is the high-ranking Police Director of Southern California, wielding broad administrative authority over all law enforcement agencies across the region, including the LAPD. He operates as the ultimate bureaucratic gatekeeper, balancing intense pressure from Mayor Rur Cupt's administration against the escalating tactical needs of Chief Wade Gray's officers. Unlike traditional law enforcement officials, he holds a deeply controversial, cynical view of the system: he believes the standard police bureaucracy is completely broken and fundamentally incapable of stopping the P-32 crisis. Because his official resources are bottlenecked by political red tape, he heavily relies on and enables "vigilantes" and independent actors to do the dirty work the state cannot legally execute. His specialized abilities include mobilizing massive multi-county police reinforcements, covertly directing off-the-books operations, and delaying helpful vigilantes from federal arrest by manipulating regional police channels. Unlike Wade Gray, who controls the operations and functions of the police, Jimanthony produces the police's budgets, objectives, and jurisdiction.
20. **Varca "Creed" Falcone:** Varca is the eldest daughter of the underboss Mr. Huge Falcone of the Falcone Family, an elite Italian-American syndicate operating as Los Angeles's premier counter-Mafia. While the Falcones operate outside the law through racketeering, threatening, smuggling, and other crimes, they consider biological weapons, human trafficking, war crimes, and attacks on civilians dishonorable acts that threaten the balance of the underworld itself. They believe the criminal underground world needs to police itself when crimes go too far, and the Falcones have built a reputation of being that police force. Built on traditional mafia codes and strict bloodlines, she pursues absolute justice at any cost to eliminate the dishonorable P-32 bioweapon unleashed by the true Mafia and Michael Scam. Wielding a massive citywide reputation and her father's trust, she gains many tips, from secret street-gang handoffs to encrypted corporate emails. Her specialized skills include advanced interrogation, underworld racketeering, and orchestrating flawless tactical captures of virus dealers. Shielded politically by Police Director Jimanthony Gordon, she uses her family's vast resources to intercept weapon shipments and purge corrupt operators.
21. **K:** K's real name is unknown. K is a reclusive, hyper-analytical tactical mastermind recently in contact with the Mafia as an independent contractor to oversee and optimize the Mafia's P-32 distribution network. His work seems to have started in direct correlation with the timing of Dark's first message, with him being directly correlated with the recent raid by LAPD. Operating under the singular initial "K," they are a ghost to law enforcement and an eccentric mystery to the underworld. According to psychology and intelligence assessments, K likely never leaves their pitch-black, temperature-controlled, and highly secured room, endlessly consuming sugar to fuel a genius-level brain. No one knows where K actually is or why he decides to live in pitch-black. Based on past interactions, K communicates through a computer with a voice changer, able to talk directly with the LAPD and, potentially, the Mafia without any worry of being located or identified. K views the entire P-32 crisis as a grand game of chess, calculating human behavior with machine-like probability. Their specialized abilities include extreme investigative skills, the ability to create almost unhackable servers, and prodigy-level abilities. K is a major reason the Mafia has managed to stay three steps ahead of FBI Agent Thunder McKing and avoid Varca "Creed" Falcone's wiretaps, treating citizens, gangs, and police as mere pawns in a shifting system rather than out of loyalty or understanding. Though K doesn't officially work for the Mafia, they operate strictly as an independent contractor whose interests currently align with the syndicate's goals, though K has no real knowledge of the Mafia's inner structure, leadership, or broader motives and does not particularly care to; all interactions are purely transactional and data-driven. K only coordinates indirect joint operations with the Mafia; however, he is unable to access the Mafia's own resources, manpower, or any Mafia-related intelligence as he is an independent contractor. K works primarily for access to the raw, unfiltered human mutation data generated by the Mafia's street-level P-32 distribution, using the criminal underworld as a massive real-world laboratory to refine predictive behavioral algorithms without government oversight or ethical restrictions. K is the embodiment of the word cold.
22. **Grando Tefito Arturos:** Grando is the charismatic and politically savvy leader of the Arturos Gang, a massive community organization that the LAPD alleges is a dominant street gang. He publicly presents himself as a community organizer protecting local neighborhoods from corporate exploitation, giving him massive grassroots support. Many Arturos Gang members feel like the justice system has deserted them, whether it be through false convictions, corrupt institutions, or other reasons why Grando's movement for a more just society has appealed to them. Unfortunately, Grando's movement also appeals to criminals who see his philosophies as a justification to take matters into their own hands, making the distinction between a self-protection group and a criminal group rather blurry. While federal agents suspect his logistics network is involved in distributing illicit substances, there's zero paper trail connecting him to the Mafia. Arresting him without concrete proof would trigger immediate, citywide civil unrest, forcing the Mayor and LAPD to tread very lightly.
23. **Jack the Ripper:** Jack is an enigmatic, high-profile underground figure rumored to command a highly disciplined, blade-wielding private security syndicate known to the streets as the Ripper Remnants. Law enforcement has spent years attempting to tie his shadow organization to violent turf wars and high-level extortion rings, but their efforts are routinely thwarted by a chilling pattern: every key witness suddenly recants their testimony, vanishes into thin air, or flees the state long before a trial can ever be scheduled. Operating entirely through a complex web of strictly insulated intermediaries, his true identity, face, and location remain completely unknown to both the public and federal

investigators, letting him rule LA's darkest corners from absolute anonymity. Rather than panicking over the devastating P-32 virus, he views the catastrophic lockdown not as a threat, but as a fascinating sociological experiment, a perfect crucible to observe how human morality and municipal power structures collapse under pressure. His motives are entirely predatory and detached; he plays a patient, long-term game of psychological warfare, quietly manipulating the city's supply lines and bleeding rival factions dry from the safety of the shadows while maintaining a pristine, untouchable reputation that keeps him steps ahead of the law. He hopes LA goes up in flames and turns into an anarchist city-state, so underground actors can finally have a place to call home. Through the Ripper Remnants and supplied P-32, he seeks to accelerate the breakdown of traditional authority, exploiting fear, scarcity, and desperation to create a world where criminal and underground factions no longer need to operate from the shadows, but become the dominant force shaping society.

24. **Shoe Aoi:** Shoe is the six-time reigning World Gulfshield Champion and a hyper-influential cultural icon among the youth of the world, at only twelve years old. He's a massive celebrity from Japan who commands a fiercely loyal, widespread following of teenagers, effectively giving him more social mobilization power than most politicians. He is often challenged into Gulfshield battles by fans; however, no one has officially ever beaten Shoe in battle yet. His uncanny, genius-level understanding of rotational physics and advanced Gulfshield tactics allows him to design highly customized, high-performance tops for Gulfshield. Distraught by the rising tide of gang recruitment claiming his young fanbase, he uses his massive platform and informal tournament events to keep local teens off the streets. While the LAPD frequently suspects his massive youth rallies are a front for street-level lookouts or civil unrest, his spotless public image and massive global corporate sponsorships make him a cultural powerhouse the government cannot safely touch. Following the outbreak of the P-32 crisis and the subsequent quarantine of Los Angeles, he became inadvertently trapped within the containment zone due to restricted civilian movement and emergency lockdown protocols. As a minor under international sporting regulations, his continued presence inside the quarantined city becomes a major humanitarian and diplomatic concern for international sporting bodies, sponsors, and child welfare organizations. This situation draws increasing attention from global institutions, which begin pressuring for enhanced oversight, protective intervention, or negotiated evacuation pathways involving organizations such as the United Nations, World Health Organization, and allied governments. Shoe Aoi increasingly becomes aware that his presence in Los Angeles is being used as a political and humanitarian bargaining point, and begins to support international intervention as the only realistic path toward evacuation and civilian protection. He believes outside organizations such as global sporting bodies and humanitarian agencies are better positioned to guarantee his safety and the safety of other young civilians caught in the quarantine than the fractured local authorities. While still primarily focused on his sport and personal survival, he begins using his platform to quietly encourage global attention on the crisis as a means of forcing action. Shoe's status as a popular Japanese youth icon has been made possible through the support of major Japanese corporations, international sports organizations, and global sponsorships. Although Shoe has no role in Japanese politics, his disappearance inside the P-32 isolation zone places significant public pressure on the Japanese government to negotiate for his safe return home.
25. **Parker Peter:** Parker is a frantic, entirely independent, and young freelance photojournalist who operates with an almost supernatural knack for arriving at high-stakes crime scenes before the police even dispatch their units. Lacking corporate backing, specialized legal teams, or a steady income, he routinely risks his life to sell his raw, unfiltered content to the highest bidder on the open market. Armed with an encrypted smartphone, a thermal-imaging drone, a camera, a van, student debt, and millions of highly volatile online followers, he treats LA's escalating P-32 crisis as pure content for monetization and digital clout, capturing the raw, uncensored truths of the outbreak and underground gang activity without a corporate filter to protect him. This reckless pursuit of the ultimate scoop makes him highly targeted, placing him in constant physical danger from both the Mafia syndicates and corrupt government officials desperate to keep his footage buried. He's often on the ultimate mission to gain intel, from infiltrations to investigations, you name it; he'll do whatever's needed for the scoop. He has many anonymous sources across the city he can gain information from, so he knows potential leads for scoops. Parker represents a chaotic, unpredictable variable; he has zero respect for standard law enforcement boundaries, often actively disrupting sensitive tactical operations or leaking classified updates to his live chat in real time just for a spike in viewership, completely indifferent to whether his sensationalism ruins a sting or compromises a target. But of course, all of this is to pay off his student loans and to become the most reliable and influential journalist in LA.
26. **Klock Kent:** As a hard-hitting, veteran broadcast journalist, Klock stands as a titan of traditional media, loudly proclaiming that journalism is a moral weapon meant to expose corruption to the light. He and the media organization he represents, Weekly Galaxy, are firmly opposed to international intervention in the P-32 crisis, using his broadcasts to pressure public opinion and political institutions against involvement from global bodies such as the United Nations, World Health Organization, NATO, and allied foreign governments, which they view as unnecessary external overreach that would undermine local sovereignty and destabilize containment efforts. Weekly Galaxy insists on keeping the crisis primarily under the control of current Los Angeles municipal and regional authorities, arguing that external intervention would strip accountability from the city and turn a contained emergency into a politically fragmented international crisis with competing jurisdictions and conflicting agendas. Further pushing the political agenda of Weekly Galaxy, they aim to preserve and reinforce the legitimacy of the current Los Angeles government while simultaneously using their platform to expose corruption and inefficiency within it, advocating for internal reform rather than replacement or external takeover. He explicitly refuses to accept sanitized police press releases, regularly using hidden wiretaps and high-level blackmail to compromise targets for his front-page scoops. However, his righteous crusader persona masks a calculating political ambition; he possesses a hidden agenda aligned directly with the municipal government, aiming to use his media empire to preserve the city's current administration's public image. Consequently, his investigative lens is highly selective: he'll ruthlessly weaponize leaked data to expose the cartel and street-level gangs, but will actively suppress or reframe any evidence of government failure to safeguard his own path into a future political office. This bias makes him highly adversarial to the underworld factions in committee, as he actively tries to pit the syndicates against each other on the record to orchestrate their public downfalls on the evening news.

27. **Pion Score:** Pion is the highly intelligent regional director and upcoming CEO of Scorpion Logistics, an international shipping and maintenance management company which handles most of the heavy freight and sanitation infrastructure within Los Angeles. Even though he comes up frequently in all the interceptions made from Mafia records, encrypted transmissions, and classified intelligence reports, there is not one shred of evidence linking him to any sort of criminal activities and black market transactions related to the P-32 virus. All documents that contain information about his logistics company have been filled with speculations, redactions, or have undergone heavy censorship from the government. Scorpion Logistics has all the right business credentials and handles the vital supply chains in Los Angeles during the bio-threat emergency. Bringing down Scorpion Logistics and prosecuting Pion without solid evidence could disrupt the city's weak supply chain, thus making the officials reluctant to take action against Pion for fear of creating a crisis. During meetings, Pion conducts himself with cold aristocratic politeness because he knows very well that the city's survival hangs in the balance of his logistics company. More recently, several hospitals have traced biohazard collection records back to Scorpion Logistics and are demanding an explanation, marking the first tangible lead that could place Pion's operations under serious scrutiny.
28. **Mexter Doran:** Mexter is the quiet, brilliant lead blood-stain and crime pattern analyst for the LAPD forensic laboratory whose meticulous scientific findings are the vital backbone of almost every successful homicide prosecution in the city. To colleagues like Angela Lopez and Chief Wade Gray, he's an indispensable and unassuming asset, yet certain federal intelligence circles harbor unverified theories regarding his unusual level of criminal insight. He possesses an exceptionally sophisticated understanding of lethal trauma patterns and perfect evasion tactics, leading to quiet internal questions about why several high-profile gang disappearances leave behind completely flawless crime scenes. Operating with unrestricted access to active labs, he's been subtly connected to unexplained anomalies, missing evidence, and altered blood spatter files. He's the person who figured out that the virus mutates and that it's related to an overarching criminal organization, with much of the crime data at his disposal. While investigators can only guess whether these patterns point to severe laboratory overwork, standard bureaucratic error, or a highly private, lethal agenda of his own, his flawless professional record protects him entirely. As one of the only qualified forensic scientists remaining in the entire region due to the P-32 lockdown, he's far too valuable to prosecute without massive consequences for the LAPD. Furthermore, he found a secondary excretion by P-32. This excretion seems to also behave like a virus; however, when injected separately into a new host, it seems to only give prolonged cold-like symptoms. He calls this "P-32 poop" or officially called "P-32D" (Permafrost-32 Docile Strain).
29. **Dr. Apartment:** Dr. Apartment is the notoriously toxic and hyper-intelligent Chief of Diagnostic Medicine who's been forced into the frontline trenches of the chaotic, understaffed emergency room. Gripped by chronic physical pain and deeply dependent on prescription narcotics, he openly despises hospital bureaucracy, city politics, and local law enforcement. His situation is drastically worsened by a severe, catastrophic ER doctor shortage caused by the P-32 lockdown, forcing him to work agonizing, non-stop shifts to keep the facility running. Despite his highly volatile behavior and open insubordination, authorities have repeatedly avoided disciplinary action due to the risk his removal would pose to P-32 response efforts. He's almost completely shielded from prosecution because he's the only physician in the region capable of successfully managing and stabilizing P-32 patients. Unlike his peers, who use conventional methods, he employs unconventional techniques that have proven effective inside the hospital. However, he draws the line with Nill Bye's claims of shifting the treatment focus from a proven treatment pathway to a counter-bioweapon. He and many others continue to believe that a cure should come from a sustainable route and not an experimental, risky route. His unique skills make him essential to the city's survival, and authorities hesitate to remove him because replacing him during the crisis would severely endanger patients. He has identified many strains of P-32, including P-32D and P-32R, and has become one of the top researchers on these strains when he is free.
30. **Finn Thor:** Finn is a highly disciplined, battle-tested Captain in the California National Guard currently managing the outer containment perimeter of Los Angeles. Decades ago, he mysteriously went missing from the city following the brutal murder of his father, a revered military figure. Consumed by rage, young Finn spent years working alongside the very mercenary outfit that executed his father, climbing their ruthless ranks solely to challenge their captain to a fair duel of honor. When another faction abruptly killed the captain first, Finn was left hollow and haunted by the ghosts of his own violent actions, quietly returning to Los Angeles with almost no public record detailing his lost years. Now a high-ranking officer, he's recognized as an experienced, lethal, and well-respected warrior in the entire region. While his deep trauma has evolved into a strict philosophy where he declares he has no enemies, he remains a terrifying force on the battlefield. Finn won't fight for pride, politics, or vengeance, but he's completely unafraid to unleash his elite, unmatched combat skills to fiercely defend the city and protect the people he loves. Finn commands the National Guard troops physically enforcing the quarantine perimeter. Finn's goal is to ensure the P-32 virus remains fully contained within Los Angeles and never spreads beyond the quarantine zone, prioritizing global stability and the prevention of wider conflict. He is committed to maintaining international peace by minimizing overall casualties, even if that means accepting difficult compromises within the city itself. At the same time, he actively resists allowing corporate actors, especially entities like Scan Medical, and international entities, as a result of his past and as his job, to influence public safety decisions.
31. **Captain Whiteflag:** Captain Whiteflag is the veteran, highly strategic Port Director commanding the Port of Los Angeles, overseeing the massive global flow of international maritime cargo. His name is a dual nod across the shipping docks: a fearful whisper regarding his alleged hidden past ties to a notorious black-market smuggling fleet dubbed the Blackbeard Syndicate, and a joke among local customs agents about his immediate willingness to raise a white flag of surrender whenever high-stakes conflict erupts. He relies on a defense of perfect plausible deniability, blaming any missed contraband on severe port understaffing. However, this excuse has become a crushing reality and his greatest weakness. Following the outbreak of the P-32 virus, widespread panic has paralyzed the port's workforce, with dock workers refusing to enter the facilities without stringent safety guarantees. In a frantic attempt at containment, he hastily established a temporary quarantine zone within the shipping yards. However, this emergency measure triggered a severe labor shortage, leaving the ports crippled and heavily backlogged. With fewer personnel available to monitor incoming cargo, the facility has become highly vulnerable to illicit

smuggling. To combat the labor deficit while maintaining plausible deniability, he quietly permitted security guards to accept bribes. This corrupt compromise allows desperate families to smuggle vital food and supplies into the quarantined city, keeping basic port operations afloat at the cost of total border control.

32. **D.C. Booper:** Booper is the elusive, deeply eccentric, and hyper-analytical operations director for SlyDrop Aviation Logistics, a boutique private air cargo firm specializing in high-priority overnight transport and time-sensitive medical freight. Operating under a legally protected corporate pseudonym, Booper is a logistical savant who views the P-32 virus lockdown not as a human tragedy or a corporate goldmine, but as a fascinating, multi-layered puzzle of mathematics and tracking algorithms. Booper behaves as a calculated wildcard across the skies, intentionally routing a specialized fleet of low-altitude transport planes through highly erratic, unpredictable flight corridors and baffling midnight drop schedules simply to see how the National Guard's radar arrays react. However, Booper is no reckless daredevil; keeping a flawless veneer of legal compliance is the real obsession. Booper recognizes that actual criminal charges would instantly shatter the reputation and destroy the company, so hours go into exploiting obscure maritime loopholes and flashing valid emergency transport waivers signed by a distracted WHO, keeping federal agents completely infuriated yet legally handcuffed. To keep the fleet operational while capitalizing on the quarantine bottlenecks, Booper has implemented an ultra-premium "fast-track" system, prioritizing the delivery of critical necessities to whoever can pay the exorbitant fees under the guise of medical urgency. Despite this carefully engineered "gray area," Booper is far from untouchable: if the military gets desperate enough to suspend standard aviation protocols, or if a rival faction intercepts the complex flight manifests, the entire operation could be instantly grounded, forcing Booper to rely on wits rather than spreadsheets to survive.
33. **Joe Avery:** Joe is a chronically exhausted, everyday baker running Avery's Heritage Bakeshop, a historic neighborhood staple passed down through three generations of his family. The bakery sits directly on the volatile, geographical border of the ongoing gang wars, giving Joe an unwanted, front-row seat to the city's worst violence. Despite the surrounding chaos, Joe has survived because a vast majority of the rival gang members respect him and his fresh bread, informally declaring his shop a neutral safe zone. Following the outbreak of the P-32 virus, Joe has unexpectedly seen a massive surge in customers, primarily because competing bakeries across Los Angeles have permanently shut down or fled the area. Left as the only functioning establishment in a prime, central location, Joe continues to bake his bread and protect his family, serving as a vital community anchor whose unique neutral status makes him indispensable to the citizens and criminals alike. Because he is one of the city's only reliable and consistent major, local food producers, officers, gangs, volunteers, reporters, and civilians all stop by Joe's shop for small talk and his delicious goods.
34. **UG "It's-a" Dory:** UG is the optimistic, relentlessly determined National Security Advisor to the President of the United States, serving as one of the White House's closest advisors on national security and federal crisis response. Officially, he's responsible for synthesizing intelligence from every major federal department into clear recommendations for President Donald Duck. Before reaching the Situation Room, he built one of the broadest careers in the federal government across more than fifty years of public service, working as an intelligence analyst, serving as a local Chief of Police, assisting FEMA during catastrophic natural disasters, supporting counterterrorism investigations, coordinating emergency logistics, advising public health officials during infectious disease outbreaks, contributing to cyber defense initiatives, working alongside military planners, and participating in numerous classified interagency task forces. Despite this remarkable résumé, he openly admits he's not the smartest scientist, greatest investigator, or strongest strategist in the room, instead relying on an exceptional ability to understand just enough about nearly every field to connect experts who would otherwise never work together. His effectiveness in the P-32 crisis is complicated by a growing disagreement with the federal government's response; while he understands the President must simultaneously balance international conflicts, economic instability, and countless national priorities, he firmly believes P-32 has not received the urgency it deserves. Recognizing both UG's unmatched breadth of experience and the need to focus on broader presidential responsibilities, President Donald Duck has entrusted him to oversee the federal response to the crisis. The White House relies heavily on his unparalleled access to classified intelligence from nearly every major federal department, his ability to identify connections between seemingly unrelated information, and his direct access to the President, allowing him to recommend executive action, secure federal resources, and elevate critical committee decisions to the highest level of government, but his tendency to trust others and constantly search for the good in people occasionally blinds him to manipulation from those with darker ambitions.
35. **General Azula "Fire" Madman:** General Azula "Fire" Madman is a retired four-star United States Navy Admiral living in the mountains of Northern California, where she spends her retirement writing controversial military journals, giving fiery, controversial, and almost comedic television interviews, and warning that the federal government has become dangerously indecisive in the face of existential threats. With an ironclad conviction that only force can ensure peace, she perceives the P-32 outbreak less as a health crisis than as a security disaster requiring swift and forceful military action. Before her retirement, she spent more than fifty years in the armed forces, progressing from a young fleet captain to becoming one of the most decorated admirals in recent U.S. history. During the Cold War era, she planned classified maritime deterrence missions, later leading several carrier task forces and naval task forces in various Middle Eastern conflicts, earning a reputation for bringing campaigns to an end through speed and force. With her unique battle record, she was admired by everyone in the military, and many officers still think of her as one of the greatest military strategists of her generation. It is difficult to say anything about the effectiveness of her actions, since she sees the world through the prism of a harsh philosophy that was developed by her during the years of endless wars, sure that the politicians always make the situation worse with their priorities, she supports the total destruction of Los Angeles if she believes the situation will escalate and threaten USA's safety into the hands of terrorists. She believes overwhelming force is needed to protect the freedom and institutions of the USA, even if it requires sacrifice. Although she does not have any official influence and although people do not like her ideas very much, her legend, wide connections among retired generals and admirals, and loyal followers from the military make her suggestions politically powerful.

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