

DANIELLE ELLIOTT
145 S. HARPER AVENUE
LOS ANGELES, CA 90048

December 13, 2009

Honorable Los Angeles City Councilmembers
200 N. Main St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: CF 090206 Valet Ordinance- **Support**

Honorable Members,

My name is Danielle Elliott. Regarding the above mentioned ordinance, I was the initiator, a consultant and also featured on KNBC Ch 4, Ana Garcia's investigative report, *Rogue Valets Exposed*. The proposed Valet Ordinance is desperately needed in the City of Los Angeles and will have substantial impact on high density residential communities adjacent to commercial corridors.

Currently, there is a system of rogue valet companies that "...do whatever it takes..." then deny any wrongdoing and responsibility for their actions. Most of these valet companies are fly-by-night, disreputable companies operating without any insurance or bonds. Even when insured or bonded, many of these company owners hire inexpensive, unlicensed drivers whose mere action of driving a vehicle would negate any insurance coverage or bond. Their valets park wherever they like, blocking driveways, disabling parking meters and post fraudulent valet signage. The situation is now critical.

Unsuspecting patrons, toss their keys to a valet not knowing if this person was just released from jail for burglary, car theft or part of an international ring of car smugglers. There is no oversight, no means of enforcement and no consumer protection. It is shocking that our great City has not seen fit to protect residents and visitors from these quick buck predators.

There are good, valid valet companies who provide excellent service, are insured, bonded and screen their drivers. These companies provide a service and are needed. It is time the City of Los Angeles join with other nearby metropolitan areas such as the Cities of Pasadena and Santa Monica and regulate valet companies.

Lastly, in developing a Proposed Valet Parking Program, I urge you to include the community for which the requesting company will serve. Each community has different issues and no one knows the issues better than the Homeowner Associations and the community at large.

Thank you,


Danielle Elliott

cc. City Attorney Carmen Trutanich
Sharon Gu/John White, Transportation Committee
City Clerk
Board of Police Commissioners