

10-0089

PUBLIC SAFETY

MOTION

JAN 15 2010

BUDGET & FINANCE JAN 20 2010

DNA analysis is among the most powerful tools available to identify and bring criminals to justice. It has been extraordinarily effective in the prosecution of persons found to have committed assault, rape and murder. Victims and victim advocates have rightfully demanded that the city eliminate the backlog of DNA samples, and the Los Angeles City Council, Mayor, and Los Angeles Police Department have all recognized the critical importance of prioritizing the testing of DNA samples and adopted a strategy to eliminate the backlog by the end of Fiscal Year 2009-10.

The LAPD has made significant progress in identifying the backlog of untested samples and creating a comprehensive strategic plan to eliminate the evidence kits obtained from crime victims that are awaiting analysis. To support this effort, the 2009-10 Adopted Budget included funding for outsourcing and hiring of 26 positions to perform DNA analysis. Despite the high priority of DNA analysis for the Council and Mayor, these positions have not yet been filled.

The City Council and Mayor remain committed to develop and maintain the staffing necessary to eliminating the current backlog of samples, sufficient staffing for processing once the samples have been tested and preventing future backlogs. In addition, while consideration of these positions is pending in the managed hiring process, it is critical that the Police Department have additional flexibility in order to achieve our shared goal of eliminating the backlog of untested samples by the end of this fiscal year. Specifically, the Police Department should be able to continue the use of outsourcing while the new hire decisions are pending.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council, subject to the approval of the Mayor, transfer the funding equivalent to two months of funding for the 26 positions (\$377,190) for the new hires allocated within Fund 100/70 (Police) from Account No. 1010 (Salaries General) to Account 3040 (Contractual Services) for DNA analysis in order to continue outsourcing while the new hires are pending.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Police Department resubmit the request for new hires to the managed hiring process immediately.

IFURTHER MOVE that the Police Department provide monthly status reports to the Public Safety Committee and the Council on the progress made on reducing the backlog of DNA evidence kits awaiting analysis by increasing the amount available for contractual services for this purpose.

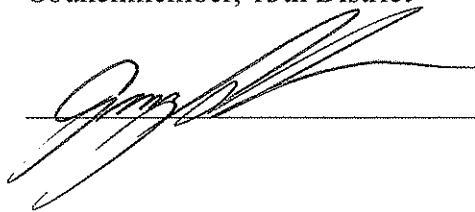
I FURTHER MOVE that the Chief of Police, or his designee, be authorized to make technical corrections that may be necessary to implement the intent of this action.

PRESENTED BY:



ERIC GARCETTI  
Councilmember, 13th District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL

January 15, 2010

