

Reconsideration of Item 17 from Wednesday, 3-21-12,
CF # 12-0342

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles has historically supported policies that prohibit discrimination based on race, gender, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, and disability; and

WHEREAS, KFI 640 AM merged with Clear Channel Communications in 2000, making KFI 640 AM Clear Channel's flagship AM radio station in Los Angeles;

WHEREAS, KFI 640 AM, averages approximately 1.5 million listeners during any given weekday; and

WHEREAS as noted in a recent L.A. Times article, a growing percentage of Southern California cities, including the Great City of Los Angeles, contain significant populations of at least two racial or ethnic groups; and

WHEREAS, KFI 640 AM, is listened to by all races, including but not limited to Asian Americans, African-Americans, Latinos, and Native Americans; and

WHEREAS, KFI 640 AM talk show hosts have a long history of racially offensive comments as well as deplorable sexist remarks, particularly towards women and Asian American, African-American, Latino and Native American communities;

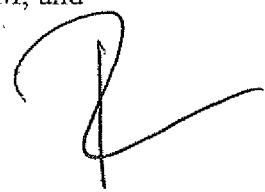
WHEREAS, February is National African-American History Month; and

WHEREAS, on February 15, 2012, KFI 640 AM's talk show hosts John Kobylt and Ken Chiampou of the "John and Ken Show" referred to pop music icon Whitney Houston as a "crack ho", three days after her death;

WHEREAS, March is National Women's History Month; and

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2012, on the eve of Women's History Month, KFI 640 AM's syndicated talk show host Rush Limbaugh referred to Sandra Fluke, a Georgetown University law student, as a "slut" and a "prostitute" for testifying on Capitol Hill about women's access to contraception. Other KFI hosts have made degrading statements to other communities by stating that Native Americans "should have been better warriors," remarking that there are "a lot of Korean painter scam guys," wishing that they could pound a "stupid, illegal alien leaf-blower guy" to a pulp with a tennis racket, and saying that "gays like bodies that remind them of 14-year-old boys," and

WHEREAS, given Clear Channel Media Holdings stated view on the value they place on diversity, it is our belief that corporate action must start at the top with KFI 640 AM; and



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WHEREAS, Clear Channel Media Holding's commitment to diversity is not being realized at its flagship station KFI 640 AM, where out of 15 on-air personalities, only one is a female and none of them are African-American; and

WHEREAS there are not any African-Americans currently working in KFI 640 AM's newsroom as full-time producers or engineers, or as outside paid contributors, fill-in hosts, or other on air personalities; and

WHEREAS, when you have an absence of Asian Americans, African-Americans, Latinos, and Native Americans in the workplace, it is easy to become desensitized to what other groups find intolerable which ultimately fosters an environment where negative comments can go unchecked and corporate guidelines and policies are no longer being enforced; and

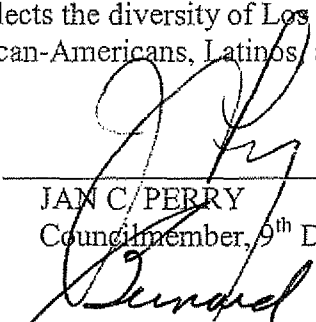
WHEREAS, a truly diverse work environment includes the continuous hiring of women and Asian Americans, African-Americans, Latinos, and Native Americans;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by adoption of this Resolution, the City Council urges all management of radio and television stations in Los Angeles to do everything in their power to ensure that their on-air hosts do not use and promote racist and sexist slurs over public airwaves in the City of Los Angeles; and

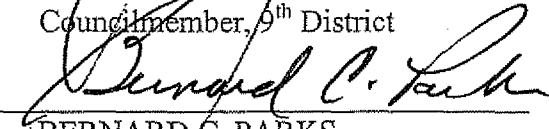
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the derogatory language used by some radio personnel has no place on public airwaves in the Great City of Los Angeles or anywhere in America; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a truly diverse work environment must include the hiring of a work force that reflects the diversity of Los Angeles which including women, Asian Americans, African-Americans, Latinos, and Native Americans.

PRESENTED BY: _____


JAN C. PERRY
Councilmember, 9th District

SECONDED BY: _____


BERNARD C. PARKS
Councilmember, 8th District


HERB WESSON JR.
Council President, 10th District

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