

INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

15-0293 54
RECEIVED

September 10, 2015
8.6

2015
POLICE COMMISSION

REWARD

TO: Honorable Board of Police Commissioners

FROM: Chief of Police

Norman Stefan
DATE 9/9/15

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PAYMENT OF REWARD OFFER ON CITY COUNCIL
FILE NO. 13-0010-S15

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

1. That the Board of Police Commissioners (Board) REVIEW and APPROVE the attached Application for Special Reward Payment.
2. That the Board TRANSMIT to the Mayor and City Council the Application for Special Reward Payment for review and approval.

DISCUSSION

On February 25, 2013, the Los Angeles Police Department, Robbery-Homicide Division, Robbery Special Section began to investigate a series of armed robberies in which the suspect would enter a business disguised as a female, point a handgun at the employees, order them to the ground, and demand money and jewelry.

The suspect is believed to be responsible for 15 incidents since December 19, 2012, targeting remittance companies that specialize in money transfers to the Philippines. The robberies occurred in the cities of Los Angeles, Glendale, West Covina, Rancho Cucamonga, and Chula Vista.

On February 25, 2013, Detectives Freddy Arroyo, Serial No. 26531, and Daniel Jaramillo, Serial No. 27604, were assigned to investigate this series.

On June 28, 2013, the Los Angeles City Council passed a motion authorizing a \$25,000.00 reward as an inducement for people to come forward with information leading to the identification, apprehension, and conviction of the person committing these crimes.

On July 1, 2013, a press release was issued by the Los Angeles Police Department announcing the reward.

On February 12, 2014, the detectives received information from a citizen who stated he viewed a media release and recognized the suspect in the robbery series as Joselito Rico, a Philippine National, who had previously resided in California and had been employed by Kaiser Permanente Hospital as a pharmacist.

Honorable Board of Police Commission

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Based on the information received from the citizen, the detectives were able to verify that Joselito Rico was in the Los Angeles area at the time of the robberies. The detectives also confirmed that he owned a BMW X5 SUV similar to the one described by various victims. Joselito Rico was also the owner of a 9mm handgun, similar to the one described in the various robberies.

On May 27, 2014, the detectives, assisted by the Federal Bureau of Investigations and Customs Border Protection, were able to obtain Joselito Rico's DNA upon his arrival to Los Angeles on a flight from the Philippines.

On June 19, 2014, the detectives were notified that the DNA obtained from Joselito Rico at the Los Angeles International Airport matched the DNA from discarded evidence collected at one of the robberies.

On August 21, 2014, Joselito Rico was arrested for robbery. As a result of this investigation, evidence collected, and statements from victims, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office filed multiple counts of robbery against Joselito Rico.

On August 7, 2015, Joselito Rico pled to multiple counts of robbery and was sentenced to 25 years in state prison, Superior Court Case No. BA428605.

It is the opinion of the investigating detectives that the claimant qualifies for the reward offer. The information provided by the citizen led to the identification, apprehension, and conviction of defendant Joselito Rico. Based on these facts, it is requested that the reward funds be paid to the claimant.

Should you have any questions, please contact Captain William P. Hayes, Commanding Officer, Robbery-Homicide Division, (213) 486-6840.

Respectfully,



CHARLIE BECK
Chief of Police

Attachment

BOARD OF
POLICE COMMISSIONERS
Approved *September 15, 2015*
Secretary *Maria Silva*

INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

August 27, 2015

8.6

TO: Chief of Police

FROM: Chief of Detectives

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PAYMENT OF REWARD OFFER ON CITY COUNCIL
NO. 13-0010S15

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 (FOR)
KIRK J. ALBANESE, Deputy Chief
Detective Bureau

Attachment

