

COMMUNICATION FROM VICE-CHAIR, PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE relative to payment of a reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the defendants in the hit-and-run death of Mr. David Pregerson.

Recommendations for Council actions, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR:

1. APPROVE payment to the claimant of a reward offer in the amount of \$50,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the defendants in the hit-and-run death of Mr. David Pregerson on December 27, 2013.
2. INSTRUCT the City Clerk to:
 - a. Transfer \$50,000 from the Reserve Fund to the Unappropriated Balance and APPROPRIATE therefrom to the Special Reward Trust Fund No. 436/14.
 - b. Transfer \$50,000 from the Special Reward Trust Fund No. 436/14, Account No. XXXXXX to the Police Department Fund No. 100/70, Secret Service Account No. 004310.
3. INSTRUCT the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) to make the appropriate reward payments.

Fiscal Impact Statement: None submitted by the LAPD. Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

SUMMARY

In a report to the Board of Police Commissioners dated May 1, 2015, LAPD recommends payment of a reward offer in the amount of \$50,000 to a witness for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the defendants in the hit-and-run death of Mr. David Pregerson. On December 27, 2013, at 0300 hours, Mr. Pregerson was walking in the 600 block of Chautauqua Boulevard when he was struck by a motor vehicle. The driver fled failing to identify himself or render aid. Mr. Pregerson later died from his injuries.

LAPD reports that on April 23, 2014, the witness contacted detectives and relayed suspicious information about the suspect in this case. This sparked an investigation that led to the arrests of the driver, Marguerite Vuong, for felony hit-and-run, and her husband, Michael Vuong, for accessory, for covering up the crime. In court, Ms. Vuong pled no contest and was sentenced to three years in State Prison. Mr. Vuong pled no contest and was sentenced to three years of probation, which included 365 days in County Jail.

It is the opinion of the investigating detective that without the witness information, the suspects would still be at large. On May 5, 2015, the Board of Police Commissioners approved LAPD's recommendation.

At the Public Safety Committee meeting held May 22, 2015, the Committee Vice-Chair

recommended that Council approve this reward payment, as recommended by the Board of Police Commissioners.

Respectfully Submitted,

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe P..." with a long, sweeping flourish at the end.

| <u>MEMBER</u> | <u>VOTE</u> |
|---------------|-------------|
| ENGLANDER: | ABSENT |
| BUSCAINO: | YES |
| BONIN: | ABSENT |
| O'FARRELL: | ABSENT |
| MARTINEZ: | ABSENT |

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-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-