

PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE REPORT relative to increasing the reimbursement rate for all forensic evidentiary examinations conducted by the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Centers at the request of the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD).

Recommendation for Council action as initiated by Motion (Martinez - Krekorian):

INSTRUCT the City Administrative Officer (CAO), with the assistance of the City Personnel Department, to report in regard to:

- a. The fiscal impact of approving the proposed increase in the reimbursement rate for all forensic evidentiary examinations conducted by the SART Centers at the request of the LAPD to \$1,021 per exam, with the rate to be adjusted annually based on changes in the Consumer Price Index, in line with the amount paid per exam by Los Angeles County, as described in the Motion, attached to the Council file.
- b. Consideration of if the City of Los Angeles should perform a fee study in connection with the proposed reimbursement rate as described above in Recommendation a.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the CAO nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

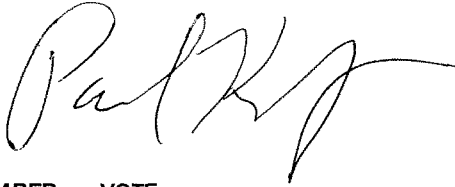
Summary:

On August 15, 2018, your Committee considered a Motion (Martinez - Krekorian) relative to increasing the reimbursement rate for all forensic evidentiary examinations conducted by the SART Centers at the request of the LAPD. According to the Motion, the LAPD uses SART Centers to collect forensic evidence in sexual assault investigations. These Centers, which are certified by Los Angeles County, are staffed by nurses and physicians who are specially trained in the area of forensics and the evidence they collect is an incredibly important part of sexual assault investigations.

The City Personnel Department is responsible for reimbursing SART Centers for exams through its Contractual Services Account, and currently pays \$730 for an examination of a victim and \$200 for the examination of a suspect. These rates have not been adjusted since 2001, and do not fully cover the costs of these examinations. The County also uses the SART Centers, and recently completed a study of costs associated with sexual assault examinations. As a result of this study, the County has increased the reimbursement rate to \$1,020 for all exams completed by SART Centers, and will adjust the reimbursement rate annually to account for changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The SART Centers have requested that the City raise its reimbursement rate to match the County's, as this will enable them to fully recover the costs associated with the services they provide. After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to recommend approval of the Motion, as amended, and detailed in the above recommendation. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE



MEMBER **VOTE**

KORETZ: YES

PRICE: YES

ENGLANDER: YES

ARL

8/15/18

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-