

INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

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November 27, 2018  
16.2

TO: The Honorable Board of Police Commissioners

REVIEWED POLICE COMMISSION

FROM: Chief of Police

*Richard M. Tefank*  
RICHARD M. TEFANK  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
11/30/18  
DATE

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PAYMENT OF REWARD OFFER (DR NO. 16-0328013)

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

It is requested that the Board approve and transmit to the City Council the recommendation that a \$25,000 reward be paid to Claimant.

On Monday, December 26, 2016, at approximately 1540 hours, a vehicle versus bicyclist hit and run traffic collision occurred at the intersection of 48<sup>th</sup> Street and 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The driver of the vehicle failed to stop and identify himself or render aid to the injured bicyclist. Unfazed by the traffic collision, the driver fled the scene and proceeded to hide his vehicle under a tarp to the rear of his residence. The bicyclist sustained severe injuries and was transported to California Hospital in grave condition and was later transported by helicopter to the University Southern California Medical Center (USCMC). The victim's injuries included bleeding on the brain, a skull fracture, crushed aorta, fractured face, fractured right femur, and internal injuries.

On December 28, 2016, a citizen became aware of the Hit and Run Reward Program and contacted South Traffic Division Detectives and provided the location of hit and run driver and the vehicle. The citizen provided the name: Javier Saravia Merlos and residence address of 4515 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90043. The citizen also stated that the suspect's vehicle was parked in the rear of the complex, covered with a tarp. Based on the information provided by the community member, detectives formulated a tactical plan to arrest Merlos.

On December 30, 2016, detectives responded to the location and took Merlos into custody without incident. Merlos was arrested and booked for Section 20001(A) "Felony Hit and Run" of the California Vehicle Code. After lengthy criminal proceedings, Merlos admitted to the crime at the Preliminary Hearing and received a two-year prison sentence (Case Number CNBA45358201/LA) on November 13, 2017. South Traffic Division is thankful for the community member's bravery and assistance in bringing this case to a successful resolution.

Chief of Police  
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If you have any questions, please contact Detective III Karen Jones, Commanding Officer, South Traffic Detective Section, at (323) 421-2500.

Respectfully,



MICHEL MOORE  
Chief of Police

Attachment

BOARD OF  
POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
Approved December 4, 2018  
Secretary Maria Selva

**INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE**

March 21, 2018  
5.5

**TO:** Chief of Police

**FROM:** Commanding Officer, Operations-South Bureau

**SUBJECT:** PAYMENT OF HIT AND RUN REWARD FOR DR NO. 1603-28013

Due to an increase in the number of hit and run traffic collisions, the Los Angeles City Council created the Hit and Run Reward Program to engage and seek the community's assistance to identify and deter hit and run drivers.

On Monday, December 26, 2016, at approximately 1540 hours, a Vehicle Versus Bicyclist Hit and Run Collision occurred at the intersection of 48<sup>th</sup> Street and 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The driver of the vehicle failed to stop and identify himself or render aid to the injured bicyclist. Unfazed by the collision, the driver fled the scene and went home and hid his vehicle in the rear of his residence. The bicyclist sustained severe injuries and was transported to California Hospital in grave condition. He was later flown by helicopter to University Southern California Medical Center (USCMC). The victim's injuries included bleeding on the brain, skull fracture, crushed aorta, fractured face, fractured right femur, and internal injuries.

On December 28, 2016, a citizen became aware of the Hit and Run Reward Program and contacted South Traffic Division Detectives and provided the location of the hit and run driver, and his vehicle. The citizen provided a name: Javier Saravia Merlos and residence address 4515 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Los Angeles California 90043. Also, that his vehicle was parked in the rear of the complex covered with a tarp. Based on the information provided by the citizen, detectives formulated a tactical plan to arrest Merlos.

On December 30, 2016, detectives responded to the location and took Merlos into custody without incident. Merlos was arrested and booked for 20001(A)VC, Felony Hit and Run. Merlos admitted to the crime and at the Preliminary Hearing received a two-year prison sentence. Case Number CNBA45358201/LA. South Traffic Division is thankful for the citizen's bravery, and assistance in bringing this case to a successful resolution.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact Detective III Karen Jones, Commanding Officer, South Traffic Detective Section, at (323) 421-2500.

*wh* *on 3/27*  
JONATHAN TOM, Captain  
Commanding Officer  
South Traffic Division

APPROVED:

*[Signature]*  
PHILLIP C. TINGIRIDES, Deputy Chief  
Commanding Officer  
Operations-South Bureau

CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
APPLICATION FOR SPECIAL REWARD PAYMENT

**DISCLAIMER**

ORIG - LAPD Mail to: Traffic Coordination Section, 100 W. First St, Room #469, Los Angeles, CA 90012  
DUPE -- City Clerk  
DUPE - Claimant

Neither the filing nor submitting of information, nor the receipt or consideration thereof by the City, shall establish legal claim to, or right of recovery of, any reward offered. The provision of payment shall be governed by Chapter 12, Division 18 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code.

1. PRINT NAME OF APPLICANT: Last, [REDACTED] First, [REDACTED] Middle, [REDACTED]  
2. ADDRESS: (Street) [REDACTED] (City) [REDACTED] (State - Zip) [REDACTED]  
Daytime Phone & Contact Person: [REDACTED]  
3. TODAY'S DATE: 11-30-17  
4. OCCUPATION: [REDACTED]  
5. DRIVER'S LICENSE # or CALIF ID #: [REDACTED]  
6. SOCIAL SECURITY #: [REDACTED] (For payment purposes)

NOTE: The applicant is responsible for providing ALL of the following required information. A claim that does not provide the following required information may be disapproved for insufficient information.

7. DATE OF INCIDENT: 12-21-11  
8. TIME OF INCIDENT: 3:40  AM  PM  
 NGON  MIDNIGHT  
LOCATION OF INCIDENT: 48th STREET AND 9th AVENUE  
TYPE OF CRIME/INVESTIGATION: HIT AND RUN  
9. DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT: I WAS ADVISED BY A FAMILY MEMBER THAT THE HIT AND RUN THAT HAPPENED ON 9th AVE, (THE DRIVER LIVES AT 4515 12th AVENUE AND HIS NAME IS JAVIER SARRAIA. THE HIT AND RUN WAS IN CONNECTION WITH THE ARREST OF THE HAZE  
12. PARENT OR GUARDIAN SIGNATURE (under 18 years)

INVESTIGATING OFFICER: Name YOUNT Serial # 3022 Agency LAPD-STD  
Phone # 323-421-2522

NAME OF VICTIM OR CASE: MIKIAL ABDOLAH HASAN

RECOMMENDATION:  APPROVAL  DISAPPROVAL  INSUFFICIENT INVOLVEMENT  INSUFFICIENT INFORMATION  
INVESTIGATION CHECKLIST ATTACHED:  Yes  No

BRIEF EXPLANATION OR COMMENTS:

[REDACTED] PROVIDED THE NAME OF THE HIT AND RUN SUSPECT AND WHERE HE LIVED AND WHERE THE VEHICLE WAS PARKED. THE INFORMATION LED TO THE ARREST AND CONVICTION OF THE  
REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY: HIT AND RUN SUSPECT.

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
REWARD CLAIM CHECKLIST**

This form must be submitted with the Department's recommendation concerning payment of the reward.  
One checklist must be submitted for each claimant.

COUNCIL FILE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ DR/AGENCY FILE NUMBER: 16-0328013  
TYPE OF CRIME/INVESTIGATION: HIT & RUN FELONY REWARD AMOUNT: \$ 25,000  
REWARD EFFECTIVE DATE: 12/26/16 REWARD EXPIRATION DATE: 06/26/17  
INFO RECEIVED WHILE REWARD IN EFFECT:  YES  NO  
(Check one) DATE RECEIVED: 12-28-16  
CLAIMANT: \_\_\_\_\_ CLAIMANT'S OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name or "Anonymous." If multiple anonymous claimants, indicate as "Claimant A, Claimant B," etc.)  
CASE INVEST. BY: LAPD SOUTH TRAFFIC DETECTIVES OTHER CITY DEPARTMENT: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Div/Section)  
Investigator(s) Assigned: KITTI J. YOUNT 30021 Telephone: (323) 421-2500  
(Name and Serial No.) Telephone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

The above claimant is  ELIGIBLE  NOT ELIGIBLE to receive payment of a reward pursuant to the Los Angeles Administrative Code Division 19, Chapter 12, Sections 19.120 through 19.129.4.

**Reason(s) for claimant being NOT ELIGIBLE to receive payment**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Claimant is a City Officer, employee, or public officer or employee whose employment includes duties of law enforcement.                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Claimant obtained information for a relative who is a City Officer, employee, or public officer or employee, and that person obtained the information in the course of his/her employment. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Claimant is a dependent of a City Officer, employee, or public officer or employee whose duties include law enforcement.                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Claimant has not provided continued cooperation within the criminal justice system relative to the case for which the offer of reward is made.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Claimant has already been compensated by his/her employer in some other manner for the actions which are the basis for claiming the reward. | <input type="checkbox"/> Claimant is co-suspect in the crime for which the reward is offered.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The suspect would benefit from payment of the reward to the claimant.   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The claimant is acting as an agent for the suspect.   |   |

Explanation:

If additional space is needed, use next page.)

APPROVED BY Kitti Yount 30021 RANK/TITLE POLICE OFFICER