

**TO THE COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF LOS ANGELES**

**File No. 09-1901**

**Your PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**reports as follows:**

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT directing the Police Department to report on a periodic basis relative to efforts undertaken to reduce the backlog of DNA evidence kits.

Recommendation for Council action, as initiated by Motion (Garcetti – Koretz – Smith – Parks):

DIRECT the Police Department to present monthly verbal reports and quarterly written reports to the Public Safety Committee regarding on-going efforts to reduce DNA evidence kit backlogs, including updates on total funds spent, personnel hired, and related matters.

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

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

SUMMARY

On July 29, 2009, Council considered Motion (Garcetti – Koretz – Smith – Parks) directing the Police Department to report on a periodic basis relative to efforts undertaken to reduce the backlog of DNA evidence kits. Motion states that eliminating the DNA backlog will dramatically enhance public safety. DNA results are uploaded into the CODIS database, which links together local, state and federal agencies for cross-analyzing DNA profiles and identifying suspects. A "hit" is generated when an evidence kit matches a profile previously entered into CODIS. This is a very effective tool for identifying serial perpetrators who have committed multiple crimes. Reducing the backlog increases the likelihood of DNA hits being generated.

The Police Department has regularly reported to the Public Safety Committee on its progress in reducing the DNA backlog. Motion makers believe that these updates should continue regularly to ensure that backlog reduction goals are achieved and that the Police Department is hiring the necessary personnel to meet these goals. Council referred Motion to the Public Safety Committee for consideration.

At its meeting held January 25, 2009, the Public Safety Committee recommended that Council direct the Police Department to present monthly verbal reports and quarterly written reports to regarding on-going efforts to reduce DNA evidence kit backlogs.

Respectfully submitted,

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
SMITH:	YES
CARDENAS:	ABSENT
PERRY:	ABSENT
REYES:	YES
ZINE:	YES

- NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS -