

COMMUNICATION

TO: LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

File No. 10-0555

**FROM: COUNCILMEMBER MITCHELL ENGLANDER, CHAIR
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR, PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE relative to Police Department DNA quarterly reports for the periods October through December, 2010, and January through March, 2011.

Recommendation for Council action:

NOTE and FILE communications from the Board of Police Commissioners relative to Police Department DNA quarterly reports for the periods October through December, 2010 (dated February 1, 2011), and January through March, 2011 (dated June 7, 2011).

Fiscal Impact Statement: Not applicable.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

In their quarterly reports to the Board of Police Commissioners (attached to the Council file), the Police Department provides a status update for progress made reducing the backlog of DNA evidence kits for the periods October through December, 2010, and January through March, 2011. All the Sexual Assault Evidence Kits (SAEKs) from the Historical Backlog have been analyzed. The reports detail the number of forensic unknown profiles into the Combined Offender DNA Index System, offender hits, and case-to-case hits. Both reports go on to discuss various other aspects of the Department's efforts to eliminate the backlog of SAEKs, including outsourcing costs, new staff hired and trained, innovations, and other activities.

At the Public Safety Committee meeting held August 8, 2011, the Committee Chair discussed this matter with representative of the Police Department. Department staff stated that the backlog has been eliminated. Currently, new DNA kits are tested in-house or prepared for outsourcing as soon as they are submitted. As soon as new criminalists are fully trained and court-certified, the Department will begin to reduce the use of outside laboratories. The Committee Chair recommended that Council note and file the Police Department reports.

Respectfully submitted,

- NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS -

MITCHELL ENGLANDER, CHAIR
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
ENGLANDER:	YES
CÁRDENAS:	ABSENT
PERRY:	ABSENT
REYES:	ABSENT
ZINE:	ABSENT