

MOTION

I MOVE that the matter relative to the continued consideration of Resolution (Bonin - O'Farrell) authorizing a cash payment to the legal beneficiaries of Fire Captain I/Paramedic Matthew Gerard McKnight for his accumulated full-pay sick leave, Item No. 33 on today's Council Agenda (C.F. 13-1553), **BE AMENDED**, to effectuate the following actions:

- 1. ADOPT the attached substitute resolution, pursuant to MOU 23, article 3.3 to provide a cash payment to the legal beneficiaries of Fire Captain I/Paramedic Matthew Gerard McKnight, who suffered a duty-related death, for the balance of his accumulated full-pay sick leave at 100 percent of his salary rate on the date of his death.
- 2. DIRECT the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) to expedite the above referenced payment, to be calculated in accordance with the provisions of LAAC Section 4.176(b), and utilizing funds currently budgeted in the LAFD's salaries account.
- 3. REQUEST the City Attorney to prepare and present an ordinance to conform Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 4.176(b) to the terms of MOU 23, Article 3.3 as expeditiously as possible.

PRESENTED BY: Mike Bonin
MIKE BONIN
Councilmember, 11th District

SECONDED BY: Matthew O'Farrell

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on Monday, August 12, 2013 at 1:07 a.m., on-duty Fire Captain I/Paramedic Matthew Gerard McKnight was discovered unresponsive by his colleagues after his unwitnessed collapse inside the Los Angeles Fire Department Metropolitan Fire Communications Center, just before the conclusion of a busy 5-hour watch, during a 24-hour shift where he directly supervised eleven firefighter/dispatchers; and

WHEREAS, despite the exhaustive efforts of his colleagues who immediately performed CPR, applied a defibrillator and instituted advanced life support measures, Captain McKnight was pronounced dead a short time later; and

WHEREAS, Captain McKnight served the City's residents for over 31 years as a veteran member of the Los Angeles Fire Department, showing unparalleled professionalism and dedication to his firefighting and supervisory duties, and compassion for victims at every emergency to which he responded; and

WHEREAS, Captain McKnight was only 51 years old and left behind a wife and two young children, as well as two brothers who are active-duty Los Angeles City Firefighters; and

WHEREAS, MOU 23, Article 3.3 provides that the City Council may, by resolution, authorize cash payment to the legal beneficiaries of a member of the Fire Department who suffers a duty-related death, for the balance of the member's accumulated full-pay sick leave at 100% of the member's salary rate on the date of his/her death; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate for the City of Los Angeles to make every effort to fulfill its moral obligation to support the families of City employees who have died in the performance of their job-related duties;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with MOU 23, Article 3.3, the Council hereby authorizes cash payment to the legal beneficiaries of Fire Captain I/Paramedic Matthew Gerard McKnight who suffered a duty-related death, for the balance of his accumulated full-pay sick leave at 100% of his salary rate on the date of his death; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Fire Department is hereby directed to expedite the above referenced payment, to be calculated in accordance with the provisions of Section 4.176(b) of the Los Angeles Administrative Code, and utilizing funds currently budgeted in the Fire Department's salaries account.