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# City of Los Angeles

CALIFORNIA



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November 9, 2022

Mayor Eric Garcetti  
Los Angeles City Council  
c/o Office of the City Clerk  
City Hall, Room 395  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers:

RE: Los Angeles Fire Department Chief Physician Recruitment

At a special meeting held on Monday, October 24, 2022, the Los Angeles City Health Commission (Commission) discussed the need for a full-time Chief Medical Officer for the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Bureau.

The LAFD EMS Bureau responds to about 400,000 emergency medical incidents annually, which is 85 percent of the LAFD's annual emergency calls. In order to respond to these incidents, the Chief Medical Officer introduced an innovative approach utilizing a tiered dispatch system that included a nurse practitioner to respond to frequent users and transports to alternate facilities for behavioral and intoxication cases.

The proposed salary range for the LAFD Chief Physician is \$168,606.00 - \$253,272.40. By comparison, comparable positions in other local jurisdictions offer a salary in the range of \$350,000 plus. The base salary for the Medical Director of the Los Angeles County Fire Department, which has similar qualifications, is \$320,534, with a total compensation of \$430,571.

In order to attract the best candidates, the Commission recommends the review and reconsideration of the proposed salary for Chief Medical Officer, a position with several critical roles and responsibilities that are of great value to the residents of the City of Los Angeles.

The attached Motion (Hisserich – Mandel) was approved unanimously.

Sincerely,

Howard C. Mandel, M.D., FACOG  
President