

# MOTION

PUBLIC SAFETY

In the early hours of December 8, 2014 a structure fire broke out at the under-construction DaVinci apartments, located at 906 Fremont Avenue in Downtown Los Angeles. The fire spread quickly, completely destroying the apartment building and causing significant damage to the 110 freeway and adjacent buildings. Luckily, no one was injured or killed in the fire, which caused between \$25 and \$30 million in damage. Fire Department (LAFD) investigators, assisted by detectives from the Police Department (LAPD) and specialists from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosive National Response Team (ATF NRT) have determined that the fire was deliberately started. Investigators believe a monetary reward may compel members of the public to provide information on the identity of the person or persons responsible for setting the blaze.

The person or persons responsible for this crime represent an ongoing threat to the safety of the people of Los Angeles; therefore, it is appropriate for the City of Los Angeles to offer a reward for information leading to the identification, apprehension and conviction of the person or persons responsible for igniting the fire in the DaVinci building, destroying that building and causing significant damage to adjacent buildings and the 110 freeway.

I THEREFORE MOVE that by adoption of this Motion, the City Council provide an offer of reward for information leading to the identification, apprehension, and conviction of the person or persons responsible for starting the massive fire in the under-construction DaVinci building on December 8, 2014, and in support thereof, make the following findings pursuant to Division 19, Chapter 12, Article 1 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code:

1. That this fire was caused by the willful misconduct of one or more persons.
2. That this offer of reward is consistent with and taken for the immediate protection of the public peace, health and safety of local residents, as well as visitors to the City, and is consistent with the need to arrest and convict the person or persons who, because of not being apprehended, could by their actions further terrorize and present a continuing and immediate menace to the rights of persons in the City.
3. That what happened is an especially disturbing crime and therefore, as a matter of public policy, the City hereby offers a reward as an added inducement for persons to come forward with information leading to the identification, apprehension and conviction of the person or persons responsible for starting a massive fire in an under-construction building in Downtown Los Angeles on December 8, 2014.
4. That the sum of \$75,000 shall be the aggregate maximum sum of any payment or payments of a City reward in this instance.
5. That the offer of reward shall be in effect for six months from the date of the advertisement of the reward by the City Clerk.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Clerk be directed to cause notices and/or advertisements to be duly published according to the requirements of Division 19, Chapter 12, Article 1 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code, and to thereby cause the offer of reward to become effective.

JAN 2 C 2015

PRESENTED BY:

JOSE HUIZAR  
Councilmember, 14<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY:

ORIGINAL