

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT relative to payment of a reward for \$25,000 in connection with two assaults that were committed on August 1, 2016.

Recommendations for Council action, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR:

1. APPROVE the payment of \$25,000 for information leading to the identification, apprehension, and conviction of the person responsible for breaking into two apartments and assaulting two women on August 1, 2016. (Superior Court Case No. BA449338)
2. AUTHORIZE the Controller to Transfer \$25,000 from the Reserve Fund to the Unappropriated Balance and APPROPRIATE therefrom to the Special Reward Trust Fund No. 436/14.
3. INSTRUCT the City Clerk to transfer \$25,000 from the Special Reward Trust Fund No. 436/14, Account No. XXXXXX to the Police Department Fund No. 100/70, Secret Service Account No. 004310.
4. INSTRUCT the Los Angeles Police Department to make the appropriate reward payment.

Fiscal Impact Statement: None submitted by Board of Police Commissioners (Board). 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 February 13, 2024, your Committee considered a January 2, 2024 Board report relative to payment of a reward for \$25,000 in connection with two assaults that were committed on August 1, 2016. According to the Board, it is requesting that a previously approved reward offer be paid to a community member who was instrumental in identifying a suspect who was arrested and convicted of an assault to commit rape and multiple burglaries, City Council File No. 16-0010-S33, DR No. 16-02-14875. It is the opinion of the investigating detective that the information received from this tipster led to the arrest and conviction of Russell Malcolm Harris, who was sentenced to state prison for a total of 24 years and 8 months, on February 15, 2019, Court Case No. BA449338.

On August 1, 2016, a series of hot prowl burglaries began in the City of Los Angeles with a single male adult suspect. The reward of \$25,000 was offered on a motion passed by the Los Angeles City Council, on August 23, 2016, and subsequently approved by the Mayor, on August 26, 2016. A media release of the information, along with this reward, was disseminated to news organizations. In the following days, a tip from a community member led detectives to investigate a suspect. It is the opinion of the investigating

detective that the information received from this tipster led to the arrest and conviction of Russell Malcolm Harris, who was sentenced to state prison for a total of 24 years and 8 months, on February 15,2019, Court Case No. BA449338. After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to recommend approval of the reward payment. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Public Safety Committee

| COUNCILMEMBER | VOTE |
|----------------------|-------------|
| RODRIGUEZ: | YES |
| LEE: | YES |
| McOSKER: | YES |
| PARK: | YES |
| SOTO-MARTINEZ: | YES |

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2/13/24

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