

# County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012 (213) 974-1101 http://ceo.lacounty.gov

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

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May 01, 2018

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**ADOPTED** 

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

60 Ma

May 1, 2018

CELIA ZAVALA
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

APPOINTMENT AND SALARY FOR INTERIM DIRECTOR OF CONSUMER
AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS (UC)
ALL DISTRICTS
(3 VOTES)

#### **SUBJECT**

Recommendation to appoint and set the salary for Joseph Nicchitta to serve as Interim Director of Consumer and Business Affairs (UC).

#### IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

- 1. Appoint Joseph Nicchitta as the Interim Director of Consumer and Business Affairs (UC), effective May 1, 2018, at an annual salary of \$237,290.
- 2. Instruct the Director of Personnel to execute an at-will employment contract that is approved as to form by County Counsel.

#### PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Brian Stiger, former Director of Consumer and Business Affairs (UC), assumed the position of Chief Legislative Representative for the County on April 30, 2018. To ensure the duties and responsibilities of this critical position are carried out with as little interruption as possible, and to ensure that this position is filled in an efficient and expeditious manner, we request that the Board of Supervisors (Board) approve the recommendation of Mr. Joseph Nicchitta as the Interim Director of Consumer and Business Affairs (UC).

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Mr. Nicchitta has been serving as the County's Cannabis Management Officer since 2016, where he has direct responsibility for the Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) within the Chief Executive Office (CEO), and leads the County's efforts in implementing a regulatory program for commercial cannabis in Los Angeles County. Mr. Nicchitta will retain executive responsibility for the OCM as Interim Director of Consumer and Business Affairs with the functions and staff at CEO. Prior to his current assignment, Mr. Nicchitta served as a Senior Deputy County Counsel advising the Board, County commissions, and departmental personnel in matters involving land use, zoning, environmental regulations, affordable housing, First Amendment and Establishment Clause issues, public and civic art, museum law, and other matters. Mr. Nichitta has also held the positions of Deputy County Counsel, Senior Associate County Counsel, and Associate County Counsel in the Office of the County Counsel.

Given Mr. Nicchitta's experience, it is recommended that the Board appoint Mr. Nicchitta as Interim Director of Consumer Affairs (UC), effective May 1, 2018, at an annual salary of \$237,290.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

Approval of these recommendations will further the County of Los Angeles' Strategy III.3, Pursue Operational Effectiveness, Fiscal Responsibility, and Accountability to continually assess our efficiency and effectiveness, maximize and leverage resources, and hold ourselves accountable.

## **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The cost of the recommended salary will be absorbed within the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs' current budget.

#### FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The recommended salary will provide appropriate compensation to Mr. Nicchitta to perform the duties of Interim Director of Consumer and Business Affairs (UC).

# **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

Implementation of these recommendations will provide leadership for the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs.

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Sochi a. Hamai

Respectfully submitted,

SACHI A. HAMAI

Chief Executive Officer

SAH:JJ:MM:MTK

NV:TL:mst

C: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
 County Counsel
 Auditor-Controller
 Consumer and Business Affairs
 Human Resources