

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

April 16, 2019

Extend the Reward Offer in the Murder of Tauvaaga (Judy) Lauvai

On Saturday, June 16, 2018, at approximately 8:55 p.m., fifty-three-year-old Tauvaaga Lauvai, also known as Judy, was shot and killed on the front porch of her family’s residence located on the 22700 block of Island Avenue in the city of Carson. Judy was visiting from out-of-state for an early Father’s Day celebration with her family when an unknown suspect(s) stopped his light-colored four-door sedan in front of the residence. The suspect(s) fired multiple gunshots toward family members, striking Judy and grazing a family member’s leg, before fleeing southbound on Island Avenue. Judy was transported to the Saint Francis Medical Center, where she ultimately succumbed to her injury.

At the time of her murder, Judy had been married for 28 years and was devoted to her four adult children and extended family, as well as to her church. She was a graduate of Carson High School and had spent over 50 years of her life as a resident of the city of Carson. She was employed as an Administrative Assistant in the University Technology Office at Arizona State University. Judy’s family is devastated by the loss, and has been very helpful during the investigation.

- MORE -

MOTION

SOLIS _____

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KUEHL _____

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April 16, 2019

PAGE 2

To date, investigators have received no viable clues regarding this tragedy. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) detectives believe that there are witnesses in the neighborhood that may have seen the suspect(s) leave the area or know of his/their identity. Any individuals with information about this crime are urged to contact LASD's Homicide Bureau or Crime Stoppers.

On July 24, 2018 the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors initially approved a reward offer in the amount of \$10,000 in exchange for information leading to the apprehension and/or conviction of person(s) responsible for the death of Judy Lauvai. This reward was extended on October 16, 2018 and is set to expire on April 19, 2019. The detectives assigned to this case recommend that this reward be extended to help solve the crime and bring some sense of closure and justice to the family.

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Extend the offer of a reward in the amount of \$10,000 in exchange for information leading to the apprehension and/or conviction of the person(s) responsible for the death of fifty-three-year-old Tauvaaga Lauvai, also known as Judy, who was shot and killed on June 16, 2018 at approximately 8:55 p.m., while on the front porch of her family's residence located on the 22700 block of Island Avenue in the city of Carson.

Contact: Lieutenant Joe Mendoza
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
Homicide Bureau
(323) 890-5564

- or -

Crime Stoppers
(800) 222-8477

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