BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
383 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION / LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

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SACHI A. HAMAI, EXECUTIVE OFFICER
(213) 974-1411

May 30, 2006

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:

RECOMMENDATION REGARDING ALLOCATION OF REWARD FUNDS IN THE MATTER OF THE CAPTURE AND CONVICTION OF ALONZO FITZGERALD TAYLOR (ALL DISTRICTS) (3-VOTE)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Approve the recommendation of the Reward Committee to distribute reward funds in amount of $10,000 to be paid from the Board's discretionary funds to the individual who provided information which led to the capture and conviction of Alonzo Fitzgerald Taylor who escaped from the Criminal Courts Building on May 3, 2005.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors received a claim for the $10,000 reward offered by your Board on behalf of an informant who wishes to remain anonymous. In accordance with the provisions of the County Code, your Board must now consider the claim and make a final determination for distribution of the reward funds.

In 1993, the Board of Supervisors adopted an amendment to the County Code that established procedures for offering cash rewards for information leading to the apprehension and/or conviction of persons guilty of criminal acts. Your Board from time to time has offered such rewards to encourage citizens to come forward and assist law enforcement with their investigations.

A panel made up of individuals representing the Sheriff, the Chief Administrative Officer, the County Counsel and the Executive Officer of the Board reviewed the claim filed for the reward funds. The panel has recommended that $10,000 be awarded to the informant based on the following information presented to the Reward Committee:

- On Tuesday, May 3, 2005, inmate Alonzo Fitzgerald Taylor managed to escape from the Criminal Courts Building by changing his attire to a white suit to disguise himself as a released inmate. Mr. Taylor was being held and charged with robbery and kidnapping in Santa Monica.

- On or about May 17, 2005, the informant received a phone call from a co-worker who indicated that representatives from the U.S. Marshall Service wanted the informant to report to the work location to obtain information about Mr. Taylor.

- The informant immediately proceeded to the work location and was greeted by Mr. John Hinton and Mr. Tim Boggs from the U.S. Marshall Service. The informant did recognize Mr. Taylor from a "wanted" poster and indicated that Mr. Taylor had on several occasions spoken to the informant. After 4 ½ hours the informant was unable to ascertain where Mr. Taylor was staying.

- The informant continued to try to assist Mr. Hinton and Mr. Boggs in locating Mr. Taylor. On May 21, 2005, the informant came in contact with Mr. Taylor and was able to determine where Mr. Taylor could be found. The informant immediately contacted Mr. Hinton and Mr. Boggs, who subsequently arrived, with additional officers, at the Home Lodge located in Forest Park, Georgia and apprehended Mr. Taylor.

- At the time of Mr. Taylor's apprehension, Mr. Hinton and Mr. Boggs indicated to the informant that there was a reward established that they thought the informant would be entitled to.

- On June 2, 2005, Mr. Taylor was taken into custody by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. He was charged and convicted with burglary, kidnapping and escape. Mr. Taylor, being a third strike felon, was sentenced to 62 years to life on all charges against him.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Approval of the above recommendation supports the County Strategic Goal of Service Excellence. Posting of reward notices on the County website may encourage persons to provide information to law enforcement which could lead to the arrest and conviction of the individuals who commit crimes, thereby improving the quality of life to residents of Los Angeles County by removing such individuals from the community.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The Board of Supervisors established a $10,000 reward fund. Pursuant to provisions in the County Code, the reward is to be paid from the Board of Supervisors' discretionary funds in equal shares of $2,000 from each member's account.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The action recommended is in compliance with the County Code, Title 4 - Revenue and Finance relating to rewards; and specifically Section 4.50.010B which states, "conviction of the person or persons responsible for the crime shall be required for payment of a reward unless the Board of Supervisors makes a finding of impossibility of conviction due to the death or incapacity of such person or persons."

The attached notice was posted on the Board of Supervisors' web site and published in the Daily News. In addition, copies were provided to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. The filing period to submit a claim to the Executive Office for the reward money expired on October 7, 2005.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

There is no impact on current County Services.

Respectfully submitted,

Sachi A. Hamai

SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Attachment

R:\Reward Letters\Reward Letter regarding Alonzo Fitzgerald Taylor.dot

c: District Attorney
Sheriff
Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
County Counsel

NOTICE OF $10,000 REWARD
OFFERED BY THE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles is offering a $10,000 reward for any information leading to the capture and conviction of inmate Alonzo Fitzgerald Taylor who escaped from the Criminal Courts Building on May 3, 2005.

Any person having any information related to this crime is requested to call the Sheriff's Headquarters Bureau at (323) 526-5541 and refer to Report No. 005-00191-4016-323.

The terms of the reward provide that:

-- The information given that leads to the determination of the identity, the apprehension and conviction of any person or persons must be given no later than August 8, 2005. All reward claims must be in writing and shall be received no later than October 7, 2005.

-- The total County payment of any and all rewards shall in no event exceed $10,000 and no claim shall be paid prior to conviction unless the Board of Supervisors makes a finding of impossibility of conviction due to the death or incapacity of the person or persons responsible for the crime or crimes.

-- The County reward may be apportioned between various persons and/or paid for the conviction of various persons as the circumstances fairly dictate.

Any claims for the reward funds should be filed no later than October 7, 2005 with the Executive Officer of the Board of Supervisors, 500 West Temple Street, Room 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Los Angeles, California 90012, Attention: Alonzo Fitzgerald Taylor Reward Fund. For further information, please call (213) 974-1747.

Si no entiende esta noticia o si necesita más informacion, favor de llamar a este numero (213) 974-1747.

VIOLET VARONA-LUKENS
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES