

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR KATHRYN BARGER

May 2, 2023

**Reward Extension and Increase in the Homicide Investigation of Salvador Esparza III**

On Tuesday, July 5, 2016, at approximately 10:40 p.m., Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) deputies were dispatched to the 300 block of West Figueroa Drive in unincorporated Altadena. Responding deputies found 4-year-old Salvador Esparza III lying on the front porch suffering from a single gunshot wound to his head. Salvador was transported to Huntington Memorial Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries. Another gunshot victim, a 27-year-old African American male was also found lying on the front porch and was transported to Huntington Memorial Hospital where he was treated for his injury.

According to witnesses, the suspect was chasing the 27-year-old male onto the property and shot at him, striking both victims. The suspect then ran south on Olive Avenue.

LASD investigators believe the suspect to be a gang member, and the shooting is believed to be gang related. LASD investigators also believe that Salvador and his family were not the intended target. Salvador is survived by his parents and

MOTION

SOLIS	_____
MITCHELL	_____
HORVATH	_____
BARGER	_____
HAHN	_____

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grandparents.

The original \$20,000 reward was approved by the Board on August 2, 2016. It was subsequently increased to \$25,000 on February 23, 2021, increased to \$50,000 on May 3, 2022, and is set to expire on May 13, 2023. A reward of this amount speaks to the severity and senseless of this tragedy. LASD Investigators remain hopeful that extending the reward will bring forth witnesses to help solve this crime and bring this very distraught family justice and closure.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors extend and increase the reward previously offered in the amount of \$50,000 to \$75,000 in exchange for information leading to the apprehension and conviction of the perpetrator(s) responsible for the heinous murder of 4-year-old Salvador Esparza III.

**CONTACTS:**

LASD/Homicide Bureau

Sergeant Domenick Recchia

**Office: (323) 890-5500**

Los Angeles Regional Crime Stoppers Hotline

**(800) 222-TIPS (8477)**

<http://lacrimestoppers.org>

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KB:scg