

EXECUTIVE OFFICE



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

EDWARD YEN
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

26 June 25, 2024

EDWARD YEN
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

June 25, 2024

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
RELATING TO RICARDO TRUJILLO RAMIREZ
(ALL DISTRICTS) (3-VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Board approval is being requested for the distribution of reward funds in the amount of \$20,000 to be paid from the Board's discretionary funds.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

Approve the recommendation of the Reward Committee to distribute reward funds in the amount of \$20,000 to be paid from the Board's discretionary funds to the individual who provided information to law enforcement that led to the apprehension and conviction of a juvenile suspect, who was convicted for the heinous murder of Ricardo Trujillo Ramirez.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

On Friday, September 24, 2021, 16-year-old Ricardo Trujillo Ramirez was fatally shot on the 1900 block of East Pine Street in the City of Compton. Mr. Trujillo Ramirez had just left a gathering with some friends near Pine Street, while walking to his car with his friends, a large fight started in the middle of the street. During the altercation, a suspect pulled out a firearm and shot Mr. Trujillo Ramirez, who suffered a gunshot wound to the upper torso and died at the scene.

On January 25, 2022, the Board approved a \$10,000 reward in exchange for information leading to the apprehension and conviction of the person(s) responsible for the murder of Mr. Trujillo Ramirez. On October 17, 2023, the reward was reestablished and increased to \$20,000.

On February 7, 2022, investigators coordinated a press conference with the local media and announced the reward. On February 10, 2022, investigators met with the Claimant who detailed the encounter with the suspect and provided the suspect's information including the cell phone number. Investigators were able to use grainy surveillance footage to corroborate the information provided by the Claimant and identify the suspect. Investigators compared the suspect's DNA sample to DNA evidence recovered from the scene of the murder and determined it matched. On May 10, 2022, an arrest warrant was issued for the juvenile suspect's arrest.

On May 12, 2022, the suspect was arrested for murder. On May 13, 2022, the District Attorney charged the suspect as a juvenile for the murder of Mr. Trujillo Ramirez. On November 20, 2023, the suspect pled guilty to first-degree murder, and was sentenced to six years.

A panel of individuals representing the Sheriff's Department, Chief Executive Office, County Counsel, and the Executive Office of the Board, reviewed the claim filed for the reward funds. The panel is recommending the \$20,000 reward be distributed to the Claimant. In accordance with the provision of the Los Angeles County Code (County Code), Title 4 – Revenue and Finance, the Board must now consider the claim and make a final determination for the distribution of the reward funds.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Approval of the above recommendation supports the County Strategic Goal II.2 – Support the Wellness of our Communities. Publication in local newspapers and posting of reward notices on the County's website may encourage persons to provide information to law enforcement, which could lead to the apprehension and/or conviction of individuals who commit crimes and removing such individuals from the community, thereby reducing violence and improving the quality of life for the residents of Los Angeles County.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The Board of Supervisors established a \$20,000 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 \$4,000 from each Supervisor's budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

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

The action recommended is in compliance with County Code, Title 4 – Revenue and Finance relating to rewards, 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 Notice of Reward offered was posted on the Board of Supervisors' website and published in the Los Angeles Daily Journal newspaper.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of this recommendation does not impact other current County services or projects.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edward Yen".

Edward Yen
Executive Officer

EY:CG

c: Sheriff
Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Auditor-Controller