MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HOLLY J. MITCHELL   August 6, 2024

<u>**Re-establish the Reward Offer for the Vandalism and Theft of Metal at "Woodlawn Celestial Gardens"**</u>

On January 6, 2024, the owner of the "Woodlawn Celestial Gardens" cemetery, located near the 1700 block of West Greenleaf Boulevard in the City of Compton, discovered that numerous headstones and headstone markers had been broken and vandalized, and the attached bronze memorial plaques had been removed and stolen. According to the property owner, "Woodlawn Celestial Gardens" is one of the oldest operating cemeteries in Los Angeles County, with internments dating back to the 1880s. The cemetery includes numerous prominent figures and many local military veterans going as far back as the Civil War and the Spanish-American War. The property owner estimates the financial loss to be in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. To date, no witnesses or suspect(s) have been identified to further this investigation.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) Major Crimes investigators believe a reward would stimulate communication within the area and cause the community to come forward with information that would assist investigators with identifying the suspect(s). This reward was established on February 27, 2024, and expired on May 26, 2024. Any individuals with information about this crime are urged to contact LASD or Crime Stoppers.

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

- MORE -

<u>MOTION</u>

SOLIS   _____

MITCHELL   _____

HAHN   _____

BARGER   _____

HORVATH   _____

Re-establish the offer of a reward in the amount of $20,000 in exchange for information leading to the apprehension and conviction of the person(s) responsible for the heinous theft of metal and desecration of Woodlawn Celestial Gardens, located near the 1700 block of West Greenleaf Boulevard in the City of Compton and occurred on or before January 6, 2024.

Contact:
Lieutenant Vincent Ursini   - or -   Crime Stoppers
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department   (800) 222-8477
Major Crimes Bureau
562-946-7008

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