

# County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012 (213) 974-1101 http://ceo.lacounty.gov

> Board of Supervisors GLORIA MOLINA First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY Third District

DON KNABE Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH Fifth District

August 17, 2010

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

# INQUIRY OF DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION (All Supervisorial Districts)(3 Votes)

#### **SUBJECT:**

Requesting the Board to direct County departments to assist the Chief Executive Officer in the current inquiry related to the inappropriate disclosure of confidential child welfare information.

#### IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1) Direct County departments to assist the Chief Executive Officer in the current inquiry related to the inappropriate disclosure of confidential child welfare information, and, instruct the Chief Executive Officer, in consultation with the County Counsel, to report back on the findings.

# PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Recently, concerns have been raised over the inappropriate disclosure of child welfare information which is protected from disclosure except as specifically allowed by law. Such inappropriate disclosure has the potential for violating the statutory or Constitutional privacy rights of the individuals who are the subject of the information and, in so doing, potentially exposes the County to liability.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

Please Conserve Paper – This Document and Copies are <u>Two-Sided</u> Intra-County Correspondence Sent Electronically Only Each Supervisor August 17, 2010 Page 2

I have initiated a review, the sole basis of which is to determine if any county employees released information in violation of the statutes which are aimed at protecting the confidential subject matter of the information and thereby, the privacy rights of the involved individuals. Completion of this review will require access to information maintained by various County departments. I would, therefore, recommend that your Board direct any such County departments to assist my office in the completion of the review and, instruct me, in consultation with the County Counsel, to report back to your Board as to the findings.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:**

Approval of this recommendation does not have a fiscal impact.

#### FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

The need for cooperation from various County departments to complete this review was discussed last week in closed session. An issue has been raised as to whether that discussion was appropriately noticed and considered pursuant to the requirements of the Brown Act. Based on advice of County Counsel, the item has been placed on the public agenda to provide the public with notice and an opportunity to comment.

## **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

Approval of this recommendation does not have an impact on current services.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA Chief Executive Officer

WTF:gla

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors County Counsel