



# CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

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MEETING DATE: January 5, 2004

ITEM NUMBER: Item Number

**SUBJECT:** Claim for Reward - Pursuant to Costa Mesa Municipal Code, Chapter VII 1/2 Graffiti, Section 11-147, Detection Code

**DATE:** December 15, 2003

**FROM:** Police Department, Patrol Services Division

**PRESENTATION BY:** Lieutenant Allen Huggins

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lieutenant Allen Huggins (714) 754-5282

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

The City Council is requested to authorize a reward payment in the amount of \$1,500 to Mr. Martin Hal Christiansen of Costa Mesa, California, in accordance with the provisions of Costa Mesa Municipal Code Section 11-147.

## **BACKGROUND:**

Pursuant to Section 11-147 (1) of the Costa Mesa Municipal Code, the City offers a reward up to two thousand dollars (\$2,000) for information leading to the arrest and conviction of any person for violation of Section 594 of the California Penal Code, or Section 11-142 of the Costa Mesa Municipal Code for the use of graffiti. The Chief of Police determines the amount of any reward that is recommended to the Costa Mesa City Council. Pursuant to Section 11-147(3), the person convicted of committing the graffiti offense shall be liable for any rewards paid pursuant to this section and if that person is an emancipated minor, the custodial parent of the minor shall be liable for any rewards paid pursuant to this section.

## **ANALYSIS:**

On September 2, 2003, Mr. Christiansen saw three (3) males with spray cans in their possession. Mr. Christiansen saw the males take turns spray painting a dumpster and enclosure. Mr. Christiansen called the Costa Mesa Police and informed them of what he had witnessed. He ultimately identified two (2) subjects that were located and detained by police personnel. Mr. Christiansen placed them under private person's arrest for what he had witnessed. The adult subject was later charged and convicted after pleading guilty to one (1) count of vandalism (graffiti), under section 594(a) of the California Penal Code and one (1) count of possession of a device for vandalism, under section 594.2(a) of the California Penal Code.

Mr. Christiansen assisted in the investigation by participating in and in-field identification of the subjects, providing a detailed statement to the police and by placing the involved parties under private person's arrest.

A copy of Police Department Case Number 03-32471 is attached. The report has the information identifying the juvenile offender redacted because dissemination of information pertaining to juveniles is prohibited.

**ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:**

None

**FISCAL REVIEW:**

The \$1,000 reward will be funded from the Police Department's Budget under the Crime Scene Investigation program.

**LEGAL REVIEW:**

No legal review is required on this item.

**CONCLUSION:**

Mr. Christiansen's claim was fully researched and reviewed by the Police Department. The investigation revealed that the information provided by Mr. Christiansen satisfied the requirements set forth in the Municipal Code to qualify for a reward in the amount of \$1,500.00.

John D. Hensley

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Chief of Police

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MARC R. PUCKETT

Director of Finance

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Allen Huggins

Lieutenant Patrol/Administration

Attachments: 1

[Costa Mesa Police Department Arrest Report 03-32471](#)

Claim for Graffiti Reward

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