



# *CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT*

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**MEETING DATE:** March 6, 2007

**ITEM NUMBER:**

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

**DATE:** February 20, 2007

**FROM:** Police Department, Field Operations Division

**PRESENTATION BY:** Sergeant Paul Beckman

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sergeant Paul Beckman 714/754-5053

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Council is requested to authorize a reward payment in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500) to Jeffrey LeBaron 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 unemancipated minor, the custodial parent of the minor shall be liable for any rewards paid pursuant to this section.

## **ANALYSIS:**

On July 28, 2006, Jeff LeBaron observed a subject in all black clothing marking a bus bench billboard. LeBaron helped by calling the police when he observed the vandalism and then helped by identifying the involved juvenile.

Without LeBaron's phone call and subsequent assistance, this vandalism would not have been solved or possibly even reported.

The juvenile arrested in this incident was found guilty, placed on probation and required to complete twenty (20) days of community service.

## **ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:**

None

**FISCAL REVIEW:**

The \$500 reward will be funded from the Police Department's budget.

**LEGAL REVIEW:**

No legal review is required on this item.

**CONCLUSION:**

Mr. LeBaron's claim was fully researched and reviewed by the Police Department. The investigation revealed that the information provided by Mr. LeBaron satisfied the requirements set forth in the Municipal Code to qualify for a reward in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500).

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CHRISTOPHER SHAWKEY  
Chief of Police

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MARC R. PUCKETT  
Director of Finance

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PAUL BECKMAN  
Sergeant/Gang Detail

Attachment 1: Police Department Case Number 06-12332

Claim for Graffiti Reward

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