



# *CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT*

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MEETING DATE: APRIL 1, 2014

ITEM NUMBER:

**SUBJECT:** APPROVE POSTING OF A MONETARY REWARD IN MURDER INVESTIGATION

**DATE:** MARCH 11, 2014

**FROM:** POLICE DEPARTMENT

**PRESENTATION BY:** PAUL DONDERO, POLICE LIEUTENANT

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** PAUL DONDERO, POLICE LIEUTENANT, 714-754-5087

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## **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Approve the posting of a monetary reward in the amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for murder of Gary Smola, in compliance with City Council Policy 400-1, Reward Policy.

## **BACKGROUND:**

City Council Policy 400-1 authorizes the City Council to approve by resolution the offering and posting of a monetary reward soliciting information from the public leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons committing a crime.

On August 4, 2012, Gary Allen Smola (age 50) was found deceased on the living room floor of the home he resided alone in at 1708 Whittier Avenue, having suffered numerous traumatic injuries to his head and body. To date, the Police Department has extensively canvassed for any information from citizens and informants, with no new actionable leads resulting. Forensic examinations of evidence gathered have also failed to produce any leads to date. Offering a substantial reward will greatly enhance the probability of obtaining the necessary information to bring the investigation to a successful conclusion.

## **ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:**

Failure to offer and post a monetary reward for information in this murder investigation could limit the ability to bring forward necessary information to identify the person or persons who committed the crime.

## **FISCAL REVIEW:**

Funding for the posting of monetary rewards is allocated for the Police Department through Fund 701- Account 215850, which currently has \$25,000 available for the offering of such rewards.

**LEGAL REVIEW:**

No legal review is required on this item.

**CONCLUSION:**

The offering of a monetary reward in this murder investigation is strongly supported by Police Department Staff for approval by the City Council.

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**PAUL DONDERO**  
Lieutenant

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**LES GOGERTY**  
Captain

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**STEPHEN DUNIVENT**  
Interim Finance Director

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**TOM GAZSI**  
Chief of Police

ATTACHMENTS: 1     [City Council Policy 400-1 Reward Policy](#)