

City of Carson Report to Mayor and City Council

July 17, 2012 New Business Discussion

SUBJECT: CONSIDER RESOLUTION NO. 12-077 ESTABLISHING A REWARD FUND AT \$25,000.00 FOR INFORMATION LEADING TO THE ARREST AND CONVICTION OF THE PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MURDER OF DORIAN HOLT

Submitted by Raymond R. Cruz Public Services General Manager Approved by David C. Biggs

City Manager

I. <u>SUMMARY</u>

This item is on the agenda at the request of Councilmember Lula Davis-Holmes.

The City Council is asked to consider establishing a reward fund at \$25,000.00 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for the murder of Dorian Holt.

II. RECOMMENDATION

WAIVE further reading and ADOPT Resolution No. 12-077, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA, PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND DISTRIBUTION OF A REWARD FUND OF \$25,000.00 FOR THE PERSON OR PERSONS WHO FURNISH INFORMATION LEADING TO THE ARREST AND CONVICTION OF THE PERSON OR PERSONS WHO CAUSED THE DEATH OF DORIAN HOLT."

III. ALTERNATIVES

- 1. DO NOT establish the reward fund.
- 2. ESTABLISH different award amount.
- 3. TAKE another action the City Council deems appropriate.

IV. BACKGROUND

On July 8, 2012, Dorian Holt was murdered in the 20000 block of Pricetown Avenue. In an effort to locate the assailant(s) in this crime, the City Council is asked to consider establishing a reward fund in connection with the death of Dorian Holt. The reward is offered to any person(s) who provide information leading to the arrest and conviction of those person(s) responsible for his death.

Additionally, the City Council is asked to set the reward amount at \$25,000.00, which is the recommended amount provided by the Sheriff's Department. Historically, reward amounts have varied between \$10,000.00 and \$25,000.00. In some cases, other agencies provided additional funds to increase the reward amount. Enclosed is a spreadsheet (Exhibit No. 1) that shows the history of

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Council actions concerning the establishment of rewards for past crimes. Resolution No. 12-077 (Exhibit No. 2) establishes the reward fund in this case. The reward fund will remain in effect for five years unless rescinded earlier by the City Council or modified by a subsequent resolution.

V. FISCAL IMPACT

Funding for reward monies is not budgeted and appropriated until the time of actual disbursement.

VI. <u>EXHIBITS</u>

- 1. Spreadsheet showing Council approved reward funds. (pg. 3)
- 2. Resolution No. 12-077. (pgs. 4-6)

| Prepared by: | Raymond R. Cruz, Public Services General Manager |
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TO:Rev04-23-12

| Reviewed by: City Clerk | City Treasurer | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Administrative Services | Development Services | |
| Economic Development | Public Services | |

| Action taken by City Council | | | |
|------------------------------|--------|--|--|
| Date | Action | | |
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CITY OF CARSON COUNCIL APPROVED REWARD FUNDS ACCOUNT NO. 01-21-999-043-6008

| Solved cases in which reward was not paid out as Sheriff's solved independently: | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------|--------|--|--|
| Nicole Williamson | December 19, 2003 | December 19, 2008 | 78004 | 25,000 | | |
| Eduardo Roco and Esther Arteaga | November 8, 2006 | November 8, 2011 | 78007 | 25,000 | | |



RESOLUTION NO. 12-077

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA, PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND DISTRIBUTION OF A REWARD FUND OF \$25,000.00 FOR THE PERSON OR PERSONS WHO FURNISH INFORMATION LEADING TO THE ARREST AND CONVICTION OF THE PERSON OR PERSONS WHO CAUSED THE DEATH OF DORIAN HOLT

The City Council of the City of Carson hereby finds, determines and resolves:

- **Section 1**. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 53069.5, the City Council hereby approves the establishment of a reward fund for the purpose of encouraging persons having information regarding the identity and whereabouts of any person or persons, whose willful misconduct resulted in the death of Dorian Holt to provide such information to the appropriate law enforcement authorities. The City Council hereby sets the amount of the City's contribution to the fund to be \$25,000.00.
- **Section 2.** The reward fund is hereby named the "Dorian Holt Reward Fund" (hereinafter "the Fund"). The Fund shall be maintained in the Treasurer's Office of the City of Carson by the City Treasurer. No money shall be paid out of such account without the approval of the City Council, and disbursement checks shall be processed through the City's established demand check procedures.
- Section 3. The public is invited to contribute to the Fund to increase its balance. Contributions can be made at the City Treasurer's Office in City Hall. All contributions by the public for purposes of increasing the balance in the Fund that are received by the City of Carson or made payable to the City of Carson shall be deposited into the Fund account by the City Treasurer. Records of the names and addresses of donors, the amounts contributed, and dates such donations were received, shall be maintained by the City Treasurer.
- **Section 4.** The City Manager shall, in consultation with the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, determine when to authorize the funding and activation of the Fund. The Fund established by this resolution shall be of no force or effect until formally activated by the City Manager. Following activation, the City Manager or his designee shall publicize the existence of the Fund by notice to be posted, published in a newspaper or newspapers circulated in the City, included in the City newsletter, and disseminated in any other manner as deemed appropriate by the City Manager.
- **Section 5.** Persons who desire to be eligible to receive all or a portion of the money in the Fund shall:
 - (a) Submit written, oral, physical or other evidence regarding the circumstances surrounding the death of Dorian Holt to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, or to any other law enforcement agency; and



- (b) Cooperate with the Sheriff's Department and with any prosecuting attorneys during the investigation, trial preparation and trial phases of the criminal justice process involving persons suspected of causing the death of Dorian Holt.
- **Section 6.** Persons who satisfy the criteria of Section 5 shall be considered for receipt of all or part of the reward upon conviction of the person charged in the death of Dorian Holt and upon approval of the distribution of funds by the City Council.
- **Section 7.** Law enforcement personnel and any federal, state or City of Carson employee discovering the identity and/or whereabouts of the person or persons convicted of causing the death of Dorian Holt during the scope and course of his or her employment shall not be eligible to receive the reward. Any person charged with causing, or having complicity, in the death of Dorian Holt shall not be eligible to receive the reward.
- Section 8. If any person or persons are convicted of causing the death of Dorian Holt, the City Manager shall request the Sheriff's Department to obtain a certified copy of the entry of judgment in the case and to forward such document to the City. The City Manager shall also request the Sheriff's Department prepare a report as to the name(s) of person(s) providing information to the Sheriff's Department and any other law enforcement agency that led to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) causing the death of Dorian Holt. Such report shall set forth the relative importance of the information submitted by each person. If there is more than one claimant, it shall include a recommended pro rata report shall be reviewed and approved by the detective and prosecuting attorney handling the case. The City Manager shall request that such report be submitted to the City within thirty (30) days of the conviction. If more than one person is standing trial for causing the death of Dorian Holt, the report shall not be forwarded until the last person charged is either convicted or acquitted.
- **Section 9.** Upon approval of disbursements from the Fund by the City Council, a check or checks for disbursement of the monies in the Fund account shall thereupon be drawn.
- Section 10. If no person has been apprehended or charged with causing the death of Dorian Holt by July 17, 2017, all monies in the Fund shall be returned, with interest accrued thereon, to the respective donors. Any undisbursed balance shall be deposited back into the City's unreserved, undesignated General Fund. If one or more persons have been so apprehended and charged but not yet convicted by July 17, 2017, the Fund shall be retained until trial of the person or persons has been completed. If a conviction is not obtained, disbursements shall be made as provided above in this Section.



| PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this | _day of July, 2012. |
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| | Mayor Jim Dear |
| | Mayor Jim Dear |
| ATTEST: | |
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| City Clerk Donesia L. Gause, CMC | |
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| APPROVED AS TO FORM: | |
| ATTROVED NO TO FOREM. | |
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City Attorney

