

INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

February 14, 2014

5.6

TO: Honorable Board of Police Commissioners

FROM: Chief of Police

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PAYMENT OF REWARD OFFER ON CITY COUNCIL
FILE NO. 07-0010-S18

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

1. That the Board of Police Commissioners REVIEW and APPROVE the attached Application for Special Reward Payment.
2. That the Board TRANSMIT to the Mayor and City Council the Application for Special Reward Payment for review and approval.

DISCUSSION

On May 5, 2007, Mario Jackson and Tierney Yates were murdered inside the "Magic Wheels Private Club" located at 10974 South Broadway. Detectives John Zambos, Serial No. 23110, and Leo Kerchenske, Serial No. 24341, were the lead investigators. Detective Michael Owens, Serial No. 32795, was later assigned to the investigation. Initially, none of the witnesses were willing to cooperate. Although there were leads for the investigators to pursue, no one was willing to identify the perpetrator.

On September 18, 2007, a \$50,000 reward was introduced by the Los Angeles City Council for information leading to the identification, apprehension, and conviction of the person responsible for this double murder.

Subsequently, a witness provided information to the detectives indicating that he knew the identity of the killer. Charon McMichael, a "Raymond Avenue Crip" street gang member, admitted to the witness that he had shot and killed the victims. Although the witness initially came forward with this information on July 11, 2007, his on-going assistance was required in order to file murder charges on the defendant.

On October 20, 2008, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office filed two counts of murder on McMichael because of the information provided by said witness. An arrest warrant was obtained, and McMichael was later arrested in Las Vegas, Nevada, with the assistance of the witness. On November 6, 2008, McMichael was extradited to Los Angeles to face murder charges. The murder trial resulted in a hung jury. McMichael eventually pled guilty to two counts of 192(a) PC Voluntary Manslaughter, and was sentenced to 30 years in prison. The Witness testified at both the preliminary hearing and the jury trial.

The Honorable Board of Police Commissioners

Page 2

5.6

It is the opinion of Detective III Richard Gordon that the witness is eligible for the reward offer. The information he provided enabled murder charges to be filed on the defendant. The witness was directly responsible for the identification, apprehension, and conviction of Charon McMichael. Based on these facts, it is requested that the reward funds be paid to the witness listed on the attached Applications for Special Reward Payment.

The witness name was not included in this document to protect the identify and safety of the witness.

Should you have any questions, please contact Lieutenant II Jeff Nolte, Acting Commanding Officer, Criminal Gang/Homicide Division, at (213) 485-4341.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Beck', with a stylized flourish at the end.

CHARLIE BECK
Chief of Police

Attachments

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
APPLICATION FOR SPECIAL REWARD PAYMENT

DISTRIBUTION

ORIG -- LAPD
DUPE -- City Clerk
DUPE -- Claimant

Neither the filing nor submitting of information, nor the receipt or consideration thereof by the City, shall establish legal claim to, or right of recovery of, any reward offered. The provision of payment shall be governed by Chapter 12, Division 19 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code.

1. PRINT NAME OF APPLICANT:
Last **Witness** First: Middle

2. ADDRESS: (Street) (City) (State - Zip)
Daytime Phone & Contact Person
Confidential in care of Investigating Officer (IO)

3. TODAY'S DATE: **2/05/2014** 4. OCCUPATION: Unknown

5. DRIVER'S LICENSE # or CALIF ID #: **Confidential in care of IO** 6. SOCIAL SECURITY #: (For payment purposes)

DESCRIPTION OF CIRCUMSTANCES: (Fill in or mark ALL that apply)

NOTE: The applicant is responsible for providing ALL of the following required information. A claim that does not provide the following required information may be disapproved for insufficient information.

7. DATE OF INCIDENT: 05 /05 /2007 8. TIME OF INCIDENT: 11:50 PM ___ MIDNIGHT ___ NOON

LOCATION OF INCIDENT: 10974 South Broadway

TYPE OF CRIME / INVESTIGATION : Murder (2) Victims

9. DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT: On May 5, 2007, Victims Mario Jackson and Tierney Yates were inside the Magic Wheels Private Club located at 10974 South Broadway. A fight broke out between individuals within the club at which point suspect Charon McMichael produced a handgun and shot the victims killing both. McMichael fled the location after the shooting.

12. X APPLICANT SIGNATURE 13. PARENT OR GUARDIAN SIGNATURE (under 18 years)

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE - FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

INVESTIGATING OFFICER: Name **Detective III Richard Gordon** Serial #**24262** Agency **LAPD/CGHD** Phone # **(213) 485-4341**

NAME OF VICTIM OR CASE:
Mario Jackson DR 0718-14716 and Tierney Yates DR 0718-14717

RECOMMENDATION: APPROVAL DISAPPROVAL INVESTIGATION CHECKLIST ATTACHED: Yes No
 INSUFFICIENT INVOLVEMENT
 INSUFFICIENT INFORMATION

BRIEF EXPLANATION OR COMMENTS: The witness contacted detectives and provided information regarding the suspect making admissions to killing the victims. The information provided by the witness enabled murder charges to be filed against the suspect, Charon McMichael. Witness-1 also assisted the detectives by providing information regarding the whereabouts of the suspect. Witness-1's actions were instrumental in the arrest of the suspect. Witness-1 testified in the preliminary hearing and trial of People V. Charon McMichael, Case TA111066. The trial resulted in a hung jury. Prior to the retrial, McMichael pled guilty to two counts of 192(a) PC. He was sentenced to (30) years in prison. The case against McMichael would not have prosecuted without the information provided by witness-1.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES
REWARD CLAIM CHECKLIST**

**This form must be submitted with the Department's recommendation concerning payment of the reward.
One checklist must be submitted for each claimant.**

COUNCIL FILE NUMBER: 07-0010-S58 DR/AGENCY FILE NUMBER: 0718-14716 / 0718-14717

TYPE OF CRIME/INVESTIGATION: Double Homicide REWARD AMOUNT: \$ 50,000

REWARD EFFECTIVE DATE: 9/18/2007 REWARD EXPIRATION DATE: 12/8/2008

INFO. REC'D WHILE REWARD IN EFFECT: X YES NO DATE REC'D: 7/11/2007 and on-going
(circle one)

CLAIMANT: Witness CLAIMANT'S OCCUPATION: Laborer
(Name or "Anonymous." If multiple anonymous claimants, indicate as "Claimant A, Claimant B," etc.).

CASE INVEST. BY: LAPD Criminal Gang/Homicide Division OTHER CITY DEPARTMENT: _____
(Div/Section)

Investigator(s) Assigned: Detective III Richard Gordon #24262 Telephone: (213) 485-4341

Telephone: () _____

(Name and Serial No.)

The above claimant is X ELIGIBLE NOT ELIGIBLE to receive payment of a reward pursuant to the Los Angeles Administrative code Division 19, Chapter 12, Sections 19.120 through 19.129.4.

Reason(s) for claimant being NOT ELIGIBLE to receive payment

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Claimant is a City officer, employee, or public officer or employee whose employment includes duties of law enforcement. | <input type="checkbox"/> Claimant obtained information for a relative who is a City Officer, employee, or public officer or employee, and that person obtained the information in the course of his/her employment. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Claimant is a dependent of a City Officer, employee, or public officer or employee whose duties include law enforcement | <input type="checkbox"/> Claimant has not provided continued cooperation within the criminal justice system relative to the case for which the offer of reward is made. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Claimant has already been compensated by his/her employer or in some other manner for the actions which are the bases for | <input type="checkbox"/> Claimant is co-suspect in the crime for which the reward is offered. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The suspect would benefit from payment of the reward to the claimant. | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The claimant is acting as an agent for the suspect. | |

Explanation: _____

(If additional space is needed, use back of form.)

APPROVED BY  RANK/TITLE CHIEF OF POLICE