

INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

August 17, 2017

1.10

TO: The Honorable Board of Police Commissioners

FROM: Chief of Police

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION FOR THE MEDAL OF VALOR

RECOMMENDED ACTION

1. That the Board of Police Commissioners award the Medal of Valor for bravery to:

Sergeant Jesus Garcia, Serial No. 33022, Central Traffic Division

DISCUSSION

It is recommended that the Honorable Board of Police Commissioners award the Medal of Valor to Sergeant Jesus Garcia for his heroic actions on June 15, 2016.

On June 15, 2016, at approximately 2230 hours, Sergeant Garcia and his partner were at Olympic Boulevard and Lemon Street when they heard the impact of a traffic collision one block west of their location. They looked to the direction of the impact and observed that a motorcycle involved in a collision with a car had burst into flames. Sergeant Garcia broadcast the incident to nearby police units as he immediately drove to the scene to assist the collision victims. When Sergeant Garcia and his partner arrived at the intersection of Olympic Boulevard and Lawrence Street, they saw that the motorcycle and the motorcyclist were lying on the street fully engulfed in flames.

The intense flames were fueled by gas coming from the motorcycle's ruptured gas tank reaching approximately 20 feet in height. Sergeant Garcia and his partner immediately exited their police vehicle and ran towards the motorcyclist to pull him away from the fiery wreckage. Due to the intensity of the flames, it was difficult for the Sergeants to safely approach the engulfed motorcyclist. At one point, the inferno increased in intensity, forcing the them to pull back to a safe position.

As Sergeant Garcia's partner ran back to the vehicle to get a fire extinguisher, Sergeant Garcia ran towards the fully engulfed motorcyclist and burning wreckage, grabbed the motorcyclist's legs, and pulled him away from the burning wreckage to safety towards the west curb of Lawrence Street. In doing so, Sergeant Garcia sustained burns to his hands and face. The fire extinguisher was used to extinguish the motorcyclist.

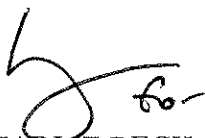
Shortly thereafter, Central Traffic Division officers arrived and established a crime scene, contained the area, and directed responding police units to search for hit and run driver of the

involved car. Meanwhile, Officer Hui and Sergeants Garcia and Mendoza removed the motorcyclist's smoldering clothing and backpack. With decisive action, the officers rendered first aid to the motorcyclist as they cleared his airway, and extinguished any additional flames. Officers placed the motorcyclist in a supine position until the Los Angeles Fire Department arrived to provide further medical treatment and transportation to the University of Southern California Medical Center for medical treatment. The motorcyclist sustained fractures to his legs and arms, a lacerated liver, and third degree burns to his lower extremities.

The courageous actions of Sergeant Jesus Garcia reflect the highest standards of the Los Angeles Police Department. His bravery, decisiveness and lifesaving actions are worthy of the Department's highest award for valor.

Should you have any questions, please contact Deputy Chief Jon Peters, Commanding Officer, Police Sciences and Training Bureau, at (213) 486-7090.

Respectfully,

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

CHARLIE BECK
Chief of Police