

INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

September 7, 2021
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TO: The Honorable Board of Police Commissioners

FROM: Chief of Police

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PAYMENT OF REWARD FOR DR NO. 19-17-11472

RECOMMENDATION ACTIONS

1. That the Board of Police Commissioners (Board) 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

It is requested that the Board approve and transmit to the City Council the recommendation to approve this reward offer to be paid to Claimant in the sum of \$50,000. The Claimant provided information that was vital to the arrest and conviction of the suspect responsible for the vehicular homicide of Francisco Hernandez Rivas.

On June 16, 2019, a fatal injury hit and run traffic collision occurred near the intersection of Haskell Avenue and Parthenia Street. Francisco Hernandez Rivas was driving westbound on Parthenia Street and was struck by a Lexus IS250. Both vehicles became disabled, and the driver of the Lexus, Maritza Lara, immediately fled the scene without rendering aid or identifying herself. Francisco Hernandez Rivas was pronounced dead at scene. The three passengers in the suspect's vehicle sustained severe injuries.

On July 3, 2019, Deputy District Attorney Higgins reviewed the case and filed one count of 187(a) California Penal Code Murder, one count of 20001(a) California Vehicle Code (CVC), Felony Hit and Run Causing Injury, and one count of 23153(g) CVC, Driving Under the Influence.

On August 8, 2019, Los Angeles Police Officer Salvador Reyes, Serial No. 40119, received a telephone call from a concerned citizen. The citizen advised that her aunt, the Claimant, was watching Spanish news when she saw a report regarding the fatal hit and run incident.

The Claimant identified the suspect, Maritza Lara was living in Mexico.

The United States (US) Marshals Service Task Force, Los Angeles Police Officer Adolfo Bates, Serial No. 34318, telephoned the Claimant and confirmed that Maritza Lara was in Mexico.

The Honorable Board of Police Commissioners

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Additionally, the Claimant provided investigators with current photographs of Maritza Luna and information regarding her plans to flee to El Salvador. Based on the information provided by the Claimant, investigators formulated a plan to arrest Maritza Lara.

On August 17, 2019, the US Marshals Service Task Force conducted a follow-up and arrested Maritza Lara. Lara admitted to being the driver of the vehicle that collided with Rivas.

On April 15, 2021, Maritza Lara was convicted and sentenced to 19 years and eight months in prison, Case Number XNVPA09303101.

It is the opinion of the investigating detectives and the Deputy District Attorney assigned to this case that the information provided by the Claimant was vital in the arrest and conviction of Maritza Lara, making the Claimant eligible to receive the reward payment.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact Detective Lisset Fuentes, Serial No. 35607, Valley Traffic Division, at (818) 644-8021.

Respectfully,



MICHEL R. MOORE

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, -

First

Middle

2. ADDRESS: (Street)

9

(City)

(State - Zip)

Daytime Phone & Contact Person

3. TODAY'S DATE:

4. OCCUPATION:

06/01/2021

5. DRIVER'S LICENSE # or CALIF ID #:

6. SOCIAL SECURITY #:
(For payment purposes)

None

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: 06/16/2019

8. TIME OF INCIDENT: 0535

AM

PM

NOON

MIDNIGHT

LOCATION OF INCIDENT: Haskell & Parthenia

TYPE OF CRIME/INVESTIGATION: Vehicular manslaughter

9. DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT: V1, Northbound Haskell Ave, AT A HIGH RATE OF SPEED, RAN A RED LIGHT AND COLLIDED WITH V2, WEST BOUND PARTHENIA. DRIVER OF V2, DIED AT SCENE. DRIVER OF V1 FLEED SCENE, TO MONDO.

12. X OCB

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

13. X

PARENT OR GUARDIAN SIGNATURE (under 18 years)

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE - FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

INVESTIGATING OFFICER:

Name Detective Sinclair

Serial # 39576

Agency LAPD / VTD

Phone # (818)644-8020

NAME OF VICTIM OR CASE:

Francisco Hernandez Rivas

RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVAL

DISAPPROVAL

INVESTIGATION CHECKLIST ATTACHED: Yes No

INSUFFICIENT INVOLVEMENT

INSUFFICIENT INFORMATION

BRIEF EXPLANATION OR COMMENTS:

Lara was located and arrested for the murder of Francisco Hernandez Rivas due to the direct efforts of the Zeron. Officers would not have been able to locate Lara without the assistance of Zeron.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:

111-154125-24684 (C-10) 213924 0875
Sept (AS REQUESTED BY VALLEY TRAFFIC DIV)

**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:	DR/AGENCY FILE NUMBER: 19-17-11472
TYPE OF CRIME/INVESTIGATION: Vehicular manslaughter	REWARD AMOUNT: \$ 50,000
REWARD EFFECTIVE DATE: 06/16/2019	REWARD EXPIRATION DATE: _____
INFO RECEIVED WHILE REWARD IN EFFECT: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO (Check one)	DATE RECEIVED: _____
CLAIMANT: (Name or "Anonymous." If multiple anonymous claimants, indicate as "Claimant A, Claimant B," etc.).	CLAIMANT'S OCCUPATION: _____
CASE INVEST. BY: LAPD Valley Traffic Division (Div/Section)	OTHER CITY DEPARTMENT: _____
Investigator(s) Assigned: Detective Sinclair #39576 Detective Fuentes #35607 (Name and Serial No.)	Telephone: (818) 644-8020 Telephone: (818) 644-8020

The above claimant is 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 in some other manner for the actions which are the basis for claiming the reward.	<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 next page.)

APPROVED BY

RANK/TITLE

D-III A. BAKER
EMD (POL. VIDS)