



*City of Arts & Innovation*

# City Council Memorandum

**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL      DATE: SEPTEMBER 27, 2016**

**FROM: POLICE DEPARTMENT      WARDS: ALL**

**SUBJECT: RENEWAL OF THE OFFER OF A \$75,000 REWARD AS APPROVED BY COUNCIL ON NOVEMBER 10, 2015 AND JANUARY 12, 2016, FOR INFORMATION LEADING TO THE IDENTIFICATION AND APPREHENSION OF PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATHS OF JUAN ANTONIO BARTOLO AND DOMINGO ESTEBAN – TRANSFER FROM GENERAL FUND CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT**

## **ISSUE:**

Approve a renewal of the offer of a reward in the amount of \$75,000 seeking witnesses to come forward with information related to the murders of Juan Antonio Bartolo and Domingo Esteban in the city of Riverside, as approved by Council on November 10, 2015 and January 12, 2016.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That the City Council:

1. Adopt a resolution renewing the offer of a reward in the amount of \$75,000 for information that leads to the identification and apprehension of the person or persons responsible for the deaths of Juan Antonio Bartolo and Domingo Esteban, Police Department Case P15-161784, as approved by Council on November 10, 2015 and January 12, 2016, for an additional 60 days; and
2. Authorize use and transfer of the General Fund Contingency Reserve Account in the amount of \$75,000 to the Police Department's Riverside Reward Program (Account No. 3100000-459026).

## **BACKGROUND:**

On Friday, October 23, 2015, at 9:36 p.m., Riverside Police Department Dispatch received several calls regarding a shooting that occurred at the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Kansas Avenue. When patrol officers arrived, they found three victims on the ground suffering from gunshot wounds. One victim, Juan Antonio Bartolo, was deceased at the scene and the other two were transported to Riverside Community Hospital for treatment. The second victim, Domingo Esteban, did not survive his injuries. The third victim is in stable condition.

Detectives from the Riverside Police Department's Robbery Homicide Unit, Gang Unit and personnel from the Forensic Evidence Unit responded to the crime scene to assume the investigation. Based on preliminary investigation, the three victims were walking in the area of 7th Street and Kansas Avenue when a vehicle pulled up and parked. One or more suspects exited the vehicle and shot all three victims. The investigation is ongoing and detectives are currently following up on leads.

A press release was sent out the day after the homicide. A press conference was also held on November 5, 2015, to share with the community surveillance video depicting a suspect. To date, these efforts have not resulted in a positive identification of a suspect. No eyewitnesses to the shooting came forward the night of the shooting, nor have any been identified to date.

### **DISCUSSION:**

In May of 2001, the "Riverside Reward Program" was approved by the City Council. Guidelines for offering rewards are listed in Riverside Police Department Policy & Procedures Manual, Policy No. 364.

Detectives believe that offering a significant reward in the amount of \$75,000 may entice one or more witnesses to come forward with information that would help detectives in the identification and apprehension of the person or persons involved in this double homicide.

The original resolution, approved by Council on November 10, 2015, provided that the reward offer would expire 60 days after the date of Council's approval. Council also approved a renewal resolution on January 12, 2016, which also provided that the reward offer would expire 60 days after the date of Council's approval.

A new resolution has been prepared renewing the award period for an additional 60 days. The amount of the reward would remain at \$75,000. This offer will expire 60 days after the date of Council's approval.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

Renew the reward amount of \$75,000 for 60 days. Funds are to be transferred from the General Fund Contingency Reserve Account No. 7235000-451000 into Police Department expenditure account No. 3100000-459026. If no reward is offered within 60 days of Council's approval, funds will be returned to the General Fund Contingency Reserve.

Prepared by:	Sergio G. Diaz, Chief of Police
Certified as to availability of funds:	Scott G. Miller, Ph.D., Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer
Approved by:	Alexander T. Nguyen, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form:	Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney
Attachment:	Resolution