



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL DATE: JULY 6, 2021

FROM: POLICE DEPARTMENT WARD: ALL

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION OFFERING A \$20,000 REWARD FOR INFORMATION
LEADING TO THE IDENTIFICATION AND APPREHENSION OF PERSON(S)
RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ATTEMPTED MURDER OF IZAAC COLUNGA
AND DOMONIC CASTILLO – INTERDEPARTMENTAL TRANSFER**

ISSUES:

Adopt a resolution offering a reward in the amount of \$20,000 for information that leads to the identification and apprehension of the person or persons responsible for the attempted murder of Izaac Colunga and Dominic Castillo that occurred in the City of Riverside, Police Department case 190006841, for a duration of 60 days and authorize an interdepartmental transfer in the same amount.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council:

1. Adopt a resolution offering a reward in the amount of \$20,000 for information that leads to the identification and apprehension of the person or persons responsible for the attempted murder of Izaac Colunga and Domonic Castillo, Police Department case 190006841, for a duration of 60 days; and
2. Authorize the transfer of \$20,000 from the General Fund Non-Departmental/City Manager's Fiscal Management Account to the Police Department's Riverside Reward Program Account.

BACKGROUND:

On April 9, 2019, the City Council adopted a resolution offering a reward in the amount of \$10,000 for information that leads to the identification and apprehension of the person or persons responsible for the attempted murder of Izaac Colunga, Police Department case 190006841 for a duration of 60 days. The award expired on June 8, 2019.

On Friday, March 13, 2019, at approximately 12:11 AM, Riverside Police Department officers responded to the 6400 block of Nidever Avenue, regarding multiple calls of shots fired into a

residence. Upon arrival, officers contacted several occupants inside the residence, including two victims who had been struck by gunfire. Domonic Castillo suffered a single gunshot wound to his forearm. He was treated at a local hospital and later released. Izaak Colunga was critically injured. He was treated at a local hospital upon which time it was discovered that he was paralyzed from the neck down.

The Robbery – Homicide Unit responded and assumed the investigation with the help of the Forensics Unit. Detectives interviewed several witnesses who provided their accounts of the event and a few who provided a suspect and vehicle description. Over the past year, detectives have continued to work the case and up to this point have exhausted all leads.

A press release was distributed regarding the incident, but no additional information has been obtained as of this writing. In April of 2020, a \$10,000 reward was approved by City Council and offered to the public for assistance; however, no further leads were developed. Detectives believe there may have been witnesses to the events leading up to the shooting or the shooting itself; however, they have yet to come forward. Detectives believe that increasing the reward to \$20,000 will yield useful information that could possibly lead to the identification and ultimately the apprehension of person or persons responsible for the attempted murder of Domonic Castillo and Izaak Colunga.

DISCUSSION:

In May of 2001, the “Riverside Reward Program,” was approved by the City Council. Guidelines for offering rewards are listed in section 364 of the Riverside Police Department Policy Manual.

Detectives believe that offering a significant reward in the amount of \$20,000 may entice one or more witnesses to come forward with information that would help them in the identification and apprehension of the person or persons involved in this attempted murder.

Attached is a resolution offering a reward in the amount of \$20,000 for information leading to the determination of the identify of, and the apprehension of, the person or persons responsible for the attempted murder of Domonic Castillo and Izaak Colunga, which will expire 60 days after the date of City Council’s approval.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact as a result of this request. Should the reward be redeemed, the total fiscal impact will be \$20,000.

Upon City Council approval, sufficient funds in the amount of \$20,000 will be transferred from the Non-Departmental/City Manager’s Fiscal Management Account No. 7211200-450247 to the Police Department’s Riverside Reward Program, Account No. 3100000-459026. If no reward is offered within 60 days of Council’s approval, funds will be returned to the Non-Departmental/City Manager’s Fiscal Management Account unless once more renewed or extended.

Prepared by: Larry V. Gonzalez, Chief of Police
Certified as to
Availability of funds: Edward Enriquez, Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer

Approved by: Lea Deesing, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form: Kristi J. Smith, Interim City Attorney

Attachment: Resolution