

MOTION

California law requires evidentiary examinations for sexual assaults to be provided by qualified healthcare professionals through a local law enforcement agency at no cost to the victims. Healthcare professionals may request reimbursement from the local law enforcement agency for conducting such examinations.

There are currently 13 Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) centers providing sexual assault forensic examinations in Los Angeles County, four operated by the County of Los Angeles (County) and nine operated by private hospitals. SART Centers are certified by the Department of Health Services (DHS) Emergency Medical Services Agency to ensure centers meet standards and provide appropriate care.

The Personnel Department reimburses the Los Angeles Police Department for the costs of sexual assault forensic examinations Existing reimbursement rates (\$1,132 for completed examinations and \$333 for incomplete examinations) were based on previous action by the City Council (C.F. 18-0728).

On January 9, 2024, the County approved an increase to the reimbursement rate for sexual assault forensic examinations to \$1,890 and to \$911 for incomplete examinations, effective February 1, 2024. The increase in the reimbursement rate was based on a cost recovery analysis conducted by DHS Finance staff. The City's reimbursement rates for sexual assault forensic examinations must be in line with the County and DHS to ensure there are no impacts to these critical services.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council instruct the Personnel Department to increase the reimbursement rate for all forensic evidentiary examinations conducted by Sexual Assault Response Team Centers to \$1,890 per complete examination and \$911 per incomplete examination, with the rate to be adjusted annually by the lesser of the Consumer Price Index for medical care in the West Urban Area for the preceding 12 months or three percent, unless the CPI declines, in which case the rate shall remain unchanged.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Administrative Officer report any projected fiscal impacts of increasing the reimbursement rate, including any shortfalls that may result in the Personnel Department's Contractual Services Account.

PRESENTED BY:

Traci Park
TRACI PARK
Councilmember, 11th District

SECONDED BY:

Katy Yaroshuk

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