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Los Angeles, 4 December 2023

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

The Consulate General of Austria in Los Angeles wishes to express its deep concern regarding the ongoing issue of homeless individuals occupying the vacant building adjacent to our Consulate at the intersection of S Westgate Ave and Wilshire Blvd.

Over the past few weeks, there has been a significant increase in the number of homeless individuals frequenting this property. This has resulted in a heightened sense of insecurity, including among our staff members, one of whom was unfortunately chased by a homeless individual on November 28, 2023. Video footage documenting this incident is available.

In light of this incident and the escalating concerns for our staff's safety, the Consulate General of Austria strongly supports any measure alleviating the situation, including the demolition of the vacant building. Removing this potential harborage for homeless individuals could significantly reduce the risk of further incidents and restore a sense of safety to our workplace and surrounding neighborhood.

We have also reported this incident to the Department of State/Office of Foreign Missions and the Los Angeles Police Department.

We appreciate your attention to this urgent matter and look forward to your prompt action.

Sincerely,



Austrian Consulate General