

LOS ANGELES POLICE COMMISSION

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100 WEST FIRST STREET, SUITE 134
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012-4112

(213) 236-1400 PHONE
(213) 236-1410 FAX
(213) 236-1440 TDD

October 15, 2024

BPC #24-258

The Honorable Karen Bass
Mayor, City of Los Angeles
City Hall, Room 303
Los Angeles, CA 90012

The Honorable City Council
City of Los Angeles, Room 395
c/o City Clerk's Office

Dear Honorable Members:

RE: REQUEST FOR PAYMENT ON REWARD OFFER DR NO. 2313-10804.

At the regular meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners held Tuesday, October 15, 2024, the Board APPROVED the Department's report relative to the above matter.

Respectfully,

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Rebecca Munoz".

REBECCA MUNOZ
Commission Executive Assistant

Attachment

c: Chief of Police

INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

BPC #24-258
RECEIVED

OCT 09 2024

POLICE COMMISSION

October 9, 2024
8.1.3

TO: The Honorable Board of Police Commissioners

Reviewed:

S. Sibley
Executive Director

10/9/24
Date

FROM: Chief of Police

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PAYMENT OF REWARD OFFER DR NO. 2313-10804

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

1. That the Board of Police Commissioners (Board) REVIEW and APPROVE the attached application of 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

On April 15, 2015, the City Council amended the Los Angeles Administrative Code and created a Hit-and-Run Reward Program Trust. This reward program was created to encourage community members to provide information leading to the identification, apprehension, and conviction, or resolution through civil compromise, of suspects who fail to stop and render aid at a traffic collision.

It is requested that the Board approve and transmit to the City Council the recommendation to approve this reward to be paid to the claimant in the amount of \$25,000.00. The claimant provided information that was vital in assisting with a felony hit-and-run case DR No. 2313-10804. The claimant positively identified the suspect as the hit-and-run driver, who was convicted and sentenced to probation. Attached are the applications for the reward.

On May 16, 2023, the suspect was traveling southbound on Main Street approaching 27th Street at a high rate of speed, when he collided with a bicyclist, the victim. The victim was launched airborne and landed on the sidewalk. The victim was knocked unconscious and transported by the Los Angeles Fire Department to a local hospital with a fractured left femur and abrasions across the left side of his body. After the crash, the suspect fled the scene without rendering aid to the victim and identifying himself, in violation of the law.

On May 17, 2024, Officer Yesenia Emestica, Serial No. 42838, obtained video footage that captured the crash. Officer Emestica was able to identify the license plate for the hit and run vehicle. Utilizing department resources, Officer Emestica discovered that the vehicle was a recovered solen vehicle from Central Division. Officer Emestica recovered additional video footage of the driver exiting the hit and run vehicle.

On June 16, 2023, a press release and video footage were released to the public through Media Relations Division and social media platforms, requesting the public's help in identifying the hit and run driver. On the same day, the claimant contacted Officer Emestica and advised her that he recognized the driver and the three additional occupants.

On July 13, 2023, Detective III Calvin DeHesa, Serial No. 31161, Central Traffic Division, arrested the driver of the black Kia Optima for California Vehicle Code Section 20001 (B)(2), Felony Hit and Run, causing severe injuries.

On August 4, 2023, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's office filed one count of California Vehicle Code Section 2001 (B)(2), Felony Hit and Run, and one count of California Penal Code Section 487 (D)(1), Grand Theft of an Automobile, (Court Case No. ELA0406A).

On February 14, 2024, the suspect was convicted of California Vehicle Code Section 20001 (B)(2), Felony Hit and Run Causing Severe Injuries, and was sentenced to probation.

It is the opinion of the investigating detective and the District Attorney assigned to this case that the information provided by the claimant was vital in the arrest and conviction of the suspect, making the claimant eligible to receive the reward payment.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact Commander Craig Valenzuela, Serial No. 33440, Commanding Officer, Traffic Group, at (213) 486-0680.

Respectfully,



DOMINIC H. CHOI
Chief of Police

**BOARD OF
POLICE COMMISSIONERS**
Approved
Secretary

October 15, 2024
Rebeca Munoz

- ☐ Graffiti
☐ Illegal Dumping

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES
APPLICATION FOR REWARD PAYMENT**

RESERVED FOR FILING INFO

NOTE: The City of Los Angeles is not liable for any personal injury, property damage or suffering as a result of apprehension or identification of person(s) caught in the act of *Graffiti, Vandalism, or Illegal Dumping*. It is the sole responsibility of the applicant to file and pursue their reward. The City and other agencies are not responsible for performing this task.

Police "DR" File Number

2313-10804

Booking Number

6640639

Crime Report Number

1331

Reporting District

Mail To: LAPD, Juvenile Division, Attn: Graffiti/Illegal Dumping Reward, 150 N. Los Angeles Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

1. Print Name of Applicant (Organization - if applying for an agency) Last, First, Middle

2. Address (Street)

(City)

(State) (Zip Code)

3. Daytime Contact Person and Phone Number

Today's Date

Date of Birth (If under 18 years, parent or guardian must also sign)

05/07/2024

4. Driver's License Number or CA ID Number

5. Social Security Number (For payment purposes)

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. The City cannot insert the information for you.

6. Date of Incident **05/16/2023**

7. Time of Incident **7:35**

☐ A.M. ☒ P.M. ☐ Noon ☐ Midnight

8. Location of Incident **Main and 27th Street**

9. Property Owner (If known)

10. Description of Incident **Severe Traffic Collision - Felony Hit and Run**

On May 16, 2023 at 1935 hours, the driver of a stolen vehicle collided with a minor on a bike; the minor suffered a fractured left femur. The driver was identified and subsequently arrested. The witness, [redacted] assisted investigators by identifying the driver.

11. Date of Arrest **07/13/2024**

12. Time of Arrest **10:50**

☒ A.M. ☐ P.M. ☐ Noon ☐ Midnight

13. How Did You Notify or Summon Authorities?

☐ 911

☐ Home Phone

☐ Pay Phone

☒ Cell Phone

☐ Flagged Down Passing Official

☐ Took Perpetrator Into Custody ☐ Visited Nearest Enforcement Agency ☐ Other

14. Arresting - Transporting Agency

☒ LAPD*

☐ L.A. County Sheriff*

☐ Citizen's Arrest*

☐ Caltrans*

☐ City Department* - Name

☐ Other

*Division, Branch, Office or Area Name Where Report Was Filed **Eastlake Juvenile Center**

15. Arresting - Transporting Officer or Official Name

Serial, Badge or ID Number

Phone Number

Emestica 42838

(213) 833-3713

READ BEFORE SIGNING: The applicant, by submitting this application, waives any and all liability on the part of the City of Los Angeles for any property damage, personal injury or pain and suffering resulting to the applicant from any activity by the applicant in connection with, or in the course of, the identification or apprehension of any person committing the act or acts of *Graffiti, Vandalism, or Illegal Dumping* with respect to which this application for reward is made. NOTE: The amount awarded is up to the final determination of the City Council.

16.

17.

Applicant Signature

Parent or Guardian Signature (If applicant is under 18 years of age)

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE - FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Investigating Officer: Name

Serial Number

Phone Number

Disposition: ☐ Approved

(See Instructions Below)

☐ Disapproved (See Note Below)

☐ Insufficient Involvement

☐ Unable to locate Incident

☐ Insufficient Information

Investigation Summary Attached

☐ Yes ☐ No

Brief Explanation or Comments

NOTE: If disapproved, an appeal may be made to the CITY COUNCIL within 60 days of disapproval (See Ordinance 166507).

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:

Name (Printed or Typed)

Signature

Date

IF APPROVED, FORWARD TO: CITY COUNCIL, C/O CITY CLERK'S OFFICE, ROOM 395, CITY HALL, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 (MAIL STOP 160)

IN HOUSE FORM 15 (11/02)