



## **MEMORANDUM**

**To:** The Honorable Members of the City Council  
c/o City Clerk

**From:** Eric Garcetti, Mayor *EG*

**Subject:** RE-EXEMPTION REQUEST – DEPARTMENT OF AIRPORTS, (1)  
AIRPORT POLICE CHIEF

**Date:** August 14, 2019

On August 2, 2019, the Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) requested the exemption of one (1) position of Airport Police Chief, Class Code 3232, in accordance with Charter Section 1001(b), from civil service as management, professional, scientific, or expert services exemptions. On August 7, 2019, my office asked the Personnel Department to review LAWA's request.

The Airport Police Chief position was previously approved for exemption under 1001(b) by the City Council and was subsequently filled. Charter Section 1001(b)(1) requires that, "When the position is vacated, the exemption shall terminate unless re-authorized in accordance with this subsection." The position was vacated on August 3, 2019 and deleted from the count.

Charter Section 1001(b) allows up to 150 persons to be exempt, of which 144 are approved. Approval of this request will increase the count. As of the date of this letter, this request will be in the 146<sup>th</sup> position of the 150 exemptions. There are an additional 50 exempt positions added by the City Council pursuant to Charter Section 1001(b)(4), of which 12 are filled.

The Airport Police Chief position will report directly to the Director of Airport Safety Services who is the Deputy Executive Director of Law Enforcement and Homeland Security and has oversight of all law enforcement and security services, including those provided by outside agencies at all LAWA airports. The position will serve as the highest-ranking sworn officer within the Airport Police Division. As a member of the Deputy



Executive Director's senior staff, the Airport Police Chief will have direct responsibility for aviation law enforcement and security services provided to Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) and Van Nuys Airport (VNY); will develop policies and procedures specific to these airports, ensure strict compliance with the Airport Security Program by all airlines, tenants, passengers and employees at LAX; and oversee the development of comprehensive security plans for VNY.

The Airport Police Chief position requires a bachelor's degree from an accredited four-year college or university; and ten years of full-time paid experience as a law-enforcement professional with a proven record of successfully leading sworn and civilian personnel, managing large operations and budgets, and executing innovative law-enforcement strategies in a complex operating environment; and the successful completion of a Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST)-certified Management Course.

The exemption of this position will allow LAWA the flexibility to recruit and select the best qualified candidate who possesses the necessary experience and expertise for the position. The duties as described are appropriate to the class of Airport Police Chief.

Based on my review of LAWA's request, as well as the review of the Personnel Department, I hereby approve the request for the re-exemption of Airport Police Chief and transmit my action to the City Council, pursuant to City Charter Section 1001(b)(1). If the exempt position is not filled within six months, the Mayor's approval for the department to fill the position may expire.

EG:ag

cc:

Deborah Flint, Chief Executive Officer, Los Angeles World Airports  
Richard Llewellyn, City Administrative Officer  
Wendy Macy, General Manager, Personnel Department  
Ana Guerrero, Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor  
Heleen Ramirez, Legislative Coordinator, Office of the Mayor