



ERIC GARCETTI  
MAYOR

**MEMORANDUM**

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

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

**Subject:** **RE-EXEMPTION REQUEST – LOS ANGELES WORLD AIRPORTS, (1)  
AIRPORT POLICE CHIEF**

**Date:** December 7, 2022

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 November 15, 2022, the Mayor's 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. The position was vacated and deleted from the count. 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 incumbent served as Interim Director of Airport Safety Services until a permanent appointment can be made.

Charter Section 1001(b) allows up to 150 persons to be exempt, of which 133 are approved. Approval of this request will increase the count. As of the date of this letter, this request will be in the 137th 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 8 are filled.

The Airport Police Chief position is responsible for the efficient planning, coordination, and execution of all law enforcement and security, traffic and safety related functions and

operations of the Airport Police Division, and the aviation law enforcement and security services provided at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) and Van Nuys Airport (VNY). The position reports directly to the LAWA Chief Executive Officer; and oversees the development of policies and procedures specific to the LAX and VNY airports ensuring strict compliance with the Airport Security Program by all airlines, tenants, passengers and employees at LAX, as well as the development of comprehensive security plans at VNY.

The Airport Police Chief 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 law-enforcement strategies in a complex operating environment; and the successful completion of a Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST)-certified Management Course.

The re-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 and requirements 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 exemption of an 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:alg

cc: Andre Herndon, Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor  
Heleen Ramirez, Legislative Coordinator, Office of the Mayor  
Justin Erbacci, Chief Executive Officer, LAWA  
Dana Brown, General Manager, Personnel Department