

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, Los Angeles resident Eyvin Hernandez is a beloved son, brother, uncle, colleague, friend, and a dedicated Los Angeles County Public Defender advocating for the rights of the most vulnerable Angelenos; and

**WHEREAS**, Hernandez has served as a mentor for new Public Defenders and a volunteer advocating for children in the juvenile justice system; and

**WHEREAS**, in March of 2022, Hernandez went on what was supposed to be a two week vacation to Colombia; and

**WHEREAS**, while in Cucuta, a city on the border of Colombia and Venezuela, Hernandez was wrongfully accused of being an American spy, leading to his kidnapping and detainment in a maximum security military prison run by Dirección General de Contrainteligencia Militar (DGCIM), in Caracas, Venezuela; and

**WHEREAS**, the official charges levied against Hernandez - criminal association and conspiracy - could carry a 16 year prison sentence if Hernandez is found guilty; and

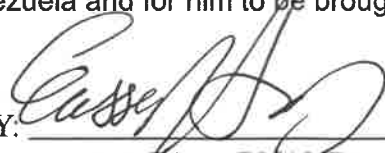
**WHEREAS**, hearings for Hernandez's case have already been postponed multiple times; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. State Department have made a determination that Hernandez has been wrongfully detained; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 21, 2022 Mayor Karen Bass and several congressional representatives sent a letter to President Joe Biden calling on his administration to free Hernandez; and

**WHEREAS**, Hernandez has given his life to helping others navigate our criminal justice system and deserves to have the same care and service provided to him as he faces this wrongful detention;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that by adoption of this Resolution, the Council of the City of Los Angeles calls upon the U.S. State Department and any other relevant Federal agencies to take any actions necessary for Eyvin Hernandez's expedient release from Dirección General de Contrainteligencia Militar (DGCIM) in Venezuela and for him to be brought home safely to Los Angeles.

PRESENTED BY:   
EUNISSES HERNANDEZ  
Councilmember, 1<sup>st</sup> District

SECONDED BY: 

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ORIGINAL

PK

FEB 10 2023