

OCT 03 2008

PUBLIC SAFETY  
AUDITS & GOVERNMENTAL EFFICIENCY  
RULES & GOVERNMENT

# MOTION

In 2006, the City Controller released an audit of the management practices in the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) that stressed the need to improve how the Department conducts its internal investigations, maintains consistent disciplinary guidelines, and ensures compliance with equal employment opportunity law and best practices.

As a result of the audit, a working group was formed and recommended the formation of a Professional Standards Division (PSD) within LAFD to ensure the appropriate review, investigation and tracking of all internal complaints. The City Council has monitored the progress of the working group in developing PSD through a series of joint meetings held by the Public Safety Committee and Audits and Governmental Efficiency Committee.

In addressing the Controller audit and two related Council motions (CF #06-2930 Hahn/Parks-Perry and CF #08-0632 Huizar-Weiss), the working group also identified the need for an Independent Assessor to monitor the Department's reform efforts. The position would report directly to the Board of Fire Commissioners and be removed from LAFD's command structure. The Independent Assessor's oversight role is to ensure that the work of the PSD is fair, thorough and objective.

The 2008-09 Adopted Budget provided funding for the PSD, including six-months funding for the Independent Assessor position. The City Attorney has opined, however, that the Fire Commission's authority to appoint an Independent Assessor will require an amendment to the City Charter.

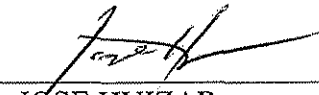
I THEREFORE MOVE that Council take the following actions:


1. The appropriate City departments and stakeholders report to a joint meeting of the Public Safety and Audits and Governmental Efficiency Committees regarding the current status of the implementation of the Fire Department's reforms and the most advantageous timing for adoption and implementation of the Independent Assessor position; and
2. Request the City Attorney, with the assistance of the Chief Legislative Analyst, to report on the need for Charter or code changes for this and any other positions being considered for placement on the March 3, 2009 Primary Nominating Election ballot, and
3. Request the City Attorney, with the assistance of the Chief Legislative Analyst, to prepare the documents necessary to place a measure on the March 3, 2009 Primary Nominating Election ballot that would amend the City Charter to authorize an Independent Assessor that would be appointed by and report to the Board of Fire Commissioners; and

08-0600-525


4. Instruct the City Clerk, upon submission of said documents, to place them on the next available Council Agenda for consideration on or before November 7, 2008.


PRESENTED BY:

  
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JOSE HUIZAR  
Councilmember, 14<sup>th</sup> District

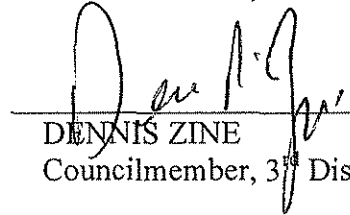
  
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JACK WEISS  
Councilmember, 5<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JANICE HAHN  
Councilmember, 15<sup>th</sup> District

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
WENDY GREUEL  
Councilmember, 2<sup>nd</sup> District

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
TONY CARDENAS  
Councilmember, 6<sup>th</sup> District

  
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DENNIS ZINE  
Councilmember, 3<sup>rd</sup> District

08-0600-S25

OCT 3 2008