

PUBLIC SAFETY

MAR 28 2008

MOTION

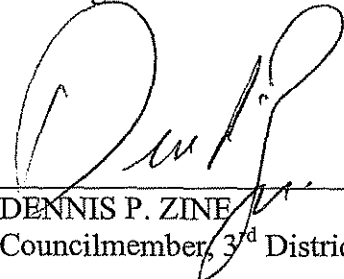
In 2006, the City of New York banned the possession of colored firearms that resemble toy guns. Such deceptively colored guns would have placed police officers with the burden of having to determine whether a gun is real or a toy.

The City of New York law denies a permit for a colored gun, makes it illegal to possess a colored gun, and prohibits the sale of paint kits used to change the color of guns. Violators of the colored gun ban could face a penalty of a \$1,000 or up to a year in jail. The New York Counties of Suffolk and Nassau are considering adopting similar legislation.

Los Angeles should enact such a ban as a colored gun presents a clear threat to officer safety and to the public. Officers must make split-second decisions about whether or not to use deadly force or not. If they hesitate, they could lose their lives. In addition, such brightly colored guns present a danger to children who would confuse it for a toy with predictably tragic results.

I THEREFORE MOVE that Council request the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance that would deny permits for colored guns, outlaw the possession of colored guns, and prohibit the sale of paint kits used to change the color of guns.

PRESENTED BY



DENNIS P. ZINE
Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY



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