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MOTION

In recent days, well-publicized events have demonstrated that the proliferation of paparazzi at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) is creating a series of problems, including physical altercations, disruptions to passengers, and serious distractions to officers trying to safeguard public safety.

Published reports say that the number of paparazzi at LAX has grown significantly in the past two years, rising to as many as 60 at a time when word gets out that particularly high-profile celebrities are traveling.

During an incident yesterday, a scuffle between a celebrity and photographers resulted in arrests and caused delays of up to 20 minutes for already-harried passengers trying to get through security checkpoints.


LAX is one of the busiest airports in the world and a known target for terrorism. Conflicts between celebrities and the paparazzi distract police officers and security forces from far more essential duties.


It is imperative that City officials, while maintaining sensitivity to and appreciation for freedom of the press, address this problem responsibly and with concern for the safety and well-being of all airport users.

I THEREFORE MOVE that Los Angeles World Airports, the Los Angeles Airport Police, and the office of the City Attorney report to the Trade, Commerce, and Tourism Committee within two weeks with an analysis of current procedures in place to preserve public safety at LAX in the midst of high-profile passengers and the paparazzi, including recommendations for increased coordination among those groups.


I FURTHER MOVE that Los Angeles World Airports, the Los Angeles Airport Police, and the office of the City Attorney also submit this report to the participants of the Los Angeles Regional Paparazzi Task Force for consideration at their next meeting in early October.

PRESENTED BY:


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