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06-1185

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



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April 4, 2007

Councilmember Wesson
Councilmember Smith
Chief Legislative Analyst
Board of Police Commissioners

City Attorney (w/blue slip)
City Administrative Officer
Police Department

RE: PROHIBITING THE IMPROPER DISPOSAL OF GUNS AND AMMUNITION, AND PROVIDING
INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC ON HOW TO PROPERLY DISPOSE OF UNWANTED GUNS AND
AMMUNITION

At the meeting of the Council held March 30, 2007, the following action was taken:

Attached report adopted X .
Attached motion (-) adopted
FORTHWITH
Publication date
Effective date
Motion adopted to approve committee report recommendations(s)
Mayor approved
Findings adopted
Negative Declaration adopted
Categorical exemption approved
Generally exempt

Frank T. Martinez

City Clerk
dng

220
TO THE COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

File No. 06-1185

Your

PUBLIC SAFETY

Committee

reports as follows:

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT relative to prohibiting the improper disposal of guns and ammunition, and providing information to the public on how to properly dispose of unwanted guns and ammunition.

Recommendations for Council action, as initiated by Motion (Smith - Wesson):

1. REQUEST that the City Attorney, with the assistance of the Police Department, prepare an ordinance that would prohibit the improper disposal of guns and ammunition.
2. DIRECT the Police Department to provide information to the public on how to properly dispose of unwanted guns and ammunition.

Fiscal Impact Statement: None submitted. Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

SUMMARY

On February 9, 2007, Council considered Motion (Smith - Wesson) relative to prohibiting the improper disposal of guns and ammunition. Motion states that in December 2006, the City passed an ordinance requiring gun owners to report to police the loss or theft of a gun within a specified period of time. This law was intended to address the difficulties encountered by police when tracing guns and ammunition used in the commission of a crime. According to police, "straw" buyers often purchase weapons and pass them on to criminals, gang members, and others who cannot purchase them legally.

Motion goes on to state that concerns have been expressed that despite the aforementioned ordinance, tracing a gun back to the original owner has been difficult because the gun owner can claim that the gun was disposed of in a trash receptacle. Clear regulations on how to properly dispose of guns and ammunition would eliminate this loophole. Council referred Motion to the Public Safety Committee for consideration.

At its meeting held March 19, 2007, the Public Safety Committee recommended that Council request that the City Attorney prepare the aforementioned ordinance, and that the Police Department provide information to the public on how to properly dispose of unwanted guns and ammunition.

Respectfully submitted,

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

MEMBER	VOTE
WEISS	YES
SMITH:	YES
PARKS:	YES
ZINE:	ABSENT
REYES:	ABSENT

JAW
3/20/07

#061185a.wpd

REPT.
ADOPTED
MAR 30 2007
LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

