

CITY OF LOS ANGELES



RESOLUTION

Raymond Mendoza, Serial No. 22939

WHEREAS, on September 28, 1993, Officer Ray Mendoza and Officer Jerry Ballesteros were assigned to Newton Division, Community Resources Against Street Hoodlums (CRASH). The officers were assigned to deter and suppress crime that were involving a notorious local street gang named the 52 Broadway Gangster Crips; and

WHEREAS, Officers Mendoza and Ballesteros had arrested a 17-year old male at 70th Street and Broadway for a narcotics violation and were transporting him to the station. Officer Ballesteros was driving a dual purpose police vehicle while Officer Mendoza sat in the rear seat with the subject; and

WHEREAS, while driving to the station, the officers drove northbound on Broadway then turned east on 53rd Street. The officers observed a group of known gang members standing in front of an abandoned house located at 159 West Broadway. One of the male suspects appeared to conceal a gun in his waistband, which caused the officers to stop their vehicle. As the officers stopped at least three of the suspects opened fire on the officers as they were in their vehicle. A barrage of gunfire ensued, and Officer Mendoza continued to return gunfire even after being struck several times. Officer Ballesteros continued to return fire until the gunfight had terminated and proceeded to accelerate out of the area; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the ambush, Officer Mendoza had sustained four gunshot wounds and was transported to USC Medical Center listed in critical condition. The attending physicians were able to stabilize Officer Mendoza during the surgery; and

WHEREAS, Officers Mendoza and Ballesteros incident has been well documented in the LAPD Archives. As a result both officers received numerous commendations, and were recognized nationally as recipients of the first "Top Cop" honors; and

WHEREAS, Officer Mendoza has inspired others with his positive influence by speaking at the "Will to fight" and "Keeping yourself fit to stayc alive" circuits; and


WHEREAS, during the years following Mendoza has obtained the ranks of Sergeant and Detective and has continued to work with the gangs; and

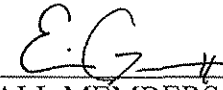
WHEREAS, Detective Mendoza never felt he was owed anything, and he believes in the "Mission" of the Los Angeles Police Department and that every day is a blessing; and

WHEREAS, Detective Mendoza has made many sacrifices day in and day out to protect the City of Los Angeles and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, it is only fitting that Detective Mendoza be presented the Purple Heart Award on June 1st, 2011 at Deaton Hall by Chief Beck; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of Los Angeles by adoption of this Resolution congratulates Detective Mendoza for over 30 years loyal service and dedication to the Los Angeles Police Department and commends him for his commitment to duty and professionalism in service to the people of Los Angeles. On behalf of the City of Los Angeles, best wishes are extended to Ray Mendoza on receiving the prestigious Purple Heart Award and much continued success in all of your future endeavors!

PRESENTED BY: 
TOM LABONGE
Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY: 
ALL MEMBERS

ORIGINAL

MAY 17 2011

ADOPTED

MAY 17 2011

LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL