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**JOHN F. SZABO**  
CITY LIBRARIAN

February 19, 2026

Honorable Councilmembers  
Civil Rights, Equity, Immigration, Aging and Disability Committee  
City Clerk, Room 395, City Hall  
Attention: Jason Lopez

**RESPONSE TO COUNCIL FILE 25-0887**

**Background:**

On September 3, 2025, the Los Angeles City Council adopted a motion (Council File 25-0887) instructing the Los Angeles Public Library (LAPL), as well as other city departments, to report on the following:

- a. An accounting of any instances of private property being abandoned in either the public right-of-way or on City property as relates to the Department's jurisdiction, as a result of Federal immigration enforcement.
- b. Department protocol for collection, storage, disposal, and release of private property that has been abandoned as a result of Federal immigration enforcement.
- c. Recommendations to ensure private property is safely, accurately, and expeditiously returned to an individual once released from Federal custody or to third parties such as family, friends, or neighbors either during or after a detention.

The report provided is in response to that instruction.

**Findings:**

Based on an internal review with LAPL staff, no instances of private property being abandoned at LAPL facilities as a result of Federal immigration enforcement have been identified.

LAPL follows standard City procedures for handling lost or abandoned personal property including a standardized retention period, logging of lost and found items, secure storage, and release of items to owners who provide satisfactory identification.

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As no such incidents have occurred at LAPL facilities, no specific protocol has been developed for instances of abandoned property due to Federal immigration enforcement.

**Recommendations:**

That the City Council NOTE and FILE this report, as it is provided for informational purposes only.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

John F. Szabo  
City Librarian