

MOTION

SPECIAL 7

On October 16, 2025, LAist reported that the City Attorney Hydee Feldstein Soto and her office had moved to lift the September 2025 injunction against the Los Angeles Police Department for use of force against journalists. This was done without consultation of the City Council as the Legislative body for the City.

In Fiscal Year 2024-25, the City paid over \$68 million in liability costs as a result of actions taken by the LAPD, resulting in bodily harm to journalists and protestors. Since protests of the Federal Government's immigration enforcement activities in the City grew in June 2025, at least 60 claims have been made against the LAPD by protestors and journalists for use of force. Lifting this injunction does not further the City's mission of keeping Angelenos safe while putting the City's stressed finances in further jeopardy by creating additional liability and claims against the City.

Journalism is under attack in this nation - whether it be the revocation of access by President Trump to the Pentagon Press Corps this week, or the rapid consolidation of media outlets by corporations - and our local press is critical to keeping Angelenos informed. Any attempt at spending precious City resources on overturning what Judge Hernán Vera of the Central District Court of California has deemed "unlawful force against members of the media" is a waste of City resources and against the will of Angelenos at large.

One of Los Angeles' biggest threats to public safety is the ongoing terror and kidnapping campaign of our neighbors by the Trump Administration, and the City must focus its resources on protecting our communities, not the further degradation of First Amendment rights and the timely need for a free press.

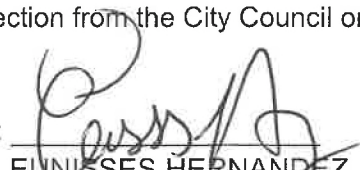
I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council determine, as provided in Section 54954.2(b)(2) of the Government Code, and pursuant to Rule 23 of the Rules of the City Council, that there is a need to take immediate action on this matter and that the need for the action came to the attention of the City Council subsequent to the posting of the agenda for today's Council meeting;

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council DIRECT the City Attorney withdraw the motion to lift the injunction;

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council REQUEST the City Attorney present in an emergency closed session of Council regarding the motion to lift the injunction in order to obtain guidance from, and give updates to the City Council;

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council REQUEST the City Attorney, with support from the Chief Legislative Analyst, report back in 30 days with information on all proactive litigation the Office has moved forward without explicit direction from the City Council or Mayor since July 1, 2024, to date.

PRESENTED BY:


EUNISSES HERNANDEZ
Councilmember, 1st District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL


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