

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Administrative Code - San Francisco Homicide Reward Fund]

Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to establish the San Francisco Homicide Reward Fund.

Existing Law

Administrative Code Section 10.177-1 authorizes the Mayor to offer a reward, not to exceed \$100,000, for information leading to the identification, arrest, and conviction of any person whose willful misconduct results in injury or death to any person or who willfully damages, destroys or appropriates any property. The reward must be recommended by the Mayor and approved by the Board of Supervisors.

Section 10.177-1 covers, but is not specific to, unsolved homicides, and does not establish a specific fund for this purpose.

Amendments to Current Law

The proposal is an ordinance that would amend the Administrative Code to establish the San Francisco Homicide Reward Fund (the "Fund") to receive donations or appropriations for the purpose of providing rewards as set forth in the ordinance. The Fund would be a category six fund, which means that the monies in the Fund would be deemed automatically appropriated for these purposes and the fund balance would be carried forward at the end of the budgetary cycle, but interest on the monies would go to the General Fund. Donations to the Fund would be deemed approved for acceptance and expenditure and would not require Board approval, even if in excess of \$10,000.

The proposal would authorize the Chief of Police to pay a reward to any person or persons providing information that lead, in the judgment of the Chief after consultation with the District Attorney, to the arrest and conviction of a person for the crimes of murder or manslaughter committed within the City, where the Chief determined that no one had been charged with the crime for more than one year from the date of the incident, the Police Department had exhausted all investigative leads, and a reward was necessary to achieve an arrest and conviction for the crime.

If more than one claimant was eligible for a reward, the Chief could divide the reward in a manner he or she deemed appropriate, but the total reward in connection with a single incident could not exceed \$250,000. A person claiming a reward from the Fund could not have participated in the planning, commission, or concealment of the crime, and the

information provided by the person must have been unknown to the Police Department or the District Attorney at the time it was provided.

Any individual reward of \$100,000 or more would require Board of Supervisors approval by resolution.

To the extent permitted by law, the Chief of Police could keep confidential information identifying individual reward recipients.

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