

DEC 18 2007

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

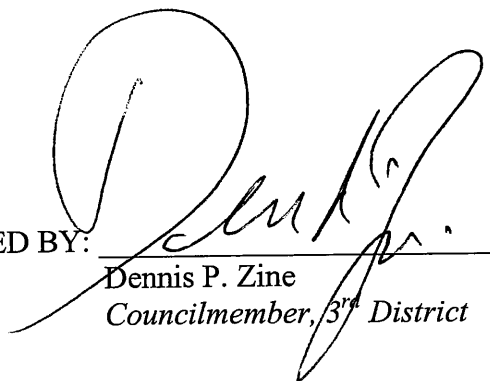
**MOTION**

On December 15, 2007, a serious car crash occurred in Tarzana that resulted in the death of a 72-year old woman who remained undetected by rescue personnel while her son, the driver of the car, was removed from the car and taken to a nearby hospital. The woman, who has now been identified as Shirley Lee Williams, was apparently concealed underneath one of the vehicle's airbags that deployed during the crash. Tragically, Williams' body was not discovered until the next day when authorities searched the vehicle again at a Canoga Park tow yard.

Preliminary reports from the Los Angeles County Coroner's office indicate that Williams died shortly after the car crash, but are still inconclusive as to whether a speedier paramedic response would have been able to save her life. The California Emergency Medical Services Authority and the Los Angeles Police Department are among the agencies that have already launched formal inquiries into this tragic accident. The Los Angeles City Council must also evaluate the details of this incident to prevent any future occurrences.

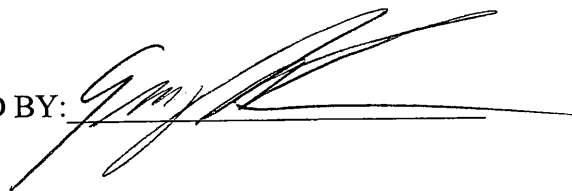
I THEREFORE MOVE that the Los Angeles Police Department and Los Angeles Fire Department be directed to report immediately to the Public Safety Committee with a full accounting of departmental protocol relative to searches of vehicles involved in collisions, including specific measures taken to determine if persons have been concealed under deployed airbags, and new procedures to eliminate the risk of crash victims remaining undetected.

PRESENTED BY:



Dennis P. Zine  
Councilmember, 3<sup>rd</sup> District

SECONDED BY:



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07-4096