



CITY OF POMONA COUNCIL REPORT

December 1, 2014

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Linda Lowry, City Manager *Lowry*

Submitted By: Mark J. Gluba, Deputy City Manager *Gluba*

Subject: **Adoption of a Resolution in Support of an Independent International Investigation into the Disappearance of Forty Three Students from Iguala Guerrero Mexico**

SUMMARY

Recommendation – That the City Council adopt the attached Resolution in support of a full investigation into the disappearance of students from Iguala Guerrero Mexico.

Fiscal Impact – None with this action.

Previous Council Action – At their Meeting on November 17, 2014, the Council directed that this matter be placed on the next Agenda for consideration after several speakers spoke on the matter and presented a draft resolution.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Mexican-American community plays an important role in the social, cultural and economic landscape of the City of Pomona. On September 26, 2014 in the Mexican City of Iguala Guerrero forty three students from the Ayotzinapa Rural University were taken by force and are still missing as of the drafting of this report. The senseless disappearance of these students and other human rights violations in Iguala, Guerrero Mexico have concerned Mexican-Americans and the international community as a whole. The attached resolution will assert the City of Pomona's support for conducting a full, independent international investigation into the disappearance of these students to ensure that potential human rights violations within Iguala, Guerrero, Mexico are not ignored. The language contained in the proposed Resolution has been taken directly from the draft submitted by the requesting speakers and has only been edited to fit the City's standard Resolution formatting.

Attachment – Draft Resolution

Submitted to City Council: 12/1/2014
Approved: _____
Continued to: _____
Denied: _____

Agenda Item # 1
Resolution No(s): _____
Ordinance No. _____

RESOLUTION NO. 2014 -

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
POMONA, CALIFORNIA, IN SUPPORT OF A FULL INVESTIGATION
INTO THE DISAPPEARANCE OF FORTY THREE STUDENTS FROM
IGUALA, GUERRERO, MEXICO**

WHEREAS, on September 26, 2014, in the Mexican City of Iguala, Guerrero, forty three students from the Ayotzinapa Rural University (Escuela Normal) were taken by force and are still missing; and,

WHEREAS, the students were mostly children from poor, rural families who were training to become teachers to serve the rural and indigenous poor; and,

WHEREAS, the authorities failed to promptly and diligently take action and did not start to search for the missing students and adequately protect the survivors and the families without delay; and,

WHEREAS, the recent events in Guerrero represent an unprecedented level of human rights violations and expose extremely serious issues of impunity, collusion between police officers and organized crime gangs and excessive use of force and therefore must be addressed for remedial action; and,

WHEREAS, this incident reverberates with the experience of many Pomona residents whose families have suffered similar violence in Latin America;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Pomona as follows:

SECTION 1. That the City Council of the City of Pomona, State of California, formally supports the bereaved relatives', students' and public's demand for an independent international inquiry into the events that happened in Iguala, including a full investigation into the disappearances, and exhaustive establishment of all responsibilities and the prosecution and effective condemnation of the responsible at levels, in line with international standards of justice.

SECTION 2. That the City of Pomona authorizes its council and city staff to communicate its support of this legislation and direct the City Clerk to send this Resolution to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate and the Honorable Members of the United States Congress representing the City of Pomona and surrounding regions.

SECTION 3. That the City Clerk shall certify to the approval and adoption of this resolution.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 1st DAY OF DECEMBER, 2014.

ATTEST:

CITY OF POMONA

Eva M. Buice
City Clerk

Elliott Rothman
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Arnold Alvarez-Glasman
City Attorney

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CITY OF POMONA

I, EVA M. BUICE, CITY CLERK of the City of Pomona do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Pomona held on the 1st day of December, 2014 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Eva M. Buice, MMC
City Clerk