



## STAFF REPORT

**Meeting Date:** July 1, 2014  
**To:** Honorable Mayor & City Council  
**From:** David L. Snowden, Chief of Police  
**Subject:** Proclamation Honoring Detective George Elwell  
**Attachments:** None

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### **INTRODUCTION**

Detective George Elwell is a twenty-four year veteran of the Beverly Hills Police Department and is currently assigned to the Detective Bureau. Detective Elwell has been an investigator for the past 17 years, and he has worked in assignments as a Burglary, Auto, and Narcotics investigator. Detective Elwell is currently assigned to our Crimes Against Persons Detail.

### **Background**

In February of 2011, Detective Elwell began an extensive investigation after learning that a family living in Beverly Hills was the victims of arson and a number of other violent crimes. Between 2009 and 2012, there were 26 documented crimes against this family. These crimes occurred at their residence in Beverly Hills and at their business, located in West Hollywood. During the investigation it became apparent that the family was being targeted due to their specific business—operating a marijuana dispensary.

A criminal investigation led to one primary person responsible for all of these crimes: Andrew Harrison Kramer. Kramer owned several marijuana dispensaries in the region and he was targeting other marijuana dispensaries and owners in order to discourage competition to his business and maximize his own profits.

Elwell's investigation cultivated several confidential informants. These confidential sources corroborated his suspicions of why the crimes occurred and provided him with additional information which led him to believe that Kramer was not operating legitimate dispensaries. Elwell's investigation concluded that Kramer was running an elaborate drug trafficking organization that was yielding millions of dollars in profits.

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On April 16, 2013, at the culmination of a multi-year investigation, Detective Elwell, as the lead investigator, along with members of the Beverly Hills Police Department, and agents from the Drug Enforcement Agency, executed a number of search and arrest warrants that resulted in the arrest of Kramer along with five additional co-conspirators.

On March 27, 2014, Andrew Harrison Kramer pled guilty to eight felony counts and accepted a 25 year State prison sentence. In addition to Kramer's sentence, four of his co-conspirators pled guilty for their involvement in the crimes and accepted felony plea deals ranging from four to nine years in State prison. A fifth suspect is awaiting trial. Detective Elwell is to be commended for his persistence and dedication during an extensive criminal investigation that successfully and ultimately dismantled a criminal enterprise. His efforts resulted in the removal of a group of extremely dangerous and ruthless individuals from our streets. Through his tenaciousness, those victimized by these heinous acts, as well as the community at large, can once again enjoy the sense of safety and protection they've come to expect and appreciate.

Elwell's stellar example of outstanding detective work exemplifies the true meaning of the highest level of professionalism!

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that Detective George Elwell be presented a Proclamation to acknowledge his exceptional efforts as a Police Detective.

 *David L. Snowden*  
David L. Snowden, Chief of Police  
Approved By