

MOTION

On January 13, 2022, Brianna Kupfer, 24, was brutally and tragically murdered while she was working alone at a furniture store along La Brea Avenue. According to prosecutors, the male defendant, who was intent on finding and carrying out violence against women, pretended to be a customer, lulling Brianna into a false sense of security.

On Tuesday, September 10, a jury found the defendant guilty of first degree murder. While the verdict won't bring Brianna back, her story is a reminder of the violence that thousands of workers across Los Angeles, California and our nation regularly encounter in their workplaces. According to Cal OSHA, 57 working people died from acts of workplace violence in California in 2021, while more than 17,000 workers have been victims of workplace homicides across our nation between 1992 and 2019.

In light of these disturbing events, the California legislature approved and Governor Newsom signed SB 553 (Cortese) in 2023. Effective July 1, 2024, SB 553 requires California employers to create a Workplace Violence and Prevention Plan, inclusive of workplace training, procedures to respond to actual or potential workplace violence and data reporting requirements - tools that, if required in 2022, may have saved Brianna's life.

Given the City's role as an employer, coupled with the troubling increase in shoplifting and retail theft across Los Angeles, coupled with the mental health, addiction and homelessness crises, it would be helpful for the City to understand the responsibilities of employers under SB 553 and components of the training, including staffing and security best practices, self-defense, de-escalation strategies, engagement with law enforcement, risk factor mitigation, and the right to flee a workplace in danger.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the Chief Legislative Analyst, with the assistance of the Police Department and City Attorney, to report on the implementation of SB 553 in California, which requires employees to create Workplace Violence and Protection Plans (WVPP). The report should also include the City's progress toward creating its own WVPP.

PRESENTED BY: _____



TRACI PARK

Councilwoman, 11th District

SECONDED BY: _____


SEP 11 2024

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