

# Thanks for Saving Lives

■ **LAX Police Officers recognized for saving lives by using defibrillators.**

*Story by Officer Belinda Nettles, Airport Police; Photos courtesy Airport Police*

**AIRPORTS** — Seven Los Angeles Airport Police Officers earned recognition for saving the lives of three passengers through the use of Automated External Defibrillators (AED) as the passengers traveled through Los Angeles International Airport (LAX). The incidents being recognized all occurred since 2003.

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and Fire Chief William Bamattre presented Certificates of Commendation to Airport Police Officers William Handley, Vern Williams, Richard Taylor, Gregg Iwamiya, Tanansuk Chow and Thomas Dye and Sgt. Steven Zouzounis. The Officers were recognized for saving the lives of three cardiac arrest victims by using an AED. An AED is a mechanical/electrical instrument used to apply

an electrical shock to a person whose heart is in fibrillation. The shock is intended to cause the heart to defibrillate and return to a more normal rhythm.

Villaraigosa and Bamattre used the officers' commendations made at the City Council to highlight a new public service announcement about the life-saving utility of AEDs.

LAX has installed AEDs in all terminals in 2003. All Airport Police Officers involved have received training in the use of AEDs.



Sgt. Steven Zouzounis and Officer William Handley receive a special award.



From left: Officers Richard Taylor, William Handley, Vern Williams; Chief Brian Walker; Officers Steven Zouzounis; Tanansuk Chow and Gregg Iwamiya.



From left: Gregg Iwamiya, Anel Mendez, Tanansuk Chow and LA City Fire Chief William Bamattre.



From left: Chuck Lawson, Phillips Medical Systems; Deputy Chief Emil Mack; Chief Brian Walker; Steven Zouzounis; William Handley; and Dr. Marc Eckstien, Medical Director, PAD Program.

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