**July 2010** www.cityemployeesclub.com

### **AIRPORTS**

# Nabbed!

## Airport Police hold sting operation on ground transportation at LAX.

Story by Sgt. Belinda Nettles, Airport Police, Club Member; Photos by Officer D. Lewis, Airport Police

On June 11, a multi-agency law enforcement operation conducted at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) resulted in nine commercial ground transportation vehicles removed from service and 35 citations issued to drivers for administrative and mechanical violations

"This operation is part of a proactive approach by the Los Angeles Airport Police and our partner agencies to provide the traveling public with safe commercial transportation to and from LAX," said Los Angeles Airport Police Chief George R. Centeno. He added, "Air travelers rely heavily on commercial ground transportation services, and with the busy summer travel season beginning, it's important to ensure these providers are complying with all laws."

Nearly 30 representatives from the Los Angeles Airport Police, California Public Utilities Commission (PUC), Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) Regulatory Compliance and Standards Section, California Highway Patrol, and Transportation conducted their inspections at the airport's limousine holding lot beginning at 8 a.m. A total of 969 door-to-door shuttle vans, limousines and buses were inspected during the fourhour operation.

The multi-agency team focused on proper driver and vehicle licensing, PUC and airport operating permits, proper commercial insurance, and other law enforcement-related issues. Los Angeles Airport Police officers and inspectors also concentrated on mechanical equipment, including brakes, seat belts, headlights, transponders,

and other safety systems that are required to be in good working order.

Of the 989 vehicles inspected, nine were impounded: seven for allegedly operating without proper licensing and two for allegedly having suspended permits. Twenty vehicles were taken out of service for various allegedly mechanical violations.

LAWA Regulatory Compliance and Standards personnel removed four transponders (devices attached to commercial vehicles to monitor the number of times they access and traverse the airport's Central Terminal Area roadways). Transportation providers pay a fee every time a vehicle circuits the terminal area. If the transponder is not operating properly, it represents lost revenue for the airport.

Two drivers were issued Personal Service Citations for alleged misdemeanor violations. Another 48 drivers were cited for alleged administrative violations, including serious mechanical problems, improper insurance, driving with an out-of-class license, and invalid or no PUC permits. Fines for these citations vary, and the drivers must show proof of correction before they can resume for-hire operation.



The LAX limousine holding lot with commercial vehicles



Airport Police CEU Officer Pan issues an administrative citation for alleged non-compliance.



Airport Police CEU Officer Romero checks the limousine driver's license status.



Airnort Police Commercial Enforcement Unit (CEU) Officer Woods and a California Highway Patrol Officer, as they check for violations and issue citations to a limousine driver



Airport Police CEU Officer Woods as he completes tow paperwork for a door-to-door shuttle van that was allegedly operating out of compliance.

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# This Month's Pets For Adoption:

# butch

Butch is a neutered male black and red miniature pin mix. He is about five years old and a super dog -- people and kid friendly.

ID# A1109551: North Central Animal Care Center



# **CHICO**

Chico is a 10-month-old male Lab mix. He loves playing fetch and running in the yard. Chico is a very smart pup and is eager to learn new tricks.

ID# A1110797: North Central Animal Care Center.

# pdpy

Baby is a spayed 19-month-old domestic shorthair that loves to play! She is an indoor cat and she likes other cats. She is waiting for you to take her home!

ID# A1077996: - North Central Animal Care Center.





# juLeſ

Jules and Kyle are 10-month-old domestic shorthair tabby brothers that would like to find a new home together, but would be happy to find separate homes with great families! They appear to be a little shy, but they are very

ID# A1117399 & ID# A1117400: North Central Animal Care Center.

Jules and Kyle are 10-month-old domestic shorthair tabby brothers that would like to find a new home together, but would be happy to find separate homes with great families! They appear to be a little shy, but they are very lovable.

ID# A1117399 & ID# A1117400: North Central Animal Care Center.





# meet your new hope coordingtor!

All of these animals are available for adoption at the North Central Animal Care **Center located at 3201 Lacy Street, Los** Angeles CA 90031. **Anna Hernandez** is the New Hope Coordinator, and she can be reached at (213) 485-5767.

To see more animals available for adoption, please visit www.laanimalservices.org