

## TRANSPORTATION

# Goodbye, Jimmy!

**Club friend and Member Jimmy Price retires from Transportation after 38 years of City service.**



Chief Jimmy Price, Club Member, with his wife, Lt. Tovanni Price, Central Parking Enforcement, 10 years of City service, and Sgt. Frank Nuno, Central Parking Enforcement, 8 years.



Lt. Bennie Ellis, South Parking Enforcement, 31 years of City service, and Andrea Fernandez, Retired Deputy Chief, 38 years.



Joan Pelico, District Director for Councilmember Paul Koretz, and Ann Muenster-Nuiri, VP of Operations, Municipal Services ACS Government Services.



Chief Jimmy Price and his wife, Lt. Tovanni Price, enjoy some of the delicious catered food.



The event's band played all the great R&B classics.



From left: LT. Cheryl Johnson, Transportation, enforcement, 25 years of City service, and Aaron Johnson Price, Chief Price's son.



Story and photos by Tanya Edwards, Club Counselor

Jimmy L. Price, Chief of Parking Enforcement and Traffic Control Operations, officially retired from City Service on June 4. He was honored by friends, family and those whose lives he touched within the City at a gala, held Sept. 10 at the beautiful Los Verdes Country Club in Rancho Palos Verdes.

Everyone from representatives of Senators and Congressmembers to fellow Transportation officers turned out. He was awarded the City of Los Angeles Mayoral Certificate, given a City Council Proclamation as well as honorary momentums from the Transportation Commission, Department of Transportation and many organizations, including your very own City Employees Club of Los Angeles represented by Robert Larios, Chief of Operations, and myself, who gave him a City of Los Angeles commemorative watch.

## Here's some background on his career:

Chief Jimmy L. Price began his career as a Traffic Officer on June 18, 1973. He was hired as a Traffic Control Officer assigned to LAPD Central Traffic Division, where he directed traffic at various intersections and also enforced parking regulations on a three-wheel Harley Davidson motorcycle.

Chief Price worked as a traffic control officer until July 1, 1974, when the positions of Traffic Control Officer and Parking Control Checker were merged into the newly created civilian Traffic Officer class. In 1978, Chief Price transferred to the newly opened Southeast Police Division, where he was a part of the Storm Detail. In 1981, Chief Price became one of the first designated Training Instructors for the Traffic Officer Class. As a Training Instructor, he participated in traffic control training for recruit Police Officers in preparation for the 1984 Olympics.



One of the many ocean views from this beautiful country club.



Chief Jimmy Price and his wife, Tovanni, surrounded by friends and family.



From left: Rita Robinson, former General Manager, Transportation, and former Club Board Member; John Frierson, Board of Transportation Commissioners; Julie Butcher, Union Representative; and Susie Frierson, Retired, 43 years of City service.



The Rev. Zane Tarver opened the festivities with a moment of prayer and blessings for the Chief.



Fawnda Sparks, Sr. Traffic Officer, 36 years of City services; Korla Hobbs, Traffic Officer, Hollywood Division, 27 years; and friends.

In 1985, Chief Price, with 400 other Traffic Officers, was reassigned from the LAPD to Transportation. Chief Price was transferred to the Southern Area Parking Enforcement Office, where he performed his duties in an exemplary manner, until he was promoted to Sergeant on Oct. 27, 1985. Chief Price was reassigned to the Central Area Parking Enforcement office.

In 1986, Chief Price was promoted to Lieutenant. During his tenure as Lieutenant, he was assigned to manage the Communications Center and later the Central Area Parking Enforcement Office. Chief Price was promoted to Captain in 1988. As a Captain, Chief Price continued to oversee Area Operations in the Central Area Parking Enforcement Office.

Also in 1988, Chief Price was promoted to Commander, where his responsibility consisted of managing the daily operations of the Support Services Division, which included Special Events and the Crossing Guard Program. He then was promoted to Deputy Chief in 1996, and was responsible for the management and oversight of all Parking Enforcement Area Offices.

In 1998, Chief Price was promoted to Chief of Parking Enforcement and Traffic Control Operations. As chief, he was given the responsibility of managing the Bureau's 24-hour, seven-

day-per-week operation, which consists of 700 full-time employees as well as more than 500 Crossing Guards.

During his tenure as Chief, he was responsible for the development and implementation of many different important programs.

Chief Price is known for his passion, commitment, compassion, and dedication. He strongly believed in our most important core value as an organization: Our employees come first, the customer second. He based this belief on the fact that a well trained and properly motivated work force will deliver exceptional service.

Congratulations on a great career, Chief Price. Enjoy your retirement!

*Special thanks go to Sgt. Frank Nuno and Lt. Tovanni Price for their assistance.*



One of the many appetizer stations.



From left: Michael and Pam Ingram; Helena Goss, Transportation Administration, 30 years of City service; and Dan Green.