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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## ***MEDIA ADVISORY***

### **MTA EMPLOYEES TO DONATE 6,000 GIFTS THIS MORNING FOR SKID ROW CHILDREN**

**WHAT:** For the sixth straight year, MTA employees and their families will donate gifts to the Fred Jordan Mission in downtown L.A.'s Skid Row. The recipients will be thousands of disadvantaged children and needy families who are provided assistance by the Mission. MTA employees contributed more than 6,000 new toys and canned goods. At MTA headquarters, in the Patsaouras Transit Plaza, toys and other gifts will be on display before jolly old Santa Claus, MTA staff and preschool children from MTA's childcare center bring the collection to the Mission via three MTA buses. Before the buses depart, children will sing Christmas carols and bring out stuffed animals that will be added to gift bags, which are also earmarked for the Mission.

**WHEN:** **THIS MORNING**, Friday, December 7, 2001  
10 a.m. Load gifts on bus  
10:30 a.m. Bus drives to Fred Jordan Mission from  
MTA Headquarters

**VISUALS:** The media is invited to join Santa Claus, MTA preschool children and volunteers during the bus ride to the Mission and return to MTA headquarters by noon.

**WHERE:** MTA Headquarters  
Patsaouras Transit Plaza  
One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012 (MAP 634 H-3)

**WHO:** Willie Jordan, President Fred Jordan Mission  
Richard Hunt, MTA Deputy Executive Officer Operations and  
MTA officials, plus the one-and-only Santa Claus

**[EDITOR'S NOTES:** In the wake of Sept. 11, news vans upon entering Patsaouras Transit Plaza will be stopped for a quick 20 second security check by officers of the LAPD. To avoid the check, news crews also have the option of parking on Vignes Street, close to the event.) On December 16, beginning at 8:30 a.m., MTA volunteers will pass out the gifts at the Mission, 445 Towne Avenue.