

## **MTA to Receive Governor's Certificate for Employer Excellence**

(May 3, 2001) The MTA's special efforts to hire military veterans have placed the agency among a select few employers this year that will receive the Governor's Certificate for Employer Excellence.

During the past year, the MTA has conducted an aggressive veterans' outreach program that included extensive contacts with a number of veterans' organizations and community groups. The agency also participated in or co-hosted some 30 job fairs attended by veterans.

The certificate will be presented, May 16, at the annual Employer of the Year Awards and Recognition Breakfast at the Sheraton Universal Hotel in Universal City.

The MTA was nominated for the award by the El Monte Employment Development Department (EDD) office, which has worked closely with the agency in its effort to hire veterans for bus operator positions.

### **Attended veterans' events**

Richard Percival, Human Resources analyst and project manager for bus operator recruitment, attended a number of veterans events and EDD job fairs, and made presentations before veterans organizations.

"Through our partnership with the EDD, they felt the MTA was going above and beyond what most companies do for veterans," said Percival. "Veterans are an excellent pool of talent because they have the training, teamwork and many of the traits that make good employees."

Veterans, male and female, are represented in all ranks of the MTA, from CEO to bus operator and maintenance employee. Human Resources conservatively estimates that almost 800 MTA employees are veterans. In 2000, the agency hired more than 73 veterans. At least nine more had been hired by March 12, 2001.

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