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Division 18 Teamwork Aces Annual CHP Inspection

By RICH MORALLO

(Feb. 11, 2004) Taking care of business every day paid off for the transportation and maintenance staff at South Bay Division 18, Jan. 27, when they passed their annual CHP inspection.

"Our teamwork and support for each other, day after day and week after week, played a key role in passing (the) inspection," said South Bay General Manager Dana Coffey.

"We do our work every day, just continuous maintenance," said Assistant Maintenance Manager Tom Whitman.

Two CHP vehicle code enforcement officers inspected ten buses over a two-hour period that morning.

"They checked everything, from steering wheel operation and functioning emergency exits to air brakes and wheels," Whitman said, who has been through nine other annual inspections since 1985.

In the transportation building, Assistant Manager Curley Little pointed toward the many driver logs which were also examined.

'Documenting work factors'

"CHP typically looks at how we keep our daily part-timer logs to make sure we are documenting work factors such as total hours worked and the amount of time between work shifts," Curley explained.

For Transportation Operations Supervisor Joyce McKenzie, the no-notice CHP visit was just her third of the mandatory state inspections, but she had followed the same strategy in taking care of the training records,

PHOTOS BY RICH MORALLO



TOS Joyce McKenzie makes a daily check of operator transit reports.



Division 18 Assistant Maintenance Manager Tom Whitman tests latches on a bus window.



Division 18 Assistant Transportation Manager Curley Little reads through an operator log.

another inspection area.

"I have eight drawers of over 500 records which I tend to every day," she said.

McKenzie daily checks over a variety of administrative documents, including verification of transit training, current operator's licenses and medical cards.

"Joyce has done an excellent job in always keeping the files ready" said her supervisor, Assistant Manager Demetrius Jones. "Five years ago, she started a program to examine and get all the paperwork complete and accurate, and after that it was just the daily challenge of keeping everything current."

But McKenzie missed the compliment; she had already walked back to her file drawers to take care of more business.

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