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LASD Opens 68 Positions for Metro Rail Security Assistants

(June 18, 2004) The Sheriff's Transit Services Bureau will open 68 positions, July 1, for security assistants on the four Metro Rail lines.

Sixty of the fare inspectors will patrol the Metro Blue and Green Lines, while eight others will fill vacancies on the Metro Red and Gold Lines. Metro's FY 2005 budget includes funding for the Blue and Green Line personnel.

"If someone is thinking about a career in law enforcement, this is a first step," says Sheriff's Lt. Leo Norton. "It will give them an opportunity to learn what law enforcement is all about."

Norton said the Transit Services Bureau hopes to hire, train and prepare the new security assistants to take up their assignments by early October. The department currently has 42 security assistants on the job.

To qualify as a Sheriff's security assistant, applicants must be at least 18 years old, a high school graduate or hold a GED certificate.

Applicants must pass a preliminary background screening and must score at least 70 percent on a written test covering reading comprehension and inductive reasoning ability. Candidates also must have a California Class "C" drivers' license and must be able to meet certain strength requirements.

The monthly salary for a Sheriff's security assistant is \$1,801.21. Security assistants may be required to work evening, night, weekend and holiday shifts. For information on applying for the positions, call (323) 526-5611.

The first two fare inspectors – Security Assistant Vanessa Mack and her partner, Security Assistant Magdalena Soto – took their posts on the Metro Red Line on May 12, 2003.

Dressed in white uniform shirts and navy slacks, and equipped with radios, they were the first of a force of 50 fare inspectors assigned to Metro Rail.

Information: (323) 526-5611.



In addition to checking fares, Sheriff's Security Assistants Vanessa Mack, left, and Magdalena Soto keep an eye out for safety and assist patrons with directions.

