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A Message to Employees from Deputy CEO John Catoe

• **KCBS-TV to air news story about Metro bus operator driving records, bus accidents and fatalities**

KCBS-TV News plans to air a special two-part story beginning tonight that takes a look at the driving records of Metro bus operators and the number of bus accidents and fatalities that have occurred over the last five years.

The report focuses on a small number of current Metro bus operators and in no way represents the vast majority of our operators who continue to do an outstanding job providing a vital service to the community.

While one accident is one too many, Metro has seen its accident rates decline over the last five years from 4.15 accidents per 100,000 miles traveled in FY00 to 3.47 in FY05.

This is a remarkable accomplishment considering that Metro buses travel nearly 80 million miles a year, 210,000 miles each day, carrying 330 million boarding passengers over a 1,400-square mile service area.

While KCBS News will report that some operators may have been driving on suspended licenses or have records of DUI's and/or reckless driving citations on their personal driving records as opposed to their professional records, the vast majority of our bus operators maintain proper driving records and licenses and operate in a highly professional manner which this agency is grateful for each and every day.

Metro has developed seven new strategies in our continued effort to drive down bus and passenger accidents. Those include establishing a point-based accident reporting system, enhancing the accident review board process, developing a proactive training program and offering rewards and recognition for safe driving.

In addition, we will continue to explore new ways to enhance safety features on all our buses and have implemented new accident mapping software to better track accidents involving Metro buses.

With your help, we will continue to be the best we can be.

Keep up the good work.